



# DIOS SIEMPRE ESTÁ EN SALIDA

XXV DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO — 24 DE SEPTIEMBRE, 2023

La página del Evangelio de hoy (cfr. Mt 20,1-16) narra la parábola de los trabajadores llamados a jornal por el dueño de una viña. A través de esta historia, Jesús nos muestra el sorprendente modo de actuar de Dios, representado en dos actitudes del dueño: la llamada y la recompensa.

En primer lugar, la llamada. El dueño de la viña sale en cinco ocasiones a la plaza y llama a trabajar para él: a las seis, a las nueve, a las doce, a las tres y a las cinco de la tarde. Es conmovedora la imagen de este dueño que sale varias veces a la plaza a buscar trabajadores para su viña. Ese dueño representa a Dios, que llama a todos y llama siempre, a cualquier hora. Dios actúa así también hoy: nos sigue llamando a cada uno, a cualquier hora, para invitarnos a trabajar en su Reino. Este es el estilo de Dios, que hemos de aceptar e imitar. Él no está encerrado en su mundo, sino que "sale": Dios siempre está en salida, buscándonos; no está encerrado. Dios sale, sale continuamente a la búsqueda de las personas, porque quiere que nadie quede excluido de su plan de amor.

También nuestras comunidades están llamadas a salir de los varios tipos de "fronteras", que pueden existir, para ofrecer a todos la palabra de salvación que Jesús vino a traer. Se trata de abrirse a horizontes de vida que ofrezcan esperanza a cuantos viven en las periferias existenciales y aún no han experimentado, o han perdido, la fuerza y la luz del encuentro con Cristo. La Iglesia debe ser como Dios: siempre en salida; y cuando la Iglesia no sale, se pone enferma de tantos males que tenemos en la Iglesia. ¿Por qué estas enfermedades en la Iglesia? Porque no sale. Es cierto que cuando uno sale existe el peligro de que tenga un accidente. Pero es mejor una Iglesia accidentada por salir, por anunciar el Evangelio, que una Iglesia enferma por estar encerrada. Dios sale siempre, porque es Padre, porque ama. La Iglesia debe hacer lo mismo: siempre en salida.

La segunda actitud del dueño, que representa la de Dios, es su modo de recompensar a los trabajadores: ¿cómo paga Dios? El dueño se pone de acuerdo con los primeros obreros, contratados por la mañana, para pagarles «un denario» (v. 2). En cambio, a los que llegan a continuación les dice: «Os daré lo que sea justo» (v. 4). Al final de la jornada, el dueño de la viña ordena que a todos les sea dada la misma paga, es decir, un denario. Quienes han trabajado desde la mañana temprano se indignan y se quejan del dueño, pero él insiste: quiere dar el máximo de la recompensa a todos, incluso a quienes llegaron los últimos (vv. 8-15). Dios siempre paga el máximo. No se queda a mitad del pago. Paga todo. Y aquí se comprende que Jesús no está hablando del trabajo y del salario justo, que es otro problema, sino del Reino de Dios y de la bondad del Padre celestial que sale continuamente a invitar y paga el máximo salario a todos.

De hecho, Dios se comporta así: no mira el tiempo y los resultados, sino la disponibilidad, mira la generosidad con la que nos ponemos a su servicio. Su actuar es más que justo, en el sentido de que va más allá de la justicia y se manifiesta en la Gracia. Todo es Gracia. Nuestra salvación es Gracia. Nuestra santidad es Gracia. Donándonos la Gracia, Él nos da más de lo que merecemos. Y entonces, quien razona con la lógica humana, la de los méritos adquiridos con la propia habilidad, pasa de ser el primero a ser el último. "Pero yo he trabajado mucho, he hecho mucho en la Iglesia, he ayudado tanto, ¿y me pagan lo mismo que a este que ha llegado el último?". Recordemos quién fue el primer santo canonizado en la Iglesia: el Buen Ladrón. "Robó" el Cielo en el último momento de su vida. Esto es Gracia, así es Dios, también con todos nosotros. El que piensa en sus propios méritos, fracasa; quien se confía con humildad a la misericordia del Padre, pasa de último — como el Buen Ladrón — a primero (cfr. v. 16).

