Scripture Reflection

On the surface, the parable of the workers in the vineyard appears to be an offense to common sense. Those who work a longer day ought to be paid more than those who work just an hour or two. When viewed in this way, the landowner seems unfair. That is because we are reading into the parable our own preconceived notions of how fairness and equality should be quantified.

A close read shows us that the landowner paid on the terms that were negotiated. The landowner, it seems, has acted completely justly. The parable goes beyond that, however, and we come to see that the landowner is not just simply just. He is radically just. He has given those who labored in the field for a full day their due pay. But he has also given a full-day’s-wage to those who worked only a single hour. No one is cheated, but a few receive abundantly from the landowner just as we receive from God more than what is merely justifiable or due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. The workers who complain are made to look foolish as they lament the fact that the landowner has made all workers equal. Indeed, what more could one ask for than to be treated as an equal at work or anywhere else?

The parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God’s abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God’s generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people. When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God’s radically different ways.

Mission for Liturgy and Worship

Altar Servers for Sat/Sun Sept. 30-Oct. 1
5:00 PM Mass: Hannah Fletcher, Keira Slonaker, Liam Mirello
8:15 AM Mass: Ava Simone, Mary & Joseph Murphy
11:15 AM Mass: Brielle Baughman, Jacob Fleming, Erich Steinke

Coordinator is Dianne Giampietro.

Lectors for Sat/Sun Sept. 30-Oct. 1
5:00 PM – Harrison Smith
8:15 AM Mass – Midge Stokes
11:15 AM – Leland Steinke

Coordinator is Dianne Giampietro.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) for Sat/Sun Sept. 30-Oct. 1
5:00 PM: Rose Dietz, Barbara Reichart, Steve Signorello, Sam Spiridonoff, Mary Margaret Thorne
8:15 AM: Bill Bowker, Kevin Heiman, Margie & Sam Leese, John Maysilles
11:15 AM: Carmelita Garcia, Joyce Menges, Lorrie Nagy, John Schaline, Jr., Pat Spiridonoff

Coordinator is Claire Wentz.

Mission Coordinator is Claire Wentz.

Prayer for Vocations – “Seek the Lord while He may be found…” While seeking Him in prayer and the sacraments, listen to Him. Could it be you are being called by Jesus to serve as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? If you think He may be offering you this grace, call Fr. Brian Wayne at 717-657-4804 or write: frbwayne@hbgdiocese.org
HURRICANE IRMA EMERGENCY COLLECTION –
A special collection will be taken up this weekend at all Masses in all parishes of the Diocese of Harrisburg for Hurricane Irma relief efforts. This is an effort of the U.S. Catholic Bishops and Catholic Charities USA for humanitarian and recovery efforts and rebuilding support to impacted dioceses. Donations will be accepted for the next 2 weeks for those who missed this collection or want to give additional funds. Please mark your donation for Hurricane Irma Relief. Your prayerful and financial support is urgently needed. Please give generously.

AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORT –
Monthly Budget $35,200.00
Income for Aug. 6th 10,874.76
Aug. 13th 7,885.06
Aug. 20th 8,487.50
Aug. 27th 9,794.60

TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME $37,041.92
SECOND COLLECTIONS:
Capital Improvements 1,473.04
August 15th Collection 1,824.00

GROCERY CERTIFICATES – Please know how very grateful we are to all of you who support our Grocery Certificate Program and ultimately our Religious Education Program. During the week of Sept 17, 2017 we sold $360 for a profit of $43.00.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
Life is a journey in which a person is constantly learning, growing and changing. If you want to be a member of the Catholic faith, the RCIA process is a step on that journey, providing you with an opportunity to grow spiritually, learn, ask questions and experience what is meant by being a Catholic Christian. The Catholic Church is always ready to welcome anyone who desires to become a part of our faith community. If you are an un-baptized adult, a member of another Christian faith or perhaps you are just interested in learning more about the Roman Catholic Church, please call Sister Rosanne at 259-0611, ext. 7

FISHERS OF MEN DINNER – We are faced with a challenge! Many dioceses throughout the United States are facing the challenge of fewer vocations to the priesthood. We in the Diocese of Harrisburg are faced with a different kind of challenge – the need to provide solid seminary formation for an increasing number of men who are studying for the priesthood. What a wonderful challenge to be blessed with! As we have counted on your prayers for young men considering a vocation to the priesthood, so now we need your financial help in providing seminary formation for them. Please consider attending the Annual Fishers of Men Dinner on Friday, Oct. 6, 2017 in the Cardinal Keeler Center at 4800 Union Deposit Road in Harrisburg. Hors d’oeuvres will be served at 6 PM and dinner at 7 PM. Please find more information in the vestibule of the church or go to the Diocesan website at www.hbgdiocese.org/fishersofmen to RSVP or send a donation to this worthy cause. Let us meet this challenge together!

