Our Parish community

September 24, 2023

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Isaiah 55:6-9 / Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a / Matthew 20:1-16a



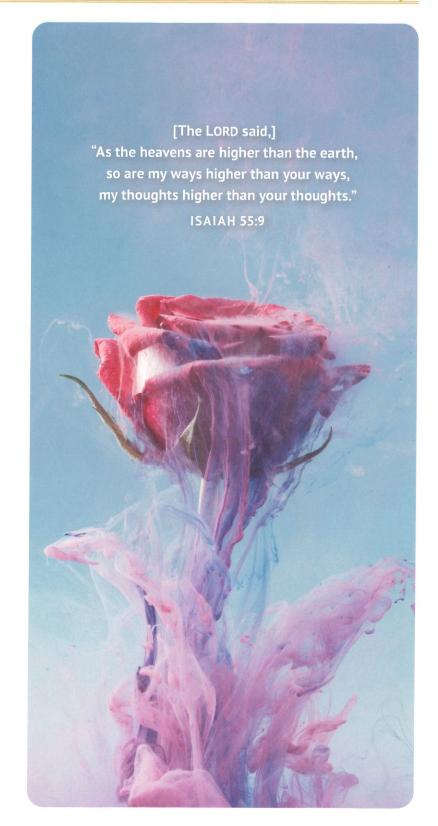
Late Bloomers

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

uman beings grow and mature at different paces. Turning twenty-one is no marker of maturity. We've all known the ten-year-old whom people say is already an old man because of how he thinks and acts. Just as surely, we've known the forty-year-old who still acts and dresses like a teenager. If this is true with human growth, would it not be true as well with growth in faith?

This Sunday's parable of the landowner who pays all his laborers the same even though they have not all worked the same amount of time often sparks the comment that it's not good business sense. But the parable is not about business. It's about how we all come to faith at different times in life, all according to God's plan, not ours. Why then do some complain about deathbed conversions as being unfair? Who's to say when someone finally catches up to God's love and goodness? Too often human wisdom and divine wisdom spin in different worlds.

Pope Benedict XVI once commented on this Gospel's wisdom and how we should be patient with young people as they seek the sacraments. Jesus was patient with us, he said, so we should follow his lead. Federico Lombardi, SJ, the Vatican spokesman for Pope Benedict, reported that the pope had commented, "I used to be more strict about this, but the example of Christ led me to become more welcoming in cases in which, perhaps, there is not a mature and solid faith, but there is a glimmer, a desire of communion with the Church."



Reflect-

Has your faith matured over the years, or have you stopped growing?

Catholic Communities



Our Lady of Mercy

409 E. Main St. Fayette, OH 4352I

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Thursday 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ron Eisel Pat Eisel Ray Hollstein Mike Burkholder Traci Maginn Barbara Roby

Clothing items can be donated via our drop off site on the east side of the building. Our store is open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Contact Rhonda Monahan at 517-306-7986 for information.



Rev. William Pifher 419-446-9288



P.O. Box 429 Fayette, OH 43521

Phone: 419-237-2441

Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

PARISH STAFF

Secretary: Sherry Renner
OI OMFavette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

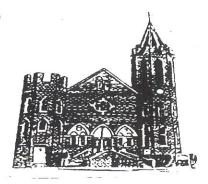
Bookkeeper

Ron Baker

OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Youth Leader/CRE Anita Van Zile

Website (bulletin online) stpeterarchbold.com/our-lady-of-mercy



St. Peter

614 N. Defiance St. Archbold, OH 43502

MASS SCHEDULE

1st Saturday of month 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m.

