



# St Agatha's Parish Cranbourne

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year A  
20<sup>th</sup> September 2026

## ST. AGATHA'S PARISH INFORMATION

**Church:** 129 Sladen Street, Cranbourne

**Presbytery:** 131 Sladen Street, Cranbourne

**Parish Office:** 1 Scott Street, PO Box 95,  
Cranbourne 3977

**Office Hours:** Mon 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Tue to Fri 8.30am - 3.00pm

[Closed for lunch 12.30pm - 1.00pm]

☎ 5996 1985 Fax: 5996 1992

**Email:** [parishoffice@stagathas.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@stagathas.org.au)

**Website:** [www.stagathas.org.au](http://www.stagathas.org.au)

### For Parish News & Events:

<https://stagathas.org.au/news-and-events.html>

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr Antony Rebelo

**Assistant Priest:** Rev. Fr Ajin Albarnas

**Sisters of the Nativity:** Sr. Faustina Ede &  
Sr. Victoria Orinya

**Parish Secretary:** Mrs Tina Dam

**Assistant Secretary:** Mr Adam Dam

☎ 5996 1985

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Mrs Anita Hughes

☎ 5996 1985

**Email:** [cranbourne.safety@cdsale.org.au](mailto:cranbourne.safety@cdsale.org.au)

### St Agatha's Primary School

3 Scott Street, Cranbourne

☎ 5996 2724

**Principal:** Mrs Kate Dourley

### St Therese's Primary School

131 Endeavour Drive  
Cranbourne North

☎ 5996 7525

**Principal:** Mrs Felicity Broughton

### St Peter's Secondary College

Cranbourne Campus - Navarre Drive Cranbourne West  
Clyde North Campus - 55 MacKillop Way Clyde Nth

☎ 5990 7777

**Principal:** Mr David Hansen

## ST. AGATHA'S PARISH MASS TIMES

**Saturday:** 6.00pm

**Sunday:** 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.45am & 6.00pm

**Livestreamed Sunday 9.00am**

**Monday to Saturday: 9.30am**

*Please search YouTube: St Agatha's Parish, Cranbourne*

### Weekday Mass Times - In the Church & Livestreamed

Monday: 9.30am

Tuesday: 9.30am

Wednesday: 9.30am & 7.00pm Funeral service

Thursday: 9.30am & 11.30am Funeral

Friday: 9.30am, 11.00am Mercy Place Aged Care  
& 7.00pm

Saturday: 9.30am

### Reconciliation/Confession

Friday: 10.00am

Saturday: 10.00am

### Mass for Vocations

Saturdays 9.30am- Live Streamed

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday: 10.00am - 11.00am - Live Streamed

Saturday: 10.00am - 11.00am - Live Streamed

Tuesday to Thursday: 8.30am - 9.00am followed by

**Divine Office:** Morning prayer 9.00am - 9.15am

### Adoration Chapel: Sunday: 6am to 6pm

Monday: 5.00pm to 10.00pm, Tuesday to Saturday: 6am to 10pm.

Entry via FOB, obtained via the parish office

### First Saturday Mass at 9.30am

In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

**First Friday Mass** 7.00pm Healing Mass followed by

Adoration till 9.00pm

**Mass for the Unborn:** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month 9.30am

**Holy Hour for the Unborn** - 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month after 9.30am  
Mass

### Baptisms

Baptisms following the 10.45am Mass. By appointment.

Baptism Information Session held on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month,  
at 3.00pm in the Church.

[Information Session Bookings may be made through the parish  
website or by visiting the parish office]

### Marriages

6 months' notice requested.

## PARISH NEWS

**Dear parishioners,** Next Saturday, 26 September, we are pleased to welcome Bishop Antony Valunkal, Auxiliary Bishop of the Latin Archdiocese of Verapoly, Kerala, India.

Bishop Antony will celebrate Mass at 9.30 am on Saturday morning and the 6.00 pm Vigil Mass.

I warmly invite you to join us for either the morning Mass or the Vigil Mass and to welcome Bishop Antony to St Agatha's Parish.

It will be a wonderful opportunity for us to come together in faith and fellowship and to receive his blessing.

God bless you all.

**Fr Antony, Parish Priest**

**WE WELCOME AS CHILDREN OF GOD:** Ralph Mastrangioli, child of Adam & Rose, Ezra Fernandes, child of Jozic & Natalie, Alessia Antonio, child of Giovanni & Jessica and Eliza Strojek, child of Tony.