THE REFORMATION – A panel Discussion will be held at IHM on Sept. 27, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in the parish social hall. In this panel discussion, learn from both the Catholic and Lutheran perspectives about what happened at the Reformation 500 years ago. What was interaction like between Christians of these two churches back then? What has it been like in more recent decades? And what does the future hold for Christian unity? The guest panelists will be Rev. Dr. Maria Erling (Professor of Modern Church History and Global Missions, and Director of Ministry in Practice at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg) and Rev. James Lease (Pastor, St. Joseph Parish in Danville and Director of the Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs for the Diocese of Harrisburg). Light refreshments to follow.

ABBOTTSTOWN/EAST BERLIN FOOD BANK – The food pantry held on Sept. 6th served 100 families which included 280 individuals. The link to the Time to Sign Up page for the food pantry on Wednesday, Oct. 4th is www.volunteersignup.org/9KFR3. Please remember to drop off health/beauty aid items, such as soaps, toothbrushes, diapers, laundry detergent, etc. and place them in the food pantry barrels.

RESPECT LIFE – Come take a stand for Life at the Gettysburg Life Chain on Sunday, Oct. 1st from 2:30-3:30 PM at the square in Gettysburg.

Eucharistic Adoration will also be held from 1-3 PM here at IHM for anyone who would like to make a holy hour in honor of Respect Life Sunday. A sign-up sheet is located in the back of the Church for those who would like to sign-up for a time.

PCCW NEWS –
Have you been married for 5,10,15,20,25 years and so on in this year (2017)? If so, the Parish Council of Catholic Women would like to invite you to attend Mass on Saturday, Oct. 21st at 5 PM. Father will recognize each couple and then give a special blessing. Couples and their families are welcomed to the social hall for cake and drinks. If you would like to attend, you can sign up on the sheets on the window sills or call Pat Slonaker at 717-624-3245 by Oct. 15th.

The Council of Catholic Women would also like to thank everyone who baked and purchased baked goods last weekend.

CATHOLIC RADIO – AM 720 WHYF, your Catholic radio station will be conducting a pledge drive Monday, Sept. 25 through Friday, Sept. 29. They would like to share stories on the air during this time of how the station has helped people in their faith journey. If you have a story to share, no matter how brief, please send it to contact@720whyf.com or call 717-525-8110. The station can be heard on the air, and 24/7 online at www.720whyf.com and via an app.
**DIOCESAN WOMEN’S CONFERENCE**
Women of the Diocese of Harrisburg, when was the last time you took a day to refresh your spirit and rest awhile in the arms of Jesus and Mary while enjoying the company of like-minded women? On **Saturday, Oct. 14th**, the Diocese of Harrisburg will offer our 3rd Annual Women’s Conference at Bishop McDevitt High School. The theme this year is **Lead All souls to Heaven: Mary’s Message to Us from Fatima**. Our Keynote Speaker will be national speaker, author, and award winning journalist, Susan Brunkmann, who will share her powerful conversion story and how it fits right in with Mary’s message to us from Fatima. There are 36 workshop choices over 3 sessions … plus confession, Eucharistic Adoration, beautiful music, Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Gainer, and fellowship with hundreds of women. Last year more than 800 women attended this conference. Come and see what everyone is talking about and see what God’s love can do in your life!

**CONEWAGO DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN** invites you to the Annual Harrisburg Diocesan Marian Day on Oct. 21, 2017 at St. Joseph Parish, 5125 Grandview Rd., Hanover. It will be held from 9 AM to Noon. Please register in advance with Harriet Glass at 717-677-4303 or by email at hrglass@embarqmail.com. Registration deadline is Oct. 7th. Registration fee is $10. Make checks payable to Conewago District CCW.

**GET CONNECTED** – On Saturday, Oct. 7th, join with other young adults in their 20’s and 30’s for a fun gathering hosted by the Diocese of Harrisburg. The evening begins with 5:30 PM Vigil Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, 212 State St., Harrisburg. Included will be hors d’oeuvres, drinks, music, games and prizes. Enjoy a fun, relaxed night connecting with old friends and meeting new ones. Cost: $10 registration in advance and $15 at the door. Register at www.hbgdiocese.org/getconnected. Any questions contact 717-657-4804, ext. 328 or oyyam@hbgdiocese.org.

**FUSION NEWS** – Fusion is Immaculate Heart of Mary’s youth group; open to all teens in grades 8 to 12. For information, please call or email Paul Oakes at 717-259-0611 ext. 8 or paoke@hbgdiocese.org.

