



Our Parish

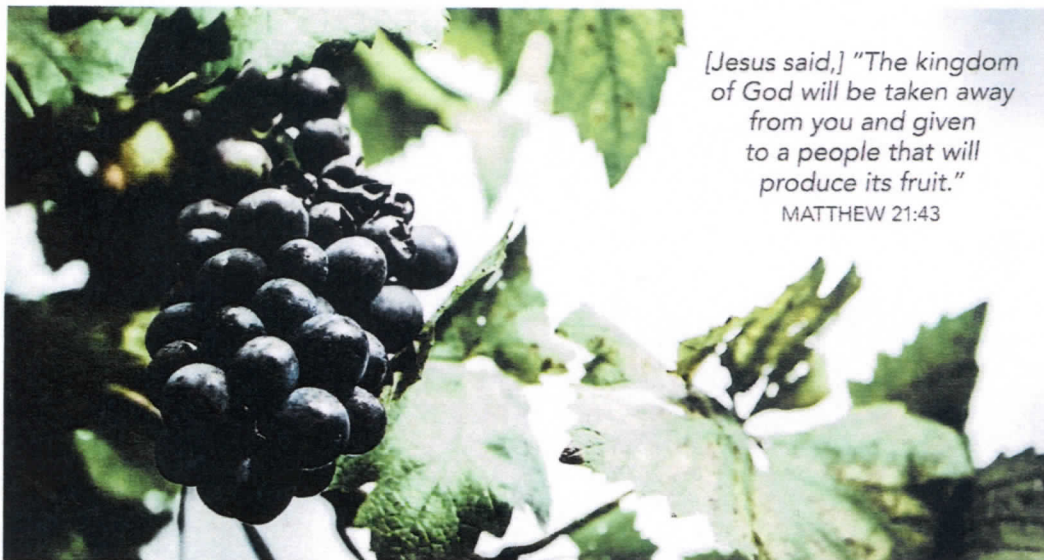
COMMUNITY

October 4, 2020

Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time (A)

Is 5:1-7 | Phil 4:6-9

Mt 21:33-43



[Jesus said,] "The kingdom
of God will be taken away
from you and given
to a people that will
produce its fruit."

MATTHEW 21:43

Caring for God's Vineyard

Today's readings are troubling texts. This is not because of what they say, but because of how they have been interpreted through the ages. In the first reading, despite everything the owner has done, the vineyard identified as Israel/Judah has brought forth wild grapes. In the Gospel the issue is with the trustworthiness of those who work and care for the vineyard. It is clear that Jesus is criticizing the leaders of his day with a failure of leadership. For this reason, leadership will be taken from them and given to others.

Both of these readings have been interpreted as condemnation of the Jewish people. This has sometimes resulted in anti-Semitism. We must remember that both readings reflect internal problems—something that all religious bodies experience. Despite their failure, the people of Judah

were still called God's "cherished plant" (Isaiah 5:7). In the Gospel, leadership was taken from some Jews and given to other Jews—not to outsiders. One religious tradition didn't replace another.

We experience similar struggles in today's Church. As the vineyard of God, what kind of fruit do we produce? After all God has done for us, how do we respond? How faithful are we in caring for God's vineyard? This is a difficult time with respect to religious leadership, but how supportive are we of genuine local Church leadership? You and I have been entrusted with the growth and health of the Church. How good have we been at caring for that vineyard?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- We are the Church. How do we handle some of its internal problems?
- We pray for the leaders of the Church at every liturgy. Make those prayers your own.

Dear Padre,

Aren't we discriminating against other Christians when we don't celebrate the Eucharist with them?

You have to keep the Church's intentions in mind: Are we excluding to make people feel left out, or are we excluding to uphold the dignity and sanctity of the Eucharist?

Everyone is welcome to celebrate the Eucharist—there's only one part they can't participate in. That might sound like a cop-out, but Catholics believe that the Eucharist is the actual Body and Blood of Christ. For it to be true Communion, everyone who receives it must believe the same thing about it.



SHUTTERSTOCK

In its Guidelines for the Reception of Communion, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops says, "Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily

not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission" as outlined in canon law. "All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another" (GRC).

—Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Many members of our communities yearn to receive the Eucharist at one table, as the concrete expression of full unity. We experience the pain of those who share their whole lives, but cannot share God's redeeming presence at the Eucharistic table....We long for this wound in the Body of Christ to be healed.

—JOINT STATEMENT, CATHOLIC-LUTHERAN
 COMMEMORATION OF THE REFORMATION, OCTOBER 31, 2016



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Calendar

Monday

OCTOBER 5
 Weekday
 Gal 1:6–12
 Lk 10:25–37

Tuesday

OCTOBER 6
 Weekday
 Gal 1:13–24
 Lk 10:38–42

Wednesday

OCTOBER 7
Our Lady of the Rosary
 Gal 2:1–2, 7–14
 Lk 11:1–4

Thursday

OCTOBER 8
 Weekday
 Gal 3:1–5
 Lk 11:5–13

Friday

OCTOBER 9
 Weekday
 Gal 3:7–14
 Lk 11:15–26

Saturday

OCTOBER 10
 Weekday
 Gal 3:22–29
 Lk 11:27–28

Sunday

OCTOBER 11
*Twenty-eighth Sunday
 in Ordinary Time*
 Is 25:6–10a
 Phil 4:12–14,
 19–20
 Mt 22:1–14
 or 22:1–10

 **Liguori**
 PUBLICATIONS
 A Redemptorist Ministry