Parish Secretary

Kim Garrow 419-446-2150 email-stpeter@rtecexpress.net

Religious Ed

Deb Herring

Parish Council President

Stephen Bernath



SACRAMENT INFORMATION

- Baptism: Please call Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for Baptism. A month's notice would be beloful
- Reconciliation: Father will be available for confessions starting 30 minutes before Mass each week.
- New Parishioners: A warm welcome as you enter our Parish Community! You are asked to register at the parish office or see the pastor as soon as possible. If you are moving from the parish, please inform the office so we may remove your name from our parish records.
- Anointing of the Sick: Those who can participate: Anyone who is seriously sick or suffering a grave illness (not a cold, or flu) which is treated or medicated for by a doctor. Also for those of old age which often brings morale or depression factors (body, mind, or spirit). Please make arrangements with Father or call the parish office.
- Matrimony: Please contact the Parish Office six months ahead of your planned wedding date, for Marriage Preparation and scheduling.
- RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a series of classes designed to bring new members into the Catholic church. Weekly sessions begin in September. People who have not been baptized, who have not been practicing or who have been raised in another faith are all welcome to register. Parishioners are encouraged to invite interested family members and friends. There is no obligation to join the church. This is simply an opportunity to learn more about the Catholic faith. Contact Fr. William Pifher at 419-446-9288.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Please note that the bulletin deadline is Tuesday, Noon. Please either call, email at <u>ourladyofmercyfayette@gmail.com</u> or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following week's bulletin

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 24th Sunday - Ordinary Time

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAY'S AT 8 A.M.

ROSARY MONTH OF OCTOBER

The Rosary will be prayed every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. for the month of October. Starting October 4th.

OUR LADY OF MERCY FEAST DAY & FESTIVAL

Our Lady of Mercy Feast Day and Festival is today. Come and enjoy a day of fun & food. We are starting the day with a very Special Celebration of Holy Mass followed by a light breakfast, silent auction, special activities and ending with an Our Lady of Mercy Festival dinner (served approx. 11 a.m.).



SPECIAL CELEBRATION

Today we rejoice with Barb Bruggeman as she celebrates her Confirmation and Full Communion with the Catholic Church at Our Lady of Mercy, as part of the celebration at the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

ALTAR ROSARY

The Altar Rosary will meet Sunday, October 1, 2023 after Mass in the basement. All women of Our Lady of Mercy are welcome to attend.

FAYETTE COMMUNITY DINNER

Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting the Fayette Community Dinner on October 18, 2023, 5 - 6 p.m. If you are interested in helping with this event, please see Sherry Renner.

PROTECTING OUR YOUTH

The Diocese of Toledo remains committed to ensuring the protection of children and providing a safe environment for all young people. If you have any knowledges of abuse that has been committed by a cleric or by any personnel of the Catholic Church, you are urged to report the abuse to your local police department, Children Services, and to contact the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at 419-214-4880; or to write to the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at 1933 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo, OH 43604.

PREVIOUS WEEKS BULLETINS

For your convenience, the previous weeks bulletin will be on the back table.

THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

"Never say to God: 'Enough' Simply say: 'I am ready.'"- Bl. Sebastian Valfre

Do Something Beautiful for God – The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa

Sept. 24 - Many people who have many possessions, who have many goods and riches, are obsessed with them. They think that the only thing that counts is possessing wealth. That is why it is so difficult for them to walk each moment of the day with God. Too many of their moments are spent preoccupied with money and things.

Sept. 25 No matter how tired you are, no matter how physically exhausting your life may be, make it a priority to care for someone in need. What a greater joy can there be?

Sept. 26 – I believe God loves the world through us – through you and me.

Sept. 27 - God created us to love and be loved, and so we hunger for chances to love and be loved. The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread.

Sept. 28 - Everything starts with prayer. Everything good thing we do flows from prayer. Ask God to fill you with His love so you can take His love out into the world and share it with others. We talk about prayer at church, but are we praying? It is easy to talk about the poor, but talking about the poor is not the same as talking to the poor. It is easy to talk about prayer, but talking about prayer is not the same as sitting down in a quiet place and talking to God.

