



**ST. PIUS X  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Grand Rivers, KY 42045  
**Office (270) 395-4727 (NEW #)**  
www.stanthonygrandrivers.org



25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A Matthew 20:1-16



"Jesus told his disciples this parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just. So, they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So, when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first be last."

Excerpt of 'Laborers in the Vineyard'

By Christopher Smart

By this same penny here is meant,  
The crown of him that wins the race;  
The time of day's the time of grace.  
Some from their infancy begin  
To cleave to Christ, and flee from sin,  
As Samuel walk'd to God well known  
As soon as he could walk alone.  
Some must be strengthen'd ere they thrive  
In Christ, and ev'n their prime survive.  
Some are religious not before  
Their knees are weak, and heads are hoar.  
And others on a sick-bed lie,  
And there first call on Christ, and die.  
God's property is mercy still,  
And he can grant it when he will.  
He knows man's talent, and his pow'r.  
Some lab'ers earn more in an hour  
Than others in a tedious space,  
And frustrate love and thwarted grace  
Thro' Christ the final doom may stave,  
And rise fructif'rous from the grave



**ACTS 2:42 GROUPS**

LIVING THE EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

**Acts 2:42 Group:** Session #2 is **Sunday October 1, at 1:30 pm** in the St Pius Parish Hall, hosted by leaders Ed & Tammy Georgen. Come, Live Your Catholic Faith. Munchies are Provided.

**St. Pius X Mass Schedule**

† **Weekend Mass**

Saturday- 4:30 pm

Sunday- 10:00 am

† **Daily Mass**

Tuesday - 6:00 pm

Wednesday-8:00 am

Thursday-8:00 am

Friday-8:00 am

Eucharist Adoration

Visit our Website [www.stpiusx.us](http://www.stpiusx.us)

**Daily Scripture Readings**

Sunday September 24

Is 55:6-9/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

Monday Ezr 1:1-6/Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9

Friday Rv 12:7-12a/Jn 1:47-51

Saturday Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45

**Steps of Lectio Divina**

1. Read – Read through it.
2. Reflect – Slowly consider it.
3. Respond – What does it say?
4. Rest – Contemplate, Deep Prayer

**St. Anthony of Padua Masses**

† **Weekend Mass**

Sunday- 8:00 am

† **Daily Masses**

Wednesday-9:00 am

Friday-9:00 am

Eucharist Adoration-First Friday 9:00 am

First Saturday of Month Mass 8:00 am

Visit our website

[www.stanthonygrandrivers.org](http://www.stanthonygrandrivers.org)

**Weekly Online Mass Sunday -10:00 am** We still Live Stream on FB: Facebook at: St. Pius X & St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Churches

Fr. Brian Johnson, Pastor  
Paula Schmidt, CRE/Office Manager  
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(270) 395-472

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday -- Thursday

9:00 am-2:00 pm



## Pastor's Study Desk Notes



Dear St Anthony & St Pius Families,

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

Matthew 20:1-16

**Talking about going to work!** Today's parable takes some work to figure out! Somebody recently gave me a book of Bible crossword puzzles, and it has about fifteen puzzles in it. The top corner of the book's pages identifies the difficulty level as 'Easy', 'Medium' and 'Hard'. That is a welcome tip to be aware of before beginning a puzzle! Our tip for today's gospel reading is that we are facing what is one of the most difficult of Jesus' parables to understand as we examine this parable of the 'Vineyard workers and their pay' (Mt 20:1-16). Jesus teaches so often in parables, and the while the lesson of some parables is clearer to understand, others are much more difficult (just like some bible verses are quicker to understand than others). I like what St Augustine taught about interpreting the scriptures, both the hard parts and the easier parts of the bible. He wrote that, *"Magnificent and salutary is the way the Holy Spirit has so adjusted the holy scriptures that they ward off starvation with its clearer passages, while driving away boredom with the obscurer ones"* (De Doctrina Christiana 2.6.8). He is saying that the harder passages stimulate us to grow by keeping us alert and active about seeking out the meaning, while the easier ones keep us fed and maintained as we live our faith. We stay in the game with the easier verses, while we advance to higher levels by struggling with the more difficult ones! So again, today, the parable we confront is high on the 'challenge level' (*up there with the 'Dishonest Manager in Luke 16:1-13' or the "Unprepared Wedding Guest" in Matthew 22:1-14*). We might name today's parable the '*Disgruntled Workers*'. On the face of it, the disparity displayed by such unequal pay calls for protest. Even when the owner reminds the workers of their agreement, the workers may still have wanted to call in a 'union organizer' such as Caesar Chavez or Saul Alinsky! So, what is Jesus trying to say in this parable?

