A different vision

SUNDAY Plus

15 FEBRUARY 2026

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time **Divine Office Week II** Year A

Day for the Unemployed

Bearing the image of God

Dorothy [Day], who never seemed to be overly anxious about how little money there was in the community bank account, frequently set an example of passing on what was given as quickly as possible. In one memorable instance, a well-dressed woman visiting the Worker house one day gave Dorothy a diamond ring. Dorothy thanked the visitor, slipped the ring in her pocket, and later in the day gave it to an unpleasant old woman, Catherine. Catherine, a bitter complainer second to none, was known in the community as "the weasel". She lived with her handicapped son and often ate meals at St Joseph's. We paid her rent each month. One of the staff suggested to Dorothy that the ring might better have been sold at the Diamond Exchange on West 47th Street and the money used for paying Catherine's rent. Dorothy replied that the woman had her dignity and could do as she liked with the ring. She could sell and buy whatever she wanted or take a trip to the Bahamas or she could enjoy having a diamond ring on her hand just like the woman who had given it to the Worker. "Do you suppose," Dorothy asked, "that God created diamonds only for the rich?"...

Dorothy has helped us better understand one of the primary biblical truths: that each person, no matter how damaged or battered by the events and circumstances of life, is a bearer of the image of God and deserves to be recognised and treated as such. She has reminded us of the real presence of Christ in the least person.

Jim Forest, All is Grace: a biography of Dorothy Day

Lord of hope, we remember those who are unemployed, the job seekers and their families. Give them the dignity, hope and courage that they need in the uncertainty of their lives. ✠ Amen.

The fragrance of love

Go not to the temple to put flowers upon the feet of God, first fill your own house with the fragrance of love. Go not to the temple to light candles before the altar of God, first remove the darkness of sin from your heart. Go not to the temple to bow down your head in prayer, first learn to bow in humility before your fellow men [and women]. Go not to the temple to pray on bended knees, first bend down to lift someone who is downtrodden. Go not to the temple to ask for forgiveness for your sins, first forgive from your heart those who have sinned against you.

Rabindranath Tagore

There are settings where it is not easy to preach the Gospel and bear witness to its truth and contexts where believers are mocked, opposed, despised or at best tolerated and pitied.

Pope Leo

Saints

St Joseph: fatherhood

By Sr Thérèse Garman OLP

God called Joseph to serve the person and mission of Jesus through fatherhood. He found himself at the heart of the Incarnation and was reminded of this by Jesus' reply when questioned about staying behind in the Temple. With Jesus' humanity, work, too, has been assumed into the mystery of the Incarnation. At the workbench with Jesus, Joseph humbly brought work into the mystery of redemption. In his obedience to God, he showed that fatherhood involved service, sacrifice, and fidelity. His vocation was more important than his career. He had much to lose, when warned by an angel in a dream to escape with Jesus and Mary to Egypt. He supported his family through his work, but when his child was threatened, his first obligation was to him. A father plays a singularly important role in family life, with a God-given responsibility for his children. Through this sacred vocation, we celebrate God's gift of life and love.

Sr Thérèse Garman is a Sister of Our Lady of Providence and a treasured former member of the Redemptorist Publications editorial team

READINGS

Today:
Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20
1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Matthew 5:17-37

Monday:
James 1:1-11
Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday:
James 1:12-18
Mark 8:14-21

Wednesday:
Joel 2:12-18
2 Corinthians 5:20 – 6:2
Matthew 6:1-6. 16-18

Thursday:
Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Luke 9:22-25

Friday:
Isaiah 58:1-9
Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday:
Isaiah 58:9-14
Luke 5:27-32

Next Sunday:
Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

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