

Sunday September 13th, 2026

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

(Is. 55:6-9; Phil. 1:20-24, 27; Mt. 20:1-16)

THEME: DIVINE ECONOMY OF GRACE AND MAN'S ECONOMY OF MERIT

Introduction: God's thoughts and ways are different from ours. But the parable of the workers sent into the vineyard at different times of the day emphasizes the fact that everything about God's reward remains within the circumference of grace as against merit. God relates with us on the basis of grace which finds expression in his extravagant generosity.

The different groups: In the different groups of hired workers, we can observe different characteristic features of believers that populate the church today. St. Louis-Maria De Montfort identifies different types of devotees in the book: "The True Devotion to Mary." Among others, only two types suit our interest here; namely, "interested" and "disinterested" devotees. According to him, interested devotees are those that seek God from the motive of self-interest. Simply put, they seek God for what God can do for them.

On the contrary, "disinterested devotees" are those who serve God, not from the motive of self-interest, but only seek to do his will. Their sole motivation is that God is worthy of love and deserves to be served.

The last group: When the landowner met the very last group, he only ordered them to go into the vineyard without any mention of reward. These men obediently and quietly went into the vineyard without hesitation. Hence, the right disposition for service of God: wanting nothing and loving nothing except God himself. Their only target was to accomplish his gracious will.

Merit Versus Grace: In the economy of salvation, the law came first and grace came at last. The Jews sought salvation through the works of the law; while God's gift is free and unmeritable. That is the true nature of grace. It is not earned but freely given to those who trust and obey the Lord.

Finally, the denarius, which was paid to the hired workers, like any other coin, bore the imprint or image of the king. It is symbolic of the image and likeness of God. This is the highest gift ever. It is the gift of salvation which consists in possessing God forever.

Read the entire reflection at:

<https://stpeterchurchaz.com/reflections/f/divine-economy-of-grace-and-man's-economy-of-merit>

Facts about the Vatican

The large bronze urn contains the pallia—not St. Peter's bone.

In the sepulchral chamber, there is a large bronze urn. Many mistakenly believe that the bones of St. Peter are located in this urn; however, on the urn are contained the pallia (the plural form of pallium). The pallium is a white wool vestment, worn like a yoke and embroidered with six crosses. The pallia are prepared and bestowed every year by the pope. They are worn by the pope, patriarchs, and metropolitan archbishops throughout the world. Metropolitan archbishops are those archbishops who are "in the field" shepherding an archdiocese and guiding an ecclesiastical province.

By Fr. Jeffery Kirby, S.T.L.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

9:00 am Mass The Grace to Forgive

11:00 am Mass +Poor Souls in Purgatory by Joe Turner

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 9:00am The Grace to Forgive

Tuesday 9:00am +Beverly Lewandowski by Matthew Lewandowski

Wednesday 9:00am The Grace to Forgive

Thursday 9:00am +Dorothy Laski by Linda Tryka

Friday 9:00am +Meredith and + Elizabeth Ketrang

PRAYER TREE - LET US PRAY FOR:

Charles and Cristina Rand, Laurie Becker, Elijah Baca, David Baca, Fallon Walker, Judy Bragg, Maria Archuleta, Joe Warne, Larry Tyrrell, Tom Malone, Eva Orona, David & Geri Silva, Jeannette Davis, Angela Gonzales, Joe and Margie Tapia, Bernice & Roxanne Chavez, Lilly Hill, Sophie Pena, Lydia Gonzalez, Sophie Montoya.

TO MAKE PRAYER REQUESTS Please contact the church office at (928) 333-4423. Leave a message, if there is no answer, please include your name and phone number with information.