Sept. 29- Living a Christian life provides for the growth of faith. There have been many saints who have gone before us, but I like the ones who are simple, like St. Therese of Lisieux. I chose her as my namesake because she did ordinary things with extraordinary love.

Sept. 30 - Death is the most decisive moment in human life. It is like our coronation: to die in peace with God.

Prayer chain-ANYONE wishing to submit prayer requests can email Anita Van Zile at vanzilein@hotmail.com or call Pat Eisel at 419-

Privacy Issues for Parish Office: IMMEDATE FAMILY - must contact the parish office for all prayer requests to be posted in the parish bulletin. Please submit with the exact verbiage requested. Contact Sherry Renner at the parish office at 419-237-2441, no later than Thursday at noon. By law, the parish office does not divulge private information we receive from hospitals.

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Tuesday starting at 8 a.m. ending with Mass at 7 p.m.

Did you know that Deacon Larry Zachrich is also available for Baptisms and Weddings? Contact Larry at 419-966-7091.

FAYETTE/SURRONDING AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS

--- May 6 - Oct. 28 - Farmer's Market @ Fayette Opera House Parking Lot – Saturday's 9 am – 1

---Oct. 18 - Community meal -Fayette Methodist Life Center -5 - 6 p.m., OLOM hosting

---Oct. 13 & 14 7 p.m. Fayette Opera House - Films by Jay Perdue

If you know of any Fayette Community events, please either call or visit the office or

OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com



DIOCESE OF TOLEDO NEWS

ACA in progress – information and envelopes are on the table in the back. Our Lady of Mercy is at 97.17%.

HELP WANTED

The Diocese has openings for employment. Check out the list at toledodiocese.org/careers

2023 Century Farm Award Applications Available

Catholic Charities is now accepting applications for Century Farm Awards. This award designation honors Catholic families who have maintained a farm or homestead within their family for at least 100 years in the Diocese of Toledo, with an emphasis on well-preserved working farms.

Applicants will be asked to submit a registration form, copies of old deeds, and pictures to support claims. The information submitted must show family residence and ownership of a farm for at least 100 years in the Diocese of Toledo. Applications should be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Bishop Daniel E. Thomas will celebrate a Mass honoring Century Farm Award recipients at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at Sts Peter & Paul Catholic Church, 307 N. Locust Street, Ottawa, OH. For more information or to request the registration form, please contact: Paula J. Kidney at (419) 214-4898 or email pkidney@toledodiocese.org.

Issue 1 is an extreme
amendment on the Ohio
ballot this November that
threatens the health and
safety of women, the rights
of parents and the lives of
preborn babies up to 9 months.



Join Catholics across Ohio in praying a 54-Day Rosary Novena

for the protection of human life and dignity and the defeat of this dangerous amendment.

This week the Sorrowful Mysteries will be prayed each day.

Sign up for a daily email reminder with novena prayers here, or at **pray54ohio.org.**





Register to Vote by October 10th

This November, Ohioans will vote on a proposed change to the Ohio Constitution that would enshrine abortion into law. Our Catholic faith tells us that God places no condition on the value of human life from conception until natural death. Therefore, the Catholic Church cannot be silent when vulnerable women and preborn children are threatened by an amendment that...

- Puts women at risk by endangering medical and safety standards
- Allows painful, late-term abortions by not setting any clear limits on abortion
- Threatens parental rights by challenging notification requirements when minors seek abortions or other reproductive interventions

Your vote is needed to save Ohio from this extreme amendment.

Register to vote or update your information by October 10th at www.voteohio.gov

Jesus calls us to stand up for "the least of these" in our society, including preborn children and vulnerable women. Catholics must protect both women and children by Voting No on Issue 1.



