

# The Roman Catholic Communities of

## OUR LADY OF GRACE



73 Midline Rd, Ballston Lake, NY 12019  
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Tues 8:30-11:30, Wed & Thur 8:30-2

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## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



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www.stjosephschurchscotia.net



### 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." - Mt 18:21-22

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

GLPI

#### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Thomas Konopka, MDiv., LCSW-R  
Rev. Leo Markert, Sacramental Minister

Deacon Craig Dempsey  
Deacon Stephen Lape  
Deacon Frank Thomas

### 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time September 17, 2023

#### Weekday Mass Times

Monday	6 pm	Mass	SJ
Tuesday	9 am	Mass	IC
Wednesday	9 am	Mass	IC
Thursday	9 am	Mass	OLG

#### Weekend Mass Times

Saturday	4 pm	Mass	SJ
	6 pm	Mass	IC
Sunday	9 am	Mass	IC
	11 am	Mass	OLG

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 5 pm at IC  
Saturdays at 3 pm at SJ  
Mondays at 5 pm at SJ  
Or by appointment with your parish office.

#### We welcome visitors to our communities with great joy!

All Catholics who regularly worship at our churches, or are interested in doing so, are invited to become a part of our parish communities. To register, contact the parish office of your choice. Or drop in! Our churches are equipped with audio devices for the hearing impaired and are handicapped-accessible. See the ushers for assistance.



## 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 17, 2023

Mass Intentions  
September 16-24

### MASSSES AT ST. JOSEPH'S

SAT 4:00 pm +Marian Liroso - *family*  
September 16 +Edward Kremzier  
- *Juliana & Christopher Kremzier*  
+Claudine Lull-Barber - *family*  
Special intentions for Donna Lull - *family*

MON 6:00 pm People of the parish  
September 18

SAT 4:00 pm +Edward Kremzier  
September 23 - *Juliana & Christopher Kremzier*  
+Bernard Kuczek - *Debbie Griffith*  
+Frank Martin - *Kathy & Larry DeMarco*

### MASSSES AT OUR LADY OF GRACE

SUN 11:00 am +Merrill McColl - *Denise & Steve Cusack*  
September 17

THUR 9:00 am People of the parish  
September 21

SUN 11:00 am +Sandy Wedge - *Phil & Mary Salm*  
September 24 +Vern Hellijas - *Claudette Hellijas*

*We pray* for those who have died, especially

+Leah Lennon, sister of Nancy (Dominic) Famularo;

+Susan Linnane, sister of Peter (Linda) Meenan)

and aunt of Christopher (Christine) Meenan;

+Thomas Rutkowski, father of Mary Ann (David) Kritz; and

+Marjorie 'Midge' Swatling, wife of Robert V. Swatling, Sr.

and mother of Robert V. (Heather) Swatling, Jr

and Erin E. Swatling.

Now absent from the body; they are present with the Lord.

### MASSSES AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SAT 6:00 pm +Daniel Kline, Sr. - *family*  
September 16 +Lorraine M. Jankowy (6th Ann)  
- *Sal Conforti and Bob & Val Kerker*  
+Connie Janack - *family*  
+Nataleno "Ned" Reo - *Barbara & Manny Salorio*  
+Tony Schietromo - *wife, Barbara & family*

SUN 9:00 am +Helen Smrstik - *family*  
September 17 +Chester & +Mary Ryba  
- *Jim & Theresa Markowicz*  
+Jean Gabriluk and Gabe Vertucci  
- *Jim & Theresa Markowicz*  
+Eleanore Moskal - *Georgiann Holm*  
+Paula Heckman - *Tom & Jean Plis*  
+Lou Marshall - *Ronnie Quinn*

MON September 18 No morning mass

TUES 9:00 am +Juliette Gingras - *a friend*  
September 19 +Robert J. Sullivan - *wife, Rosemary & children*  
+Hilda White - *Rachel Winters*

