

Isaiah 5: 1 – 7

The prophet gives us a stark impression of the ways in which we can fall short of what the Lord envisions for us in this passage, which is sometimes known as the Song of the Unfruitful Vineyard.

There are plenty of reasons why we might not be fruitful in our share of the soil of the faith that we have been given to till. But we must never lose heart, nor must we stop aiming for that plentiful harvest. It is certain that on the last day, we will be called to account for the lives we have led, and the use of our skills.

Is the Lord calling you, or someone you know, to do more for the sake of His kingdom? Are we merely keeping things ticking over until someone else comes along? Are we really doing all we can with what we have?

Our Lady of the Rosary: 7th October

October is the Church's month of the holy rosary, and the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on the 7th

October, as it marks the anniversary of the decisive victory of the combined fleet of the Holy League in 1571 over the Ottoman Navy at the Battle of Lepanto.

To pray the Rosary, you should begin with the Sign of the Cross and the Apostles' Creed, then move through five decades—each consisting of an Our Father, ten Hail Marys, and a Glory Be—while meditating on one of the four sets of Mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, or Luminous.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.



Sunday 4th October 2026 Trinity 18 / 27th Ordinary Gospel: Matt. 21: 33 – 43



In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us the Parable of the Tenants. It tells of a landowner who plants a vineyard and then rents it out to tenants who fail to look after it as they should. When messengers are sent by the landowner they are killed, as is the landowner's son. Consequently, the landowner brings them to a wretched end and gives the land to someone who will make it bear fruit.

On one level, we can read this as a parable about those elders of the people at the time of Christ who failed to look after the people of God, God's treasured possession. Not only do they fail to look after what they have been entrusted with, but they also kill the prophets and the Son sent to them.

But today's Gospel can also be a challenge to us. As members of the Church, the Body of Christ, we are entrusted with the care and protection of all that God gives us – each other and the world. Are we going to be like those who simply laud things over others or are we going to generously and, with God's aid, be faithful stewards on his behalf?