

Children's Liturgy

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)(Colour: Green)

Welcome: ☩ **In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia's e.g **Halle, Halle Halle** (sung)

Catechist: Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia's e.g **Halle, Halle Halle** (sung)

Gospel: (Simplified version from the children's Lectionary) Matthew 20: 1 – 16

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 who were loafing around with nothing to do."

"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 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."

Catechist: ☩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

All: **Glory to you O Lord**

Catechist: The gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel Reflection and Activities 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us a parable about a landowner who went out to get some people to work on his vineyard.

A vineyard is where grapes are grown

He takes on new workers at the beginning of the day. He promises that he will pay them all fairly.

There are lots of jobs to do in a vineyard.

- Picking the grapes – let's all pretend we are picking the grapes.
- Treading on the grapes to get grape juice – let's all pretend...
- Watering the grapes – let's all pretend...
- Weeding the soil – let's all pretend...
- Spreading the grapes out in the sun to dry to make raisins – let's pretend...

As there are so many jobs to do the owner finds some more people to work for him at lunchtime and then some more people in the afternoon and then some more people at tea time. He promises that he will pay them all fairly too.

At the end of the day the owner gives all the workers their money. Let's all pretend that we are going to get our money.

Everybody got the same amount of money. The workers who had started work at the beginning of the day and had worked the longest were not happy because they felt they should have got more money than the others.

The owner had kept his promise and paid all the workers a fair amount of money. We say that he was generous to everyone and they should all have said thank you.

God is like the vineyard owner, going out looking for us, His workers and giving us the chance to come and join Him. Even if we arrive 'late in the day', and take a long time in our lives to come to know Jesus, we will all receive the same reward, which is everlasting life with Him in Heaven.

Imagine if you had a birthday party and someone who you liked a lot arrived very late - you wouldn't say "you can't join in". You would want to make sure that they had some food, could join in the fun and have a party bag! You would be generous to everyone you love!

So we learn from this parable that God is loving and generous to everyone.

We have so much to thank God for and we must also remember to be generous to others.

Let's all think now about something we can say thank you to God for. Our Family, our home, our school, our climate, the harvest, the things we are good at, the things we like doing - the list is endless!

Children stand

Creed:

Catechist: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

All: Yes, I believe

Catechist: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

All: Yes, I believe

Catechist: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

All: Yes, I believe

Intercessions:

We offer our prayers to God who loves us all.

We pray for the Church and for Pope Francis and the Priests of our parish; that they may be strengthened in their ministry.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our brothers and sisters around the world: that they may all have the chance to live happy and healthy lives, in peace and safety.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may invite Jesus to be with us in all we do, and that we may be generous to everyone we meet.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those in need, especially those who are sick; that they may know God's healing love.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died; that they may rest in eternal peace in God's heavenly kingdom.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Loving Father, you are always generous and kind, fill us with the generosity of your love and make us more understanding. We make our prayers through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

