



The water that I will give them will
become a spring of water within,
welling up to eternal life.
JOHN 4:14

Parent Prayer Sheet – 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time:

In this Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 20:1-16a), Jesus shares the familiar yet challenging parable of the workers in the vineyard. In the story, a landowner hires labourers at various times throughout the day—some at dawn, and others as late as the final hour. Surprisingly, when payday arrives, the landowner gives the exact same daily wage to everyone, regardless of how long they worked. Naturally, those who laboured all day grumble, feeling that the system is unfair.

Understanding God's Generosity

- **Beyond Human Fairness:** The parable brilliantly flips our natural human instincts of strict bookkeeping, earning, and keeping score.
- **Boundless Grace:** Jesus uses this story to remind us that God's kingdom operates not on human calculation or merit, but on radical generosity, mercy, and grace.
- **Welcoming All:** God rejoices just as much over those who turn to Him later in life as He does over those who have walked faithfully with Him for decades.

Bringing the Gospel Home

For our children, who are deeply sensitive to fairness ("That's not fair!" is a household phrase we know well), this Gospel offers a wonderful teaching moment. It invites us to help them see that love and grace are not limited resources to be fought over or earned through comparison.

This week, as a family, we can reflect on how we view God's gifts in our own lives. Instead of measuring our worth against what others have or achieve, we can cultivate hearts of gratitude, rejoicing simply in the boundless goodness and unearned love that God pours out on each of us.

Prayer:

Loving God,

Thank you for your boundless grace and the radical generosity of your love. When we fall into the trap of comparison and keeping score, remind us of your generous heart. Help us to teach our children that your love is a gift given freely to all, not something earned. Fill our home with gratitude, helping us to rejoice in the blessings you give to others and to rest in the warmth of your unearned mercy.

Amen.