WED 9:00 am +Doug Walker - *Ann Walker*  
September 20 +Kevin Sartoris - *Richard & Roz DiDonato*

Thurs & Friday No morning mass

SAT 6:00 pm +Theresa & +Ralph Vitolo - *Pat & Arleen*  
September 23 +Joseph Buckley - *family*  
+Kevin Sartoris - *Pat Rutkowski & family*  
Birthday intentions of Rita Vullo - *Bob & Val Kerker*

SUN 9:00 am +Helen Smrstik - *family*  
September 24 +Don Reisinger - *wife, Gloria*  
+Ron Shepard - *family*  
+Mary & +Earl Carpenter - *Ron & Mary Ann Johnson*  
+Frank Boshier - *family*  
+Eleanore Moskal - *Nally family*  
+Douglas McKee (2nd Ann) - *wife, Rita*

## CHURCH PICNIC

**Remember in your prayers** all who are sick or suffering in any way. -We remember especially:

Lindsey Dutelle, Barbara O, Damianus, Scott, Todd, LP, RA, WC, KC, BC, EC, KM, LC, MM, GK, RC, AM, CM, LW, John, Debbie, DT, Ron, Joanne, Edward, Marian, Adelaide, Rebecca, Jennie, Pat, Nick, Andrew, Lorraine, Denise F, Marie P, David D, Sr. Maria Gonzalo Garcia, Pj Breslin, Charli Martin, Eileen Hope Kidd, Bob G, Marlene, AH, Claudia O'Brien, Donna Lagasse, Dcn Ed S, Vinny, Tammy M, RD, Brian Wetzal, Arthur Pielli, Tina Reed, Lucy, Charlie Ryder, Sarah M, Sarah C, Rick, Kathy, Barbie Brown, Carolyn R, Christian B, Sabrina Hack, James, Valerie Saenger, Joe Barnick, Brian Troiano, Declan McGovern, Owen, Susan Kopchik, Karen Rhodes, Darlene Polsinelli, Lisa Bovino, JoAnn & Tina Masterson, Barbara Mlodzianowski

Names remain for two months.

### Tri-Parish Picnic September 24 time

on the IC grounds. **RSVP by September 20:**

- ♥ Online: [www.icglennville.com](http://www.icglennville.com)
- ♥ Phone Carmel at 518-399-8761
- ♥ Sign-up sheets at church.

### Picnic Donation Drop Off Locations:

DESSERTS: Church (SJ-OLG-IC) gathering space on Saturday and Sunday, September 23/24.

WINE: Church office or gathering space. (IC, SJ, OLG) Anytime.

CHILI: IC Kitchen, Sunday, Sept. 24 between 8:30-11:00 am



#### A WORD FROM FR. TOM -

We celebrate Catechetical Sunday this weekend. What is a catechist? It would be easy to define a catechist as someone who passes on facts. Also, we could see catechists as those who teach our faith formation only about ages 5-16. However, faith formation is from baptism until death. Most parishes only focus on the school age group.

A catechist is a witness to Christ. To be a witness means to know Christ as Lord and Savior. What we are called to pass on to others, whether it be to the young or adult, is Jesus. If we think of our faith that way, we are all teachers. Parents promise at the child's baptism to raise them in the Catholic Faith. A couple at their wedding promises that if they have children, they will raise any children in the faith. At Confirmation, we are empowered by the Spirit to witness to Jesus and in the Eucharist, we receive him. As adults, young, middle age and older, we have the responsibility to keep growing in the faith: to know Jesus deeper and to learn more about the Scripture and the doctrine of the Church.

One of the big concerns of every pastor is the disconnect between the youth in faith formation and the weekly obligation to attend Mass. I miss them and their parents too. As a community of faith, we lack the enthusiasm of the youth and the presence of our brothers and sisters, their parents. To be honest, I would rather have them at Mass than in a classroom if time is the issue.