**FUNERAL MASSES** will be celebrated for Manu Latu this Thursday at 11.30am, with a family service and Mass on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.00pm.

Funeral Mass for Nicola (Nick) Zappia will be celebrated on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 12noon, with Rosary at 11.30am.

**YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR AI, FAITH & WHAT IT MEANS FOR BE HUMAN:** St Agatha's Parish is hosting a talk regarding *Pope Leo's encyclical Magnificat Humanitas*, with special guest Cruz Ignatius of Catholic Mission, on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> of September. Parish Hall registration at 7.00pm for 7.30pm Presentation. A Catholic Perspective for our time. **All Welcome!**

**MIGRANT & REFUGEE SUNDAY:** Bishop Greg Bennet will be celebrating Mass on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September at Our Lady Help of Christians, Narre Warren. 1.30pm. Cultural attire. Bring a plate of food to share! Register your details on the clipboard in the foyer, food sign up and flag sign up.

**DIOCESAN WOMEN'S GATHERING:** Navigating the unseen, Women leading with resilience, celebrating the strength, resilience and expanding horizons of women in the life and mission of the Catholic Church. A diocesan women's gathering and formal dinner is being organised for Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm St Patrick's Parish Hall, Pakenham \$30 per head. Hosting international speaker Dr Kim Daniels (Georgetown University, Vatican Dicastery of Communication) Capacity is strictly capped at 150 seats. Secure your place before 4<sup>th</sup> October at [www.trybooking.com/DOZKU](http://www.trybooking.com/DOZKU)

**THE RITUAL AND THE REASON: Exploring the Parts of The Mass**

Every ritual in the Mass has a purpose. Join us to explore *what* we do and *why* we do it—from the Sign of the Cross to the Final Blessing—so we can listen, respond, and be transformed by God's presence.

**OLHC Narre Warren (Our Lady Help of Christians):** Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> Oct 2026, 10:00am – 3:00pm. Register online : [cdsale.org.au/events](http://cdsale.org.au/events) or Phone 03 5614 5163

**ST AGATHA'S VOICE FOR LIFE GROUP:** Plaques for Memorial Garden. If you have lost a baby due to miscarriage, still birth, sids or other and wish to order a plaque for the wall in the memorial garden. Please contact the parish office before the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2026 so the plaques will be ready for the **Mass of the Angels on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November.**

**BORN ALIVE LEFT TO DIE:** Private screening on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 7 - 8.30pm at Winepress Church in Berwick. Born Alive Left to Die exposes the devastating reality of late-term abortion in Australia and the lives affected by practices few are willing to confront. This documentary reveals what happens when babies survive abortion procedures, the trauma faced by medical staff and families, and the legal and political frameworks that allow these outcomes to continue in silence. Through firsthand testimony and expert insight, this episode uncovers a truth many Australians have never been told: that children born alive after failed abortions can be denied care and left to die.

**MARCH FOR THE BABIES 2026:** Join us as we peacefully walk through the city of Melbourne to protest the current abortion laws in Victoria. Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2026. Meet at 1pm Treasury Gardens (Corner Spring St & Wellington Pde) Please wear pink or blue, for information see the flyer on the Church notice board.

**HEALING MASS & PRAYERS:** Fr Rojan George & Fr John Jose Vettiyanal will be celebrating a healing Mass & prayers at St Agatha's on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 6.30pm.

**CELEBRATING ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PET BLESSING:** Parishioners are invited to bring their pets for a blessing on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Oct at 2.00pm.

**THE LAMP YOUTH FESTIVAL:** Faith in Action, change start with you. St Michael's School Stadium, 125 High Street, Berwick. Ages 13 to 30. Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Scan QR on the poster to register.

**THE LEGION OF MARY'S ROSARY CRUSADE** is a global spiritual initiative encouraging Catholics to pray the Rosary daily for peace, conversion, and the triumph of Mary's Immaculate Heart. All St. Agatha's parishioners are welcome to participate in the Rosary Crusade, where parishioners host Our Lady's statue for a week. They pray the Crusade prayers daily, offering

intercession for peace and conversion and personal intentions. Beginning Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October before 9.30am Mass. After the week, the statue is returned before the 9: 30am Saturday Mass, continuing the cycle of devotion. Prayer booklet will be available to take home with Our Lady's statue.