On Saturday, September 23rd, from 6 to 8:30PM, Fusion will present **Stop Bullying**! This Youth Night will be devoted to discussing different kinds of bullying and how to counter it. This program is open for all teens. We’ll meet in The Den and will end the evening in Eucharistic Adoration.

Once again, Fusion will be attending Fan the Fire in York. This year’s theme is: **Fire Fall Down**. The price is: $20 a person. The deadline to turn back in the registration forms, along with the money, is **Friday, October 6th**.

On Saturday, October 14th, Fusion will take a field trip out to the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Maryland. We’ll leave from IHM at 6PM. There, we will participate in **Back from the Dead**.

Did You Know?
September 23rd is the feast day of St. Padre Pio. Born Francesco Forgione, on May 25th, 1887, Padre Pio was an Italian priest known for his piety and charity. Throughout most of his life, he bore the stigmata on his hands and feet; often times, he was seen wearing gloves. From a tender age, he possessed the unique ability to see guardian angels and could speak with Jesus and the Virgin Mary. In addition, he could also perform miracles and levitate. He’s the patron saint of civil defense volunteers, adolescents, stress relief, January blues, and Pietrelcina.

**SAINT THERESE, THE LITTLE FLOWER** – The 31st Annual Evening of Prayer in Honor of St. Therese, The Little Flower, will be held on Sunday, Oct. 1st at 7 PM at Annunciation BVM Church in McSherrystown. Anyone wishing to bring a rose symbolizing their intentions may do so. The homilist will be Rev. Jonathan Sawicki.

**AERO ENERGY PLAN** – For each parishioner who is or becomes an Aero customer, IHM receives up to 3 cents per gallon of oil or propane. This is an excellent way to help your parish! If you are not already registered with Aero Energy for this program, please call Aero Energy at 888-480-1271 and sign up for the House of Worship Program. Any questions, please call Anita in the parish office.

**THANKS TO**
FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

God bless you and your week – Fr. Marcoe

EPIC: A JOURNEY THROUGH CHURCH HISTORY
This course will begin Sept. 28, 2017 at Sacred Heart Basilica Parish. It is open to ALL and is designed to discuss the major people, places, events and issues of the world and the Catholic church. It will identify the twelve historical time periods of the Church; find out why the Church has held 21 ecumenical councils; learn about the heresies, schisms and apostasies of the ages; see how the liturgies and sacraments have evolved; and discuss the apostolic succession and the anti-popes and much more. Please enroll prior to Sept. 23rd. There is a cost of $30 per person for materials. The course will cover twenty weeks – ten this Fall and ten in the Spring. Contact John Barrett at 717-633-1082 or the parish office at 717-637-2721.
THAT MAN IS YOU – ALL men are invited to join us for the new program of That Man Is You. This year we will explore *The Revelation of the Father*. Lives are being transformed by this exciting program across the nation, in the Harrisburg Diocese and right here in your very own parish. Come join us Saturday mornings at 8 AM in the Immaculate Conception BVM, New Oxford cafeteria beginning Sept. 16th. You are not required to attend all sessions. Join us as together we build our faith as brothers in Christ. Contact Pete Socks at 521-3137 or pete.socks@gmail.com.

PARISH WEBSITE HAS MORE PARISH INFORMATION, CALENDAR AND ACTIVITIES. VISIT WWW.IHMPARADISE.ORG.

RUTH’S HARVEST – the next Ruth’s Harvest packing is Wed., Aug. 30th at 10 AM at the Abbottstown Fire Hall. It only requires an hour (or less) of your time, so feel free to join us. Also, please remember to place donations in the Ruth’s Harvest boxes. We are collecting individual sizes of rice with chicken and vegetables (Chef Boyardee), beef stew (Dinty Moore), soup and fruit cups.

FALL ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES
The Diocesan Institute schedule of Fall adult education offerings is now available. Visit www.hbgdiocese.org/institute to access the schedule and registration information. Numerous courses and sessions are also available via webinar, allowing you to participate from home. Contact Ryan Bolster at rbolster@hbgdiocese.org or 717-657-4804, ext. 225.

PARISH CARING COMMITTEE – Assists parishioners on an as needed basis, in times of need or stress and provides visitation, care giver relief, meals, errands, light household chores and local transportation. To request assistance or to become a Caring Committee Volunteer, contact Jen Gentile at 717-225-5059.

