

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

September 24, 2023 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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St. Mary's Catholic School

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 1

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Larry & Patty Parrigon
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Louise Bellm
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	+Terry Campbell
Friday	8:15 a.m.	+Edmund Fenske
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Charlotte Sloan
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family

ST. AGNES

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thur.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Wednesday, September 27

Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

8:15 a.m. Mass

PSR CLASSES from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. All children Kindergarten to 12th grade.

St. Mary's School Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the C.R.

Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

Memorial of Saint Jerome, Priest

St. Mary's All School Mass

Friday, September 29

Saturday, September 30

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, October 2

Memorial of The Holy Guardian Angels

8:15 a.m. Rosary & Communion Service

Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi

8:15 a.m. Mass

PSR CLASSES from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. All children Kindergarten to 12th grade.

8:15 a.m. Mass

Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

Friday, October 6

Saturday, October 7

OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in October:

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 3318.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Donna James, Margie Jensen, Erin (Gasser) Carnes, Mary Catherine Miller, Joan (Whitman) Johnson, Brenda (Wroblewski) Buchanan, Guessie Pierce, Melissa Cahalan, Andrea Kristek, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT OCTOBER 6, 2023 On First Friday of each month, we have Exposition starting at 1:00 p.m. with Adoration until 7:00 p.m. Exposition closes with Benediction at 7:00 p.m. Please remember that there must be at least two people present at all times during Adoration. If you have signed up for a time slot, but cannot make it, please call on one of the other people on the list who signed up to be substitutes. Also, anyone, at any time during Adoration is encouraged to spend time praying in the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Visits to the Blessed Sacrament, written by St. Alphonsus Liguori, will be available on the small table in the center of the aisle at the back of church for use during adoration.

AIR CONDITIONING UNITS that have went out and that we have to replace. We have one unit in the rectory that has quite, and two units in the church that have quit. The cost to replace the 3 units is going to be \$18,524.11. If you would like to make a donation toward this cost you can put an envelope marked AC Units in the collection.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL ADULT FAITH FORMATION-Our nation and our diocese are in the middle of 3 years of Eucharistic revival. This year is focused on Parish revival and we will be getting together in the school cafeteria Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:15 (the same time as PSR) to renew our knowledge and love of the Eucharist through a study called "Jesus and the Eucharist." See more on the website: eucharisticrevival.org

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

Thank you to everyone who bought mums this year. The mums will be here and ready to pick Saturday, September 23. We sold 172 this year. You are welcome to pick them up at the St. Mary's Diner.

Thank you to everyone that purchased tickets to the St. Mary's Diner.

APPOINTMENTS

If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement

Saturday, September 30 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: St. Mary's School Children
Servers: St. Mary's School Children
E.M.: St. Mary's School Family
Ushers: St. Mary's School Children

Sunday, October 1 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Cody Washam, Barbara Glouse
Servers: Quinn Barchak, Hadley Barchak
E.M.: Mary Abramovitz, Ralph Abramovitz, Joe Crowell, Denise Crowell
Ushers: Dereck Washam, Rick Washam, Cody Washam, Ralph Abramovitz

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday September 24

Isaiah 55:6-9
Ps 145:2-3,8-9,17-18
Philippians 1:20c-24,27a
Matthew 20:1-16a

Monday September 25

Ezra 1:1-6
Ps 126:1b-6
Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday September 26

Ezra 6:7-8,12b,14-20
Ps 122:1-5
Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday September 27 St. Vincent de Paul, Priest

Ezra 9:5-9
Tb 13:2-4a,6e-j,7-8
Luke 9:1-6

Thursday September 28

Haggai 1:1-8
Ps 149:1b-6a,9b
Luke 9:7-9

Friday September 29 Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14 or
Revelation 12:7-12b
Ps 138:1-5
John 1:47-51

Saturday September 30 St. Jerome, Pr, Dr

Zechariah 2:5-9,14-15a
Jeremiah 31:10-12b,13
Luke 9:43b-45

God's not fair! How many times have we felt that way? And it's true, at least by our standards. The parable in the Gospel reading is a fine example of this.

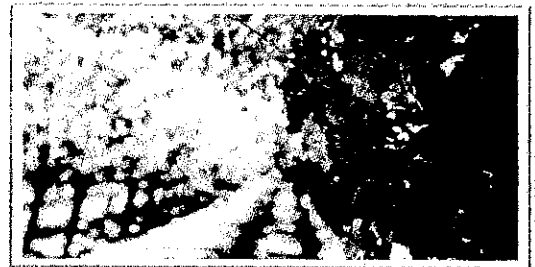
The landowner seems to be very unfair. We can begin to understand him, however, if we think of this parable in terms of parenthood. A loving father cares about each of his children equally. Although he gives more attention to the child who needs it more, he loves the others just as much.

God the Father is like a vineyard owner who gives equally to all. Since we cannot earn our way into heaven, equal benefits are not an injustice to those who labored longer. Rather, God gives complete and perfect love even to those who only discovered, at the last minute, the value of having a relationship with him. He can do no less.

The first reading reminds us that as high as the heavens are above the earth, God's ways are greater than our ways and his thoughts are higher than our thoughts. We think that justice (fairness) means equal treatment, but that harkens back to the Old Testament concept of justice: "an eye for an eye". Jesus raised justice to its highest level,

which means being equally loving and kind to all, whether they deserve it or not.

We don't have to understand God's higher ways. We only have to be grateful that God loves us even when we are unloving. No matter how undeserving of his love we might be, he still



gives us the same amount of love that he gives to the holiest of saints. He loves us as much as he loves Mary the Blessed Mother of Christ! "Am I not free to do as I wish with my own love?" he asks.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † When have you felt undeserving of God's goodness?
- † What evidence proves that he never stopped loving you? What did he do for you?
- † How has your own opinion of yourself interfered with feeling his love?
- † Share the story of a time when you saw something good happen to a "bad" or undeserving person, or a time when you prayed for something that you didn't get while an unfaithful person received it without turning to God for help. Despite the unfairness of this, why are you glad that you have known God's love?
- † Can you also be glad for the blessings that unbelievers receive from God?