

OCTOBER 7 & 8, 2023 XXVII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Today's Gospel follows directly after last Sunday's Gospel in which Jesus was questioned by Jewish religious leaders about the source of his teaching authority. After refusing to answer their questions, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons and then criticizes the priests and elders for their lack of belief in John the Baptist.

In today's Gospel, Jesus once again speaks to the priests and elders with a parable. In this parable, the landowner leases his vineyard to tenants and sends his servants to collect the portion of the harvest that the tenants owe to him. Several times the servants are sent to collect payment, and each time they are beaten and killed by the tenants. Finally, the landowner sends his son to collect his rent. The tenants, believing that they will inherit the vineyard if the landowner dies without an heir, plot together and kill the landowner's son.

After telling the parable, Jesus questions the chief priests and elders about what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants. They all agree that the landowner will kill the wicked tenants and give the land to new tenants who will pay the rent.

In telling the parable, Jesus is clearly drawing upon **Isaiah 5:1-7**, which is today's First Reading and one that the priests and elders would have known well. Jesus doesn't, therefore, have to explain the symbolism of the parable; the Pharisees would have understood that the vineyard represented Israel, the landowner represented God, the servants represented the prophets, and the bad tenants represented the religious leaders. Yet Jesus nonetheless explains the meaning of the parable for his audience: The Kingdom of God will be taken from the unbelieving and given to the faithful. The chief priests and elders have condemned themselves with their answer to Jesus' question.

Today's Gospel has a parallel in **Mark 12:1-12**. There are some notable differences, however. In Matthew's version, the religious leaders condemn themselves; in Mark's Gospel, Jesus answers his own question. Matthew names the religious leaders as Pharisees and chief priests. Clearly this Gospel shows the tension that was mounting between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders who thought that his message was dangerous. Matthew's Gospel was written about 70 years after Jesus' death and reflects the conflicts and tensions found in the Christian community for whom Matthew was writing. Many biblical scholars believe that the tension between Matthew's community and their Jewish neighbors can also be heard in today's reading.

This Gospel reminds us of the importance of listening to God's word. God speaks to us in many ways—through Scripture, through our Church tradition, in our Church's teaching, and through modern-day prophets. Are we attentive and receptive to God's word to us through these messengers?



Come join us, as we pray a Novena for Our Lady of Fatima. The Rosary will be prayed daily from Thursday, October 5th – Friday, October 13th at 5:00pm in the church.

October 13, 1917 marked the last Marian apparition in Fatima, and the day in which thousands of people bore witness of the miracle of the dancing sun; a miracle that not only proved the validity of the Fatima Marian apparitions, but also shattered the prevalent belief at the time that God was no longer relevant.

10 things we need to know about the impact of the miracle during those days in Portugal:

1) If one were to open philosophy books during that period, they would likely read something akin to the concept conceived by German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, who boldly asserted in the late 1800s that "God is dead."

2) Also, in 1917, Portugal, like the majority of the world, was embroiled in war. As World War I raged throughout Europe, Portugal found itself unable to maintain its initial neutrality and joined forces with the Allies. More than 220,000 Portuguese civilians died during the war; thousands due to food shortages, thousands more from the Spanish flu.

3) Few years before, in 1910, a revolution had led to the establishment of the First Portuguese Republic in 1910 and a new liberal constitution was drafted under the influence of Freemasonry, which sought to suppress the faith from public life.

4) Catholic churches and schools were seized by the government, and the wearing of clerics in public, the ringing of church bells, and the celebration of public religious festivals were banned. Between 1911-1916, nearly 2,000 priests, monks and nuns were killed by anti-Christian groups.

5) This was the backdrop against which Mary, in 1917, appeared to three shepherd children – Lucia dos Santos, 10, and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto, 9 and 7 – in a field in Fatima, Portugal, bringing with her requests for the recitation of the rosary, for sacrifices on behalf of sinners, and a secret regarding the fate of the world.

6) To prove that the apparitions were true, Mary promised the children that during the last of her six appearances she would provide a "sign" so people would believe in the apparitions and in her message. What happened on that day – Oct. 13, 1917 – has come to be known as the "Miracle of the Sun," or "the day the sun danced."

7) According to various accounts, a crowd of some 70,000 people – believers and skeptics alike – gathered to see the miracle that Mary had promised: The rainy sky cleared up, the clouds dispersed and the ground, which had been wet and muddy from the rain, was dried. A transparent veil came over the sun, making it easy to look at, and multi-colored lights were strewn across the landscape. The sun then began to spin, twirling in the sky, and at one point appeared to veer toward earth before jumping back to its place in the sky.