One idea I have been considering is to possibly change our focus from teaching to discipleship formation. What would that mean? It would mean a return to a model of the early church in which people gave their lives to Christ and then they learned about him. Look at the story of St Paul in the Acts of the Apostles. Baptism followed this so that people would know who they were baptized into. This is a dream that will take years to happen, if at all. But, as the angel said the Mary, "All things are possible with God."

A heartfelt thank you to the catechists of our three parishes and to Maria and Paula for their willingness to lead our parishes in this important work. May God bless their ministry.

**Weekly Reconciliation** With the new Mass schedule, the weekly schedule of Reconciliation has changed.

At Immaculate Conception, Reconciliation is now offered at 5 pm on Saturday. If I am celebrating all weekend Masses, then it will be *after* the 6 pm Mass. At St. Joseph's, Reconciliation is at 3 pm on Saturday and Monday at 5 pm. At Our Lady of Grace, it is by appointment for now.

**Eucharistic Reflection** I have been reflecting on how we can renew ourselves our belief and in our love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. One thing I think gets in all of our way is our busy-ness. When I listen to a client whose life is filled with stress, anxiety, worry or teetering on the edge of burnout, our sessions begin to focus on self-care. Taking time for oneself is vital.

Taking time for Jesus is vital, too. How can we grow in our love of Him if we do not spend time with him? Just as we need to the light of the sun to grow, we need sit in the light of the Son of God. Jesus is always present to us in the tabernacle. Consider spending some time with Him this week. Come to Adoration, or even just sit quietly in your own home, encountering God in the silence. If that feels like a challenge, start small – five minutes a day would be an open door to Christ in our heart.

**Buildings and Grounds News** If you stop at St Joseph's, check out the new rug in the church, and the doors are almost finished; the next step is to repaint them. This week at OLG, the gathering space floor will be stripped and cleaned. At IC, we are awaiting the arrival of new church boilers. The parish center and rectory boilers have already been replaced. This was necessary due to their age.

Thank you for your continued support and a special **thank-you** to Tim Zakriski, the Facilities Director of all our parishes, for his hard work and for all those who have worked with him.

**One last note** We have just seen another crisis in our world, the earthquake in Morocco. Please keep the people of Morocco, Maui, and every other place suffering from natural disasters in your prayers. People have asked about diocesan collections for different places. Right now none have been announced, but we will let you know. Also, you can always donate to Catholic Relief Services for world disasters and to Catholic Charities for US concerns. Make sure you note the place where you hope to see your donation go.

#### Mark your calendars for our **Tri-Parish Morning of Service, October 21!**

A variety of off-site and on-site projects will be available for participation by all ages. So far, outdoor locations include town parks in Ballston and Glenville, Joan Nicole Prince Home and Jack's Place. Other off-site projects will take place at local nursing homes, the Regional Food Bank, miSci, and Habitat for Humanity. We have five on-site activities in place including lap blankets for Northern Rivers Family Services, bag lunches for the City Mission and Habitat for Humanity, scrapbook pages for the Albany Med NICU, and "Thinking of You" cards for local nursing home residents. **Online sign-ups begin September 18.**

For information, contact Marge Rizzo at [jrizzo@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jrizzo@nycap.rr.com) or Jeanne Behr at [jeannebehr@gmail.com](mailto:jeannebehr@gmail.com).

#### A new **Bereavement Support Group**

is being formed, and will hold its first session on Tuesday, September 26, at 6:00 pm. Registration is required. Call Rachel Winters at 518-399-9168, ext. 226.





## CATECHESIS

518-399-9210

**FAITH FORMATION** (Grades K-5)

**ADULT & YOUTH MINISTRY** (Grade 6-Confirmation)

**MARIA YORKSHIRE**

**X 233**

**PAULA BATTISTA-GENTER** **X 241**



Please prayerfully consider helping this year.

SEE FLYER INSERT IN THIS BULLETIN!

We need FF Catechists for Mondays from 4 to 5:15 and Tuesdays from 6-7:15. Call Maria if interested.

Call Paula for details on YM needs.

