



Liturgy Cycle A

Twenty-Fifth Sunday Of The Year

The Workers In The Vineyard

Introduction

Today's liturgy gives us a most uplifting image of God. It tells us that he is not small-minded and vindictive like we often are. He is generous, compassionate, and forgiving.

First reading (Isaiah 55:6-9)

We often look upon God in every human terms. We make him as small-minded as ourselves. But in this reading God says: 'My ways are not your ways.'

Second Reading (Philippians 1: 20-24.27)

This contains lines written by Paul from prison to his friends at Philippi. He is thinking of his death, and longs for complete union with Christ.

Gospel (Matthew 20:1-16)

This contains a story about God's generosity, and a generosity, which rises far above our human standards.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray that we may learn the lesson of this parable, namely that God is generous and that it is a privilege to work for him.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

That Christians may prove themselves worthy of the call to work in the Lord's vineyard. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For those in charge of the world affairs: that they may prove worthy of their stewardship. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For those who are left standing idle all day long in market place, namely, the unemployed. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.



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That we may serve God, not out of a desire for rewards, but simply out of a desire to return his love.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

Communion Reflection

Blessed are those who have found their work.

**I often feel that I am as rich as Croesus,
not in money, but rich**

because I have found my work

**something to which I can devote myself heart and soul,
and which gives meaning and inspiration to my life.**

**I think it a very great blessing
when people find their work,
and even though I have a lots of difficulties,
and there are many gloomy days in my life,
I count myself among the fortunate.**

**If at times I feel rising within me
the desire for a life of ease,
I go back fondly to a life of hardship,
convinced that I learn more from it.
This is not the road on which one perishes.**