



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 24th September 2017

Sunday Reflection – “Thank God, our God is generous” Through the Prophet Isaiah today God states, “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways...” This is clearly illustrated in the Gospel passage about the landowners and his vineyard workers. The landowner goes out early morning to hire labourers and agrees to pay the average daily wage. He hires others at nine, noon, mid-afternoon and late in the evening. The fun starts when it comes to pay time. The late comers are paid first and receive a full days’ pay. Those who worked from dawn to sunset receive also a day’s payment as agreed in the morning. This all happened in the days before “bonuses” were in fashion! The unions would not have been happy either with this arrangement! The landowner’s generosity to the latecomers aggravates the early morning starters, even though they are paid the agreed wage, and they demand a meeting to re-negotiate their terms. The landowner confronts them with the pertinent question, “Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” According to our way of thinking, late comers do not deserve the same reward as those who have labored all day in the vineyard. This is Matthew’s equivalent parable to Luke’s ‘Prodigal’s Son’. It is originally aimed at the Pharisees and all self-righteous and legally-minded people. Jesus befriended sinners and outcasts and treated them with compassion. Here again we are invited to reflect on the generosity of God, a generosity that seems to us unthinkable and transcends our human generosity. Maybe we should just allow God to operate His way! Let us rejoice that he shows mercy to whomsoever he pleases sinners and outcasts alike, and more than likely we too will benefit from his mercy at some time in our lives!!

St Lorenzo Ruiz Feast Day: This Sunday September 24th. The novena started on 15th. There is a special service in his honour at 2pm.

Baptismal Course - We apologize for the delay in our Baptismal course, but this is due to a delay in the redecorating of our Founders Room. The next course will now be on Wednesday 27th September and Wednesday 4th October. Both sessions will be in the Church at 7.30pm. Parents must attend both sessions. Please get a registration form from the Parish Office in advance.

First Holy Communion - Application form 2017/18 is now available from the Parish office. Please Note: If your child was baptized in this parish, you do not need to enclose a Baptismal Certificate with the application; you only need to indicate the date and year on the application form. If you need to produce a Baptismal Certificate, your Registration will not be accepted unless it is with the Baptismal Certificate. Parish Office is open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (Lunch 1.30pm to 2.30pm). *Closing date for all applications is Sunday 24th September 2017.*

St Peregrine Mass - The healing Mass of St Peregrine is on next wed 27th at 6.30pm. Come along to pray for all who are ill, especially those suffering from Cancer.

Interested in becoming a Catholic/Returning? Applications for next year’s programme, are now available from the Parish Office. Contact Sr. Clementina or one of the Priests for more information about our RCIA Programme.

Our Call to Stewardship - Today we begin our reflection on our stewardship as disciples of Christ. We have been blessed and enriched by God with many gifts and talents. Everything we have comes from God. Do we use our talents wisely and constructively for the glory of God and the service of His Kingdom? Could we do better? Let us engage together in these weeks of reflection and renewal and see how all can contribute to the up-building of our Church community. Please make sure you take a copy of the Special Newsletter on ‘Stewardship’, Week 1. Pray about it and reflect on its message.

Parish Council - The next meeting of our Parish Council is on Tuesday next, 26th September at 7.15pm. All Council members are asked to attend. The meeting is open to interested Parishioners also. The meeting will be in the Founders Room.

Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon - Thur 9am to 5pm

(Lunch Hour 1.30pm - 2.30pm)

Mass Times

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm

Sunday 8.30am

10am

(Spanish) 11.15am

12.15pm

7pm

Mon - Sat 10am

6.30pm

Sacrament of Confession

Mon - Thurs 6.15 - 6.30pm

Saturday 10.45 - 11.15am

6.00 - 6.30pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon - Thur 10.30 am - 11.15am

Rosary - Wednesdays 10.30am, followed by Tea/Coffee in the Founders Room.

Legion of Mary - Every Tuesday at 7pm in the Library. New members are welcome!

Charismatic Prayer Group: Is on Thursdays at 11am in the Founders’ Room.

Saints Days

Tues 26th - Sts Cosmas and Damian

Wed 27th - St Vincent de Paul

Thur 28th - St Lawrence Ruiz &

St Wenceslaus

Fri 29th - Sts Michael, Gabriel &

Raphael

Sat 30th - St Jerome

Attention: In the next 3 weeks we shall address a very important part of our life together, ie. “Our Stewardship.” Are we good stewards in our Parish? Please give this matter prayerful consideration and let us all renew our commitment for the good of our Parish.