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|  **~ GOSPEL REFLECTION ~*****Immaculate Conception Parish*** P O BOX 600 Tumut Catholic Community Collection amounts for January 2016 ~PARISH NEWS~ ~ PARISH NEWS ~ |

One morning returning from an 8:00 am Mass in South Africa where I had recently arrived, we passed a large field crowded with men in royal blue cotton suits with each carrying a lunch bag. The Sister driving the car said to me, “Barbara, there in front of you is the parable of the labourers in the vineyard. Each of those men has arrived ready to work by 9:00 am and only some will be taken by the builders. The others will remain in this field, in the heat, hoping for the landowners to realize they need more help and then, hopefully, they will be taken at intervals during the day and thus be able to earn something to support their families.”

Day labourers, then and now are at the low end of the economic spectrum. Scenes similar to this play out around the globe. They are in a very vulnerable position. Their work is sporadic. Life for these workers is precarious and unpredictable. They know hunger, separation from their families, discouragement, and are often reduced to begging. The fact that some are idle all day in the field is not uncommon. This is not because of their unwillingness to work but, because no one hired them. Most likely the elders, the infirm, the physically disabled were the ones left behind and, in Jesus’ parable, the vulnerable are engaged in the last hour to finish up the work.

Jesus is deliberately provocative in the way that he describes the payment of the workers. Those who came last were paid the full days’ wage first in the presence of all who had worked all day. Jesus is challenging the sense of fairness held by most of the men that would say all should get compensated for the amount of work done. He has the landowner respond to the objectors by saying,” I am not cheating you. I gave you what I agreed to give you. Take it and go.”

There is no injustice. There is boundless generosity and goodness. The generosity and goodness are so shocking that they evoke envy and anger. It is a moment of truth, a moment to reveal the heart of God. God always responds to our need and never to our deserving. This is an amazing truth and one that is very hard to accept. Can we be in prayer before a God who is that generous? Can we be changed by that prayer? It is very hard. We need to engage over and over again the question in the parable? “Are you angry because I am generous?” or “Are you angry because I am that good?” What does the goodness of God really mean in relation to human neediness? What does it mean for us to be good? This parable calls us to profound conversion in our ways of thinking about and responding to one another. ***An excerpt by Sister Barbara Metz***



**‘CLERGY’**

* **Fr. Sijo Jose (Parish Priest)**
* **Fr. Luke Verrell (Assistant Priest)**

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

 **Anna Quinn**

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**‘WEEKEND MASS TIMES’**

 **Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

 **Sunday: 10am (Children’s Liturgy)**

 **Talbingo Sunday: 8.00am**

 **‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm**

**Wednesday: 10am**

**Thursday & Friday: 8am**

**Saturday: 9am (every fortnight - Thursday: 11am BUPA Liturgy**

**Saturday: 9.40am BLAKENEY LODGE Liturgy)**

 **‘ROSARY’**

**Saturday at 8.45am**

**Exposition at 8.30am (1st Sat of month)**

 **‘RECONCILIATION’**

 **Saturday at 5.15pm**

 **‘LITURGY MEETING’**

 **Tuesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

 **‘PRAYER GROUP’**

 **(Rosary & Divine Mercy)**

 **Wednesday: 2pm in Chapel**

  **‘CONTACTS’**

 **Care Group: Anne Huebner 0406490415**

***Gospel Acclamation***

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son Alleluia!

***Responsorial Psalm***

The Lord is near to all who call him.

 ***Entrance Antiphon***

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

 ***Gospel Acclamation***

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Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed; the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

 **25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

 **Year A**

 **September 24th 2017**

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| T THIS WEEK Saturday & Sunday 23rd & 24th September   |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm |  Sunday 10am |
| Acolyte |  Anne Huebner |  Peter Malone |
| Reader |  School Mass |  Sue Bulger |
| Commentator |  School Mass |  Howard Young |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  Pat Spannagle |
| Musicians |  Anna Quinn  |  Patricia & Monica |
| Altar Servers | Abby Crampton & Olivia Dean | Darcy Halloran & Charlotte Kelly |
| Church Care\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_LINEN Marie Ambrose | Group 4: The Dobbie Family |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 30th September & 1st October  |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | 10am |
| Acolyte |  Barry Madigan  |  Christine Kelly |
| Reader |  Trish Matthews |  Cathy Shanahan |
| Commentator |  Maureen Cook |  Anne Huebner |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  School holidays |
| Musicians |  Maureen Norman |  Patricia & Monica  |
| Altar Servers | Annabelle Sturgess & Genevieve Mason-Elliott | Xavier Henderson & Riley Hotham |
| Church Care | Group 5: Sandra, Maria & Margaret Dean  |

Feast Day**Wishing all our**

 R O S T E R S

**A Prayer from the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council** Loving God, you have given all people one common origin, and your will is to gather them as one family in yourself. Fill the hearts of all with the fire of your love and the desire to ensure justice for all our sisters and brothers. By sharing the good things you give us, may we secure justice and equality for every human being, an end to all division, and a human society built on love and peace.*John Paul ll – Sollicitudo Rei Socialis - 1987*

 **~PARISH NEWS~**

**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY** we celebrate this day today 24th September. This year, the Australian Bishops’ Social Justice Statement is titled: ‘Everyone’s Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy’. The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. For further details about the Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au  **DYE FAMILY REUNION** the family of Alfred Robert and Mary Bridget Dye who lived in Tumut from 1904 – 1920 will be having a reunion on the weekend of 30th September/1st October 2017. If you have a connection with the Dye family please make yourselves know to them after the 10amMass on Sunday 1st October. **2017 MARIAN PROCESSION** a reminder that the Marian Procession and Youth Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday 8th October at St. Clement’s Monastery, Galong with Mass starting at 11.30am followed by lunch at 12.30pm. Contact 02 62019800 for more information. **SPECIAL THANKS** to our very devoted parishioner **~ Howard Young ~**

**Feasts Days** 27th September: Saint Vincent de Paul 29th September: Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael 30th September: Saint Jerome

**We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith:**

 **MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Fr. Phil Harding, Timothy Blakeney, Madeline Fenn, Jan Salan, Chris Ballard, Maude Kelly, Hector, Annie & Kevin Turner, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Norma Leyden, Russell Breward, Maria & Hans Van deBrug, Reg Millgate, Joan Liddell, Lois Shallow, Helen Corbett, Frank, Eileen & Marie Malone, Edward, Marcy & Clem Malone, Frank Stanfield, John Callister, Imelda, Bede & Francis McInerney, Teresa Butler, Joan Stockwell, Emmet Donovan, Rudi & Filomena Comai, Hassel McGrath, Noel Cook, Leo & Elvie Holt, Lionel & Tereasa Holt, Hugh Oliver, Pat Malone, Jim Whitaker, Matt & Edith Downing, Con & Ennis Twomey, Pauline Shedden, Bob & Sheila Wortes, Robert & Gertrude Tuncks, Ron & Pauline Hamilton, John Hourigan, Brian Gee, Alan & Angela Guthrie, Artie & Dulcie Piper, Tom, Kevin, Ruben & Harriett Arentz, Kevin Hawthorn, Kevin, Marie & Ray Cowan, Alfred & Bridget Claffey, Anna Do, Stan Kenny, Tom & Dorothy French and James Kelly.

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