

MASS INTENTIONS
Sat, Sep 19.....+Victoria Felsher
Sun, Sep 20.....For the People
Tue, Sep 22.....NO MORNING MASS
Wed, Sep 23.....Special Intention
Thu, Sep 24.....Special Intention
Fri, Sep 25.....Special Intention

IN OUR PARISH
OCIA: The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults will begin meetings Sep 22. Registration forms and class schedules can be picked up in the vestibule.
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 16992 PANCAKE BREAKFAST: You are invited to a Family Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 4th after the 10 o'clock Mass in the Family Life Center. Everyone is welcome. Donations will be accepted to help with the Knights' contribution to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.
IN OUR DIOCESE
CCD & LIFE TEEN Sun, Sep 13 at 6:40pm at the Sacred Heart Center. Contact Mrs. Kristy Arguelles (228) 324-9934 or Mrs. Lauren Ellis at (228) 324-0447. LifeTeen is for youth in grades 6-12. We provide ways for our youth to minister as we lead teens closer to Christ. BISHOP’S GALA Oct 17 This special evening directly supports the ministries of Catholic Charities and provides an opportunity for our Catholic community to come together for an evening of celebration and fellowship. Tickets are \$100 per person. To purchase a ticket to the event or one of the split the pot raffle tickets, please visit https://5thannualgala.givesmart.com/ RELIC COLLECTION THE DIOCESE OF BILOXI has been given over 1,700 relics of saints, one of the largest collections in the country. At present, over 450 relics are on display in the Marian Chapel. Another 250 will be switched out and displayed on Sun, Nov 1 for All Saints Day. Refer to NativityBVMCathedral.org for updated viewing hours.
THE FLOWER INTENTIONS ARE IN LOVING MEMORY OF BELOVED PARISHIONERS OF ST. MICHAEL
UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS Sep 12 & 13.....\$6232.00 Sep 19 & 20.....Catholic School Subsidy

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Mon Sep 21 Eph 4:1-7, 11-13, Mt 9:9-13
Tue Sep 22 Prv 21:1-6, 10-13, Lk 8:19-21
Wed Sep 23 Prv 30:5-9, Lk 9:1-6, Gal 2:19-20, Mt 16:24-27
Thu Sep 24 Eccl 1:2-11, Lk 9:7-9
Fri Sep 25 Eccl 3:1-11, Lk 9:18-22

MINISTRIES: God is calling YOU. Can you answer the call? We are in need of Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers, Greeters! Prayerfully consider God’s calling to serve your St. Michael Family. Call 228.435.5578 or email stmichaelccbiloxi@gmail.com
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY The SVDP would like to thank everyone for their generous support in the August Food drive and those that bought raffle tickets from the KoC for the fishing poles!
CARD MINISTRY Sends out inspirational cards monthly to homebound parishioners and friends. Stamps are always needed. Drop off in the church office or contact Cynthia Powell.
STELLA MARIS EXPLORERS homeschool ministry serving catholic children grades PK3-12th with a Thursday morning program in the FLC. If you're interested in dropping in for a club meeting or to get more information, please visit our website (StellaMarisExplorers.com).
OCIA The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is an invitation for adults to explore their interests, or to enhance their knowledge in the Roman Catholic Church. For more information, contact Deacon Wescovich at 228-860-1575.
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world. If you would like to join today, simply go to kofc.org/joinus , complete the information about you and enter 16992 in the box asking you about the local council number or contact Jimmy Smith (Grand Knight) at 228- 366-3000 for information.

Lord, your ways are higher than ours. Help us to seek you with humble hearts. Teach us to trust in your wisdom and rejoice in your mercy. Let us serve you without seeking rewards. May we welcome others with kindness, just as you welcome us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A September 20, 2026
First Reading Isaiah 55:6-9 God's ways are far beyond the ways of human beings. Responsorial Psalm Psalm 145:2-3,8-9,17-18 God is near to those who call upon him. Second Reading Philippians 1:20c-24,27a Paul tells the Philippians to live for Christ.
Gospel Reading <i>Matthew 20:1-16</i> <i>In the parable of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy.</i> Background on the Gospel Reading In today's Gospel, Jesus moves from Galilee to teach in Judea where he is sought out by great crowds and tested by the Pharisees on issues such as marriage and divorce. Jesus also encounters a rich young man who is unable to accept Jesus' demand that he leave his possessions to follow him. Jesus' response to the rich young man sounds very much like the conclusion we will find in today's Gospel: the first will be last and the last will be first. On the surface, the parable of the workers in the vineyard appears to be an offense to common sense. Those who work a longer day ought to be paid more than those who work just an hour or two. When viewed in this way, the landowner seems unfair. That is because we are reading into the parable our own preconceived notions of how fairness and equality should be quantified. A close read shows us that the landowner paid on the terms that were negotiated. The landowner, it seems, has acted completely justly. The parable goes beyond that, however, and we come to see that the landowner is not simply just, he is exceptionally just. He is radically just. He has given those who labored in the field for a full day their due pay. But he has also given a full-day's wage to those who worked only a single hour. No one is cheated, but a few receive abundantly from the landowner just as we receive from God more than what is merely justifiable or due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. The workers who complain are made to look foolish as they lament the fact that landowner has made all workers equal. Indeed, what more could one ask for than to be treated as an equal at work or anywhere else? The parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people. When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways. Loyola Press Sunday Connection



SERVING CHRIST ABOVE ALL
This Sunday, highlights what it means to live for Christ. Paul writes about his deep commitment to serving Jesus. He is ready to live or die, as long as he honors Christ. His focus is not on himself but on doing what is best for others.
This connects to the gospel parable. The laborers focus on what they receive instead of the joy of being chosen to work. But Paul’s example shows a different mindset. He does not worry about what he gets. He only cares about serving Christ. This is the attitude that Christians are called to have.
Many people struggle with wanting recognition. They want their efforts to be noticed and rewarded. But Paul’s words remind us to shift our focus. The goal is not to be first or to receive the most. The goal is to live for Christ.
We are challenged us to examine our motivations. Do we seek personal gain, or do we live to glorify God? True faith is not about rewards. It is about trusting God and serving Him with a willing heart.
REJOICING IN GOD’S GENEROSITY
Scripture teaches that God’s mercy is for everyone. The gospel parable shows that even those who come to faith later receive the same reward. This challenges those who feel they deserve more. It invites them to rejoice instead of resent.
It is easy to compare ourselves to others. People often feel jealous when someone else is blessed. But the parable reminds us that God is generous. Instead of being upset when others receive grace, we should celebrate His kindness.
This also applies to how we treat others. The parable highlights the dignity of labor and fair treatment. Every worker in the vineyard received what they needed. This reminds us that all people deserve respect and just wages. Supporting the dignity of work is a way to live out our faith.
The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A invites us to let go of comparison and embrace gratitude. God’s generosity is beyond human understanding. Instead of focusing on what we think we deserve, we should trust in His goodness and share His love with others.
-Young Catholic