



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.

MATTHEW 21:33

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TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 4, 2020

VINEYARDS

Vineyards were an essential part of the economy of Israel during the times of Isaiah and Jesus. Vineyard owners had the difficult challenge of producing a rich harvest. Our readings from Isaiah and Matthew describe God and God's creation in terms of the business of vineyards. The two stories are closely linked, as Jesus borrowed and adapted his parable from Isaiah. Using this rich imagery, we can see the vineyard as all the places of God's creation and ongoing work. The vineyard is our heart, mind, and body. The vineyard is our family, neighborhood, and parish. The vineyard is the larger Church and society, humanity and the earth itself. We are stewards in each of these vineyards, blessed to enjoy them, and held accountable for their continuing fruitfulness. We are called to join God in cultivating these vineyards, so that they may produce an abundant harvest.

HIGHLY PASSIONATE

The tales of the vineyard in Isaiah and in Matthew point to the larger story of God and God's people. We see that God is intensely passionate about us. God is deeply committed, like the landowner who diligently prepares the vineyard. God has high expectations that the vineyard produce the fruit of a just and compassionate society. God is highly disappointed and angry that the vineyard has produced bad fruit (Isaiah), or has been treated as a prize to be seized (Matthew).

There are more chapters in the larger story that also need to be told. Later in Isaiah and in Matthew, we see that God is also deeply compassionate and forgiving. Isaiah speaks of God's tender care, as a mother loves her child (Isaiah 49). In Matthew, Jesus demonstrates God's forgiveness most dramatically on the cross. God is indeed most patient and resilient. God never gives up on us. God continues to pursue us, offering us love and grace, now and always.

THE CORNERSTONE

The powerful conclusions of the two vineyard tales are meant to linger in our memories. God indeed expects much of us, to live justly and mercifully. However, we know that God is not prickly and impatient, as we might be led to imagine if we read these stories out of context. The stories do invite us to ponder again who God really is. Especially during times of difficulty or of failure in our lives, we might wonder how we might best understand the mystery of God.

The witness of the New Testament is clear. If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus. Look at his patience and mercy. Look at his compassion for the suffering, his passion for justice. Look also at the joy and healing experienced by those in his presence. As today's Gospel passage indicates, Jesus is the cornerstone, the starting point of coming to know our God.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:9, 12-16, 19-20
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

ST. DOMINIC CATHOLIC CHURCH

REV. DAVID J. FARRELL, PASTOR

PHONE: (859)336-3569 EMAIL: stdom@bellsouth.net WEBSITE: stdomparish.org

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., Spanish Mass 2:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: See Mass Schedule & Intentions section of bulletin

CONFESSIONS: Tuesdays & Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME & RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

THE GIFT OF THE REIGN OF GOD: Matthew's Gospel today expands on Isaiah's ballad considerably. A comparison with the same story in Mark's Gospel clearly shows us that here the author is busy teaching this community of Jewish Christians: "This is a story about Israel a long time ago; this is also a story about Jesus and the skeptical leaders." Jesus as much as told these Jewish leaders that they were the tenants who first stoned their own prophets. And he told the leaders they were the tenants who would soon even dispose of him—Jesus—and, in doing so, would forfeit their privileged place of presenting to the world the promised Messiah. "And this," says Matthew's Gospel, "is a story about you, the inheritors of what was first offered to Israel." The reign of God was first opened to Israel and is now given to the whole world, but it must be received as a gift. The first Christians are the new tenants in the vineyard. The deeper reality of the reign or kingdom of God is that it is available to everyone on the face of the earth—Israel included. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WEEKEND LITURGY

First Reading: The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel (Isaiah 5:1-7).

Psalms: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel (Psalm 80).

Second Reading: God's peace will guard your hearts and minds (Phil. 4:6-9).

Gospel: The kingdom of God will be given to those who will produce its fruit (Matthew 21:33-43). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Monday: Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c; Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15; Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:1b-6; Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 11:27-28

Sunday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 [1-10]

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK (10/4-10/11)

Monday 8:30 AM: Tony Begley

Tuesday 5:30 PM: Melvin Graves

Wednesday 11:00 AM: Kenny & Barbara Corbett

Thursday 5:30 PM: C.H. Haydon

Friday 8:30 AM (*Open to anyone, no school*): Betty Lou Montgomery

Saturday 8:30 AM: Paul K. Mudd

4:30 PM: Peggy Noel

Sunday 8:30 AM: Maurice Begley

10:30 AM: For the Parish

2:00 PM (Spanish Mass): Presider's Intentions

LITURGICAL ROLES

Weekday Lectors: (**Mon.**) Wassie Parrott, (**Tues.**) Katie Simms, (**Wed.**) Betty Carol Barber, (**Thurs.**) Shirley Barber, (**Fri.**) Belle Sutton, (**Sat.**) Perry Carrico

Weekday Sacristans: (**Mon.**) Mary Ann Hale, (**Tues.**) Julee Jones, (**Wed.**) NEEDED, (**Thurs.**) Perry Carrico, (**Fri.**) Betty Carol Barber, (**Sat**) NEEDED

Weekend Liturgical Roles for the month have been sent via email.