Well, if we only consider the monetary compensation as amounting to 'A day's labor = a day's wage', then the payday seems unjust to those who came on duty in the morning (two hours work is being paid the same as twelve hours work). But if we step back and take out the exact cash component value (dollars and cents), and consider the day's wage in the parable to be symbolic of something priceless like Salvation or Eternal Life (not a day's wage but a lifetime's reward), we see that Jesus is teaching us to labor joyfully in life for salvation (our own and others') and be glad, welcoming others workers along the way regardless of the time they enter the vineyard. Jesus is talking about eternity and the end of time. Jesus is saying that we might be tempted to argue and feel aggrieved if we have experienced salvation early in life and we have 'toed the line' all of our lives as good Christians (well, we should be!), but others have waited until the last hour to repent & turn to Christ, sliding in at the last hour. Jesus doesn't want us feeling envy about someone living a hedonistic life of sin (like Prodigal Son), and then turning to God at the last minute, as if they are 'outsmarting' us or God (*For the truth of the matter is, that Sin is no pleasure really anyway for them, and the 'saved' don't truly miss 'sin' and take the deepest joy from working for God!*). The Pharisees reflect this 'disgruntled' attitude perfectly, as they complain about & resent Jesus when He converts tax collectors, prostitutes and thieves to lives of faith. The Pharisees always self-righteously announce how they have been so faithful to Jewish Law all along from the beginning, and so they miserly wish to limit God's grace by discouraging any late-comers (such as Gentiles, tax collectors, etc). They angrily resent it when latecomers arrive to the Kingdom. It is to them and their self-righteous attitude, I believe, that Jesus addresses the line in Matthew 21:31 "tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." Or again in Matthew 23:13 when He tells them, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. You lock the kingdom of heaven before human beings. **You do not enter yourselves, nor do you allow entrance to those trying to enter.**" So we want to be joyful and glad about extra workers entering the vineyard, and not count the cost or pay – We are serving God to begin with, so what is 'pay' anyway. Like people say about serving in ministry: "The Benefits are Out of this World" (Out, as in 'After' this life!)

So, the owner of the vineyard (God) puts everybody in their place, by saying it is His vineyard and His resources to begin with – He can use/spend his money any way he likes. This is why he mentions his generosity, and suggests that the aggrieved workers are simply envious of others (greedy). If we are working for God, than that is it – It is all up to Him! But also on another level close to us, I think it helps to try understanding what might lead an owner to be so eager about continuing to hire more and more workers all throughout the day. I question if may be more is going on here, like the owner is operating under a tight deadline, and that if he doesn't get the harvest completed on that very day, he may lose the sale of that harvest or future business contracts. In that case, he could have placated the upset workers by saying, "I brought those extras on to lighten your load and get the job done, so that we all could get paid, because otherwise, we weren't going to make deadline and by losing the sale, we all get nothing! The owner may have seen the deadline coming and the work progress was not close at all to meeting it, so like the TV commercial says, "I need (the computer APP) INDEED". (Or here's another thought, "If the first workers were really pulling their weight, then extra workers would not have ben needed!") But also, we might ask what delayed those other workers from being at the marketplace 'pick-up spot' for hire earlier? Maybe they had some disability that prevented them from being at the 'unemployment office' earlier (maybe they had crippled legs or were caregivers to others-taking care of that family business first, then going to public work). But, regardless of such other factors/questions to consider, the owner defends his own actions regarding pay, by saying that he fulfilled the 'agreed upon' day's pay as he had told the workers in the morning. (He did pay them what they signed on for, so maybe the workers were the ones who left money on the table, eagerly jumping into the work?) The owner reminded the workers by his surprise response to their 'upset' reaction, that they signed on freely to work for him. I wonder if the owner doesn't feel a little hurt that the opportunities and benefits that he has offered to all of the workers is not being appreciated. Maybe he had thought the loyal workers enjoyed working on his farm? Maybe our complaints to God about our place in life, our circumstances, our work conditions or pay, may sound that way to Him, too? Peace, Fr Brian