**LEGION OF MARY:** A video to learn more about the Legion of Mary will be played at all Masses on the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> October.

**NEPAL FLOODS:** Caritas teams are on the ground assessing the scale of the disastrous Nepalese floods and how to respond. It is expected that the needs will most likely include: emergency shelter and essential items, access to clean water and sanitation, access to food and immediate and long-term recovery. If you are able to support Caritas Australia's Nepal Floods Appeal, visit [www.caritas.org.au/nepal](http://www.caritas.org.au/nepal)

**ST VINNIES FOOD BIN:** "Donating food is a practical way to help people going through a tough time." If you'd like to help the St Vinnies Food bin in the foyer is available for you to donate nonperishable food. Thank you.

**CENT NIGHT:** A very big **thank you to our wonderful parish community** for your incredible generosity over the past few weeks with donations for our Cent Night in October. We have now received **enough items for this year's event**, so we are no longer seeking donations. We are truly grateful for the generosity and support shown by so many parishioners.

Cent Night is a wonderful evening of **family, community, fun and fundraising**, and your generosity will help us raise much-needed funds towards our **church renovation and carpark projects**.

We look forward to seeing everyone for a fun-filled CENT NIGHT on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October at St Agatha's School Hall.

**DIGITAL KEY:** If you misplace or lose your FOB, please contact the parish office immediately. If your FOB for the Adoration Chapel, is no longer working please contact the parish office. If you wish to access the Adoration Chapel contact the parish office to arrange to collect FOB key. A deposit of \$15 is required per FOB.

**JUBILEE OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI:** Diocesan Pilgrimage: Bishop Greg Bennet invites all parishioners across the Diocese of Sale to join in a special pilgrimage celebrating the Franciscan Jubilee Year. This pilgrimage is a sacred journey – not of distance, but of the heart. Benambra is set amidst the scenic Omeo High Plains. This pilgrimage takes us to the only Church in the diocese dedicated to St Francis of Assisi. **Schedule of Events Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> 6:00 PM – Transitus (St Mary's, Bairnsdale).** A Transitus Service is a special prayer service celebrated on the vigil of the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. The word transitus is Latin for "passing over" or "transition." It commemorates St Francis' passage from earthly life into eternal life with God. **Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> 8:30 AM – Morning Prayer (St Mary's, Bairnsdale) 12:00 PM – Jubilee Mass (St Francis of Assisi, Benambra)** Solemn Mass celebrated by Bishop Greg and the Clergy of the Diocese. **Blessing of Pets (St Francis of Assisi, Benambra)** - All creatures great and small (restrained) are welcome to receive a special blessing following Mass! **Shared Lunch & Sausage Sizzle (Benambra Footyclub)** - Fellowship and food for all! Please bring a plate to share. **3:00 PM – Conclusion (Immaculate Conception, Omeo).** Our pilgrimage draws to a close as we gather at Omeo Parish for final prayers and departure. Location Information St Mary's: Corner of Pyke St & Main St, Bairnsdale. St Francis of Assisi: MacFarlane Rd, Benambra. Immaculate Conception: 79 Day St, Omeo. **The parish has contacted a bus company for a return trip on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October leaving the Church at 5.45am for \$90pp.** Please contact the parish office ASAP 5 seats remaining. [www.cdsale.org.au/year-of-saint-francis-of-assisi](http://www.cdsale.org.au/year-of-saint-francis-of-assisi)

**SPIRITUAL RENEWAL MINISTRY(SRM)** invites you to book a reading time and be part of the 90 Hours, Non-Stop, Full Bible Reading, starting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September, from 10.00am at OLHC Parish Narre Warren. Contact: Frenco on 0413519863 or see the flyer in the foyer for more details.

**CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE:** Engaging Your Faith online Presentations in October 2026. From \$25 per session. For more information: [www.ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith](http://www.ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith)

**WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL:** bishop Greg Bennet will lead the Diocese of Sale pilgrimage to **World Youth Day in Seoul**, South Korea (2027). Open to young people **aged 16 (as of 01/01/2027) to 35 years:** youth leaders,



young teachers, parish and school leaders and Clergy. The tentative pricing per pilgrim is **\$5000**. This is inclusive of the registration fee, accommodation and travel. **Expressions of interest are currently open** and can be completed at this link: <https://forms.gle/xwabD2HuV9jgnp77>, or scan the QR code

**SAFEGUARDING:** Our Parish is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk. Our Safeguarding Officer is Anita Hughes [Wednesday] contact the Parish Office on 03 5996 1985 or email [Cranbourne.safety@cdsale.org.au](mailto:Cranbourne.safety@cdsale.org.au) If a person is in immediate danger of physical or sexual abuse: **Call 000. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELP: 1800RESPECT - 1800 737 732; SAFE STEPS: 1800 015 188; ORANGE DOOR: 1800 271 170** Dandenong or Pakenham.

**The Recently Deceased:** Nicola (Nick) Zappia, Manu Latu, Nelson Maclure,

**Those whose anniversary or remembrance occurs at this time:** June Riener, Emili Rebelo, Maria Bastian, Nelum Daniel, Anton Fernando, Lawrence Natoli, Polly Menezes, Thengapurackal, Jocelyn Monleon, Marciano Edgar, Victoria Ablina, Pag-asa Custodio, Juana Serafin, Albino Dela Pena, Roland Vydellingum, Marie Therese Camille, Gabriel & Jose Laverdure, Cyril Commarmond, Mr Selve, Johnnie Dias, Adleno Voshamosimus, Filomena Gos, Jean Marcel Dantier, Gilbert & Ethel Joachim, James Thomas, Trevor D'silva, Cheriaparambil family, Thomas Arul, Dean Peter Coyne VG, Fr John Black, Fr John Dunlea OMI

**Those who are sick:** Jacinta O'Neal, Gerard MacFarlane, Kellie Monson, Lyndell Adikari, Cathy Lucas, Randy Jansz, Judith Potori, Fr Peter Slater, Selwyn Ta'a, Dominic Mammone

*With respect for the privacy of the person who is ill, we can only accept requests from the ill person or their immediate family.*

*Loved ones prayed for on the sick list will remain on the list for one month, unless advised otherwise.*

*If you would like a Mass Offered for a loved one, special occasion or other intention please contact the Parish Office at least a week prior to the date requested.*



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezek 18:25-28

Phil 2:1-11

Mt 21:28-32

| 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> September | Lector       | Extraordinary Ministers                                                     | Welcomer    |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Sat 6.00pm                                    | T Ramirez    | R Clarke, B D'Souza, M Thomas, C D'Lima, R Trevisan                         |             |
| Sun 7.30am                                    | H De Costa   | R Beloso, T Heldt                                                           | L Joseph    |
| 9.00am                                        | E Mandividza | C Gostimir, K Auvale, A Ulu, M Gambin, V Prasetyo, D Dsouza, M Krotwaar     | S Spaul     |
| 10.45am                                       | Youth Group  | S Lucas, A Hughes, M D'Costa, MG Sombilon, J Raudino, L Sombilon, volunteer | R Lupeamanu |
| 6.00pm                                        | J La'Brooy   |                                                                             | A Karunda   |
|                                               |              | E Clinch, B D'Souza                                                         |             |
| CHURCH COUNTERS                               |              | R & C Beloso, M Rodrigues                                                   |             |

| 26 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup> September | Lector           | Extraordinary Ministers                                                     | Welcomer   |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Sat 6.00pm                                    | Children's Choir | A Hughes, R Sutherland, Volunteer, L Lim, Volunteer                         |            |
| Sun 7.30am                                    | F George         | L Jean Louis, M Vechoorettu                                                 | P Joseph   |
| 9.00am                                        | M Duke           | M & A Dam, S Spaul, E Mandividza, Y Prasetyo, K Auvale, C Gostimir          | D Krotwaar |
| 10.45am                                       | L Caballero      | A Fosio, R Papiernik, J La'Brooy, D Dsouza, T Nyerenyere, S Lucas, N Atulia |            |
| 6.00pm                                        | J MacDonald      | A Kumarasin, J MacDonald                                                    |            |
| CHURCH COUNTERS                               |                  | K Jolley, C Di Pietro, V Bucello                                            |            |

**ST. AGATHA'S VOICE FOR LIFE**

**MASS FOR THE UNBORN**  
– 9.30am Mass

1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month

**“ Abortion is the greatest destroyer of peace, the greatest destroyer of love”**

**St Mother Teresa**



**ST AGATHA'S PARISH HALL FOR HIRE:** Our Parish Hall is available for hire to parishioners for family functions, celebrations, meetings and gatherings. Parish events and activities have first preference for hall bookings. Enquiries Parish Office on 5996 1985

## PARISH GROUPS & MEETINGS

**RCIA:** [For Adults interested in becoming Catholic] Enquiries Parish Office: 5996 1985

**RCIC:** For children aged 4 years and above preparing for Baptism.

Sr Victoria 5996 1985

**MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN:**

Mon 6:30pm Parish Hall during school terms.

