

**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C
(Sept. 5, 2010)**

Labor Day

As we speak of Jesus asking us to work with him and to struggle with him in the work he has begun we cannot help but remember that this is Labor Day weekend and that there are many, many people in this nation who are out of work and are struggling to find some way to support themselves and their families. We know that we, either as individuals or even as a parish cannot solve this problem but we can do our best to support whatever initiatives are taken to try to come to some way of improving the situation and in the meantime helping those who are suffering. Certainly one good way to do this would be to help unite all people, both in the church and in civil society, in a concerted effort to face the problem. The many divisions that exist in our Church and in our country today do nothing but exacerbate the situation. Greed, selfishness, recrimination, and general nastiness in arguing – even fighting – about these problems just seem to make matters worse. Let's pray for understanding, patience, and a willingness to cooperate even with people with whom we do not agree. This would definitely help bring about that new world order that Jesus is calling for as well as establish the Kingdom of God here on earth, and of course make life a lot more pleasant for all of us.