

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
24 September 2023

YEAR A
#44.23

Reflection

God's abundant grace and unconditional love

The parable of the workers in the vineyard raises thought-provoking questions about justice, fairness, and generosity. Today's Gospel prompts us to reflect on the landowner's actions and the deeper moral and spiritual lessons it conveys. This sentiment of perceived injustice is understandable from a human standpoint, where fairness often implies proportional rewards for expended effort.

However, the parable challenges us to consider an alternative perspective. The landowner explicitly states that he paid the workers what they had agreed upon, fulfilling his promise to all labourers regardless of their work duration. What's truly remarkable is the landowner's generosity. He chose to pay the latecomers the same wage as the early workers. This generosity may appear unfair from a purely equitable standpoint, as longer hours typically result in higher wages. However, there is a profound lesson here about God's grace and the nature of His kingdom.

The landowner symbolizes God's boundless grace and mercy. Spiritually, this parable teaches that God's salvation is available to all, regardless of when they turn to Him. Just as the late workers received the same reward as those who worked all day, anyone who turns to God in faith will receive the same spiritual blessings and salvation.

In essence, the landowner's actions demonstrate the distinction between treating people equally and treating them equitably. While equality might imply uniformity, equity considers individual circumstances. In this parable, the landowner chooses to be equitable, showing kindness and generosity to all his workers, regardless of their starting time.

Ultimately, the parable of the labourers in the vineyard challenges our human notions of fairness and encourages us to embrace God's graciousness. It reminds us that salvation and spiritual blessings are not earned through works but are gifts freely given by a loving and generous God to all who turn to Him in faith.

Resource used: *Reflection*, by Greg Sunter

Parish Administration

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Tues 9:30am

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Matthew Garton

Pawsey Circuit Florey

Phone: 6258 3592

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SATURDAY VIGIL MASS TIME

The decision regarding the time of the VIGIL mass will be announced next weekend.

Who would like a cuppa?

Last week's readings and homily spoke of the need for *community*.

With this in mind, would anyone like to join me in re-starting monthly morning teas after the Sunday 10:00 mass?

I'm looking for some volunteers to help me set up and pack down after mass. If we get enough people, you should only need to volunteer once or maybe twice a year.

You don't necessarily have to prepare any food, as I'll be trying a BYO approach, just offer people tea, coffees, juice and water.

If you're interested, please contact Jenny McGee on 0481-706-966 or leave a message either jemapm59@gmail.com or the front office.

FUNERAL NOTICE

Kate Fisher

Requiem Mass will be celebrated on
Tuesday 3 October 2023
at 11:00am

St John the Apostle Parish Kippax

Live Stream link:

<https://attnd.com.au/kate-fisher>

PARISH ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

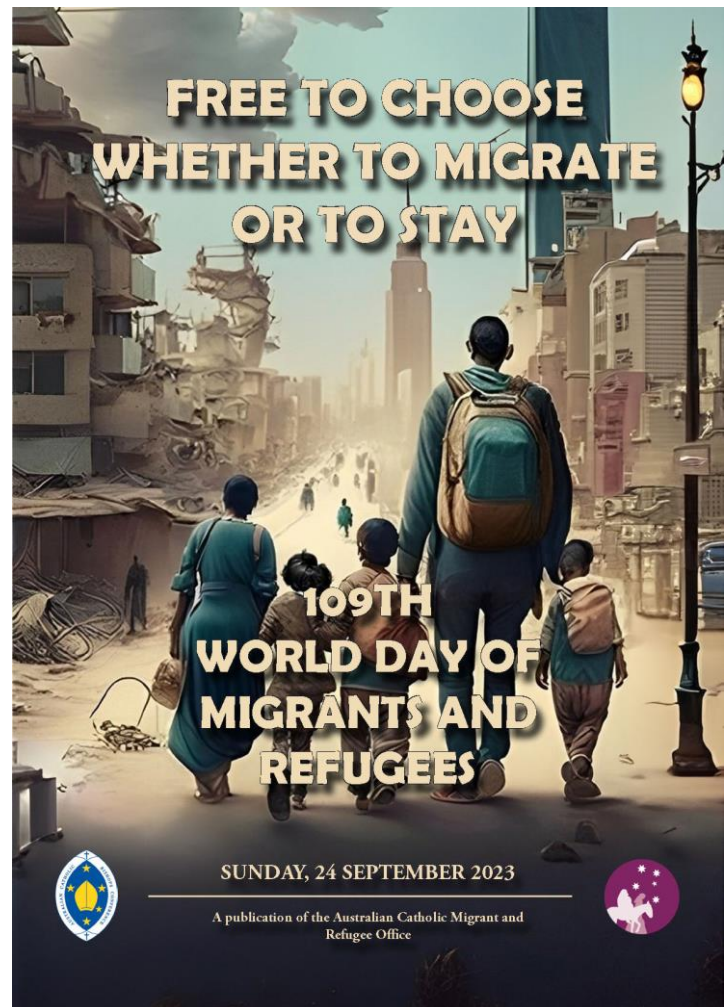
Tuesday 26 September

Women's Breakfast



Wednesday 27 September

SJA Friendship Group



“Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay”

Sunday 24 September 2023

There will be a Sausage Sizzle after the 10:00am Mass.

Please bring a cake or slice to have with tea and coffee.

Link to Pope Francis message

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/20230511-world-migrants-day-2023.html>



Gethsemane

**Contemplative Prayer with
the Blessed Sacrament**

**7:30pm – 8:30pm
Thursday 5 October**

Could you not stay awake with me one hour.

Matt 26:40

“Be on earth the Heart of God”

Season of Creation

1 Sept – 4 Oct

How do we tend God's Vineyard?

The complaining workers in today's Gospel assumed they were near the top of some unspoken hierarchy. They thought they deserved more than some of their co-workers. If we think of the earth as God's great vineyard, we can see obvious parallels today. Nations can think they deserve more than their less developed neighbours; perhaps because their economies have been industrialised longer. People can assume they are right to own multiple properties while others remain homeless; perhaps because they inherited or worked hard for them.

But we Christians are called to work in the vineyard for its good, and for the good of all, not merely ourselves. 'The way humanity treats the environment influences the way it treats itself, and vice versa', declared Pope Benedict XVI in the encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, reminding us that justice for others and good stewardship of our world are intimately connected. During this Season of Creation, we might ask ourselves: How can we tend the vineyard into which God has sent us? Do we attend to the needs of our fellow workers, especially refugees and immigrants who have only recently arrived?

Season of Creation, by Nick Brodie

Mass Intentions the week of 25 September – 1 October

Mon 25/09	Thanksgiving
Wed 27/09	Colleen Kiley
Thur 28/09	Shanthi Jayawardena
Fri 29/09	Maria & Robert Scarr
Sat 30/09	
5:00pm	Steven Smith
Sun 01/10	
8:30am	Richard Belcher
10:00am	Parish Intentions
6:00pm	Isabella D'Souza

Heart Spirituality

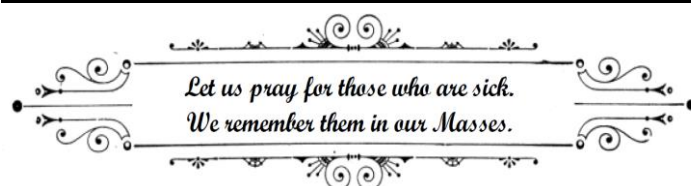
Go into my vineyard to work

How should we work in God's vineyard? The labourers that Jesus Christ deigns to employ have to be animated by an ardent zeal for the spread of this mystic vine, that cost its planter so much trouble and fatigue.

They should cultivate it with care, and defend it with courage against those who would ravage or destroy it. They should put all their labours at its service: the example of an irreproachable life, their spoken and written word, their sweat, and even their blood if necessary. May the Sacred Heart give us these dispositions and make our efforts fruitful.

Jules Chevalier msc
Méditations I, p. 264 ff Issoudun 1891.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be
everywhere loved.....forever!



Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Josephine Mulligan, Luke White, Beryl Mannix, Aileen Antcliffe, James Sharah, Zoila Wait, Philip Hazell, Patrick Clarke, Lidia Torelli, Georgina Kukolic, Hok Tung, Fr. John Rate msc, Carol Gibb, Joyce Smith, Edmond Sarrah, , Vic Puzas, Joseph Sciberras Patricia Tyers, Antonia Prieto, ntonella D'Ambrosio, Victor Bitterman, Bernard Roberts, Robert Smith, Martino Salvaneschi, Maxine Kennedy, Anne Bynum, Fred Aschenberger, Patricia Richardson, Gaeto Vella, Renee Tozer

