



Parish Office Hours: 9:30am - 2:30pm

(Monday, Wednesday & Friday)

Phone: (07) 4162 5121 (during and after hours and for emergencies)

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STOPline - Phone 1300 304 550

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A

19th/20th September 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Today in the gospel, we have another parable about what the “kingdom of heaven” is like. And when we hear the word “heaven” we immediately think two things: first, something way off in the future, definitely not now, and second, a world operating in a very different environment, maybe in the clouds, where everyone is on their best behaviour and a whole different set of rules apply. So, when Jesus starts a story that says, “the kingdom of heaven is like,” we think he means this is the way things will be like in heaven when things are perfect. It will be great — off there in the future, when everything works like this.

But what Jesus is doing with these kingdom of heaven stories is offering us that kingdom right now. After all, he came to announce that the kingdom had arrived, and that it is a place that people who follow him can actually take up residence in. He wants the disciples to live as if that kingdom is already here, Sounds great, right? Heaven right now? But then there’s this story in today’s gospel, a story about a great way for the world to work off in the future, but a little hard to swallow if we’re thinking about right now.

It would be great, we think, in heaven, if everyone got paid the same no matter how hard or how long they all worked. Because in heaven, you see, the landowner in this story would be God, and we want God to be generous to everyone, even if they don’t really deserve it. At one level, that’s a message from this story we can happily accept. But it turns out this isn’t only a story about that future heaven, it’s actually about us, now, and we can tell that from the story, because this generosity has made people angry.

We hear a lot in the gospel about this kind of anger. You remember the story of the prodigal son who squandered everything and was welcomed back home, no questions asked. But you also remember how angry and neglected his hard-working older brother felt. Here again today, we hear the cry of “It’s not fair,” just like that older brother, and for the same reason. It’s the

resentment that people who work hard feel when other people get more than they’re supposed to.

Generosity like this irrational generosity in the gospel where the landowner gives everyone the same pay seems to make people angry. It sets up a fight with a very deep part of our human nature. We all want people to get what they deserve — and in our minds, not everyone deserves the same. For some reason, it’s the successful hard workers, the people who do their duty and play by the rules, the people who win, those are the people who can so easily become resentful and suspicious, seeing injustice when the undeserving get a break they don’t seem to deserve. We’re in a pay for performance society, at least, that’s where many of spend most of each week, it’s part of the air we breathe, and if we pay attention to this gospel it seems to be telling us that the kingdom of heaven is run on some other principle that is chaotic at best. How can this world work sensibly if we reward the undeserving the way they’re rewarded in this gospel?

So, if you’re wondering exactly what this gospel means for a parish full of early risers and hard workers like all of us, I’m wondering too. It’s clear that the message to us is that we need to avoid becoming those people who are always saying “it’s not fair” when the undeserving get more than they deserve. And to avoid becoming those people, the only person in this gospel who seems to have the answer about how to do it is this landowner.

There really is no doubt that the kingdom of heaven is a world turned upside down. It turns out that Jesus likes latecomers who only did an hour’s work. He also likes younger children, repentant sinners who take a long time to repent, prodigals who come home, and people rushing into the banquet at the last possible minute. It’s a kingdom where everyone gets what they need, whether they worked hard all along or snuck in at the end of the day. It’s a place where the imperfect are given way more than they deserve, and if we’re honest, that is the kind of kingdom that all of us imperfect people should get to work building.



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 19 th September	Blackbutt	5pm	Vigil
Sunday 20 th September	Kumbia	8am	Liturgy
	Nanango	8am	Mass
	Kingaroy	10am	Mass

First Reading **Isiah 55:6-9**
Responsorial Psalm The Lord is near to all who call him.

Second Reading **Philippians 1:20-24, 27**
Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Gospel **Matthew 20:1-16**

WEEKDAY MASS OF 25TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Thursday 24 th September	Blackbutt	9am	Mass
	Kumbia	5:30pm	Mass

Friday 25th September
Kingaroy Reconciliation 8:30am
 Kingaroy 9am Mass
 Nanango 12pm Mass
Nanango Reconciliation 12:30pm

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Friday 25 th September	Cooyar	6pm	Vigil
Saturday 26 th September	Blackbutt	5pm	Liturgy
	Kumbia	6pm	Vigil
Sunday 27 th September	Nanango	8am	Mass
	Kingaroy	10am	Mass

PARISH PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Death Anniversaries: Mary Nolan, Brian Kelly, Denis (Dinny) Mangan, Ella Martin, Win Lenihan, Ross Andrewartha, Jim Mangan.

Prayers for the sick:

OLHC Parish - Amelia Cole, Greg Knaggs, Damian Wyvill, Bruce McCarthy, Shirley Warner, Wendy Smith, Kyle Sutherland (Perrett), Kylie Lane, Chris Stevens, Luke Colahan.

St Mary's Parish - Denise Mann, Liz Mamczur, Ellie Spicer, Joe Smoothery, Judy Stanton, Jo Saunders, Michael Carroll, Therese Hanley, Teresa O'Sullivan, Juliette McCorley, Bruce McCarthy, Rikie Brinkman, Bernice Mahoney, Julianne Cross, Megan Manthey, Brian Smith, Lisa Kennedy, Mary O'Neil.

Living Faith Books

The Living Faith Books for October to December are now available. PRICE - \$6.50 (GST included)

Kingaroy Nanango Catholic Parishes Collection

"Thanks to your generosity, we collected a total of \$1383.70 over the last weekend — every dollar helps us make a difference!"

(This amount does not include any Direct Credit.)

2027 MASS BOOK AND BREAK OPEN THE WORD**ORDER NOW - COST \$38 each (GST Inc)**

Please complete the order form at the entrance to the church if you'd like to purchase. **Orders to be in no later than Friday 25th September 2026.**

SMCC - Mandy Sullivan- Head of College



Last week, Saint Mary's Catholic College was proud to welcome members of the St Vincent de Paul Conference to our College Assembly to formally receive the generous donation of food items collected

through our Vinnies Winter Appeal. This annual appeal provides our students and families with an opportunity to demonstrate compassion, generosity and a commitment to supporting those in our local community who may be experiencing hardship.

We were delighted to welcome Cecily Labuschewski and Brian O'Reilly, who attended on behalf of St Vincent de Paul to accept the donations. The collection was a wonderful reflection of the kindness and community spirit shown by our College families, with students contributing a wide range of non-perishable food items to support those in need during the winter months.

During the Assembly, Cecily spoke to the students about the important work carried out by Vinnies and expressed sincere gratitude for the College's support. She explained how the donated items would be distributed to individuals and families facing challenging circumstances and highlighted the significant difference that even small acts of generosity can make in the lives of others. Her message provided students with a valuable reminder of the importance of service, empathy and caring for those who are less fortunate.

We thank everyone in our College community who contributed to the appeal. The success of this initiative is a testament to the spirit of generosity that continues to be a hallmark of Saint Mary's Catholic College, and we are grateful for the opportunity to support the important work of St Vincent de Paul.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday 21st and Monday the 28th September 2026. Please contact the office on 07 41625121 to leave a message.

EMERGENCY: SEND AN EMAIL TO
 kingaroy@bne.catholic.net.au

DATE CLAIMER:

Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Please see the notice board for relevant dates / information.