



SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Joseph Parish,

This Sunday, Jesus tells us the story of a landowner who goes out to hire workers for his vineyard. He goes early in the morning, then again at nine, at noon, at three, and even at five in the afternoon, one hour before quitting time. At the end of the day, he pays everyone the same: a full day's wage.

Naturally, those who worked all day in the scorching heat complain. It does not seem fair.

And that is the point Jesus wants us to wrestle with. The landowner answers, "I am not cheating you. I gave you what I promised. Can I not be generous with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?"

God's ways are not our ways. We keep careful accounts of who deserves what. We compare. God does not give us what we deserve; He gives us what we need, which is His mercy. The kingdom of heaven is not a salary we earn by seniority. It is a gift given out of sheer generosity.

This is good news for all of us who come late, who have failed, who have been away from God. The Master is still going out to the marketplace looking for workers, even at the last hour.

The question is not whether God is fair to others, but whether we can rejoice in His generosity, trusting that His love for us is also complete, abundant, and unearned.

Have a blessed week!

Fr. Rafal Ligenza,
Pastor

