

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

**Dear Friends:**

The Gospel for today, we heard the parable of the laborers called to work at various times during the day. Let's be honest. It seems to us that the laborers who worked all day had a reasonable argument. Why should the guys who only worked for just an hour or two get paid the same amount as those who worked for eight or ten hours? It just doesn't seem right, does it?

The parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard, tells us that God is far more gracious than men. It is encouraging us to realize that we do not have the right to make either judgments or comparisons in the realm of spiritual affairs. The Gospel of Matthew was written primarily to an audience of Christians who were Jewish. For ages, these were the Chosen People. Their ancestors had fought and suffered to preserve faith in Yahweh. Now, as Christians, they were thrown out of the synagogue, they were rejected by their own people. They had suffered much for the Lord. They had suffered for ages, and were suffering still. But when this gospel was written, there were many others who were choosing Christ who did not have an ancestral history of fighting for their faith. Their ancestors were Gentiles, pagans. Now, at the end of the day, without what appeared to be any significant service to Yahweh, the Gentiles were being called into the salvation of the Lord.

Unfair, Unjust? "No," says the Lord. We only see it as unfair or unjust because our ways are not his ways. What the Lord sees in the late conversion of someone who had been far from Him is the response to a Graced moment. A Graced Moment is an occurrence in our lives that causes us to stop and think about the role we are called to play in the Kingdom of God. A Graced Moment can come at the birth of a child, or at the death of a Loved One. For some, their marriage is a Graced Moment as they decide that they want infinitely more than a legal agreement or even a blessing on their marriage. They want Jesus Christ as the Center of their love. For others, their children's First Communion is a Graced Moment as they guide their little ones to receive the Lord and decide that they now more than ever need to make the Eucharist a priority in their lives also. For many Teens, Confirmation is a Graced Moment as they realize that they need to take their faith seriously and commit to Jesus Christ. A Graced Moment can come when a major decision is to be made, or when a person feels the need to change his or her lifestyle. The Lord is concerned that we respond to His call to grace. There is mercy, compassion and forgiveness for the past. What matters to the Lord is the present and future. The message the Church prepares for us today is simple: Trust in God. His love is greater than our most profound hope.

**God Bless You!**

**Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION:**

Catholic Christian Disciples (CCD)

In the parable this week of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy. The last workers were paid just as much as those who worked the full day. Jesus teaches that we should not be resentful when God is extravagantly generous with others.

+Next Sunday, October 1st, is Family Sunday. Students will participate in the Mass followed by refreshments in the parish hall. Come, praise God in prayer and song. Teach the children to answer the prayers.

+Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> is the feast of the Archangels-Michael, Raphael and Gabriel. Do the children know the prayer to their Guardian Angel?

+Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. All are invited to have their animals blessed in Gilman at 5:00 p.m. by the statue of St. Francis and in Sheldon at 6:30 p.m. on the grass in front of the Church.

- + Classes **Wednesday, September 27th**
- Gilman: Grades K - 5 : 3:40 - 5:00 p.m.
- Grades 6 - 11: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.
- Sheldon: Grades K - 11: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Blessings & Peace,  
Sister Marianna

**OUR WEEKLY GIVING**

Ss. Peter & Paul	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,000.00
Loose	1 65.00
Total	1,165.00
Total from September 18, 2016	1,183.00
Building Fund	4 0.00
Energy	3 70.00
St. Stanislaus	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 315.00
Loose	5 4.00
Total	3 69.00
Total from September 18, 2016	3 70.00
Building Fund	20.00
Energy	250.00
St. John	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 957.00
Loose	1 34.00
Total	1,091.00
Total from September 18, 2016	8 83.91
Building Fund	150.00
Energy	20.00
St. Michael	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 355.00
Loose	9 3.00
Total	4 48.00
Total from September 18, 2016	4 92.00

*(Totals include only the basic collection)*

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**Living Rosary Apostolate:** This weekend-September 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> - we will have guest speakers Frank & Trudy Bonack, give a brief presentation on the "Living Rosary". They will explain how thousands of individuals and families around the world, pray one decade daily. They will inform us where and how this simple beautiful devotion started. Anyone interested in signing up can stop by their table after Mass and receive a schedule.

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**Hearts On Fire :** A celebration in Ladysmith for ALL - **Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows** in Ladysmith, WI. This is your opportunity to gather, praise and witness God's love in expectant Joy. More information has been posted on the bulletin board in the church entrance.

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**Diocesan Respect Life Event/ God's Gift: to Love Every Body** Open to students & adults! September 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> in Superior, WI. For more information and to register go to [www.catholicdos.org/events/gods-gift-to-love-every-body](http://www.catholicdos.org/events/gods-gift-to-love-every-body) or contact the Diocese of Superior at (715) 394-0240.