



Based on the gospel for Sunday 24 September, Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Matthew 20:1-16

“The last will be first, and the first, last”

Whether it is football, cricket, tennis,
or any other game,
it regularly happens that
those who are expected to win, lose.
We often think we can guess what will happen,
but can be surprised by what actually does.

Sometimes we even think we can guess
what God thinks or says or does.

Today's gospel story can prepare us
to be ready for a surprise,
and its message that everyone is important, is very clear.

In our world today
it seems that the gulf between the rich and the poor
grows wider every day.
Too many people are not paid a living wage,
and those whose lives are being destroyed
by poverty and injustice,
may not draw much comfort from the idea that
one day all will be well.
They need to know and experience that we care for them today.

As Christians, our lives should be lived showing that
we love God and our neighbour,
and this needs to be apparent not only in what we say
but more importantly in what we do.

Prayer

May we follow the message of Jesus
in showing practical care
for anyone in need.
Amen.



Libya Floods

Devastating floods have swept through the
city of Derna in Libya, killing thousands and
leaving those who have survived with
nothing. Help us to get help to where it is
needed most.



[Donate now](#)



Harvest Fast Day

Harvest Family Fast Day is on Friday 6 October. Find out more about how you can come together as a parish to share hope with vulnerable families by providing them with the practical help they need when emergencies strike.

[Find out more](#)



Pray with us

Explore our prayer resources on a variety of themes to enrich your personal prayer life or to share with others in your parish.

[Explore the resources](#)

This reflection and prayer were written by Barry Anderson from Willingdon, Sussex.



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