

**THE LORD IS
NEAR TO ALL WHO
CALL UPON HIM.**

Today's parable of the workers in the vineyard is found only in the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus highlights the

generosity of God, who is not only just, but also generous, especially to the poor and needy, the marginalized.

The usual day's wage at the time of Jesus was a denarius. In the Old Testament God insisted on the importance of paying the worker each day. "You shall pay him each day's wages before sundown on the day itself, since he is poor and looks forward to them" (Deuteronomy 24: 15). The landowner in the parable is just, even with those who were first hired. He pays them what they agreed to, the usual pay for a day's work.

The problem in the parable arises when all the workers receive the same pay though many have worked longer and harder. The landowner attributes the objections to this arrangement to envy on the part of those hired earliest in the morning. The Greek text speaks of an "evil eye" (Matthew 20: 15), representing envy. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus had said, "If your eye is bad, your whole body will be in darkness" (6:23).

The meaning of the parable is suggested by the verse that precedes today's reading, "But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first" (19:30). One interpretation has the "tax collectors and sinners" (Matthew 9: 11) becoming first while the self-righteous become last. Perhaps more to the point, Jesus is saying that everyone benefits from the gifts of God. When one is called is not as important as responding to the call. Such response brings God's generous gifts in this life and also at the last judgment.

In today's first reading God reminds the reader, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways" (Isaiah 55:8). In humility the Christian accepts both the justice and the generosity of God. "Are you envious because I am generous?" (Matthew 20: 15). Envy on the part of the follower of Jesus is never proper since every gift of God is completely due to God's generosity, not to the individual's ability or activity.

*Scripture Reflections and Commentaries by
Msgr. Ralph Kuehner and Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis*

Readings for the Week of September 21, 2008

Sunday	Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 55:6-9; Ps 145; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a
Monday	Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday	St. Pio of Pietrelcina, priest Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday	Prv 30:5-9; Ps 119; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday	Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90; Lk 9:7-9
Friday	Sts. Cosmas and Damian, martyrs Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144; Lk 9:18-22
Saturday	St. Vincent de Paul, priest Eccl 11:9—12:8; Ps 90; Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday	Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25; Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5; Mt 21:28-32

WOMEN'S EVENT COMING TO ST. ANN PARISH

Saturday October 11, 2008 9am to 4pm. Mark your calendars women for a delightful time in the Lord! Come join others in celebrating our faith, be uplifted, enlightened, and immersed in the Spirit of Love.

Arise Woman! A New Day Dawns Invite a friend.

SEPTEMBER 27 & 28, 2008 St. Ann Church will be hosting a Jesuit Priest. Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Father Matt Garr, SJ entered the Jesuits in 1963 and traveled to Peru as a novice in 1965. He was ordained in 1975. His ministry in Peru has centered on social justice. He was pastor of a rural parish in the central Andes Mountains for twelve years, and then he served as executive secretary for the Peruvian Catholic Bishops Social Action Commission for the past seventeen years. Fr. Garr is currently studying for a doctorate in ministry in Chicago and plans to return to Peru in 2009 upon completing the degree.

ST. ANN GUIDEBOOK & DIRECTORY will be published again this year. Advertising dollars pay for the printing and mailing. If you would like to advertise in the directory, please call the Parish office. **NOTE:** If you **do not** want to have your name, address or phone number published please call or email the office at 863-4963 or slmcabee@gmail.com.

2008 BUTLER COUNTY LIFE CHAIN Sunday, October 5th at High Street in Hamilton; 2:00 -3:00 p.m. For more information call Deacon Mike Mignery at 867-1832. Sponsored by the Butler County Right to Life.

Looking for some great FAMILY FUN this fall? Mark your calendars and come join us at the Harvest Praise Music Festival on September 27 from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Keehner Park. This awesome free family concert will feature three Contemporary Christian bands – Restored, The Journey Church House Band and the Rain Praise Band from St. Max. So bring the family with some lawn chairs, a blanket and a picnic and spend the day enjoying great music and fellowship. For more information go to: www.godtube.com/hpmf

Mark your calendar for Monday, **November 3rd** and Tuesday **November 4th** of 2008. *Olan Mills* will be here at St. Ann Church to photograph parishioners for a Pictorial Directory to celebrate our 100 year anniversary. Pictures will be back in time for Christmas.

We are looking for volunteers to help coordinate our Pictorial Directory project. We need people to help set appointments and to make phone calls. Please call the Parish office if you would like to help make this 100th anniversary pictorial directory a success at 863-4963.

