



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

4 HARTLEY STREET, P.O. BOX 9, ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, strengthened by the Word of God, is united by our Sacramental Life into a Covenant to make Jesus the Christ known and loved in Central Australia.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 4th - 5th October 2014

TENANTS OF GOD'S VINEYARD

From Sunday Reflection by Fr. Eugene Lobo, SJ



In today's Gospel Jesus tells the parable of the vineyard and the wicked tenants to his opponents, namely the Chief Priests and the Elders of the people. He shows them that even though they are God's chosen people from the beginning, they have forfeited any claim to the new kingdom of God because of their disloyalty and disobedience to him.

The parable clearly indicates that God's people had disappointed their God. It was the formerly sinful Gentiles who took on the task of building the Kingdom. This should not be understood as anti-Jewish. On the contrary this was being written by Christian Jews for Christian Jews and it must have been a painful thing for them to see and accept. The message clearly is that God's people have been poor tenants in the Lord's vineyard.

Two leading thoughts come to mind after listening to the parable of today. First we see the infinite goodness, patience and the mercy of God in his dealing with humankind and secondly, the unsounded depth of wickedness and ingratitude to which man can sink. To his chosen people God had given every good thing indicated in the image of the fertile vineyard: his revelation, protection, new land at Canaan and the promise of the Messiah. But they had other plans and they wanted a kingdom on earth. Yet God was patient with them and again and again pardoned their infidelities. However, when the prophets were sent to them as his messengers they refused to accept them and did not listen to their warnings. Finally, the landowner, God, sent His only beloved Son Jesus to them. But rather than believing and accepting the teachings of Jesus as the Son of God and the promised Messiah, the chief priests and the Pharisees plotted against Him also and killed Him. They were afraid that the presence of Jesus would control their power and authority.

Today, we are God's people. We are the tenants in the vineyard. God expects us to produce fruit that will endure. The obvious question for us to ask ourselves today is: How are we doing? How much better are we than the chief priests and the elders? We are specially privileged, by baptism, to be called to work in the Lord's vineyard. Time and time again we are invited to gather together to hear the Gospel message and to make it part of our lives. We are all called to be members, active members of the Body of Christ, the Christian community, the Church. Over the centuries, several prophets in our Christian communities have been rejected, abused and even killed. We think of Joan of Arc, Thomas More, and in our own times, Bishop Oscar Romero, Martin Luther King, the countless victims of violence in Central and South America, in Africa, not to mention Northern Ireland. All these martyrs have one thing in common. They were killed not by pagans but by fellow-Christians, tenants in the Lord's vineyard. This week, let us all take a few moments to review our status before God, asking ourselves if we will inherit the Kingdom of God. May the grace of God be with each and every one of you as you assess your spiritual status in the eyes of God.

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Deadline for Bulletin submissions is
Wednesday 5 p.m.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday to Friday
9 am - 12 noon & 4 pm - 5 pm
Saturday: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Parish Team:

Parish Priest:

Fr. Jan Szweda, SVD

Aboriginal Chaplain:

Syro-Malabar Chaplain

Fr. Binesh Naramattathil
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RCIA Coordinator:

Secretary:

Mel Buenviaje

Parish Past. Council Chairman

Fred Twohig

OLSH College Principal

Br. Matthew Green, FMS

Parish Mass Schedule:

Monday to Friday: 7 am & 5:30 pm
Saturday 11 am & (Sun Vigil) 6 pm
Sunday 7:30am, 9:30 am & 5:30 pm

Ngkarte Mikwekenhe Community

1st, 3rd, 4th (and 5th) Sundays of the
month - 11am Aboriginal
Community Mass at South Terrace.
2nd Sunday of the month—11 am
Aboriginal Community Mass at
Amoonguna, Southeast of Alice
Springs, off the Ross Highway.

Sacraments:

Reconciliation:

Saturday 11:30 am & 5:30 pm

Baptism: By appointment: one
month's notice required.

Marriage:

By appointment only, 6 months'
notice required.