The Catholic Conference of Ohio is the official voice of the Catholic Church in Ohio on public policy, advocating for the dignity of life at all stages, immigrants, Ohioans in need, and Catholic education. www.ohiocathconf.org

Saints of the Day (www.morningoffering.com) Week of September 24- September 30

Sunday, Sept. 24–St. Gerard Sagredo - St. Gerard Sagredo (980–1046 A.D.) was born in Venice, Italy. From an early age he desired to dedicate his life to God, and as a young man became a Benedictine monk. He first served as abbot at a monastery in Venice, but left to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. While passing through Hungary he met the Hungarian king, St. Stephen, who asked him to stay in his country to evangelize and minister to his people. St. Gerard agreed, and was named Bishop of Csanád and the royal tutor of the Hungarian prince. He ministered tirelessly among the Hungarian people and helped to convert the whole country to Christianity, for which he is called the "Apostle of Hungary." After the death of King St. Stephen there was a pagan uprising against the Christians, and St. Gerard was martyred for the faith along with two others. His death took place on a hill in Budapest which is now named after him; according to one tradition he was placed in a barrel lined with spikes, and rolled down the hill. He was declared a saint in 1083 by Pope St. Gregory VII. St. Gerard Sagredo is the patron saint of Hungary, and his feast day is September 24th.

Monday, Sept. 25 –St. Cleophas - St. Cleophas (1st c.) was one of Jesus' seventy disciples, and one of the two disciples who were traveling along the road to Emmaus after the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus in Jerusalem, as recounted in Luke's Gospel. The resurrected Jesus appeared and walked along the road with St. Cleophas and his companion, explaining the events of his Passion and how they fulfilled the Holy Scriptures. According to one tradition, Cleophas (also known as Alphaeus), was a relative of Jesus; he was the brother of St. Joseph, and therefore was Jesus' uncle. Cleophas was the husband of St. Mary of Cleophas, and they had three sons we know by name: St. Simon, St. James the Less, and St. Jude. St. Cleophas, through his daughter Mary Salome, was also grandfather to St. James the Greater and St. John. Therefore three of his sons and two of his grandsons were among the Twelve Apostles. According to tradition, St. Cleophas was martyred by the Jewish authorities in the same home in which he received Jesus as a guest. His feast day is September 25th.

Tuesday, Sept. 26– Sts. Cosmas & Damian - Sts. Cosmas and Damian (d. 287 A.D.) were twin brothers born in Arabia. They both became skilled physicians who practiced in Asia Minor. They took no money for their medical services, for which they were well-respected. Because of their charity they drew many to the Catholic faith. During the Christian persecution under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, Cosmas and Damian were targeted, arrested, and tortured. After being miraculously preserved from injury throughout their cruel tortures, holding firm in their faith to the end, they were finally killed by beheading. They were martyred together with their three brothers. Their remains were buried in Syria and many miracles were attributed to them. In gratitude for the healing he received through the intercession of Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Roman Emperor Justinian I (6th c.) restored a church dedicated to their honor in Constantinople, which became a place of pilgrimage. Sts. Cosmas and Damian are regarded as the patron saints of physicians, surgeons, and pharmacists. They are mentioned by name in the Roman Canon of the Mass, and share a feast day on September 26th.

Wednesday, Sept. 27– St. Vincent de Paul - St. Vincent de Paul (1581–1660) was born in France to a peasant farming family. As a child he grew up herding sheep, and showed such an aptitude for his studies that his father sold the family oxen to fund his seminary education. After his ordination in 1600, St. Vincent worked in Toulouse as a tutor to pay for his doctorate. In 1605, while traveling by sea, he was captured by Turkish pirates. He was taken to Tunis in Africa and sold into slavery four times before escaping in 1607 along with his master, whom he had coverted to the faith. St. Vincent then continued his studies in Rome, and afterwards returned to France. He served as a parish priest and ministered to the nobility; however, two life-changing encounters with destitute people inspired him to begin work among the poor and marginalized. He gathered the wealthy women of his parish to collect funds for missionary projects. From this group came the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. He also founded an Order of priests, the Vincentians, who, during a time of general laxity and ignorance among the clergy, devoted themselves to the Evangelical Councils while serving in small towns and villages. He committed himself to the education of priests and conducted many retreats for their spiritual formation. He also ministered to convicts suffering deplorable conditions in prison, and won many to the faith in addition to building them a hospital. St. Vincent renewed the faith of France during a time of spiritual crisis. For this he was named the patron of charitable works. He is also the patron of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, an organization dedicated to the service of the poor, now working in 132 countries. His feast day is September 27th.