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 + 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

**St Pius X Mass Intentions  
September 25 – October 1**

|                  |                 |                          |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>6:00 pm</b>  | <i>Richard Warmowski</i> |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>8:00 am</b>  | <i>Mary Stroud</i>       |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>8:00 am</b>  | <i>Gloria Eisner</i>     |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>8:00 am</b>  | <i>Keiko Hobbs</i>       |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>4:30 pm</b>  | <i>John Bardsley</i>     |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>10:00 am</b> | <i>Bob Darst</i>         |

**WEEKLY DONATIONS**

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>Parish Hall Donation (9/17/23)</b>                     | <b>\$ 107.00</b>     |
| Budget for 2022/2023 Fiscal Year<br>(July 2023-June 2024) | <b>\$ 195,000.00</b> |
| <b>Donation Need Each Week</b>                            | <b>\$ 3,750.00</b>   |
| <b>Weekly Donation (9/17/23)</b>                          | <b>\$ 2,090.00</b>   |
| <b>Online Giving (9/17/23)</b>                            | <b>\$ 1,066.00</b>   |
| <b>Total Week's Gift Offering 9/17</b>                    | <b>\$ 3,156.00</b>   |
| <b>Fiscal Year to Date</b>                                | <b>\$ 54,087.10</b>  |

**Sophia Award Congratulations!**

The Sophia Award is the Bishop's recognition of long-standing & dedicated parishioner-volunteers who so readily & generously serve their parishes!

**St Pius - David & Donna Carr**

**St Anthony – Joyce Noonan**

**Collection of Halloween Candy:** Baskets are in the vestibule for collecting bags of Halloween candy to be shared and distributed to children after masses the weekend nearest Halloween. To help distribute the gifts or prepare gift packs, please talk with Deb Anspach for more details.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries: Sep 24 – Sept30**

**Happy Birthday! St. Pius X**

September 24 Larry Krouse  
September 28 Alice Lucas  
September 29 David Carr  
September 30 Marcus Newman

**Happy Anniversary! St. Pius X**

September 24 Brandon & Nikki Doughty  
September 29 Ryan & Allison Devine



**Women's Spirituality Group**

All women are invited to come and enjoy time together after Sunday Mass Oct 15. Enjoy food, fellowship, faith-sharing and prayer with each other

**St Pius X Mass Assignments: Saturday, Sept 30, 2023**

| Servers   | Lectors   | Eucharistic Ministers                        | Ushers / Greeters  | Money Counters |
|-----------|-----------|--|--|----------------|
| Volunteer | Volunteer | Suzette Whittington<br>Vounteer<br>Volunteer | Volunteer (Usher)<br>Volunteer (Usher)<br>Volunteer (Greeter)<br>Volunteer (Greeter) |                |

**Mass Assignments: Sunday, Oct 1, 2023**

|                                   |           |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| Kason Peterson<br>Brayden Willett | Pam Hurst | Jimmy Harbison<br>Kelli King<br>Vounteer | Philip Scheidegger Usher<br>Usher Volunteer<br>Usher Volunteer | Kathy Smith<br>Mary Ann<br>Huebschmann |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|

|                  |                 |                    |  |                           |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Sept. 24</b> | <b>11:00-12:00</b> | <b>First Reconciliation Class</b>        | <b>Parish Hall</b>        |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Sept. 27</b> | <b>6:00 - 7:30</b> | <b>Meal, Class &amp; Adoration @7:00</b> | <b>Church All Invited</b> |
| Oct 4            | Fall Break      |                    | Fall Break Enjoy!                        | Oct 4 Fall Break          |
| Wednesday        | Oct. 11         | 6:00 - 7:30        | Meal/Class (SE training 7-8grades)       | Parish Hall               |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Oct. 15</b>  | <b>11:00-12:00</b> | <b>First Reconciliation Class</b>        | <b>Parish Hall</b>        |

