

First Reading: *Isaiah 55:6-9*

God's ways are far beyond the ways of human beings.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalms 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: *Matthew 20:1-16*

In the parable of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy.

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.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/>

Parish News



Update on the Sacraments:

For the students who began preparing for First Eucharist and Confirmation this past winter, we have wonderful news: **Our First Eucharist Celebration will be held on Saturday, October 3 at 3:00 in the afternoon; the Celebration of Confirmation with Father Lukas will also take place on October 10 at 3:00 pm.** We thank the students and parents for their patience and resilience as we all navigated through the uncertainty and changing circumstances of this past year. At this time, these celebrations will only be attended by the students and their families but we ask that you keep them in your prayers.

Faith Formation

For those unable to attend, consider watching Mass on television on the following networks:

Salt + Light TV (Daily at 4:30 & 9:00 am, 1 & 8:30 pm)

EWTN (Daily at 6 & 10 am, 5 & 10 pm)

Vision TV (Daily at 6 & 10 am)

TELUS Optik TV Channel 876 is now providing livestream from our Diocese:

To access the livestream, go to Channel 876 after you turn on TELUS Optik TV, and select the [Diocese of Calgary](#) tile with the left/right arrows on the remote control. Click the OK button one more time to expand to full screen video.

News from the Diocese

The Vocations webpage has been updated with the current list of our seminarians! We will send you an updated seminarians poster when a group photo becomes available.

- [Visit current list of 2020 Seminarians from the Diocese of Calgary](#)
- Pray for our seminarians: Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, lead our seminarians daily in your footsteps, that they may become priests aflame with love for God and all. Amen.
- For any questions regarding vocations to the priesthood, please contact Fr. Cristino Bouvette, Vicar of Vocations & Young Adults, at 403-218-5500, or e-mail

cristino.bouvette@calgarydiocese.ca

Mass and Intention Schedule

Tuesday, September 22	6:30 pm	(Spec) Shirley Hamelin
Wednesday, September 23	9:00 am	(Spec) Sarah McIver
Thursday, September 24	9:00 am	(Spec) Burke Hoschka
Friday, September 25	9:00 am	+ Irene Kohut
Saturday, September 26	7:00 pm	(Spec) Debi Kennedy
Sunday, September 27	8:00 am 10:30 am	(Spec) St. Anthony's Parishioners (Spec) Bob Dart

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 9 am – 11 am

Sacraments

Reconciliation: The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 5:30 – 6:30 pm Saturday evenings and by appointment. To schedule an appointment, please call the Parish Office or email Fr. Lukas at fr.lukas.d@gmail.com.

Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office at (403)823-2683 to arrange an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to your desired date.

Scripture Readings

Monday, September 21: Ephesians 4.1-7, 11-13 | Psalm 19 | Matthew 9.9-13

Tuesday, September 22: Proverbs 21.1-6, 10-13 | Psalm 119 | Luke 8.19-21

Wednesday, September 23: Proverbs 30.5-9 | Psalm 119 | Luke 9.1-6

Thursday, September 24: Ecclesiastes 1.2-11 | Psalm 90 | Luke 9.7-9

Friday, September 25: Ecclesiastes 3.1-11 | Psalm 144 | Luke 9.18-22

Saturday, September 26: *Feast of Saints John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues and Companions*
Secondary Patrons of Canada

Revelation 7.9-17 | Psalm 124 | 2 Corinthians 4.7-15 | Luke 9.23-26

Sunday, September 20: Ezekiel 18.25-28 | Psalm 25 | Philippians 2.1-11 | Matthew 21.28-32



ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church is an inviting family community united in Christ.

Pastor: Rev. Lukas Drapal

Email: fr.lukas.d@gmail.com

Secretary: Jennifer Ferro | **Book Keeper:** Linda Lacher

Pastoral Council Chair: Brian Viczko | **Finance Council Chair:** Mary Pavich

CWL President: Joanne Dumaine | **K of C Grand Knight:** Tony Ibrahim

Couples for Christ: Cen and Tess Felisilda

Parish Mission

Family: To encourage participation of children and families in the Church Community by offering family focused events.

Faith Building: To promote and host Church education, Bible Studies, and Parish Missions.

Liturgy: To formalize our Liturgy and elicit committed parishioners to participate in all aspects of the Liturgy.

Environment: To promote clean and well-maintained premises and decorate to highlight the Liturgical Seasons.

Social: To have a Social Committee to plan and hold Parish activities.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 20, 2020

It's just not fair! Like children who bemoan being denied something that has been afforded another, we all intermittently rail against God for not getting our just desserts. Why did this faithful, God-loving and generous person get struck with cancer, lose a job or get rear-ended in traffic while another who appears completely arrogant, inconsiderate

and self-absorbed is spared life's misfortunes? Like the labourers in the vineyard, we challenge God about the perceived inequity of our situation. It's hard to accept that living a long life of loving and faithful service can net the same eternal reward as an eleventh-hour conversion and repentance that follows a lifetime of depravity. It's like a get-into-heaven-free card for a Johnny-come-lately who previously had not demonstrated a smidgen of love, compassion or care for God or neighbour. We think and judge with the limited human understanding provided us. God sees all and judges with infinite knowledge. The get-into-heaven-free card can only be played if the holder has had a true conversion and comes to know Jesus personally as their Saviour. We ought to rejoice that God's infinite compassion and forgiveness can offer us the eternal reward promised for a life well-lived instead of fretting that someone else may not have merited the same benefit. *Frank Campbell, Enfield, NS*

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