



IT'S NOT FAIR! (MATTHEW 20:1-16)

Today's Gospel passage tells of the workers in the vineyard who are hired at different times of the day, and so put in unequal amounts of work.

At the end of the day, the foreman is told to pay the wages in reverse order to the time when the labourers were employed, thus setting up the ones engaged at the beginning of the day to expect a higher rate of pay. Most people probably feel some sympathy with their indignant reaction on discovering that everyone receives the same remuneration.

Perhaps we might consider another point of view: that of the owner. It is not the fault of the workers that they found no employment until the final hour before dusk. They have indeed been "standing here idle all day", not because they were unwilling to work, but as they tell the landowner, it is "because no one has hired us". They also have families to feed, their needs are just as great as those of the others, who were probably younger and fitter and so chosen first. The owner sees their willingness to work, but also their need, and responds to that. In justice, the ones hired earlier have nothing to complain about because they receive the amount to which they agreed: their fault lies in criticising the owner for his generosity, and perhaps not appreciating the desperate situation and anxiety of those who were earlier passed over by all those who could have helped them with a day's employment. ■

REFLECT

In certain parts of the world today, the setting of this parable is acted out daily. Gangs of people gather at a pick-up point, a lorry arrives, and those engaged clamber aboard and are driven to a building site, roadworks or some agricultural place of work. Such people have no assured employment, therefore no certain pay, but they do have family responsibilities.

Translated into religious terms, we can see that there is a lesson here. It is tempting for a person to think that having been a practising Christian for a long time entitles them to some sort of special recognition. But the Gospel teaching is of our expectations being reversed; that God does not think as we do. The parable is concerned with the attitude of the owner. It is a trap: we instinctively, perhaps, side with those individuals who have borne the heat of the day and are annoyed that the most recent arrivals receive the same pay as they do. But the ones who come later are not "shirkers": they just were not given the same chances as the others. The Gospels show Jesus as being concerned with such people, those on the margins, who are written off by those who are socially and religiously respectable. But the master (God) does not write off this latter group either: rather he appeals to them to change their attitude, to see the others' situation from a different point of view. God's mercy extends to all, and there are no degrees of mercy. ■

DO

Make the sign of the cross with holy water: ask the Lord for the grace to see others as God sees them.



LEARN

The workers hired later are not "shirkers": they have been available all day; it is not their fault that no one has offered them work.

A theme throughout the Gospel tradition is that of reversal, for instance, "the last will be first and the first, last".

To be a disciple of Jesus is more important than the length of time that a person has been one.

SAY

With the Lord there is mercy, and plentiful redemption

(Psalm 130:7)

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Fr Michael Ryan OMI

20th September 2020 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

Saturday	19	6.30pm	Vigil Mass St Janarius and St Theodore of Tarsus	The Parishioners of St Anne's Helen Griggs RIP Recently Deceased
Sunday	20	9.30am	Mass 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Special Day of Prayer for Home Missions	Marek Kotlar RIP Recently Deceased and for his family Agnieszka Pocz RIP Recently Deceased and for her family
Monday	21		St Matthew	
Tuesday	22	10.00am	Mass	Gerard Coburn RIP Birthday Memorial
Wednesday	23		St Pius Pietrelcina	
Thursday	24	10.00am	Mass Our Lady of Walsingham	Key Workers supporting us during the pandemic John and Chris Massey (sick)
Friday	25			
Saturday	26	6.30pm	Vigil Mass Sts Cosmos & Damian	The Parishioners of St Anne's
Sunday	27	9.30am	Mass 26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Terry Shutt (Sick)

IN NEED OF A PRIEST Please contact Fr Grace at St Gabriel's 01270 877736

Prayer and Mass Intentions can be sent by email to us at stannesnantwich@btinternet.com

The wearing of a face covering is compulsory inside church as we are now socially-distancing at 1 metre + in seating areas. Please provide your own face covering where possible but these are also available in church.

Diocese of Shrewsbury Liturgy Reflection Sheet <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Reflection-Sheet-25-Sunday.pdf>

Requiem Mass for Raymond Davies RIP on Tuesday 29th September at 11.30am followed by burial at 12.45pm Nantwich Cemetery. Please pray for the repose of his soul and keep Raymond's family in your prayers.

Agnieszka Pocz RIP You may have seen the tragic news about Aga being fatally injured when she was knocked off her bike in Crewe this week. A go fund me page has been set up to raise funds to support her family in this awful time <https://www.gofundme.com/f/2525ow8k5c>. Please pray for the repose of her soul and keep Aga's family in your prayers.