TWENTY FIFTH ORDINARY SUNDAY



This Week in our Parish

Sunday, September 21st

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9-10 a.m. CCD classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 6-8:00 p.m. C.R.E.W. Youth Night

Tuesday, September 23rd

7:00 p.m. *St. Ann Parish meeting – see notice below*

Wednesday, September 24th

7:00 p.m. Basic Catechism Class
 Lesson 15 *Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick*
 7:15 p.m. Choir
 7:30 p.m. R.C.I.A.
 8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul

Thursday, September 25th

6-8:00 p.m. Pack 907 Scouts

Saturday, September 27th

3:30 -4:30 p.m. Confessions
 4:40 p.m. Rosary before Mass

Sunday, September 28th

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9-10 a.m. CCD classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

ST. ANN STEWARDSHIP APPEAL Fr. Mondiek requests all St Ann parishioners consider coming out to discuss how we can strengthen St Ann's Parish through a robust Stewardship campaign. The purpose of the stewardship campaign is to guarantee future viability and growth of St Ann's Church and School using the existing time, talent and treasure of St Ann parishioners. The opportunities for St Ann's are endless and the time couldn't be better as we celebrate 100 years of Catholic tradition at St Ann's. The roll out meeting will take place on **Sept 23rd at 7:00PM in the school cafeteria**. Light refreshments and drinks will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there! Contact Bill Germann (988-6544) or Russ Curley (829-4342) for more information.

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS Baby Jesus Shower - During the month of September, the Rosary Society is collecting baby clothes for a Pregnancy Help Center. We would appreciate any new or gently used baby clothes for our project. If you can contribute to our collection, just call 863-1700 and we will pick them up. They also may be left at the Parish Center. Thanks for your help.

CUB SCOUT PACK 907 We were able to register 26 new scouts for St. Ann's Cub Scout pack 907! Of those 26, 4 are St. Ann boys---22 came from Pierce and Hayes Elementary schools. This is a great start to our year. It is never too late to join our pack. We will accept applications year round.

THE RUN FOR THE NUNS 5-K Run or Walk to support the ministry of the Poor Clare Sisters of Cincinnati who reside at the Franciscan Monastery of St. Clare. Saturday, October 4, 2008 at Winton Woods, Harbor Point. 8:30 a.m. Blessing of Pets and Dog Walk, 9:00 a.m. 5 K Run; 9:01 a.m. 5 K Walk. Register online: www.sprunning.com.



Saturday, September 20th Twenty Fifth Ordinary Sunday
 5:00 p.m. Paul Sherlock (Wife)

Sunday, September 21st Twenty Fifth Ordinary Sunday
 8:00 a.m. Katherine & Edward Fenzl (Paul)

10:30 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

Monday, September 22nd Weekday

7:15 a.m. Margaret Stricker (Family)

Tuesday, September 23rd Weekday

7:15 a.m. Antoinette Lauer (St. Ann Rosary Society)

Wednesday, September 24th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Marilyn Cassano (Mr. & Mrs. Norbert Doellman)

Thursday, September 25th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Communion Service

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church in Hamilton

Friday, September 26th Weekday

8:00 a.m. Victor Richter (Barry & Carol Leistner)

Saturday, September 27th Twenty Sixth Ordinary Sunday

7:30 a.m. Intentions of the Celebrant

5:00 p.m. Judge David Niehaus

Sunday, September 28th Twenty Sixth Ordinary Sunday

8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

10:30 a.m. Evelyn Williams (St. Ann Rosary Society)

Budgeted Weekly Offering	\$ 12,072.00
09/14/2008	\$ 8,162.75
Shortfall	\$ (3,909.25)
Year to Date Budgeted Offering	\$ 132,792.00
Year to Date Actual Offering	\$ 104,256.13
Shortfall	\$ (28,535.87)

If you are interested in understanding more fully what we believe as Catholics, a sixteen lesson Basic Catholic Catechism Horne Study Course will be offered covering the essentials of the Catholic faith in a systematic and comprehensive way. Written by the late Jesuit Father John A. Hardon, this challenging home study course is open to everyone. It will help you grow to a deeper knowledge and love of Christ and His Church. Study is done independently then participants meet twice a month to review the questions and answers and engage in a lively discussion of the lesson. An informational meeting will be held at St. Ann Parish Center on Oct. 1, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. Course materials will be explained and will be available for purchase. For more information or to register, contact Viv Sullivan @ 868-9865 or Mary Eichhold @ 863-3345. **The Benefits:** Adult education at home; participation in the New Evangelization as requested by our late Holy Father Pope John Paul II; greater confidence in knowledge of your Catholic faith; deeper love for the Lord.

RIVER *A Journey of faith & friendship.* River is a vibrant community from Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky that challenges and nurtures faith development among single adults through social, spiritual and service activities. For more information or to see upcoming events please visit the website: www.river.catholicweb.com.