And we still need volunteers to help in a variety of roles:

\* Catechist \* Catechist Assistant \* Hallway Supervision \*

\* Office Help \* Special Event Chaperone \*

Adult & youth volunteers from three parishes wanted!

**Today is Catechetical Sunday:** We will have a special blessing for all catechists at all Masses. At 10 am, after Mass at IC, all catechists are invited to the IC Parish Center for some coffee, light breakfast and updated information. THANK YOU TO ALL OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS! We couldn't do it without you! May God bless you all, for your dedication to the children and youth in our programs.

**Faith Formation Backpack Blessing** – Bring your backpacks to the Mass of your choice next weekend for a special blessing!



**NCYC FUNDRAISER** - Our teens will be at church this weekend taking orders for scrumptious pies from Smith's Orchard Bake Shop. \$15 each, payment due at time of order. See more info in this week's flyer.

**We will also be taking-orders at the Tri-Parish Picnic!**

**Did you Miss Enrollment for Faith Formation and Youth Ministries? It's not too late!** Contact our office, or stop in M-F (9 am–4 pm). Sessions begin in early October. Please sign up this week!

**FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS** are scheduled twice per month

Sunday Mornings 10:15–11:30 am (grades K–5, Stars & Angels) beginning October 1. **SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> GRADE IS FULL**

Monday Evenings 4–5:15 pm (grades 1–5) beginning October 2 **MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> GRADE IS FULL**

Tuesday Evenings 6–7:15 pm (grades 1–5) beginning October 3

### YOUTH MINISTRIES PARTICIPANTS IN GRADES 6 – 10

Choose 2 mini-courses to complete each year (please see the website for all the options). Mini-courses meet on Sundays (6:30–8 pm), Mondays (7-8:30 pm) or Wednesdays (7-8:30 pm). Check the website for updated availability. Some mini-courses have reached capacity.

**Confirmation Prep** meets on Monday evenings 7–8:30 pm as scheduled. Families of incoming 11<sup>th</sup> graders should have received information in the mail from Paula with an introductory letter and the full Confirmation calendar. Please be sure to mark your calendar for our **Candidate/Parent Session on Monday, October 2 at 7 pm** in the Parish Hall at Immaculate Conception.

### Youth Volunteer Opportunities:

Catechist helpers needed for Faith Formation (Sundays 10:15 to 11:30, Mondays 4 to 5:15 or Tuesdays 6 to 7:15. Contact Maria Yorkshire!

**Sept 24 from 12–4 pm** (or a portion of the day). Help with children's games at the **Tri-Parish Picnic!** To sign-up or for more information, reach out to Paula at [ym@icglenville.com](mailto:ym@icglenville.com).

## OUR LADY OF GRACE HAPPENINGS

518-399-5713

**Schenectady City Mission Serving Program** We are looking for volunteers to serve meals approximately one night per month starting **Tuesday, Oct. 10, 5-7:30 pm**.

To volunteer, contact Marty St. Amand at [marty399@aol.com](mailto:marty399@aol.com) or (518) 441-0378.

**Little Rock Scripture Study:** Acts of the Apostles – sessions resume Monday, Sept 25 from 9:30-11 am in Room 1 (**no study 9/18**). and run through Nov 27. For info, call Diane Simpson at 518-399-9322. All are welcome.

**Staying Connected to the Parish**-Do you, or a member of your family, wish to stay more connected to the parish and the local community? Members of the Outreach Ministry can make a weekly call and offer a friendly "hello." Call the Parish Office.

After Mass on Sunday, Sept 24 we will be taking sign-ups for our **Hospitality Snack Time**, taking place October thru June. Go

online to PARISH LIFE and click on HOSPITALITY to sign-up your choice of beverage or snack. All are invited to participate as we know we have some great men and women bakers!



**The floors are being refinished September 18-20.** There will be no access to the church on these dates. The church office will be open and can be accessed through the side door, which is located to the left of the church entrance down the walkway.