Community Hub Understandably things have been quiet whilst we have been under Covid lockdown however we still need to reach our target before we can take the next step to approach the council for planning. Please do help by making donations via this link <https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/17726/st-annes-church-nantwich/st-annes-community-hub> or to the presbytery.



Last week's collection

£282.50

Thank you

If you have not received your box of offertory envelopes or you would like a box then please contact Teri by email.

Missio World Mission Sunday 18th October https://missio.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/WMS20_Leaflet.pdf

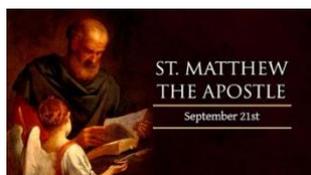
Pope Francis' prayer for September: Respect for the Planet's resources <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-08/pope-francis-video-prayer-intention-september-respect-planet.html>

Wednesday Word Connecting Home, School and Parish through the Word of God http://www.wednesdayword.org/downloads/parish_docs/651-A-Ord-25-2020.pdf

Subject: Autumn talks on Spirituality You might be interested in a series of eight, roughly fortnightly talks about Spiritual Masters, given by distinguished speakers, which all look very worthwhile. They are free to view live-streamed, although there will be a fee to view recordings Saints, Scholars and Spiritual Masters. A series of online talks on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm, starting on 3 September organised by the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst. For details and to register: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/event/saints-scholars-spiritual-masters/>.

While you're planning your autumn viewing, you might also be interested in choosing selectively from a new Centre for Applied Carmelite Spirituality series of lectures. This features the five great Teresa's of the Carmelite tradition - Teresa of Avila, Teresa Margaret Redi, Therese of Lisieux, Teresa of the Andes and Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein). For Teresa of Avila and Therese of Lisieux the paid-for talks in this series overlap with the free talks in the Christian Heritage centre series (given by the same or an equally distinguished lecturer), but it would be a chance to learn about the other Carmelite spiritual masters. The talks in this series will be given on selected Sundays at 8.00 pm between 20 September and 15 November. The cost is £20 for each lecture. For details and to register: <https://mailchi.mp/oxcacs.org/new-spirituality-series-of-lectures-from-cacs?e=1f35f1f3f8>

Feast and Memorial Days



Saint Matthew, the first-century tax collector turned apostle who chronicled the life and ministry of Christ in his Gospel, is celebrated by the Church on September 21. Although relatively little is known about the life of St. Matthew, the account he wrote of Christ's ministry – traditionally considered to be the first of the four Gospels – is of inestimable value to the Church, particularly in its verification of Jesus as the Messiah.

The Gospel accounts of Mark and Luke, like Matthew's own, describe the encounter between Jesus and Matthew under the surprising circumstances of Matthew's tax-collecting duties. Jewish publicans, who collected taxes on behalf of the Roman rulers of first-century Judea, were objects of scorn and even hatred among their own communities, since they worked on behalf of the occupying power and often earned their living by collecting more than the state's due.

Jesus most likely first encountered Matthew near the house of Peter, in Capernaum near the Sea of Galilee. The meeting of the two was dramatic, as Matthew's third-person account in his Gospel captured: "As Jesus passed on," the ninth chapter recounts, "he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, 'Follow me'. And he got up and followed him."

Matthew's calling into Jesus' inner circle was a dramatic gesture of the Messiah's universal message and mission, causing some religious authorities of the Jewish community to wonder: "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus' significant response indicated a central purpose of his ministry: "I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."

A witness to Christ's resurrection after death, as well as his ascension into heaven and the events of Pentecost, Matthew also recorded Jesus' instruction for the apostles to "go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Like 11 of the 12 apostles, St. Matthew is traditionally thought to have died as a martyr while preaching the Gospel. The Roman Martyrology describes his death as occurring in a territory near present-day Egypt.

Both the Saint, and his Gospel narrative, have inspired important works of religious art, ranging from the ornate illuminated pages of the Book of Kells in the ninth century, to the Saint Matthew Passion of J.S. Bach. Three famous paintings of Caravaggio, depicting St. Matthew's calling, inspiration and martyrdom, hang within the Contarelli Chapel in Rome's Church of St. Louis of the French.



