

WORSHIP @ HOME

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time • 20 September 2020

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“Are you envious because I am generous?’ Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”
- Mt 20:15-16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

Preparation

There are a few things you need to do to get ready before you begin.

- We recommend glancing through the whole service before you start. **Adapt the service for your family**, especially so it will be age-appropriate.
- You could make the setting special by using a white table cloth and setting some candles out. Get the whole family involved in the preparations.
- **Place your family Bible on the table**, if you have one, opened up to the Gospel of the day (Matthew 20:1-16A)
- **The script has leader and various reader parts.** Anyone old enough to read well can perform these roles.
- **An iPad/tablet computer** or large phone could work well for reading the script. **It would be helpful to have two devices** for multiple people to read. To access the slideshow and hymns, visit: <https://worship.pastoral.center/day/2020-09-20>
- **Don't worry**, you don't have to do this perfectly. Have some fun with it. Let's pray!

JUST BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- **Silence and set aside all phones** or other devices that may interrupt you.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING SONG (OPTIONAL)

Start playing the video for this opening song, and then scroll down to sing along with the lyrics.

GREETING

Leader: † In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father
and from the Lord Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God forever.
The response is: Blessed be God forever.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Leader: We gather together as a family
to listen to God's Word and let it inspire us.
One with all of our sisters and brothers throughout the world,
let us now listen to God's Word and join in prayer.

LITANY IN PRAISE OF GOD'S MERCY

Together, we acknowledge how grateful we are for the mercy of God.

Leader: As we prepare to hear a story from our faith,
let us remember that God is merciful and wants us to be merciful too.

Lord Jesus, you know that we are not perfect like you and don't always act out of love:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you help us to grow closer to you and to each other:
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you guide us to become better followers, walking in your footsteps:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

Pause for a short time for everyone to pray in silence. Then pray the following out loud, carefully and with meaning.

Leader: God of Love,
you have created us to live in love
and given us graces we can never earn.

May we be grateful, not taking our gifts for granted,
willing to share what we have,
especially with those who have less than we do.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

ALLELUIA

Play the video. Listen to the refrain the first time, then sing together when it repeats.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DZc76QdNpPw&feature=emb_logo

GOSPEL

Lead your family in this action prayer, making the Sign of the Cross over your forehead, lips, and heart at each step.

Reader 1: In today's reading, Jesus tells us a story about how God is more about being generous than being fair.

We now do this action prayer together:

May the Lord be on my mind, †
on my lips, †
and in my heart †
as we hear the Gospel today.

A reading from the holy Gospel of Matthew.

This text is based on the translation used in the Lectionary for Masses with Children and is easier for young people to understand.

Reader 1: As Jesus was telling what the kingdom of heaven would be like, he said:

Early one morning a man went out to hire some workers for his vineyard.
After he had agreed to pay them the usual amount for a day's work, he sent them off to his vineyard.

About nine that morning, the man saw some other people standing in the market with nothing to do.
He said he would pay them what was fair, if they would work in his vineyard.
So they went.

At noon and again about three in the afternoon he returned to the market.
And each time he made the same agreement with others.

Finally, about five in the afternoon the man went back and found some others standing there.

He asked them, "Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?"

"Because no one has hired us," they answered.
Then he told them to go work in his vineyard.

That evening the owner of the vineyard told the man in charge of the workers to call them in and give them their money.

He also told the man to begin with the ones who were hired last.

When the workers arrived, the ones who had been hired at five in the afternoon were given a full day's pay.

The workers who had been hired first thought they would be given more than the others.

But when they were given the same, they began complaining to the owner of the vineyard.

They said, "The ones who were hired last worked for only one hour.

But you paid them the same that you did us. And we worked in the hot sun all day long!"

The owner answered one of them,

"Friend, I didn't cheat you. I paid you exactly what we agreed on.

Take your money now and go! What business is it of yours if I want to pay them the same that I paid you?

Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Why should you be jealous, if I want to be generous?"

Jesus then said,

"So it is. Everyone who is now first will be last, and everyone who is last will be first."

Matthew 20:1-16A. From the Contemporary English Version, copyright © American Bible Society, 1991, 1995.

Reader 1: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL VIDEO REFLECTION

Here's a nine minute video for kids that reflects on this Gospel reading and how "life's not fair!"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rat_wlUnCw&feature=emb_logo

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

Take some time to talk together about what the readings mean to each of you. You can do this however you would like, but here are some thoughts and questions that can get you started.

- What do you think about the landowner giving the same amount of pay to the ones who worked all day compared to the ones who worked less?
- This kind of scenario still happens in America today. Some people without regular jobs stand around a Home Depot parking lot, or a lumber yard, or some other known spot and hope to get hired by people who come looking for on a gardening or construction job for a day or two. Those who are young or who look the strongest or who speak more English get hired first. After those workers are taken, the older or weaker looking workers or those who don't speak English might get hired later in the day—if they are lucky. Sometimes they might wait all day to get a job but no one hires them. If you think about Jesus' parable like this, does that change the way you think about the owner paying everyone the same?
- This parable is sometimes called "The Workers in the Vineyard" but a more accurate title might be "God's generosity." Can you think of an example of a time when God or someone you know was more generous than it seemed like someone might have deserved?

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Leader: Now let's pray together to God for what we need.

Reader 2: For all students, teachers, and others who work in education that they may remain safe and be able to learn well this year, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for all of those who are struggling during this pandemic time, with health, finances, loneliness, or other challenges, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for all those who suffer in our country because of injustice and judgment because of their skin color, their religion, or any other form of discrimination. May we all work for justice because every single person is a child of God. Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: For what else and for who else shall we pray?

Allow time for anyone else to speak prayers aloud.

LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Jesus taught us to call God our Father, and so we have the courage to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

SIGN OF PEACE

Leader: Let us now offer each another a sign of peace.

Share some hugs!

A LITANY FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Leader: The response is: Lord, bring us closer to you!

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Lord our God,
we wish we could gather today with our parish community,
but we gather here out of love and concern for others.
You teach us that when two or three are gathered in your name,
you are there.
Together, we pray:

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Christ Jesus, you are present in a special way
when bread and wine are turned into your Body and Blood.
Since we cannot receive you in this way today,
We ask that you enter our hearts
so that we may receive you spiritually.
Together, we pray:

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Lord our God,
watch over your family
and keep us safe in your care,
for all our hope is in you.

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Concluding Rite

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING SONG (OPTIONAL)

Start playing the video, and then scroll down to sing along with the lyrics.

After the Service

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Take a picture of your family in your worship area and share it on social media (tag it with **#HolySpiritStClairWorshipAtHome**).

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH

Your parish still has to pay the electric bill and your staff, even when public Masses are cancelled. If you haven't already, sign up for electronic payments or mail in a check today. Planned Giving Forms and online donation portal are available on the parish website: <https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations/>. Or you can send your donation to:

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Augustinian Clergy

Account Name: Augustinian Fathers
Bank: CBA
BSB: 067 950
Account Number: 000 030 02

SECOND COLLECITON: For the Parish

Account Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair
Bank: CBA
BSB: 067 950
Account Number: 000 005 78

Portions excerpted from or adapted from *Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest: Leader's Guide* © 1993 United States Catholic Conference (USCC), 3211 Fourth Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017-1194 USA. All rights reserved. © 2020 The Pastoral Center. All rights reserved.