**Remember in Prayer**

**St. Pius X:** Linda Womer, Charlotte Riedfort, Leah Vincek, Rick Wilson, James Poat, Richard Warmowski, Wade Barnes, Elizabeth Curtner, Ashley Hayden, Donna Barrix, David Crass, Beth Strutzel, Jason Long, Helen Nicholson, Larry Kline, Bonita Walker, Joe Hedges, Jerry Wade, Katie Wood, Joanna Grimes, Amanda Bailey, Kathryn Bailey Kaileigh Row, Dolly Bardsley, Pam Laibl, David Kroll, Henry Feezor, Jerry & Sissy Wommack, Lisa Hammond, Rose Grossius, Bennett Meisenheimer, Jim & Rose Drury, Wes Hayes, Mike Norvell, Maryann Huebschmann, Shirley Mangan, Kenny Matthews, Dora Miller, Miller Meisenheimer, Michelle Freeman, Joann Najgebauer, Johnny Poe, Joel Rivera, Carol Ross, Lonnie Vogler, Brenda Waitke, Gary Walters, Andrew Walton, Dawn Williams, Wilma Lejuene, Lori Butler, Isabella Hamilton, Dr. Danny Butler, Cameron Richmond, Brad Longworth, Helen Bennett, Catherine Brooks, Stacy Newby, Bette Zilligen, Ric Vaughn, Donny Travis, Betty Derry, Scott Hamilton, Connie Burt, Abigail Huebschmann, Lucas Hebner, Ericka Karpstein, Joanna Cooper, Angel Thompson, Kaye Poyner, Bob Tashjian, Rita Cook, Jack Bender, Penny Maupin, Don Kemp, Sharon Olejnicak, Tim Wilson, Beverly Dukes, Judy Krouse, Kerry Frazier, Rene Harrington, Forrest Michael Teeters, Cameron Brewer, Stefanie Wilkerson-Barragan, Hugo Santos, Sharon Gibbons, Braydn Barnett, Elizabeth Witowski, Pam Dietz.

**Pray for Our Military**

**St. Pius X:** Cameron Thomason, Julianne Utley, Daniel Burgess, James Griffith, Cory Erickson, Justin Fatum, James A. Kinsey, Sarah Martindale, Devin McFadden, Benjamin Patton, Kousuke Sasaki, Noah Willett, Amanda Wojahn and Luke Jablonski.



**St. Anthony Page Announcements**

**Quilters group** at St Anthony Every Tuesday:  
Contact Georgia Bradshaw for details. Quilters gather and work on their community quilt together. Come and join in their labor of love for their church family

**St Henry Parish Mission on Eucharist** Sun Oct 1- Tues, Oct 1-3. Fr. Jewel Aytona, CPM. Fr Aytona will give Sunday Homily 10:30mass. A potluck will follow mass, and then another talk by Fr Aytona & confessions. Monday & Tuesday Mass at 10:30 followed by a one hour conference and lunch. Plan to attend.

**Raffle of 'Retired' Mary Statue from out front**

Recently we replaced the Statue of the Blessed Mother from out front on St Anthony Hill. The statue was badly in need of big repairs, but a new one was donated to the church to replace her. Buy a raffle ticket to win the old statue for your home/yard.

**Pray for our Seminarians Conrad Jaconette & Christopher French**

Lord Jesus, we thank you for calling these men to serve in your Son's kingdom. May their hearts overflow with Your compassion, understanding, and generosity, and may their desire to serve You inspire others to answer Your call. Lord Jesus, give our seminarians the grace to follow You more perfectly. Let them be encouraged by the fact they are never alone as they are adopted in prayer by parishioners across the Diocese of Owensboro who never cease to pray for them. In Jesus' Name.