New and current volunteers are needed to assist at the **Regional Food Bank** the fourth Tuesday of every month. Our next date is **Tuesday, Sept 26, 5-6:30 pm**. Call Mary Salm (518) 882-9313.

**September Helping Hands Collection:** We are helping an elementary school in Schenectady. Requested supplies include: disinfecting wipes, Lysol supplies, baby wipes, tissues, ziploc bags, pencils, and hand sanitizer.

**OLG Music Ministry News** : [lvmusik@nycap.rr.com](mailto:lvmusik@nycap.rr.com)

New members (grade 9-adults) are welcome to join the choir anytime! Rehearsals on Thursday, Sept 21 & 28 will take place at St. Joseph's from 7-9 pm. Email Patty with your interest!

**The OLG Junior Choir** is welcoming 3rd-6th graders. Second graders will be invited to sing with us for Christmas. The choir will sing at OLG's 11 am mass on the 4th Sunday of the month. Parents, please email Patty if your child is interested.



Many thanks to those who came last weekend to work on the parking lot islands. **Paul Deltry, Tom Neals, Ruth Robin, Lois Renko, Adele Seaver, Bob, Claire & Tony Vadney** tugged, pulled, chopped, dug & sawed to remove the old plantings at two of the islands. Many of these individuals have also been working during the week to clean & maintain our grounds. The more who are involved, the quicker we can get the islands under control and put in fresh plantings. Please speak to **Tom Neals** if you are interested in helping.

Please help support **ND-BG** with their upcoming fall **Golden Gallup** fund raiser on **Friday, October 6**. The study body walks a 5K with the goal of raising \$20,000. Come prepared next weekend to support **Cecilia Beatty**, a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at ND-BG, who is one of our weekend lectors. There are donation forms available on the bulletin board in Holy Family Hall and Cecilia will be available on **Saturday, September 24** to accept any donations or answer any questions that you may have. Thank you for supporting Catholic education within our Diocese.

The Social Concerns Committee thanks everyone who donated school supplies in August. Your response was overwhelming! There is a total listing on the "Thank You" bulletin board of what was collected & distributed to the S-G School District, Scotia Food Pantry and BH-BL School District.



### **Saturday, September 30 is "Daffodil Saturday"!**

We are asking parishioners to bring daffodil bulbs to mass to contribute to our plantings around our property. Volunteers have been working hard to clean up the grounds. We would like to plant as many daffodils as possible this fall to see the grounds come alive next spring! There will be a designated box in Holy Family Hall to receive your bulb donations. **NOTE:** Please bring **only daffodil bulbs**, as our resident squirrels will not bother them when planted!!

The next order for Hannaford gift cards & reloads is scheduled for **Tuesday, Sept. 19**. Contact Deb Griffith (518-810-8911) by **Monday, Sept. 18** to have your gift card reloaded, purchase a card or for any questions you may have regarding this ongoing fundraiser for St. Joseph's.



### **St. Joseph's Music Ministry News** [lvmusik@nycap.rr.com](mailto:lvmusik@nycap.rr.com)

New members (Grade 9-Adults) are welcome to join the choir anytime! Rehearsals on Sept 21 & 28 will take place from 7-9 pm at St. Joseph's. Email Patty with your interest!



**We are looking to form a Junior Choir!** We welcome 3rd -6th graders. Second graders will be invited to sing with us at Christmas. The Junior Choir sings at the 4 pm mass on the 4th Saturday of the month. Parents, Patty if your child is interested.



**Join 40 Days for Life to Stand for Life** - The Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign starts on Wednesday, September 27 and ends on Sunday, November 5. We are committed to being a peaceful, prayerful presence in front of Schenectady's Planned Parenthood at 1040 State Street from 7 am to 7 pm throughout the campaign. We seek to bring help and hope to those facing unplanned pregnancies or those seeking healing from past abortions. Please email Connie at [sch40days@gmail.com](mailto:sch40days@gmail.com) and/or check our website, <https://www.40daysforlife.com/schenectady> for information on how you can be involved. We will update the website throughout the campaign with prayer gatherings and events. Thank you!