Daily Readings: starting 6 October

Mon: Gal 1:6-12 Lk 10:25-37
Tues: Gal 1:13-24 Lk 10:38-42
Wed: Gal 2:1-2,7-14 Lk 11:1-4
Thu: Gal 3:1-5 Lk 11:5-13
Fri: Gal 3:7-14 Lk 11:15-26
Sat: Gal 3:22-29 Lk 11:27-28
Sun: Is 25:6-10
 Phil 4:12-14,19-20 Mt 22:1-14

+ **Pray & read your Bible every day** +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Isobel Laverty, Janice Loria Lazo, Margaret McNaught, Rita Knchel, Graciano Mercado, Kevin Feed, Penelope Sleming, Hermon Turkey, Tilde Cabantog, Benedicto J Chupungco, Eileen Sanvictores, Manuel Sarangay, Alice Costa, Do Quyen, Paul Rindahl, Gwyneth Allwright, Kathleen Williams, Lafie Saanga, Dianne McGinn, Georgina Gilbert, Editha Baslot, Ann Vernon, Kevin Edwin, Paul Manard, Heather Cent, Jala Breanna, Singmia Fofung, Colleen Langcake, Cathy Golotta, Marissa Johnston, Allison Burgess, Rosemarie Schnell, Bill Sims, Antonio Mutia, Gill Dew, Mark McGinley, Patricia Wyatt, Lorraine Gore, Peter Strachan, Gary Brenton, Glen Clarke, Imblisa, May Lee Shah, Bill Costa, Maria Lourdes Sacramento.

May the Lord grant them healing.

Campfire in the Heart

Meditation Retreat 17th - 19th October 2014.
 Come, Listen, Learn, Live
 Led by Kath Houston and Sue Woods
 Contact: Sue Woods 0438811742

Devotional Practices:

Divine Office & Morning Prayer

Monday to Friday 6:45am

Prayers of the Holy Rosary

Monday to Friday 5pm

Saint Joseph Devotion

First Wednesday of the month 9am

Contact: Cathy Golotta 8952 1991

Malayalam (Indian) Fellowship

Sunday 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Adoration

Adoration every second Saturday of the month at Missionaries of Charity Convent 12 Standley Crescent, from 3-4 pm

Notes on Today's Gospel

The vineyard was an ancient symbol for Israel - God was the landowner - so who were the tenants? The chief priests and elders must have been shaken to realise that Jesus was setting the people of Israel in that role. He looks back over the history of Israel - and sees the times when the people rejected the prophets - persecuting and killing those whom God had sent. He looks ahead to the day when He Himself will be killed.

But, by their own words, is judgement given- those who do such things will find themselves brought to justice. They will lose stewardship of the kingdom and see it handed to others.

Matthew was writing for a community of Jewish Christians who were coming to terms with the fact that the Kingdom was passing from Jewish hands into the hands of Gentiles. The parable of Jesus helps to explain what is happening - and why.

There is too, a warning to those newly entrusted with the Kingdom - they do not own the Kingdom but are stewards of it - and are required to be faithful to that stewardship otherwise they in their turn may see it taken from them.

http://www.wellsprings.org.uk/weekly_wellsprings/year_a/sunday_27.htm

III Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops Rome, 5-19 October 2014

The theme of this autumn's Synod of Bishops in Rome focuses on the family - particularly the pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelisation.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has asked that the Church sets aside a Day of Prayer for this important international meeting.

On the day of prayer, we're encouraged to pray that our families might become true "domestic churches" in our home countries and "bear witness to God's love".

Churches, parish communities, institutes of consecrated life, associations and movements are invited to pray for this intention during Mass and at other liturgical celebrations, in the days leading to the synod and during the synod itself.

In Rome, in the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, prayers will be recited each day in the chapel of the icon, Salus Populi Romani. The faithful, individually but above all in families, are invited to join in these prayers.

The suggested prayers include the Prayer to the Holy Family for the Synod, composed by Pope Francis, and intentions during the Prayers of the Faithful at Sunday Mass on 5 October and during the synod.

Catholics are also encouraged to pray the Holy Rosary for the duration of the bishops' meeting.

The Australian Bishops invite and encourage all Catholics to observe **Friday the 10 October as a special day of prayer and fasting** for the success of the Synod.

WELCOME!

Cordial welcome to Fr Henry Adler, SVD, the SVD Leader of the Divine Word Missionaries in Australia, who visits us this weekend from Sydney, and to two new SVD Priests who will serve in our Parish: Fr Vincent Mai from Vietnam and Fr Elmer Ibarra, a Filipino, who worked in New Zealand for 6 years, and will be with us for 6 weeks.

Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether long time residents or those newly arrived in the Parish. Welcome to all guests and tourists. We pray that you have a lovely stay!

Parish Diary

Sunday 05 October
 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday 06 October

Tuesday 07 October
 Our Lady of the Rosary

- Prison Ministry 5:45 -7:30pm
- Prayer Meeting 6:15 - 7:15pm

Wednesday 08 October

Thursday 09 October

Friday 10 October

Saturday 11 October

Sunday 12 October
 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayer to the Holy Family for the Synod

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God’s plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

Words of Wisdom

St Jerome, on friendship

“The friendship that can cease has never been real.”

For 3 Sundays, the **Social Justice Awareness Group** will be placing 2-3 of the Ten Steps towards being a good sport following Social Justice Sunday. The Australian Bishops tell us that steps - *actions* - can be taken personally, locally and nationally to strive for our best in this sporting nation.

1. Personal action - get active! Sports lovers or not, we can all make an effort to make the best use of the bodies God has given us by exercising regularly: walk, jog, swim, ride a bike.

2. Teach someone a skill. It might be as simple as teaching a son or daughter, niece or nephew or a neighbour how to throw or catch a ball, ride a bike, swim or catch a Frisbee.

3. Watch a game in your local area! Go and watch a game of footie, netball or cricket in your local town, suburb or school. (Remember the Masters Games is coming to Alice in a couple of weeks).

- Kathleen Leahy OLSH - Chairperson.

THERMAL AGITATORS

The four wall-mounted fans recovered from our Church are available for purchase. No reasonable offer will be refused. The proceeds from the sale will go towards the upkeep of the St. John Paul 2 Court Yard. Please contact the Parish Secretary, Mel, weekdays between 8.30am and 11.30am if interested.

Cleaning: 11 October **Group 8**
 Margaret Lillecrapp, Virginia Loy, Kathleen Epelde

Counters: 12 October
 John & Margaret Healy, Margaret -Ann McNaught

Last Week’s Collections:
 1st Collection: \$1,216.50 (for the presbytery)
 2nd Collection: \$2,297.50 (for the parish)

Thank you for your generosity!

Groups please remember to keep the Bulletin team informed if you change your days/times etc.

Prayer for the Synod

Dear Heavenly Father,
 Our Beloved Holy Father, Pope Francis has asked that we pray for the upcoming Synod on the Family. Please send Your Holy Spirit and fill all who take part with wisdom, courage and love. Sustain our Holy Father, Pope Francis, that he may guide us by his example of fatherly love. In our families, help us always to follow in Jesus’ footsteps by showing mercy to others, especially families who suffer separation from one another and those who feel unloved. Open our eyes, hearts and hands, so that we may recognise and serve You by helping our sisters and brothers. These things we ask in the name of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Missionaries of Charity Thanksgiving Day

The Congregation of the Missionaries of Charity Sisters was founded on October 7, 1950. Every year, this is a special day of prayer and thanksgiving offered to our Lady, the Queen of the Rosary.

On Tuesday, 7th October, there will be an adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9:00am to 6:00pm at 12 Standley Crescent.

Anyone who wants to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament during the day is most welcome.

Roster for weekend of 11 / 12 October 2014

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	Greg Gilbert	Patricia Litvensky Walter Litvensky	Marian Maddocks Darryl Smith Mary Dick
Sun 7:30 am	Fred Twohig	Mike Steller Patricia Rademaker	Rita Steller Mike Steller Carmel Leonard
Sun 9:30 am	Pauline Otieno	Bridget Knight Lennie Sumang	Beth Madden Mark Bensted Carmela Guthart
Sun 5:30 pm	Mel Buenviaje	Cristina Buenviaje Anthony Hay	Thomas J John Marieta Ives Thampi Joseph

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

4th - 5th October 2014

Entrance Antiphon: Esth 4:17

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the Soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed; integrity, but only a cry of distress. The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 79:9.12-16.19-20 **R/** The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:6-9

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you. The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: cf Jn 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord; because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people : 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives'. Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see? I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, bless and sanctify our families.

Communion Antiphon: Lam 3:25

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.