

September 20th & 27th, 2020

First and Last: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
Copyright 2020 www.salvationhistory.com

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6–9 | Psalm 145:2–3, 8–9, 17–18
Second Reading: Philippians 1:20–24, 27 | Gospel: Matthew 20:1–16



The house of Israel is the vine of God, who planted and watered it, preparing the Israelites to bear fruits of righteousness (see [Isaiah 5:7; 27:2–5](#)).

Israel failed to yield good fruits and the Lord allowed His vineyard, Israel's kingdom, to be overrun by conquerors (see [Psalm 80:9–20](#)). But God promised that one day He would replant His vineyard and its shoots would blossom to the ends of the earth (see [Amos 9:15; Hosea 14:5–10](#)).

This is the biblical backdrop to Jesus' parable of salvation history in today's Gospel. The landowner is

God. The vineyard is the kingdom. The workers hired at dawn are the Israelites, to whom He first offered His covenant. Those hired later in the day are the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, who, until the coming of Christ, were strangers to the covenants of promise (see [Ephesians 2:11–13](#)). In the Lord's great generosity, the same wages, the same blessings promised to the first-called, the Israelites, will be paid to those called last, the rest of the nations.

This provokes grumbling in today's parable. Doesn't the complaint of those first laborers sound like that of the older brother in Jesus' prodigal son parable (see [Luke 15:29–30](#))? God's ways, however, are far from our ways, as we hear in today's First Reading. And today's readings should caution us against the temptation to resent God's lavish mercy.

Like the Gentiles, many will be allowed to enter the kingdom late—after having spent most of their days idling in sin.

But even these can call upon Him and find Him near, as we sing in today's Psalm. We should rejoice that God has compassion on all whom He has created. This should console us, too, especially if we have loved ones who remain far from the vineyard.

Our task is to continue laboring in His vineyard. As Paul says in today's Epistle, let us conduct ourselves worthily, struggling to bring all men and women to the praise of His name.

NOTICE:

The Church is OPEN!

We have returned to our usual mass schedule. Yet Covid-19 is still around, so precautions are to be followed to make sure we can stay open, and safe.

You can check regularly our parish website for updates:
www.our-lady-of-fatima.ca

The Archdiocese of Montreal has set up a webpage where they will post diocesan updates and information, regarding the actions taken by the Archdiocese, in response to the coronavirus as things unfold:
www.diocesemontreal.org/en/covid-19

During these difficult days be assured of my prayers for you, and together let us pray for all those effected by this virus, and for its swift end! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to e-mail me: fatherjpipe@gmail.com

LOYOLA HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Loyola High School will be hosting a **Virtual Open House** for all prospective students on Saturday, September 26th, 2020 at 1p.m. Please join us to learn more about Loyola and our dedication to forming each student's intellectual, personal, and spiritual growth. Loyola High School, founded in 1896, is a Catholic, Jesuit, all-boys university preparatory school in Montreal. Financial Aid is available to students who qualify. To learn more, please visit www.loyola.ca/admissions.

To note: There are several available mass intentions within the coming weeks. Contact the secretary to book your mass intentions.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
September 19th – October 4th, 2020

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Sept 19th	Sunday Vigil Jose Leite de Melo – RIP – by Connie and Jim
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Sept 20th	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lionel Romea – RIP – by the Catechists
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday	Sept 21st	NO MASS

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Sept 22nd	Weekday Nevine Shehata – RIP – by Connie and Jim
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Sept 23rd	Saint Pius of Pietrelcina Grace O'Reilly – RIP – by the family
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Sept 24th	Blessed Emile Tavernier-Gamelin Shirley Tambalo – RIP – by Kathleen Joy and family
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Sept 25th	Saints Cosmas & Damian In Thanksgiving to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mama Mary – by Marilyn
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Sept 26th	Sunday Vigil Anne Aloysius – RIP – by Julia and family
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Sept 27th	Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Louis Ottoni – RIP – by the family
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday	Sept 28th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Sept 29th	Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Leonor Galan – RIP – by Anna
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Sept 30th	Saint Jerome Father Jason Piper - Blessings
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Oct 1st	Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Kathleen Tait-Biro – RIP – by Linda Piper
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Oct 2nd	Holy Guardian Angels Jerry Roy – Birthday Thanksgiving – by Ofelia Roy
Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Oct 3rd	Weekday Marcelino Castro – RIP – by the Castro family
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Oct 3rd	Sunday Vigil Thanksgiving by the Castro and Lopez families
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Oct 4th	Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Rosa Maria, Leo and Anthony Borges – RIP – by Anne Marie
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>

The MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen

SAINTLY PRAYER: by St. Teresa of Avila

Let nothing disturb you
Let nothing frighten you
All things are passing
God never changes
Patience obtains all things
Who possesses God lacks nothing
God alone suffices.
Amen.

PRAYER

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us.
Bring a swift end to this coronavirus.
Heal the afflicted, comfort the fearful,
and have mercy on those whom you have been called from this
life. Amen.
Our Lady of Fatima; pray for us!

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself
wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.