Liturgy and Music Planning Overview

For September 24, 2017
Which is the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Lectionary # 133

Readings: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
I: Isaiah 55:6-9
II: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
G: Matthew 20:1-16a

For reflection:

Today’s Gospel calls us to reconsider what we think just. Have you ever felt as though you deserved something and you weren’t given it? Maybe you’ve felt that you deserved a certain grade or an award, or something as simple as acknowledgment for going above and beyond.

The parable in today’s Gospel is not about fairness, as we understand fairness. Rather, the parable that Jesus presents to his disciples is about God's generosity. What can be difficult to understand about this teaching is that Jesus presents the generosity of the landowner not being distributed equally for all people. And this is how we understand fairness, justice, and equality -- everyone gets an equal share. However, this is not how God sees what is just! We should be grateful that God does not dole out graces according to what we deserve. The kingdom of God is not equally distributed like pieces of pizza from a whole; instead, the kingdom of God is where everyone gets what they need.

Our temptation is to consider today’s parable and to say, “Why do some get more payment for less work?” Let’s flip the narrative, as Jesus does in today’s Gospel, and ask instead, “How can we make sure that our brothers and sisters’ needs are met, according to what they need?” When we see one another as God sees us, we’ll have a new understanding of what is fair and just, and then we grow in an understanding of the kingdom of God.

Planning your music:

Mass Setting: ___________________.

Opening Song suggestions:
Jesus Shall Reign #564
All People that on Earth Do Dwell #594
All Are Welcome #575

Gloria? Yes, every week during Ordinary Time. It's always preferable to sing the Gloria, but if you’re not ready to do so, it may be spoken. Be sure to let your presider know whether you will speak it or sing it.

Psalm: The psalm for this week is 145. See the arrangement at #359 in the Newman Hymnal.

During Ordinary Time you may also use Psalm 145. See arrangements for Psalm 145 at #356-363 in the Newman Hymnal. You may be most familiar with #358 and #362. #359 is also very simple and can be learned easily.
Alleluia (from your chosen Mass setting) If the Mass setting you are using doesn’t contain an Alleluia, look at #M4, #M97-100. Select one you like and then use it for the whole season.

Alleluia verse:
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.

Preparation of the Altar and Gifts – Song Suggestions:
Out of Darkness #696
Seek Ye First the Kingdom #680
Worthy is the Lamb #567

Holy, Holy; Memorial Acclamation; Amen (all from your chosen Mass setting)

Lord’s Prayer (may be spoken or sung)

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) (from your chosen Mass setting)

Communion Song Suggestions:
Bread for the World #132
All Who Hunger #128
Pan de Vida #154

Closing Song Suggestions:
Sent Forth by God’s Blessing #588
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending #622
Go, Be Justice #739