

# ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Diocese of Knoxville

## Mass intentions for Sept. 20, 2020 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Saturday, 5 p.m. —

† Naomi Bartus

By: George & Thea Bratton

### Sunday, 8:30 a.m. —

† Betty Jo Barker

By: Barker family

### 9:30 a.m. —

† Jim & Kay Townsend

By: Donna, Jimmy & Lisa Townsend

### Wednesday, noon —

† Carmen Correa

By: Fran & Rodney Robey

## Parish Life

**RCIA** — Any adult who would like to learn more about Catholicism may participate in St. Elizabeth's RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program. For more information, contact Coleen Schneider at 202-6387 or coleenschneider@gmail.com.

**Bereavement** — Parishioner Marion Barnett died this week. Please keep his family in your prayers.

**Knights' Fundraiser** — The Knights of Columbus fundraiser continues through October at Ultimate Shine Car Wash. Choose your wash, enter fundraiser code 2148, then pay and 30 percent of the sale automatically goes to the Knights. The code cannot be used with FastPass.

**Music videos** — Dave Olson has weekly music videos on the parish website. Thank you, Dave, for keeping our spirits up.

## Dispensation

Catholics living in the diocese are not obligated to attend Sunday Mass until further notice. While not required, participating in Mass online is encouraged.



## WORKING ONE HOUR

Jesus usually taught using metaphors drawn from the daily life of his day. But he always added a twist to bring out the message. The secret of the parables is to look for the twist. It was common to see migrant farm workers looking for hire. The farmer would need large numbers to harvest his crop. That he would return seeking more laborers is not unreasonable. The twist to the story is that he chooses to give everyone the same pay. In real life this approach would be ruinous. The next time no one would show up early. But this story is about God's generosity in giving everyone the same amount of heaven. We will all get equal love.

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## Weekly readings

### Monday

St. Matthew  
Ephesians 4:1-7,  
11-13  
Matthew 9:9-13

### Tuesday

Proverbs 21:1-6,  
10-13  
Luke 8:19-21

### Wednesday

St. Pius of Pietrelcina  
Proverbs 30:5-9  
Luke 9:1-6

### Thursday

Ecclesiastes 1:2-11  
Luke 9:7-9

### Friday

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11  
Luke 9:18-22

### Saturday

Ecclesiastes  
11:9—12:8  
Luke 9:43b-45

### 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28  
Psalm 25:4-9  
Philippians 2:1-11  
Matthew 21:28-32

## Saintly Wisdom

"We fear  
the future  
because we are  
wasting today."

St. Teresa  
of Calcutta

## 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sept. 20, 2020

### Reading 1

(Isaiah 55:6-9)  
Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

### Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18)

**R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**  
Every day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD and highly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

**R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works.

**R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

The LORD is just in all his ways and holy in all his works. The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.

**R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

### Reading 2

(Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a)  
Brothers and sisters: Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit. Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

### Gospel

(Matthew 20:1-16a)  
Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in

the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

*The  
LAST  
shall be FIRST,  
and the  
first  
Last*

## Seminarian Education Collection

The diocesan collection for seminarian education will be on the next two weekends (Oct. 3-4 and Oct. 10-11). The bishop asks that the collection be taken up over *two* consecutive weekends given the lower Mass attendance parishes are still experiencing. Normally the collection is on Easter Sunday, but parishes were closed this year because of COVID-19.