

SUNDAY GOSPEL BIBLE SHARING



Wednesday October 4th for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

OPENING PRAYER: Lord Jesus, we gather in your name to share our lives and your Word. We thank you for this opportunity. Breathe your Spirit on us so that we may know the message you have for each of us today. Amen.

READING OF THE ASSIGNED GOSPEL

- In the words of Saint Benedict, “Listen with the ears of your heart.”
- Please note a word, phrase, or verse that seemed to really catch your notice.
- A volunteer slowly read aloud today’s passage Afterwards, we have a few minutes of silent reflection.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people:

33 "Hear another parable.

**There was a landowner who planted a vineyard,
put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower.
Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey.**

**34 When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain
his produce.**

**35 But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat,
another they killed, and a third they stoned.**

**36 Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones,
but they treated them in the same way.**

37 Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.'

**38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another,
'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.'**

39 They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

40 What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?"

41 They answered him,

"He will put those wretched men to a wretched death

**and lease his vineyard to other tenants
who will give him the produce at the proper times."**

**42 Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures:
*The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes?***

**43 Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you
and given to a people that will produce its fruit."**

* [21:33] The vineyard is defined in Is 5:7 as "the house of Israel."

* [21:34–35] That these servants stand for the prophets sent by God to Israel is clearly implied. The produce is the good works demanded by God, and his claim to them is total.

* [21:38] If a Jewish proselyte died without heir, the tenants of his land would have final claim on it.

* [21:41] The leaders answer and so condemn themselves.

* [21:42] Cf. Ps 118:22–23. The psalm was used in the early church as a prophecy of Jesus' resurrection; see Acts 4:11; 1 Pt 2:7.

* [21:43] Peculiar to Matthew. Kingdom of God: see note on Mt 19:23–24. Its presence here instead of Matthew's usual "kingdom of heaven" may indicate that the saying came from Matthew's own traditional material. A people that will produce its fruit: believing Israelites and Gentiles, the church of Jesus.

Thoughts and reflection on the Gospel Passage

QUESTIONS FOR SHARING

1. We may throw ourselves into many things—e.g., children, relationships, parish, business, gardening— but in the end, all our efforts could produce "sour grapes." What helps you to deal with poor results from a lot of effort?
2. How can we resist God's call to ongoing conversion?
3. What is Jesus saying to us this Sunday about how a faithful disciple should act?

Commentary

Another of the judgment parables immediately follows last week's story of the two sons. These two parables are a call to conversion for both the Pharisees and the Chief Priests. In the parable, Jesus invites his audience to assess the characters in the story, and then applies the lesson of the story directly to his defiant audience. In passing judgment on the characters in the story, the religious leaders unwittingly pass judgment on themselves. Instead of welcoming Jesus as God's messenger, they, like the tenants, plan to kill him. Jesus tells the parable not to condemn the religious leaders, but to call them to conversion. If they repent of their sins, they too, like the Gentiles, will be part of God's kingdom.

IS THERE A CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE THIS WEEK?

IS THERE A PRAYER REQUEST YOU HAVE?

CLOSING PRAYER - The Lord's Prayer

Bible Sharing Room 5 and Zoom
Starting Oct 4 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm EST Weekly on Wednesday
notes

Description: Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Blessed Sacrament's Zoom Meeting
Time: Oct 4, 2023 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZlkd-qgrj8qG9Rt4LoXWaku9w9Mo6AzLDCs/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGupzspEtSRsBiHRpwAHYigb_zziCljfpviEvJDBhkYwjjb_UbH7opMcL8

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86903804010?pwd=MGJydS9qSW9LSzNGblZSM2xZcWpGZz09>

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