Que María Santísima nos ayude a sentir todos los días la alegría y el estupor de ser llamados por Dios a trabajar para Él en su campo, que es el mundo, en su viña, que es la Iglesia. Y de tener como única recompensa su amor, la amistad de Jesús.



## GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

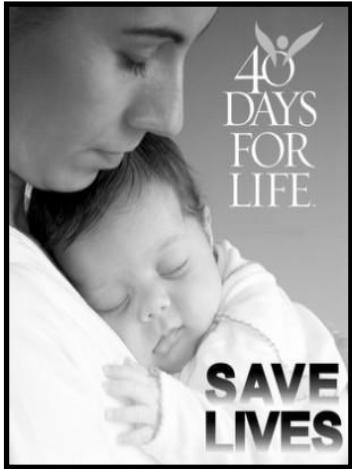
Today's readings should bring us great joy. They are a reminder that our Lord may have high standards, but he is also "generous in forgiving" and "near to all who call upon him." In the Gospel, we hear the parable of the laborers in the vineyard. Some work all day while others arrive at the last hour. However, all are paid the same. Similarly, we can all receive God's heavenly reward – whether we are faithful Catholics since birth or converts in our final hour. This parable may evoke mixed feelings for those who see themselves as the laborers who have toiled all day and wonder why their reward is not greater. But rather than making us jealous, this parable should make us rejoice: How wonderful that everyone has the opportunity for everlasting life with the Lord! And what great comfort to know that if we falter and lose our way, it is never too late to return to God.

## GO EVANGELIZE

### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Sometimes, knowing that we are the recipients of God's bountiful mercy, we can be tempted to lead a life focused mostly on worldly pleasures. To paraphrase St. Augustine: Make me holy Lord ... just not yet! Of course we know this isn't the right attitude or approach to life, but it's certainly tempting. Let's return to the message of the Gospel for a moment. Yes, the Lord is generous in giving all the workers the same wage. But perhaps equally as important is that we are called to be workers in the Lord's vineyard, and what an honor and privilege that is! Serving in the Lord's kingdom here on earth is not drudgery; it is life-giving and fills us with God's love and grace. Let us recall the words of St. Paul in today's Letter to the Philippians. Although he longs to "depart this life and be with Christ," he knows that staying here on earth means "fruitful labor for me." Let us also strive to keep our eyes on the Lord and labor in his field for as long as we are able.

**PRAY** The first reading from Isaiah reminds us that the Lord works in ways we can't understand: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord." Let us ask God this week for the fortitude to reorient our thoughts and ways to his will, not ours, so as to "conduct [ourselves] in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ."



## Pray to End Abortion

From **September 27<sup>th</sup>** to **November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023** we invite you to join together with over a million volunteers across North America who will simultaneously participate in 40 consecutive days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. 40 Days for Life saves the lives of children in the womb who do not have the chance to stand up for themselves. You are encouraged to get involved by **Prayer and Fasting** for an end to abortion, as well as attending a **Peaceful Vigil** outside of Freeport Hospital, for an allocated hour between 7am and 7pm, seven days a week. We encourage volunteers to consider **Adopting-an-Hour** a week; which is only 6 hours over the span of the campaign and this would greatly help in filling all the hours. It is vital to spread the message that human life is *sacred* and that a law needs to come into effect to stop the killing of innocent babies.

You can either sign up for prayer hours online at [www.40daysforlife.com/kitchener](http://www.40daysforlife.com/kitchener) or by emailing/calling Ewelina at [40DaysKW@gmail.com](mailto:40DaysKW@gmail.com) or 519-904-2620. It is **VERY IMPORTANT**, that you sign up BEFORE coming to the vigil site as this prevents one of the committee or emergency back-up members from driving out to the site.