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HAPPENINGS

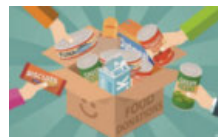
518-399-9168

### **Memory Café meets September 27**

This program is for individuals who are living with memory changes and for their families. Join us on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 1-2 pm in the IC Parish Center. Registration is required. Call Rachel, Pastoral Care Coordinator, 518-399-9168, ext. 226.

*Come to relax, socialize, and have fun!*

**The Knights of Columbus Council 10013 will be selling Charitable & Benevolent Raffle Tickets** at Mass this weekend. Ticket books are \$12 and are also available at the Parish Office, by contacting any Knight, or by calling Brother Bob Kerker at 518-399-3746 to get tickets by mail. Drawing will be Saturday, December 2. You need not be present to win. Thank you for your support.



### **Needed**

#### **Food for Thanksgiving and Christmas**

We are starting to collect food donations for the Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes we give to needy families! We need the following items: pasta, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, cans of soup, and jelly. We appreciate all your help! Thank you!

*St. Vincent de Paul Society*

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

- 1-8 pm Tuesdays

### **Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy**

- 6:15 pm Wednesdays

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group** - 3-4 pm Wednesdays. All are invited to come pray the Rosary.



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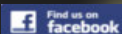
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**THE SACRAMENTS**

**Baptism** The celebration of Baptism is the first sacrament of initiation which begins our journey of following Christ. For information, contact your parish office.

**First Communion / Confirmation** Those wishing to be receive the Sacraments of Confirmation or First Eucharist are asked to contact their parish office.

**Marriage** Parishioners who wish to celebrate marriage in the church are asked to contact their parish office to begin sacramental preparation six months prior to the anticipated date and before other arrangements have been finalized.

**Reconciliation** is available Saturdays from 3-3:30 pm at St. Joseph's, Saturdays from 5-5:30 at IC, and by appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick** The Sacrament of the Sick is available for those who are ill or infirm. Parishioners planning to enter the hospital are encouraged to receive this sacrament prior to admission by calling their parish office. The hospital cannot inform us of admissions.

**Holy Orders / Vocations** Men interested in the Priesthood or Permanent Diaconate, and those men and women interested in Religious Life or Lay Ministry are encouraged to contact the Diocesan Vocation Office at 518-312-9297 or [www.albanyvocations.org](http://www.albanyvocations.org).

**HEART INSPIRATION EVENT**

Come join us on September 20, from 6-7:30 pm at Christ Our Light Church, 1 Maria Dr, Albany for an evening with exciting and captivating speakers (**Cap Capello, Dona Fragnoli, and Father Mike Melanson**), filled with inspiring stories, laughter and tears, along with uplifting joyful music, that will touch and inspire your heart. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be wowed and motivated! For questions, contact Jeanne at 518-495-5644.


**We welcome new parishioners to St. Joseph's,  
Our Lady of Grace & Immaculate Conception!**

Please complete and drop in the collection basket or mail to the parish office of your choice.

Name: .....

Address: .....

Email: .....

Phone: .....

Check one: ☐ New registration ☐ Address change

***Always feel free to call any church office!***

**STEWARDSHIP REPORTS**

**OLG:** Collections for the week ending September 3 were \$4,027 and for the week ending September 10 were \$5,074.

**IC:** Sacrificial offerings received by September 3 were \$13,623 for parish operations and \$955 for renovations. Offerings received by September 10 were \$10,820 for parish operations and \$528 for renovations.

**SJ:** Offertory for week August 28-September 3 amounted to \$3,360 and for the week of September 4-10 amounted to \$6,450.

*The parish that is recorded on your donation envelope will receive that donation. Thank you for your good stewardship!*

**Readings for the week of September 17, 2023**

Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:7 Rom 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8 Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13 Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16 Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 Mt 9:9-13

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12 Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16 Lk 8:4-15

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