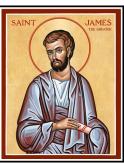
## **25TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME** YR A 2023 **24 SEPTEMBER**

## **ST JAMES PARISH** COORPAROO IS A PARISH OF ACCOMPANIMENT

WHERE WE ENCOUNTER AND KNOW CHRIST, DEEPEN OUR FAITH, AND SERVE THE COMMUNITY





# **BRINGING Generosity**

Jesus balances last week's parable about the justice of God with this week's story about God's generosity. The parable is about a landowner who

goes out to hire workers for his fields. Some people are hired early in the day; others are hired to work only the last hour. At the end of the day, all are paid the same. Those who worked the whole day are upset.

In all honesty, this Gospel story always caused me concern. I found myself on the side of the workers who had labored all day. When I listened to my inner voice, I sounded like a four-year old," That's not fair!" Then one Sunday a priest told a story in his homily that helped me understand the parable a little better. I'll share it with you.

A middle-aged husband and wife both die, and find themselves surrounded by a large crowd standing in front of the pearly gates. An angel behind the gates tells the crowd that the gates to heaven will be opened at any moment, and eternal judgment will begin.

The husband gets more and more agitated as time passes and as he looks around at the crowd. "Good grief," he tells his wife,

#### FAMILY RESPONSE

Ask each family member to name a gift they received from God. If they were God, what gift would they give to each family member?

#### PERSONAL RESPONSE

What gift would you give each family member? What would you give yourself? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

"there's George Walton, one of the

biggest frauds in the state. What is he doing here in front of heaven's gates? Does he honestly think he has a chance of making it in?" "Oh no," he continues, "there's the assassin Oswald. And is that Adolph Hitler in the corner there waiting to be let in? This is ludicrous," he continues," Those three should be sweltering in hell. What is God thinking of letting them even near the gates to heaven and close to good folks like us?"

At that moment, the man hears the booming voice of God telling him he has just passed judgment on himself, and he has failed. In questioning God's love and generosity, he has shown his own lack of both. He was refused entrance through the pearly gates.

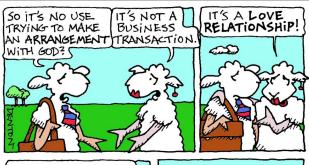
Jesus is clear in the parable of the landowner that God's love and generosity is not to be questioned. We are all on the receiving end of what was promised. God's generosity is something to celebrate, even if we are not the ones on the receiving end at that particular moment.

Email:

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"So high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts."

#### Sheepish Question:

It's not in my bag, so where can I look to deepen my relationship with God?

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23 / 24 September Appeal

Mobile: +61 404 581 805



Fr. MICHAEL BELONIO, OSA Office of the Provincial Bursar

Augustinian Province of Our Mother of

#### This Sunday's Readings 25th Sunday Ordinary Time (Year A/1) First Reading Isaiah 55: 6-9 My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

#### Psalm 144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18 The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever.The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love.The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds.The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured.The Lord is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.The Lord is not praised, who call on him from their hearts
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#### Second Reading Philippians 1: 20-24, 27 For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not

know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

# **Gospel Reading** *Matthew 20: 1-16 Why are you jealous because I am generous?*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agree-

ment with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.' Copyright @ 1996-2023 Universalis Publishing Limited: see www.universalis.com. Scripture readings

JENEFOUS ? I NUS THE TAST WILL DE TIFST, AND THE TIFST, TAST. Copyright © 1996-2023 Universalis Publishing Limited: see www.universalis.com. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible are published and copyright © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publish-

> Like to know more about Pope Social Justice Francis' letter to us all on Care of our Common Home - "Laudato Si (Praise be to You)"?

Social Justice Team invites you to a screening of a film "**The Letter**" which tells of the story of a journey to Rome of frontline leaders to discuss with Pope Francis his world-famous letter, Laudato Si.

To be held in Dining Room, Priory, St. James on **Wednesday, on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 7pm to 8.30pm**. Nibbles served from 6.30pm.

Entry donation gold coin – proceeds to St. Vincent de Paul parish group.

The Parish of St James acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the country upon which it lies and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and culture and pays respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.





A message for our Earth

The Le



Planned Giving for the Week of 107September 2023								
Collection <u>Account numbers</u>	Loose money [not pledged]	Envelopes [pledged]	Direct Debit	Donation Tap	Total			
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection Augustinian Priory BSB: 064 786 Account #: <u>100019791</u>	\$736.65	\$220	\$277	\$190	\$1,423.65			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection St James Parish BSB: 064 786 Account #: <u>100018086</u>	\$512.55	\$200	\$342	\$190	\$1,244.55			

### Parish of St James

165 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo, 4151. **Postal:** PO Box 1051 COORPAROO DC, QLD, 4151 **Phone:** (07) 3397 1671 **Email:** <u>osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au</u> **Parish Priest:** <u>pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au</u> **Web:** www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au

## Primary Sch<u>ool</u>

92 Kirkland Ave, Coorparoo, 4151.



Rachelle Gibson — Principal Liz Pashen — APRE Phone: (07) 3457 1100 Email: pcoorparoostj@bne.catholic.edu.au Web: www.stjames.qld.edu.au/

#### Ministry Teams—get involved...

		5	
Parish Priest	Fr Francis Belciña OSA pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au	We offer many opportunities to multi-cultural community Send	get involved and participate in our vibrant your enquiries to the email below
Assistant Priest	Fr John Sullivan OSA <u>sullivanj@bne.catholic.net.au</u>	Children & Families (Brent)	Families.stjames@gmail.com
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au	Worship (Amor)	Worshipandliturgy.stjames@gmail.com
Business Manager	Helen Cole bm.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au	Youth & Young Adults (Dew)	Youthandyoungadults.stjames@gmail.com
Parish Council Chairperson	Christine Umali-Manalac ppc.stjamescoorparoo@gmail.com	Adult Faith Formation (Lauchy)	Adultfaithformation.stjames@gmail.com
Finance Committee	Mark Garden osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au	Hospitality & Community Life (Veronica)	Communitylife.stjames@gmail.com
Safeguarding Officer	Kate Pearson <u>lsr.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au</u>	Social Justice (Dan)	Socialjusticeoutreach.stjames@gmail.com

#### Counters

Administration

September 23 / 24 Lenore & Brendon

#### September 30/Oct 1 Paul & Cecilia

Welcome

**New Parishioners** 

Please register

using this QR code

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Next week 26th Sunday Ordinary Time October 1st		SUNDAY 7AM	SUNDAY 9AM
CHOIR (1st weekend)	Rex U	n/a	Dan F
COMMENTATOR	Frank F	Leslie S	Ray M
LECTOR	Ron S	Yoni V	June S
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION	Helen D Collette S Rosemarie Y	Jan L Barbara DeP Romy U	Cathy M Sean H John W
ALTAR SERVER/S	Joe R	Brendon or Jane	Lea / Alejandra / Leo
POWERPOINT	Paul D	Gilbert or helper	lan
WELCOMERS	Karen +		Cathy + John + Darren

#### Masses & Services WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday 8am; Vigil 6pm.

Sunday 7am, 9am, no longer 6pm.

MASS SERVICES: <u>Monday</u>, <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>Wednesday</u> 8am.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4.30-5.30pm.



collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God. <u>www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au/sundays-readings</u>