

# Justice

Matthew 20: 1-16

As Jesus was telling what the kingdom of heaven would be like, he said: "Early one morning a man went out to hire some workers for his vineyard. After he had agreed to pay them the usual amount for a day's work, he sent them off to his vineyard. About nine that morning, the man saw some other people standing in the market with nothing to do. He said he would pay them what was fair, if they would work in his vineyard. So they went. At noon and again about three and five in the afternoon, he returned to the market. And each time he made the same agreement with others who were loafing around with nothing to do.

That evening the owner of the vineyard told the man in charge of the workers to call them in and give them their money. He also told the man to begin with the ones who were hired last. When the workers arrived, the ones who had been hired at five in the afternoon were given a full day's pay. The workers who has been hired first thought they would be given more than the others. But when they were given the same, they began complaining to the owner of the vineyard. They said, "The ones who were hired last worked for only one hour. But you paid them the same that you did us. And we worked in the hot sun all day long!" The owner answered one of them,



"Friend, I didn't cheat you. I paid you exactly what we agreed on. Take your money now and go! What business is it of yours if I want to pay them the same that I paid you? Don't I have the right to do what I want with my money? Why should you be jealous, if I want to be generous?" Jesus then said, "So it is. Everyone who is now first will be last, and everyone who is last will be first."

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Are we sometimes too quick to complain? Do we feel that we are badly treated compared to others, when really we are treated very well? Do we sometimes give in to jealousy too easily? Are we like the other workers in the vineyard who resent seeing others get treated well? Should we not be content with what we have? The Parable shows us how God treats us all justly. Just because the workers who came later got paid generously, doesn't mean that the first workers were badly treated.

## Prayer for the Week

Righteous God, we know that you want us to deal justly with one another, to work for the good of all rather than a few, and we thank you that there are those with sufficient passion to devote their lives to those ends. Support them in all they do, inspire us to pursue such goals in turn.

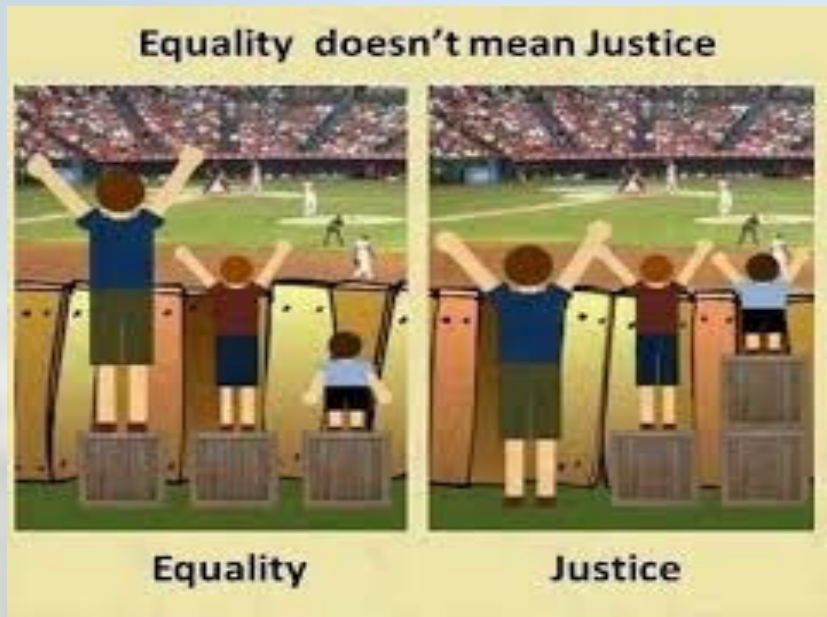
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.





## SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT...

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS IMAGE, WHAT DO YOU THINK IT IS TRYING TO TEACH US ABOUT JUSTICE?



## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK...

Thursday is the Feast of St Vincent de Paul.  
Happy Feast Day to the five Vincent forms!



## SOMETHING TO DO...

We have lots of groups in school that help to promote and fight for justice in our world.

Look into the different groups and see which one you might like to join.

SVP  
Justice and Peace  
Chaplaincy Team

See Kate (Chaplain) if you are interested in joining any of these groups.



LAST  
SHALL BE  
FIRST