AERO ENERGY HOUSE OF WORSHIP PROGRAM – We would like to thank those parishioners who partner with Aero Energy for their oil/propane needs. Immaculate Heart of Mary receives 3 cents per gallon on all propane and oil throughout the heating season. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to give to your Church as well as savings for yourself. NEW this year is Aero Energy is offering $50 credit for any member of our Church who becomes a NEW customer to Aero Energy. They are also giving IHM $50 as well for any new customer. There are brochures on the pamphlet
WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER – Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WME) is a weekend dedicated to your marriage, helping husbands and wives to communicate more fully, renew your romance, and bring yourselves closer to God and to each other. Led by seasoned leaders who have experienced the magic and success of the weekend themselves, the weekend provides a conducive environment for couples to spend time together away from the distractions and tensions of everyday life, while encouraging you to focus on each other and your relationship. Rediscover the best friend that you had on your wedding day!

Time: Friday evening, Sept. 29th - Sunday morning Oct. 1st
Location: Hampton Inn, Mechanicsburg PA
Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Please go to www.yourmarriageisworthit.org for more information or to register, or call 412-635-7775.

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA SCHOOL UPDATE –
The current enrollment at St. Teresa of Calcutta School is 438 students with the possibility of adding 5 more. Sacred Heart Campus has 168 enrolled in grades K through 3 and McSherrystown Campus has 271 enrolled in grades 4 through 8. The school colors will be dark blue, light blue and orange and will be known as “The Crusaders”. Grades 2, 4, and 8 will have 3 sections and all other grades will have 2 sections. Let us continue to keep the students, teachers, staff and families of St. Teresa School in our prayers in this ongoing time of transition.

SUGGESTION CARDS are available on the bulletin boards and at the entrances of the church. If you have any suggestions on how to make our parish better, please fill one out and return it in the collection basket.

CHILDREN’S CHAPEL – For everyone’s information, especially for those who may be new to our parish, there is a so-called Children’s Chapel or Cry Room here in the Church. It’s located in the front left corner of the church, where a restroom is also located. As a parish family, we want children and families to be welcome here at Mass, and so it’s important to have an appropriate place in the church for babies and young children when they get fussy and need extra attention. I really want to encourage parents to use this space to tend to your children as needed. Please, feel free to just get up when need be from the body of the church, and utilize this space. Then you can better tend to your children without feeling like you’re being watched. And this will also allow the other parishioners to be able to more fully focus on worshiping.

PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE – In October 2015, Father Marcoe blessed a Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The Statue will be brought to any person who would like a visit from the Pilgrim Virgin by members of the Legion of Mary. Prayers from a “Pilgrim Virgin” booklet are prayed and the Rosary. The Statue is usually left at the home for two weeks. When the Legion of Mary picks up the Statue, there are closing prayers to conclude the visit. The purpose of taking the Pilgrim Virgin to the parishioners is to promote the message of Fatima, which is penance, daily rosary and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. If you would like a visit from the Pilgrim Virgin, contact Janet Todt at 528-4755.

PRAYER SHAWLS – Are you in need of a prayer shawl? Do you know someone who is? Please call Jan Melhorn at 308-2532. The next prayer shawl meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 14th at 1 PM in Room #3 of the RE Building. All knitters and crocheters are welcome. If you want to learn to knit or crochet, we can teach you. Skeins of new yarn are always welcome and there are bins at the church entrances for these donations.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS NEEDED - Our Parish is in need of several more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, especially for the 8:15 AM Mass.
This ministry plays an important role assisting Father in distributing Holy Communion to our parishioners at Mass on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation. Please call Father if you feel God is calling you for this ministry. You must be 18 years of age or older, a practicing Catholic and a member of our parish.

HIPPA LAWS – Please note that HIPPA (health care privacy laws) prevent hospitals from automatically notifying the parish office when you are in the hospital. Therefore, we ask you to please give consent (permission) for the parish office to be notified. If you would like Fr. Marcoe to know of your hospitalization, please inform the parish office when you are in the hospital. HIPPA LAWS (privacy laws) prevent hospitals from automatically notifying the parish office when you are in the hospital.

FLOWERS – Looking for a way to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion? A beautiful way would be to order flowers on the altar. Most weekends are available from now through the end of the year. Please call Anita in the parish office to make arrangements.

MASS INTENTIONS – Mass intentions are a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion, remember those who have died or are sick and in need of our prayers. Please consider this as a “gift” for someone. Call Anita in the Parish Office to arrange your Mass intentions.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT – We here at IHM have several pieces of medical equipment for parishioners to borrow when needed. They include: crutches, walkers,
commode boosters, shower chairs, a cane and a wheelchair. Also, a parishioner has items that are no longer needed and if someone would like to have them, please contact the parish office for more information. They include 16" wheelchair, walker, SpO2 fingertip meter, toilet seat side rails, toilet seat lifts, automatic blood pressure meter, shower chairs, bathtub handrail, short bedrail, women's depends L. There are also two items for sale; a bathtub lift and a Go-Go electric scooter. Call Anita in the parish office at 259-0611, ext. 5.