**Bluegrass on Beshear, Sat, October 7** from noon to 6 pm. It has raised \$153,535 to help pregnancy support centers. Location: 307 Island Cove Lane, Dawson Springs, Visit for more information [www.BluegrassonBeshear.com](http://www.BluegrassonBeshear.com)

**First Saturdays Honor the Blessed Mother:** Be sure to come to First Saturday Mass on October 7 @ 8:00am.



**St Anthony Birthdays Sep 24 – Sep 30**

**September 24 Betty Gonzales**

**September 28 Renee Ray**

**September 30 Kaiden Johnson**

**Anniversaries:**

**September 26 Ron & Karen Matthis**

**Lectio Divina Weekly Sessions**

Every Wednesday @ St. Anthony of Padua, we gather for weekly "Lectio Divina" sessions. Come and open God's Word in your heart & mind. We have workbooks available



**St. Anthony of Padua**

**Mass Intentions**

**September 25 – October 1**

|                  |                |                    |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>9:00 am</b> | <b>Jeff Glass</b>  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>9:00 am</b> | <b>Mary Knox</b>   |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>8:00 am</b> | <b>Lonie Carey</b> |

**WEEKLY DONATIONS**

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Budget 2022/2023 Fiscal Year<br>(July 2023-June 2024) | <b>\$ 73,500.00</b> |
| <b>Donation Need Each Week</b>                        | <b>\$ 1,413.46</b>  |
| <b>Weekly Donation 9/17/2023)</b>                     | <b>\$ 1,363.00</b>  |
| <b>Fiscal Year to Date</b>                            | <b>\$ 26,879.58</b> |

***Thank you so much for your faithful generosity! The Parishes and the Church's Mission depends on you!***

**Livingston County Helping Hands**



**Food Items Especially Needed:** *Saltine Crackers, Hamburger Helper*, sugar, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, tuna, salmon, canned fruits, canned vegetables. **Other items needed:** paper towels, toilet paper, laundry & dish detergent, shampoo (adult & baby), bath soap, diapers, baby wipes, feminine hygiene products. Collection container is in back of the church for your donated items.

**St Anthony Mass Assignments – October 1, 2023**

|                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                | Mike Drury                    |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b> | Shara Parish<br>Steve Wilkes  |
| <b>Ushers/Greeters</b>       | David Loxley<br>Kevin Diamond |
| <b>Server</b>                | Juan Gonzalez                 |
| <b>Money Counters</b>        | Shara Parish<br>Kevin Diamond |

**CONSIDER ATTENDING DAILY MASS**

**St Anthony Prayer List:** Betty Gonzalez, Elena Carey, Donna & Jon Gresham, Bob Decker, Bill Rodgers, Tom & Margie Sheppard, Bob Tashjian, Mr. Driskill, Margaret Adams, Pat Gorbett, Ed Derringe, Imogene Ramey, Bob Lang and their families/caregivers.

**Pray for our Military**

Joel Dumbacher, Matt Elder, Kathleen Erickson, Scott Erickson, Cory Erickson, James A. Kinsey, Jay Lockhart, Sarah Martindale, Devin McFadden, LeAnne Neal, and Kousuke Sasaki.

**Parish Council**

|              |                              |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Mike Drury   | Chair Person                 |
| Debbie Owens | Secretary/Family Life        |
| Shara Parish | Finance                      |
| Kelly Noonan | Building & Ground            |
| David Loxley | Social Concerns/Events       |
| Steve Wilkes | Spirituality/Faith Formation |

**Next Meeting Wed October 18 @ 6:00 pm**

**The Holy Sacraments: Preparation for and Reception of the Sacraments**

- + **MARRIAGE:** Preparation is needed prior to the wedding. Contact the office or Fr. Brian 6 months prior to date.
- + **BAPTISM:** Preparation is needed prior to the Sacrament. Contact the office or Fr. Brian 3 months prior to birth.
- + **HOSPITAL:** Please notify the office or Fr. Brian if you or someone whom you know is in the hospital.
- + **ANointing OF THE SICK:** Is offered to anyone ill, infirmed, or prior to surgery. Contact Fr. Brian at (270) 668-7675 (Emergency)
- + **CONFESsION:** Saturday at 3:30 St Pius; or please ask Fr Brian before any mass, or to set an appt, please call him at 270-395-4727
- + **St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month during office hours (9 am-2 pm). Call the office at (270) 395-4727
- + **Bulletin information:** Must be submitted to the office by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Email: [stpiusx@stpiusx.us](mailto:stpiusx@stpiusx.us)