The story of the Walsingham Shrine begins in Saxon times. In 1061, the Lady of the Manor, Richeldis de Faverches, was taken in spirit to Nazareth, shown the house where the Annunciation took place and asked by Our Lady to build a replica in Norfolk. She was promised that *'Whoever seeks my help there will not go away empty-handed.'* The simple wooden house that she built soon became the focus of special devotion to Our Lady. The 'Holy House' was later encased in stone to protect it from the elements.

In 1153, the Augustinian Canons founded a Priory to care for the spiritual needs of the pilgrims. Their magnificent Priory Church was added in the fifteenth century. Only the ruin of the Priory arch remains and archaeology has placed the site of the 'Holy House' in its shadow.

Walsingham became one of the foremost shrines of medieval Christendom. Among the pilgrims to the 'Holy House' were many royal visitors. Henry III in 1226, Edward I (eleven times), Edward II in 1315, Edward III in 1361, Richard II in 1383, Edward IV in 1469, Henry VI in 1487 (and many other times) and Henry VIII in 1511, in thanksgiving for the birth of his son, Prince Henry.

In 1340, the Slipper Chapel was built at Houghton St Giles, a mile outside Walsingham. This was the final 'station' chapel on the way to Walsingham. It was here that pilgrims would remove their shoes to walk the final 'Holy Mile' to the Shrine barefoot.

Erasmus, the Dutch scholar, visited Walsingham in 1513 and was impressed by the splendour of the Shrine. He wrote: *'When you look in you would say it is the abode of saints, so brilliantly does it shine with gems, gold and silver ... Our Lady stands in the dark at the right side of the altar ... a little image, remarkable neither for its size, material or workmanship.'* This was soon to come to an end. Henry VIII ordered the dissolution of the monasteries and in 1538 the Priory was closed, the 'Holy House' burned to the ground and the statue of Our Lady taken to London to be destroyed.

In 1896 Miss Charlotte Boyd bought the Slipper Chapel, which had seen centuries of secular use. She devoted herself to its restoration. The statue of the Mother and Child was carved at Oberammergau and based on the design of the original statue - a design found on the medieval seal of Walsingham Priory, an imprint of which is in [the British Museum](#).

The first Mass since the Reformation was offered in the Slipper Chapel on 15th August 1934 and a few days later Cardinal Francis Bourne led a pilgrimage of 10,000 people to the Chapel and declared it to be the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady.

Source [Archdiocese of Southwark](#)

Sanctuaries, shrines Catholics can 'visit' virtually in Europe, Mideast. <https://catholicsentinel.org/Content/Arts/Arts-and-Entertainment/Article/Sanctuaries-shrines-Catholics-can-visit-virtually-in-Europe-Mideast/6/31/40431>

Journeying Together <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/journeying-together/>

Shrewsbury Youth Mission. <https://www.symt.org.uk/>

The National Shrine for Our Lady of Walsingham www.walsingham.org.uk/livestream

Laudato Tree <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/world/news/2020-05/laudato-tree-sahel-pope-francis-laudato-si-year.html>

Watch a Mass from home. Live-streaming of Masses Shrewsbury Diocese:

<http://www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral/embed#tab-player> Church Services TV: <https://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/>

Prayer resources at: <http://pathwaystogod.org/>. <https://www.sacredspace.ie/> <http://In54.blogspot.com>

<http://prayasyougo.org/>

Catholic Bishops Conference <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/> and latest news <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/news/>

Prayer for times of Flu or Illness <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/prayer-flu-viruses.pdf>

Stream Father Denis McBride's Mass for the Dead <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pY1bOyrcDbw>

Life Helplines and Information can be found at <http://www.dayforlife.org/article/helplines-and-information-2020/>

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Sort Code: 16-00-16
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Please continue to pray for our sisters and brothers overseas and all missionaries who share God's love - they tell us the love and strength they receive from us keeps them going.

Money given through the Red Box goes to support both the work of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries:

missio.org.uk
Registered Charity No 1056651

millhillmissionaries.com
Registered Charity No 220690



missio
Today, Tomorrow, Together.



Today. Tomorrow. **Together**

At Missio, we are committed to supporting our sisters and brothers around the world, through any challenges, struggles and hardships. We will continue to work as best we can during this coronavirus pandemic.

<https://missio.org.uk>

We recently held 'Mission Under the Shadow of Covid-19' online sessions and have put together a brief summary of the sessions, together with edited videos of the contributions of our guest speakers, which can be viewed on this page of Missio's website: <https://missio.org.uk/ls/shadow/>

Faith in Action Reflection <https://missio.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Faith-in-Action-Reflection-Session-Solidarity.pdf>

Mary, the mother of God, was a loving mother and a model for missionaries. That's why we've created this series of Marian resources. Each resource helps children to deepen their appreciation of Mary and learn how she can help us to become missionaries of God's love too.

