CATECHESIS@HOME #25 "THE KINGDOM OF GOD WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO WILL PRODUCE ITS FRUIT" (27th Sunday of Ordinary Time)

Prepared by Archdiocesan Catechetical Centre, Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur



INTRODUCTION

This material has been prepared to provide families an opportunity to gather, and spend time reflecting and discussing about the gospel reading of the 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time. On 7 October, we celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.

HOW TO USE THE MATERIAL

This document contains activities that members of the family may complete individually (just the children), in pairs (with parental assistance), or as an entire family. It would be helpful to print a hard-copy, so that members of your family may carry out different activities at the same time.

WHEN TO USE THE MATERIAL

During the week after the family has celebrated the Mass of the 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time.

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we have gathered here in the name of Jesus. Help us to realise that we must never take your love for us for granted. Help us to be faithful workers in your Kingdom. May Your Holy Spirit guide us during this lesson. We make this prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Invite someone to read from Matthew 21: 33-43.

(Then, reflect on these questions together as a family, and share your responses with one another. If necessary, parents are encouraged to rephrase the questions according to their children's level of understanding).

- 1. What do you think God the Father is like, after reading this parable? What does the parable tell you about Him?
- 2. Throughout the parable, it could be said that the wicked tenants were depicted as being selfish and filled with greed. This fixation on their own desires prevented them from being grateful to the landowner, who allowed the tenants into his vineyard in the first place. Have you ever acted on your own selfish (or greedy) desires? Looking bank in hindsight, would you have done anything differently?
- 3. Each of us are called by God to produce good fruits in this vineyard (wherever we may be). As we experience the COVID-19 pandemic, how are we using the gifts He gave us, to help others?

COMMENTARY:

God for ages has tried to enlighten us with wisdom. He wants us to bear the fruits that will last. However, we may be slow to accept, or prefer to ignore, such wisdom from God. Finally, as a last resort, He sent Jesus, His Son among us, thinking "They will respect my son" – listen carefully and cherish Him and His ways. But that too fails because of our stubbornness.

We want to live our own lives as we like, and take our personal decisions in our own interests. We find it hard to adjust our living fully to Christ. Elements of this attitude "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance" exist in us all. As such, we prevent God from having full control of our lives. Our pride and our selfishness make us less receptive of God.

We are the tenants in the parable. We are provided by God with everything we need to make our vineyard prosper. Our families, our communities, our work, our church, our environment are all parts of our vineyard. God does not exclude anyone from His vineyard. People exclude themselves from God and others by failing to tend the vineyard they have been given.

Source: https://www.sacredspace.ie/scripture/matthew-21-33-43-45-46

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Below you will find some activities for younger children, revolving around the Sunday Gospel. Select the activities you would like to complete with your children, or try to complete them all if you can!

GUIDE FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Dear Parents and Guardians, we have included some tips for you as you facilitate these activities with your children. Each tip corresponds with the same numbered activity. Our hope is that these tips would help you in your endeavour to create a good learning experience for your children.

Activities #1 - #7

- Word-Find, crossword and coded activities help children to learn about, and associate certain words with key events in the Gospel.
- After your child has completed this activity, you may invite them to explore how these words are related to the readings of this week.
- When discussing definitions of key terms, you are encouraged to associate these terms not only with Gospel events, but with their own life experiences as well. This not only works to develop their vocabulary, but to also enable them to identify their feelings and emotions in specific ways.

Activity #8

- Many lessons could be taken from this activity. For example, this activity could spark a conversation about what it means to be a part of the Catholic Church, and how as a church, we are accompanied by others who are all struggling the same struggle to produce good fruits for themselves, their families and ultimately, the church at large. This is a great conversation starter to encourage our children to share their thoughts and feelings with us about their experiences with the church, and those within it.
- You are encouraged to look beyond the activity, and to identify potential messages and meanings that could be turned into key learning moments for your child.

Activity #9

- Colouring activities help children reinforce knowledge by giving content a *visual identity*. Children are encouraged through these activities to associate what they have learned with key scenes, and the emotions and feelings that spring from it. In this way, children take ownership of their knowledge.
- This week's activity deals with Our Lady of the Rosary, and is a great opportunity to teach our children about Mother Mary, and how she intercedes for us.

- One of the ways parents and guardians could introduce the term 'intercession' into their child's vocabulary, is by explaining how you pray for them on their behalf, as well.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to look beyond the activity, and to identify potential messages and meanings that could be turned into key learning moments for your child.

Activity #10

- For this activity, you are encouraged to work together with your children to complete the task. This activity has great potential of being a good team-building activity, where children may be appreciated for their hard work and effort!
- When our children see that we treasure their crafts, a message is communicated to them that we value their efforts. In this exchange, there is a giving of a gift out of hard work and love, and an acceptance of this love. This activity hopes to facilitate such an exchange. Let us be mindful and intentional during these moments with our children.