Contact: Rosalie 0435 949 006 or

Lorie 0400 346 029

**CATECHETICS [R.E.] CLASSES:** Each Wed at 4pm in the Hall during School Terms. Enquiries: Sr. Victoria 5996 1985

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:** Weekdays after morning Mass & Rosary in the Church.

**SAMOAN DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP:**

Tuesday 6.00pm to 8.30pm in the Church. Enq:

Tuna Fuimaono 0499 333 996

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:** Providence House, 135 Sladen Street. 1 hour by appointment only.

Enq: Ruth 0494 047 927

**YOUTH GROUPS INVIGORATE [Age 12-17]**

Meet 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 12noon to 3.00pm after 10.45am

**INVICTUS [Age 18+]:** Meet 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month at 7.00pm. Enq: Anthony 0492 908 539 or Parish Office 5996 1985

**VOICE FOR LIFE GROUP:** Enquiries: Maria Nieuwesteeg 0409 563 864 or email

[voiceforlife@hotmail.com](mailto:voiceforlife@hotmail.com)

**SANTO NINO:** Mass last Friday of the Month: 7.00pm. Enq: Tulip Ramirez 0431 211 115

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:** Vinnies Shop - 218 High Street Cranbourne. Phone: 5996 3926, **Vinnies Help Line: 1300 305 330**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month in the Hall; Meeting 6.00pm  
**CATHOLIC CARE GIPPSLAND:** For Family & Relationship Counselling phone 1800 123 338 or 1800 522 076 for appointments.

**GODSTART:** Post-Baptism follow-up Program. For further information contact the Parish Office: 5996 1985

**LEGION OF MARY:** Enquiries: Joseph Pasala 0466 803 491

**HOLY SPIRIT HOUR:** Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month 7.30pm to 8.30pm Enquiries: Charles & Beth Fivaz

We acknowledge the Bunurong and Wurundjeri peoples and recognise the gift of their culture to the life and spirit of Australia.

## ST. AGATHA'S YOUTH GROUPS:

Upcoming Meetings!

**Sun 20/09, 12:30pm - Invigorate youth (12+)**

**Fri 25/09, 7:00pm - Invictus youth (18+)**

**Fri 09/10, 8:00pm - STAY Adoration**

**YOUTH GROUPS**

**INVIGORATE [Age 12-17]**

Meet every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 12noon to 3.00pm after 10.45am Mass.

**INVICTUS [Age 18+]:**

Meet 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month 7pm

Enq: 5996 1985 or Anthony - 0492908539

Follow us on Instagram!

[@stagathasyouthcranbourne](https://www.instagram.com/stagathasyouthcranbourne)

@StAgathasCP

STAY

GET IT ON Google play

**PARISH APP:** The parish

APP is available from: **'GOOGLE PLAY**

**STORE'**. It contains Mass Times, Parish

Calendar, Weekly Bulletin and much more!

Simply **search for St Agathas** and download

the APP to your mobile device.

Like

<https://www.facebook.com/StAgathasCP>

**LIVE STREAMING MASSES:** Sunday 9.00am Mass, Masses 9.30am weekday are Live Streamed, for those parishioners who are home bound and unable to attend Mass. <https://www.youtube.com/StAgathasParishCranbourne>

## **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY 2026**

### **FIRST READING**

*Isaiah 55:6-9*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

***R. The Lord is near to all who call him.***

I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. ***R.***

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. ***R.***

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. ***R.***

### **SECOND READING**

*Philippians 1:20-24, 27*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results - I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***Alleluia, Alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!***

### **GOSPEL**

*Matthew 20:1-16*

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION**

We proclaim your Death... ..

The last  
will be first,  
and the  
first will  
be last.

MT 20:16