*You are also invited to join us for the **OPENING RALLY** which will be held on **Tuesday September 25th, 2023** at **Sacred Heart Parish, 66 Shanley Street, Kitchener**. We will begin with Holy Mass at 7pm. Refreshments and sign-ups will follow; please come to pray for the success of this Campaign and the protection of all life in our country!*

**Struggling After an Abortion?** Either your own, or someone else's? Do you feel alone, emotional, or angry? Project Rachel is available to help. This confidential service allows people to work through their feelings on an individual basis, with a trained counsellor, to find hope and healing. Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.

## **Your Smart Steps – Supporting Step-Families**

This is a one-day workshop designed to assist all parents and step-parents who are adjusting to blended family life. Sessions will be held at Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph, 28 Norfolk Street. Time: 9:15a.m. - 3:30p.m., Price: \$50 per person, Date: Saturday, October 14, 2023. Register on line: [hamiltondiocese.com](http://hamiltondiocese.com) and look under Upcoming Events.

For more information contact the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

**Rosario Meditado:** Todos los sábados del mes de octubre se tendrá un Rosario a las 11:00 a.m. Están todos cordialmente invitados.

## ENGLISH MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 23

**5PM** +Marie & Lee Fortney

Sunday, September 24 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**9AM** For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, September 26

**11AM** +Norbert Kuntz

Wednesday, September 27

**11AM** +Agnes Beck

Thursday, September 28

**11AM**

Friday, September 29

**11AM** +Ted Solomon

Saturday, September 30

**5PM** +Jacqueline Sadang + Ron Mahon

Sunday, October 1 Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**9AM** For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

## HORARIO DE MISAS EN ESPAÑOL

Sabado 23 de Septiembre

**7PM** +Luz Marina Tabares

Domingo 24 de Septiembre XXV Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

**11AM** Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Martes 26 de Septiembre

**12PM** +Luz Marina Tabares

Miércoles 27 de Septiembre

**12PM** +Elba Pages +Antonia Pages +Genaro Castillo

Jueves 28 de Septiembre

**12PM** +Candito Israel Gómez

Viernes 29 de Septiembre

**12PM**

Sabado 30 de Septiembre

**7PM** Accion de Gracias Angel Quintana

Domingo 1 de Octubre XXVI Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

**11AM** Por la Comunidad Parroquial

**Food Drive** – the Society of St Vincent De Paul - St Johns will be holding a Thanksgiving food drive. There will be labelled containers in the Narthex where you can leave your donations that will be there until the Thanksgiving weekend. If you are able to help but are not sure what would be the best to donate, here is a list of the most needed items: peanut butter, cheese whiz, canned soups, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, Kraft dinner, tea, coffee, sugar, canned fruits, canned meat, tuna. These or any other food drive donations will be greatly appreciated to help support the needs in our community. Thank you from the St. Vincent De Paul.

**ON OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>, POPE FRANCIS** will open the first session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, “**For a Synodal Church. Communion, Participation, Mission**”. In a recent letter to Bishops around the world, Cardinal Mario Grech, General Secretary of the Synod encouraged every baptized person and every particular Church to pray unceasingly that the Holy Spirit guide the Synod participants as they discern what the Lord is asking of his Church today. “*With the prayer of listening, adoration, intercession and thanksgiving, the whole ecclesial community will be present, in the power of the Spirit, at the Synodal Assembly as an event that concerns all the baptized.*”

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**Young Adults Nights** Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and early 30s) of our diocese to attend a night of Adoration, Fellowship and Praise Music. Arrival and Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30pm), Social with Food (7:30pm-8:30pm), Praise Night and Vocation Testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on **Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup>** at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate (28 Norfolk Street, Guelph), and on **Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>** at Saint Pius X Church (9 Waverly Street, Brantford). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)