Activity #1 – Break the Code

The Parable of the Tenants

Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. Matthew 21:37 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

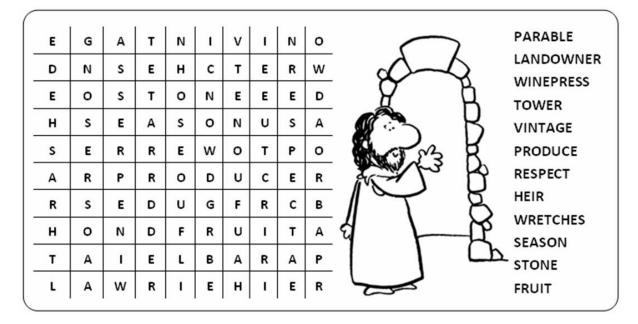


corner stone ... Matthew 21:42

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FRUIT	KILLED	SON	LISTEN
FARMERS	HARVEST	SERVANTS	PARABLE

Activity #2: Find the words



Activity #3: Find the words

JESUS

HARVEST

The Wicked Tenants

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DISOBEYED

COMMANDS

The Parable of the Tenants



Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. Matthew 21:37 (NIV) Match the words in the box with the correct definition.

1.	 A simple story teaching a moral or religious lesson
2.	 The time or season for gathering crops
3.	 A parent's male child
4.	 A person who works with plants and flowers
5.	 People employed to perform services for another person
6.	 The part of a vine or tree which is eaten
7.	 To hear or pay attention to something
8.	 To put to death

FRUIT	PARABLE	FARMER	SERVANTS
HARVEST	KILLED	LISTEN	SON

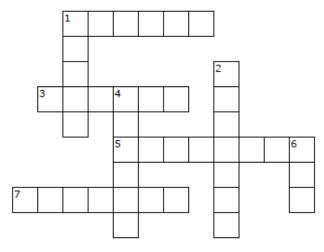
Activity #5: Solve the puzzle

The Parable of the Tenants

Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. Matthew 21:37 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 21:33-46 (NIV)





ACROSS

- 1. A person who works with plants and flowers
- 3. To put to death
- 5. People employed to perform services for another person
- 7. The time or season for gathering crops

DOWN

- 1. The part of a vine or tree which is eaten
- 2. A simple story teaching a moral or religious lesson
- To hear or pay attention to something
- 6. A parent's male child

PARABLE	LISTEN	KILLED	HARVEST
SERVANTS	SON	FRUIT	FARMER

The Parable of the Tenants

Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. Matthew 21:37 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 21:33-46 (NIV)



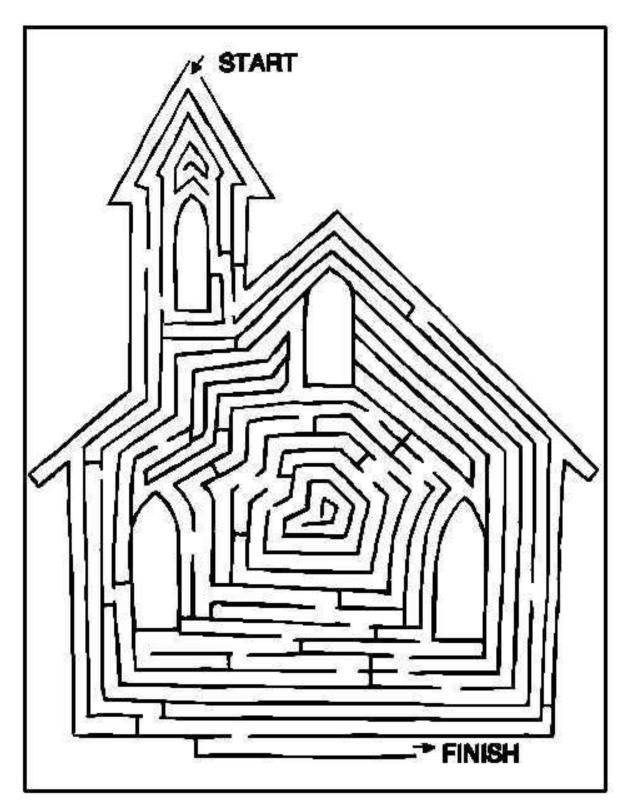
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LISTEN	WATCHTOWER	PARABLE	SON	SERVANTS
SENT	WALL	HARVEST	KILLED	COLLECT
BUILT	LANDOWNER	LAST	TIME	FARMERS
DUG	FRUIT	REJECTED	VINEYARD	JOURNEY

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Activity #7: Find the words

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Activity #8: Find your way into the church

Activity #9: Colour the picture



Activity #10: That you may bear fruit!



