

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Sep 20, 2026

“Are you envious because I am generous?”

Today, the evangelist Matthew continues to describe the Kingdom of God according to Jesus' teaching, as proclaimed during these summer Sundays in our Eucharistic assemblies.

At the heart of today's story is the vineyard, a prophetic image of the people of Israel in the Old Testament, and now of the new people of God born from the wounded side of the Lord on the cross. The matter at hand: belonging to this people, which is granted by a personal call made to each one: “It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you” (Jn 15:16) —and by the will of the Father in heaven, who desires to extend this call to everyone, in accordance with His generous will for the salvation of all people.

What stands out in this parable is the protest of the early-hour workers. They parallel the older brother in the parable of the prodigal son. They experience their work for the Kingdom of God (the work in the vineyard) as a heavy burden (“we bore the day's burden and the heat” Mt 20:12) and not as a privilege bestowed by God; they don't work out of joyful sonship, but with the grumpiness of servants.

For them, faith is something that binds and enslaves, and they quietly envy those who "live life" to the fullest, for they see Christian conscience as a restraint, not as wings that give divine flight to human life. They believe it's better to remain spiritually idle than to live in the light of God's word. They feel that salvation is their due and are jealous of it. Their petty spirit contrasts sharply with the generosity of the Father, “who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim. 2:4), and thus He calls to His vineyard: “The Lord is good to all, compassionate toward all your works” (Ps 145:9).

Holy Father's Intention for September: For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

Today's Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16a Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."



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25th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Rejoicing in our Neighbour's Gifts

In the first reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah we are reminded that God doesn't think the same way we do. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Not only are God's ways different than ours, they are higher and better. We see this in the Gospel where the landowner in the parable gives an equal wage to the labourers regardless of how long they worked for.

The labourers who worked the longest felt that they did not receive what was just. As stewards, we too can sometimes fall into the temptation of feeling that the gifts God has given us is not to the level we would have liked. Similarly, we may sometimes feel that other people should not have the gifts that they have received. In doing this, we are subtly wanting God to think in the same way we do.

Instead, we should strive to be stewards that are grateful for the gifts we have received. Moreover, we should even be grateful and praise God for the gifts of others. As we are all one Body of Christ, when one member has particular gifts, we all as a Church should celebrate and boast of that gift. St. Paul says in his letter to the Corinthians that within the Body of Christ, "if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." Let us take some time today to thank God for His many gifts in our lives and the lives of our fellow parishioners.

Summary: As stewards, we can sometimes fall into the same temptation of those in the Gospel of feeling that the gifts God has given us and our neighbour are not to our liking. However, we should strive to be grateful for the gifts we have received and even be grateful and praise God for the gifts of others. Let us strive to grow in gratitude to God for His many gifts in our lives and the lives of our fellow parishioners.



Parish Council:

Mr. Lawrence Dao
314.679.0313

Finance Council:

Mrs. Thuong Hoai Nguyen
314.691.6508

Children Religious Education:

Sr. Mary Hanh Nguyen, LHC
314.736.9337

Liturgy Committee:

Mr. Hung Bui: 314.783.7266

Offering for Sep 13, 2026

Total Sum. Collection \$5,168.00

Capital Improvement \$ 339.00

Votive Candles \$ 60.00

World market \$ 400.00

Sacramental Fee \$ 50.00

Advertisement \$ 120.00

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

"Seek the Lord while He may be found..." While seeking Him in prayer and the sacraments, listen to Him.

Vocation Office at
(603) 663-0196 or email:
emartel@rcbm.org

Resurrection Our Lord Church

3900 Meramec St. St. Louis, MO 63116

Tel: 314-832-7023; Fax: 832-7024

Email: GxChuaPhucSinh@gmail.com

Emergency Only: Fr. Francis 202-368-6828;

Fr. Peter 773-888-3088

Fr. Francis X. Binh Thanh Nguyen SVD, Pastor

Fr. Peter Son Le, SVD, Parochial Vicar

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Baptism: Arrangements must be made one week in advance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sunday from 8:30 am to 9:00 am or by appointment.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior to plan date of wedding.

Mass Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sun 9/20: * Thanksgiving and peace for family by Thai Pham

* 2 Maria, Joseph, Theresa and John the Baptist by 1 person

* Maria Kim Oanh by Ca Doan

Mon 9/21: * Intention by 1 person

Tues 9/22: * Louis Canh by Holly Le

Wed 9/23: * Maria by Hai Vu

* All souls by Hong Au family

Thus 9/24: * Paul, Isave and thanksgiving by family

* Roco and Ane by Andy Phan

Fri 9/25: * Thanksgiving, all souls and intention by 1 person

* Maria and Joseph by Hong Au

Sat 9/26: * Peace for family by Hong Au