Vinnies Poor Box Appeal

All money placed in the Poor Box during September will go to support the work of our Vinnies Twin Conference of Sts Peter and Paul in Tamil Nadu, India. Thank you for your generous support. Next weekend Conference members will share personal experiences of what it is like to volunteer to help individuals and families in our local community who are struggling with life. There will be a special focus at the 6pm Sunday Mass.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 3rd Sun during Mass
Reconciliation	Sat 4:00pm – 4:30pm
Sacramental Program	Contact Parish Office
School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term

PRAYER LIFE

Charismatic Prayer: Maida: 0423 658 326	Thursday 10:00am
Meditation	Friday 5:15-6.30 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Eucharistic Adoration	1 st Thursday of the Month 7:30pm – 8:30pm
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm

SOCIAL LIFE

St Johns Friendship Group	Last Wednesday of the Month 9:30am Mass and morning tea
Pins & Needles	3 rd Monday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library
Women's Breakfast	4 th Tuesday of the Month 7:30am Bean Origin Belconnen
Men's Group	3 rd Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre
Movie Night	4 th Friday of the Month 7:00pm Parish Library

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

The Lord is near to all who call him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the
words of your Son.

Alleluia

Readings – 1 October 2023

First Reading	Ez 18:25-28
Psalm	PS 24:4-9
Second Reading	Phil 2:1-11
Gospel	Matthew 21:28-32

ROSTERS

1 Oct Lector Roster

5:00pm	Fay Padarin, Marian England
8:30am	Elizabeth McDonald, John O'Heir
10:00am	Frank Colley, Robin Williams
6:00pm	Joe Ots, Erin Trevaskis

1 Oct Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	Janet Almond, Judy Netting
8:30am	Bernadette Murnane, Pat Cowburn
10:00am	Anthony Noakes, Shovin Weerawarnakula
6:00pm	Andrew Luck, Caitlyn D'Cruze

1 Oct Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Kay Dwyer, Chitra Jayawardena
8:30am	Carmel Screen
10:00am	Libby Kain
6:00pm	Sabina Van Rooy

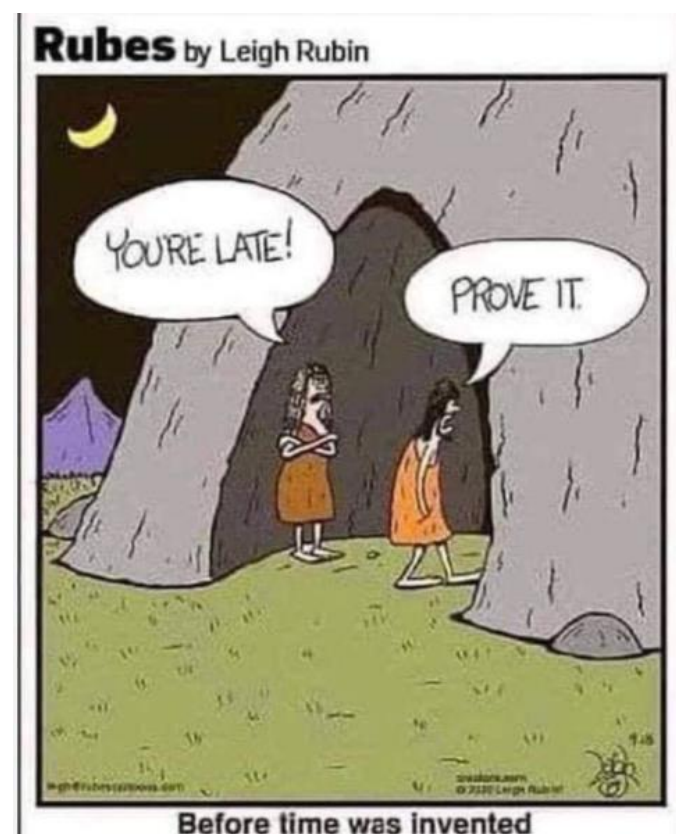
1 Oct SJAShop

5:00pm	Lynn O'Brien
8:30am	Marilyn Calliess
10:00am	Chris Gray
6:00pm	Margaret Ferguson

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	24 Sept	Margaret Stanford
Grounds	30 Sept	All Groups
Church Cleaning:	24 Sept	Joseph Le Van Hai, Lanh Dang, Sam Van Nguyen

On a Lighter note



Before time was invented