<https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/marian-and-mission-rosary/>

Missio World Mission Sunday 18th October
https://missio.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/WMS20_Leaflet.pdf



**Prayer Resource for September:
month of Our Lady of Pity**

Prayer: taken from the Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Lord our God, through the Virgin Mary you graciously sent Jesus Christ to be the consolation of your people; grant that, through her intercession, we may be filled with all consolation and share it among our brothers and sisters. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

A Prayer to Our Lady of Pity:

Kneeling at your most sacred feet, I venerate you, great Queen of Heaven, with the deepest reverence, and I confess that you are the Daughter of God the Father, the Mother of the Divine Word, and the Bride of the Holy Spirit. You are full of grace, virtue and heavenly gifts; you are the most pure temple of the Holy Trinity. You are the treasurer and dispenser of God's mercies. Your pure heart is overflowing with charity, sweetness and tenderness for us, poor sinners; wherefore we name you Our Lady of Divine Pity. It is with sure confidence that I present myself before you, our most loving Mother, afflicted I beseech you to make me feel the love you have for me, by granting me (.....), if it is in conformity with the will of God and profitable to my salvation. I beseech you, turn your pure eyes upon me and upon all who are dear to me. Remember, most tender Mother, that we are your children, purchased by the Precious Blood of your only-begotten Son. Pray for us without ceasing to the Blessed Trinity. Amen

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



more prayer resources are available here:
www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org

New Guidelines for attending Mass at St Anne's during Covid 19 Restrictions

The Masses will be celebrated at the following times:

- Saturday 6.30 pm**
- Sunday 9.30 am**
- Tuesday 10.00 am**
- Thursday 10.00 am**

Numbers inside the church will be limited to approximately 52 people or maybe a few more depending on "household" attendees who can sit together. We urge you to please come to a weekday Mass, if you can, so that those who are working during the week can attend on Saturday or Sunday. Once the capacity of the church has been reached, people will be invited to stand outside or sit outside on chairs which they have brought with them. The doors and windows will be open. Please maintain 2 m apart wherever possible.

- **The wearing of a face covering is compulsory inside church as we are now socially-distancing at 1 metre plus in seating areas. Please provide your own face covering where possible but these are also available in church.**
- **Please sanitise your hands on entry - bring your own if you can but hand sanitiser is available in church..**
- **The church doors will not open until 15 minutes before Mass is due to start. Mass may start a little late if entry to church takes longer than we anticipate. Please do not enter the sacristy for any reason.**
- **Toilets are closed**
- **There is a one-way system inside church and not all benches and chairs are in use so please follow the signs and instructions from the stewards.**
- **Signed Mass cards are available near the entrance. Votive candles will not be in use at weekend Masses. Please do not bring food or drink to church. If necessary, a non-twist top bottle of water may be used. All Newsletters and other items collected in church must be taken away and not left behind.**
- **Please make your weekly offering as you enter church, collection points will be signposted. There will also be collection points at the exits.**
- **Holy Communion will be distributed by one minister: either the celebrant or an extraordinary minister of Communion from a single point. This will be after the Dismissal. Instructions for receiving Holy Communion will be given and the stewards will direct you. Although the celebration of Mass will be slightly shorter than usual, it will take longer to exit the church so please be patient. Those who have been outside will be invited to receive Holy Communion after those in church. Anybody with mobility difficulties should remain in their seats and Holy Communion will be brought to them once the church is empty. Please also sanitise your hands as you leave.**

At the conclusion of the Eucharist Prayer the priest recites the doxology, Per Ipsum, "Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever" words we can look forward to inspiring us once more before joining in responding the great Amen. *Deo gratias.*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

O God, who founded all the commands of
your sacred Law
upon love of you and of our neighbour,
grant that, by keeping your precepts,
we may merit to attain eternal life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 144

Response:

The Lord is close 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*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians.

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.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest heavens!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

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.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray,
the offerings of your people,
that what they profess with devotion and faith
may be theirs through these heavenly
mysteries.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have laid down your precepts to be
carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your
statutes.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously raise up, O Lord,
those you renew with this Sacrament,
that we may come to possess your
redemption
both in mystery and in the manner of our life.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

If you cannot find Christ in the beggar at
the church door, you will not find him in the
chalice.

St John Chrysostom