

Weekend of September 20, 2020

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This new Mass schedule will stay in effect until the Covid-19 crisis is over. Thanks for your patience.

Barona:

Mass: Tuesday through Friday. Rosary at 7:45 AM, Mass at 8:00 AM. @ Shrine

Sunday: Sunday 8:00 AM. @ Shrine

Confessions: By appointment only

Adoration: 1st Fri. of the month (8:00 AM).

Viejas:

Sunday: Sunday 10:30 AM. @ Church

Confessions: By appointment only

Sycuan:

Sunday: Sunday Mass 12:00 noon @ the Church

Confessions: By appointment only



Sue Kierig, Martha Boone, A. J. Samot, Angelo Samot, Donna Berardi, Daniel Vicaldo, Kash Osuna-Sutton, Anthony and Diana Pico, Dolly Albano, Ray Mayor, Mike Montes, Bobbie Turner, Helen Cadiente, Mae Guerrero, Susanna Gotell, Agnes Ruiz, Deacon Bill Clarke, Rosario Ravasco, Minerva Mayor, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Purita Amparo, Wendy Reyes, Alicia Castro, Debbie Gonzalez, Barbara Reeves, Nancy Rourke, Anthony Harut Haurutuyanian, Bobby Curo, Abraham Pascual, Eugene "Gino" Vicaldo, Skylar Rosas, Richard Padua, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Joyce Martinez, Crispin Echiverri, Elvira Hapin, Elaine Necochea

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

ATTENTION!

You are now able to donate online to St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish on our website, bktparish.com. You are able to donate by debit, credit card or paypal. You can also continue to send your tithes and offerings to:

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish
1054 Barona Road, Lakeside, CA 92040

Thank you so much for your continued support.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PARTICIPATE IN MASS

by livestreaming with Fr. Herman

Please note weekday Mass time change

Weekdays, Tues-Friday at 8:00 AM,

Sunday Mass is livestreamed @ 8:00 AM

Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel

New Mass Schedule due to the covid-19 guidelines

Tuesday-Friday 8:00 AM Barona @ the Church

Sunday 8:00AM - Barona @ the Shrine

Sunday 10:30 AM - Viejas @ the Church

Sunday 12:00 PM noon - Sycuan in the Church

A Prayer for Perseverance

Lord we look to You

Through all the seasons of our lives
Both the good times and the bad

Do not forget us in our troubles and afflictions
Reveal your tender mercy in our distress

Help us to be faithful in prayer to You
Lord we remember Your deeds from long ago
How you literally moved mountains
Without so much as a flinch

You are a God who performs Miracles
Renew them in our day, O Lord
Yes Lord renew them in our day!

Edward Nolan is moving to:

1150 J Street #709

San Diego CA 92101

beginning September 28, 2020

God's Generosity: The Reward of Working in His Vineyard

A reflection on the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today, we are reminded by Isaiah that our ways are not God's ways—not even as close as the earth is to the heavens are our ways and God's ways. Even though we have conquered gravity and have traveled to the “heavens”, the distance between the ways of this world and of God are still as distant as ever. This is starkly illustrated by the parable of the vineyard workers. There is no way, no matter how many times we hear this story, that we can keep from reacting when we hear that the last ones worked only an hour and were paid the same. It is impossible for us, even though we know the moral of the story, not to think in our minds, especially our modern democratic and capitalist minds that have been cultured in reward-based economy like we have in the United States, “That is just not fair—equal pay for unequal work.”

What a great demonstration of the distance of God's ways from our ways. Yet, we are not all together unfamiliar with this practice of “giving what is needed” without consideration of what is deserved. As parents or as children, we have experienced this phenomenon. We have all heard our self, our siblings or our own children complain like the first workers to arrive in the vineyard, “Why does he get dessert. He didn't do anything. I cleaned the whole room.” Only to be told or tell, depending at which stage in life we are at the time, “You are twice the age of your brother. When you were his age you didn't do any more than he did and we gave you dessert.”

Now, there is more to learn from this parable than the fact that God, like a parent, loves us, is children, unconditionally and that salvation only comes in one size—there is no grand prizes or saved with honors. While both points are true, if we walk away with only this as the gospel message today, we are not going to grow much. There are more important points made in today's parable. Points that can take us to a deeper understanding.

Since few of us are likely to have experience with vineyard work, let's put the parable into terms we can more easily relate to: Let's say we die and go to heaven—there we are setting up our flower beds in the front of our house on Heaven's Lane when we see across the way Bob Smith, who we know never went to mass, never fought with his teenage children about going to mass, had six marriages outside the Church and never paid his taxes properly until after his second heart attack, when he came to the light and lived a good life for a year before the third heart attack got

him. We think to ourselves, “What the heck, (There is no foul language in Heaven) how did he get a house in heaven on the same street with me? I went to mass every Sunday and weekdays too. I lived the commandments from the time I memorized them for my first communion. I was faithful to my wife all my life. How is it that he is here right next to me? What did I get for all that observance?”

The answer to this question is the more subtle point of today's parable. What we get for coming to work in the Vineyard early is just that being in the VINEYARD EARLY. This is the amazing gift—the great bonus. For coming to the vineyard early, we get to live in relationship with God NOW before we die. We get Heaven on Earth. But do we truly see the Christian life of going to Church, partaking in the sacraments, serving others and keeping the commandments as its own reward—or do we see our Christian life, as the first vineyard workers, as a full day's work of long toil for which we need to be rewarded? If we are honest with ourselves, we may see that we resemble the “complaining” vineyard worker more than we would like to admit.

What if Heaven is like being at mass all day, all the time forever? I know I would not have found that a comforting idea when I was young and begging my mom to let me out of the church on hot summer days. But we have to mature in our faith beyond seeing weekly observance and all the practices of our faith as work to be rewarded later, or else we will find ourselves unhappy, burdened and resentful like those who entered the vineyard first and complained about the late comers. We will complain about not getting more than them because we will have missed the real rewards of being with God ahead of our death.

Working in the vineyard is its own reward because when we are in the vineyard we are with GOD. The sacraments, service to others, Christian life does involve sacrifices—but like all meaningful work—it produces its own rewards. In this case it makes heaven on earth. Because being in Heaven, starts with being heavenly.

The complaints by the first workers in the vineyard prove that even though they “know God” they do not understand GOD. Their complaints reveal them as “self-interested” rather than true followers of Christ who would rejoice that others had found their way to the Lord. Their complaints keep them from enjoying the privilege of being in God's presence at that moment they are working with HIM in the vineyard. This a good point to ponder as we prepare to have Jesus present with us in the Eucharist. What we do here now is not just for tomorrow, it is a taste of tomorrow today.

If we have the right attitude, we will be happy to see the late comers because it is heaven on earth to love and serve the Lord in HIS vineyard.

Fr. Joseph Benitez