Thursday, Sept. 28 - St. Wenceslaus - St. Wenceslaus (907–935 A.D.) was the son of the Duke of Bohemia. His grandfather was converted to Christianity by the missionaries Sts. Cyril and Methodius. His mother, Dragomir, was the daughter of a pagan tribal chief who was baptized at her marriage. After the death of his father, Wenceslaus received a Christian upbringing from his grandmother, St. Ludmila, while his mother reverted to her pagan ways. Dragomir reigned as regent, had St. Ludmila killed, and worked to oppose the spread of Christianity in Bohemia. When St. Wenceslaus was 18 he took control of the government and exiled his mother. St. Wenceslaus was described as a pious, humble, and intelligent ruler who worked to established Christianity in the land that would become part of the Holy Roman Empire. He was known for his vow of virginity, his many virtues, and his life of prayer and good works. After a political dispute arose, his mother and his younger brother, called Boleslaus the Cruel, plotted his murder along with a group of disaffected nobles. Boleslaus invited his brother to celebrate the feast of Sts. Cosmas and Damian, and arranged to have him assassinated on his way to Mass. St. Wenceslaus muttered words of forgiveness as he died, and his body was buried at the murder site. His brother succeeded him as Duke of Bohemia. Three years later Boleslaus repented of his crime, and had his brother's remains transferred to the Church of St. Vitus in Prague. Wenceslaus was considered a saint by the people at the time of his death. His feast day is September 28th.

Friday, Sept. 29– The Archangels - The Archangels St. Gabriel, St. Michael, and St. Raphael share a feast day on September 29th. These are the only three angels mentioned by name in Sacred Scripture. St. Gabriel means "Power of God." He is the messenger or herald angel most famous for appearing to the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Annunciation (Luke 1:11-38). St. Michael means "Who is like God?" He is the warrior angel, the famous foe of Satan, who is the champion of God's people and guardian and protector of the Church (Rev. 12:7-9). St. Raphael means "God has healed." He is a companion and healing angel, most famous for curing a man's blindness and for traveling with Tobiah in the book of Tobit (Tob. 12).

Saturday, Sept. 30– St. Jerome - St. Jerome (347 – 420) was born to a wealthy pagan family in Dalmatia. He was sent to Rome for his schooling and there converted to Christianity, being baptized by Pope Liberius. He studied theology and traveled widely to the important intellectual and theological centers across the newly-established Christian Empire. He was ordained a priest at Antioch and lived many years as a hermit in a nearby desert. He became an extraordinary scholar, considered to be the most learned of the Latin Church Fathers. Because of his many significant theological works, most notably the thirty years he spent writing the Latin translation of the Bible (the Latin Vulgate), he is one of the most influential and orthodox theologians in the life of the early Church. In his final years Saint Jerome lived in a monastery that he founded in the Holy Land near Bethlehem, where he worked on writing histories and biographies in addition to drawing deeper into a life of prayer and asceticism. For his important scholarly contributions St. Jerome was named a Doctor of the Church. He is the patron of libraries, archaeologists, students, and translators. St. Jerome's feast day is September 30th.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church is united by our commitment to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of our rural families and steward the resources entrusted to us. We value the diversity within our Catholic community and invite all to walk with us on our journey of faith.