8) The stunning miracle was a direct, and very convincing contradiction to the atheistic regimes at the time, which is evidenced by the fact that the first newspaper to report on the miracle on a full front page was an anti-Catholic, Masonic newspaper in Lisbon called *O Seculo*.

9) The Miracle of the Sun, was understood by the people to be "the seal, the guarantee that in fact those three children were telling the truth."

10) Even today, "Fatima makes people change their perception of God," since "one of the most important messages of the apparitions is that even if man has separated God from his existence, God is present in human history and doesn't abandon humanity."



Thank you to everyone who has responded generously to our Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA). One Family in Mission. Our goal was \$11,002,00, our pledges were \$11,003.00.

We met our goal.
God bless you and your families abundantly!



WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT:

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish now provides “ParishSOFT Giving,” an online giving software!

To get started, you can go to olgcinfb.org.

From this link you will be allowed to manage your own account online, set up gifts on a schedule that you choose or a one-time donation, and can be set up with a credit card, debit card, checking or savings account!

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at 964-0229.

ATTENTION

FROM MONDAY, 10/9 - FRIDAY, 10/13.

THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT 12:05PM.

WE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO REMIND ALL OF YOU THAT SAINT ANTHONY'S CHURCH IN MENDOCINO HAS DAILY MASS AT 9AM.



IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH, ON THE SOUTHERN WALL IS A BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL TREE.

ITS BRIGHT LEAVES REPRESENT PERMANENT MEMORIALS TO THE DEPARTED OF OUR PARISH. FOR THE SUM OF \$200.00, YOU CAN GIVE TO THE PARISH SECRETARY, THE CORRECT SPELLING AND DATES OF THE DEPARTED AND IN DUE TIME THE LEAF IS PRINTED AND ATTACHED TO THE TREE, AS A PERMANENT REMINDER OF A LOVED ONE WHO IS GONE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 707-964-0229.



OCTOBER: THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ALL OF YOU TO JOIN US IN PRAYING THE ROSARY FROM SUNDAY – FRIDAY AT 5PM IN THE CHURCH.



EVERY THURSDAY @ 11:00AM, WE HAVE THE EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FOLLOWED BY MASS AT 12:05PM.

MASS INTENTIONS
OCTOBER 7 - 13, 2023

Saturday (07)	9:00am	Ramiro & Ligia Soto † Silvia Durán † María Refugio Rodríguez †
	5:00pm	Fred & Clara White † Thomas Galemba † Bernardo Martínez † Margarito Martín †
	6:30pm	Mauricio Escobedo † Victor Martín & Raquel Dzul † Oscar Tamayo † Gerardo Escobedo (healing)
Sunday (08)	8:00am	Cuco, Gabriel, Isidro & Patty Yáñez † Ezequiel, Rafael & Cynthia Cruz †
	10:00am	Missa pro populo
Monday (09)	—	NO MASS
Tuesday (10)	12:05pm	NO MASS
Wednesday (11)	12:05pm	NO MASS
Thursday (12)	12:05pm	NO MASS
Friday (13)	12:05pm	NO MASS

WEEKLY COLLECTION

SEPTEMBER 30 & OCTOBER 1, 2023...\$2,450.00
LIABILITY INSURANCE...\$969.00

THIS WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR MAINTENANCE FUND
NEXT WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT & CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY!!

LET'S PRAY FOR ALL OUR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN THE MILITARY

Jovany Baez, Justin Merle, María de la Luz Ramírez, Rebeca Sánchez, José Araiza, Jr., Marina González, Alondra Jara, Sonia Jara, Matt Mills & Jared Schroeder.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Carole Shoptaw, Gina Pivrotto, Antonia Rentería, Angie Gómez, Judy Halren, Rose Cortez, Fidela Jara, Felix Santillán, Martha Sánchez, Gerardo Escobedo, Angie Freitas, Russel Bryant, Derrick Heater, Ann Gallagher, Brianna Lopez, Margaret Milliken, Gina Pivrotto, Nick Quin, Mary Servis, Matty Walker, Ofelia Ybarra.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

When a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized and would like Father Pacheco to pay them a visit to receive Holy Communion and/or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office at 707-964-0229 and after office hours, please call 707-813-4188.