Tithing Contributions for this past week (includes contributions during the week &/or ACH contributions, etc.): \$5,730.00

MENTIONS, MEETINGS, EVENTS & REMINDERS

Masses: Just a reminder to call ahead (Monday through Thursday) if you plan to attend Mass this coming weekend, space is limited due to social distancing requirements. Please contact us in one of two ways, by calling 859-336-3569 or by email at stdom@bellsouth.net. Seating charts are finalized on Thursday afternoons.

Youth Group: All students in grades 9-12 are invited and encouraged to participate in St. Dominic Youth Group, which will begin monthly gatherings again on **Tuesday, October 13, 2020 from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.** in the church basement.

Please note the new day and time from last year. All gatherings will include prayer, games, faith sharing and social time. Refreshments will be served. This is a wonderful opportunity to stay connected to St. Dominic Parish and to continue to grow in your Catholic faith as young adults. Hope to see all of you on October 13th!

Accountability Report: Copies of the June 30, 2020 Accountability Report for St. Dominic Parish & School can be found on the table in the breezeway.

Operation Christmas Child: St. Dominic parishioners are invited to pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child again this year. GO (Gospel Opportunity) boxes will be located on the table in the breezeway. You may pack your box(es) and bring to church any time before the Sunday of November 22nd and place in the confessional. Brochures with labels for boxes and tips on packing will also be available on the table with the GO boxes. If you have any questions about packing, please contact Lori A Tucker at 859-805-0121.

School News: Fall Break is Oct. 5-9. Picture Day is Oct. 13.

St. D Prayer List: Coronavirus Pandemic, World Peace, Healthcare Workers, Victims of Abuse, U.S. Military, Unborn & Elderly, Addictions, Kim Spalding, Jerry Effner, Janet Breunig, Beth Hellman, Dennis Rust, Sports & Reba Hamilton, Kyle Logsdon, Jeannie Hatchett, Lames Thomas, Ashton Kelly, Katie Haydon, Tammy Harley, Jane Rudd Volz, Dennis Newton, Lucille Spalding, Mary Devine, Roberta Williams, Jerry Craig, Larry Smith, Tom Miller, Margaret Faye Martin, Charlotte Disponett, Carolyn Greene, Marian & Wade Elliott, Sue Carter, Michael & Jennifer Jarboe, Debbie Hamilton, Buddy & Charlotte Smith, Wheatley Hamilton, Corbin Noel, Dorothy Mattingly, Colin Walker, Cassie Robinson, Olivia Montgomery, Audrey Edelen, Marilyn Watkins, Sueanna Graves, Helen Parrot, Christy Caldwell & Nancy Hardin. *Our church always prays for and cares for our sick sisters and brothers at home, in hospitals, and in nursing homes. You are always in our hearts, minds and prayers as we celebrate the Eucharist at St. Dominic. If any who are sick want to ask in faith for the church's prayers, please do not hesitate to contact our parish office at 336-3569.*



Live the
Gospel of *Life*

RESPECT LIFE MONTH
October 2020

Art: Andreas Verwey, "Christ Healing the Sick" Drawing, 19th century, in *Of the Incarnation of Christ: Four Books*, by Thomas & Kempis, page 160.
Philadelphia, PA, & © History & Company, 1994. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, used with permission, and further permission.

October is Respect Life Month: Each October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. During October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life. Please join us in prayer.

Respect Life Prayer

Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Information that has been temporarily removed,
or yet to be posted to the bulletin (in paper form):**

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday evenings at 6:15 p.m. (following the 5:30 p.m. Mass).

Possibly interested in joining the Catholic Church? Contact Fr. David at 336-3569.

2020 Catholic Campaign for Human Development Collection (Nov. 21/22):

Our parish will take up a special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection, you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds collected will remain in the Archdiocese of Louisville to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

St. D School Scrip Program: Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money for St. Dominic School. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn money for St. D on your purchases. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted. How it works: Buy gift cards at face value, St. D can earn up to 20% on every gift card you buy, use gift cards at full value for your everyday purchases. Get started: **Create an account on the RaiseRight app or at ShopWithScrip.com using St. D's enrollment code: 6L353D8L3433L.** Seamlessly check out by securely paying online. Have questions? Contact: Theresa Mattingly by email @ theresa.mattingly@yahoo.com.

AmazonSmile is now available in the Amazon Shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones. AmazonSmile customers can now support St Dominic Church (proceeds benefit St. D School) in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device, go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings', tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process. If you do not have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app, update your app.

The St. D Newspaper Recycling drive is held the second Monday of the month, weather permitting. If you live within city limits & participate in our newspaper drive, please have your papers by the curb **no later than 9 A.M.** This will help accommodate the volunteers who need to do pick-up in the morning hours. Pick-up times vary from driver to driver. There is no pick-up during the months of July & December.

IGA Receipts, BOXTOPS for Educations & Campbell's labels are all fundraisers for our school. We ask that you continually save them and drop them in the wooden boxes in the back of church.