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Chui	rch Intention	
Sun. Sept. 24	8:30 a.m.	OLM	Giovanni Stella	
	10:30 am	SP	For the People	
Tues. Sept. 26	7 p.m.	SP	For the People	
Wed. Sept. 27	9:00a.m	SP	For the People	
Thurs. Sept. 28	9:00a.m.	OLM	Mike Turrell	
Fri. Sept. 29	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People	
Sat. Sept. 30	8:30a.m.	SP	NO MASS	
	4:30p.m.	SP	For the People	
Sun. Oct. 1	8:30a.m.	OLM	Giovanni Stella	
	10:30a.m	SP	For the People	

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Sept. 20 – Rel. Ed. 6:45 p.m. Elem. & HS ---Oct. 1 – Altar Rosary meeting after Mass ---Oct. 18 – OLOM hosting Fayette Comm. Meal 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT Reported for September 17, 2023

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (16 envelopes) LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ \$	1,076.00 309.00	
BUDGET	\$	1,747.00	
Over/ <mark>(Under)</mark>	(\$	362.00)	
OTHER COLLECTIONS			
Maintenance	\$	520.00	
Rel. Ed. donation	\$	20.00	
CPC jar	\$	23.00	
Altar Rosary Dues	\$	10.00	
Religious Ed. Fees	\$	90.00	
Silent Festival	\$	1,390.00	
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$	3,438.00	
SILENT FESTIVAL TOTAL	\$	1,490.00	

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS	October 1, 2023				
Reader	Ron Baker				
Servers	Evan Beuregard Micah Maginn				
Greeters/ Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel				
Ushers	Jerry & Anita Van Zile				
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice				
Money Counters	Barb Bruggeman Terry Kovar				

 $Word(s) \ of \ the \ week \ ({\it from Merriam-Webster on line \ dictionary})$

GENEROUS - liberal in giving

"If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me." **Philippians 1:22**

Dear Padre.

When can I take photographs in church? During my niece's baptism, I was told to put my camera away. We have a confirmation and a wedding coming up, and I don't want to get in trouble again.

Reverence and courtesy are the issues here. Reverence keeps in mind that what is real about baptism and all the sacraments does not come out in photos. Courtesy notes that other folks are trying to enter into the awe and joy of the mystery, and people taking photographs can get in the way or distract.

Parishes differ in rules and regulations. Many parishes prohibit

the taking of pictures. Certainly taking flash pictures is annoying in a way that taking available-light photos is not. But even with nonflash pictures, the photographer is trying to get around people and into a good spot.

Weddings call for photos from approved photographers. In most United States cultures, photos at funeral Masses are out of place. However, there are exceptions, such as the situation of an infirm woman who was unable to attend her sister's funeral. She was extremely upset until her niece thought to record it with her phone. The pastor had no problem with this solution.

No matter what the situation, it is always best to check with the parish office before the event. If it is permitted, get a few good pictures and then be sure to close your eyes in prayer so you can see what is really going on.

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
September 25	September 26	September 27	September 28	September 29	September 30	October 1
Weekday	Weekday	St. Vincent	Weekday	Sts. Michael,	St. Jerome, Priest	Twenty-sixth
Ezr 1:1-6	Ezr 6:7-8, 12b,	de Paul, Priest	Hg 1:1-8	Gabriel, and	and Doctor of	Sunday in
Lk 8:16-18	14-20	Ezr 9:5-9	Lk 9:7-9	Raphael,	the Church	Ordinary Time
	Lk 8:19-21	Lk 9:1-6		Archangels	Zec 2:5-9,	Ez 18:25-28
				Dn 7:9-10,	14-15a	Phil 2:1-11
				13-14 or	Lk 9:43b-45	or 2:1-5
				Rv 12:7–12a		Mt 21:28-32
				Jn 1:47-51		



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Iesus wants to make us contemplate the gaze of that landowner: the gaze with which he looks upon each of the laborers searching for work and calls them to go to his vineyard....It is a gaze which calls, invites one to get up and begin a journey because he wants life for each of us.

ANGELUS, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

