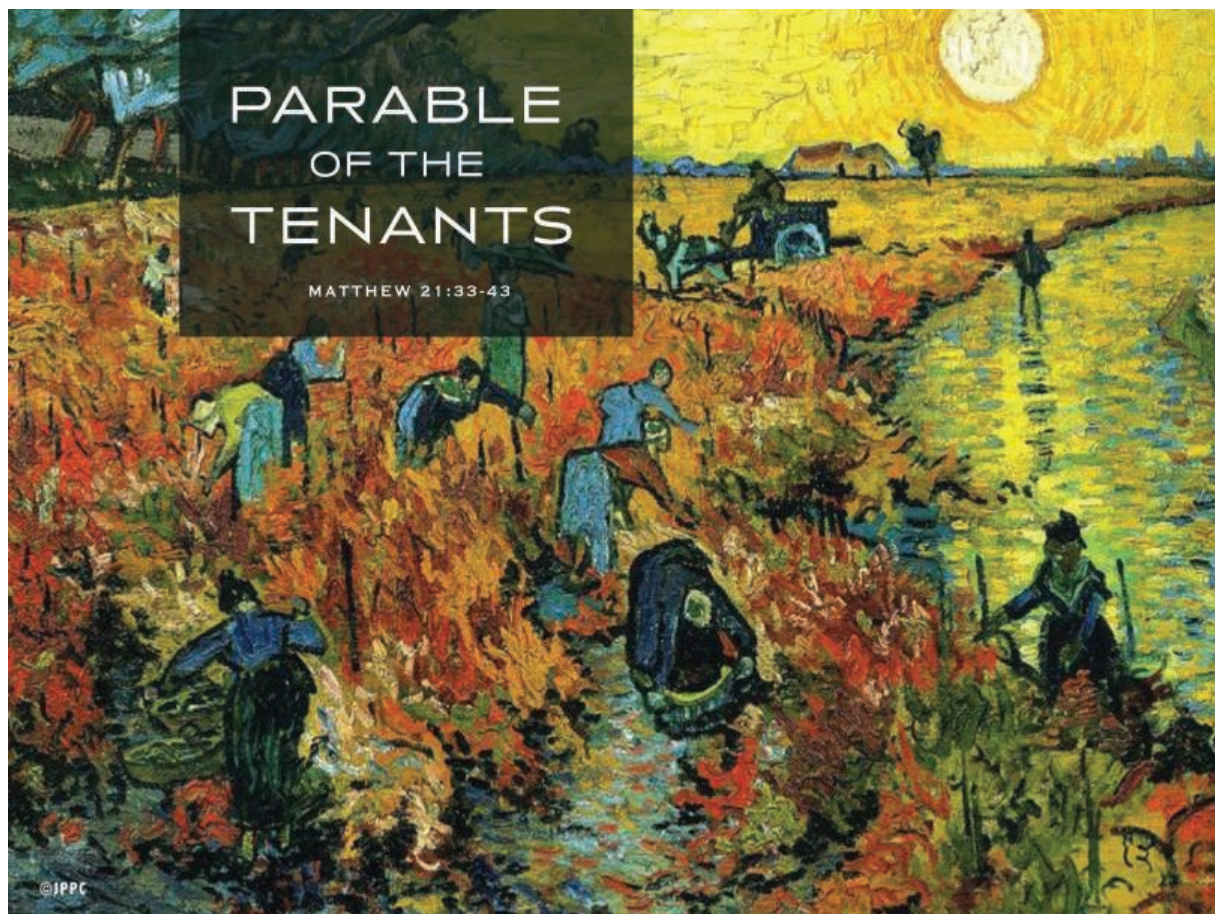


SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH



Our Parish is Served by:

Reverend Alex Enriquez, Pastor
Deacon Christian Knoebel
Deacon John White

We invite you to celebrate with us

Parish Office: 732-928-0279

Religious Education: 732-928-4038

Fax: (732) 928-1853

Email: parishoffice@saintmonica.com

website: www.saintmonica.com

The Church of St. Monica is a warm, accepting, and caring parish that worships God, teaches and lives the message of Christ, seeks to support and strengthen family life, and serves those in need through parish ministries and organizations.

Masses

Mon. to Thurs. 9 am
Saturday 4 pm
Sunday 9 am & 11 am

679 W. Veterans Highway
Jackson, NJ 08527



Confessions

Saturdays
3:15 pm
to 3:45 pm
1st Thursdays 7pm
or by appointment

Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
ParishofStMonica/](http://www.facebook.com/ParishofStMonica/)



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - OCTOBER 8, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 7

4:00 pm Intentions of Sisters
(Marie Gould)

Sunday, October 8

9:00 am George Mastronardi
(Pete & Anita Bertram)

11:00 am Joseph Zappulla
(Arlene Toth)

Monday, October 9

9:00 am No Mass

Tuesday, October 10

9:00 am Catherine Crisci (Janice Buckalew)

Wednesday, October 11

9:00 am James Mahon (Nina & Al Pileggi)

Thursday, October 12

9:00 am Toni Jo Mullen (Carla & Ralph Ward)

Saturday, October 14

4:00 pm Angie Gelormini (Fran DeLuca)

Sunday, October 15

9:00 am Donna Constantino (Patricia Durkin)

11:00 am Joseph & Stephanie Spiech
(Bea & Joe Spiech)

To secure your intentions, please contact the Parish Office.

*The 2024 Book of Intentions is now open.
To secure your intentions, please contact the
Parish Office.*

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Micki Smith, Joyce Picon, Carol Atherton, Beth Kujawski, Chuck Smith, Toni Hetteroth, Brian Scott, Dianne Smith, Frank Diolosa, Theodore Dunyak, Andy Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Baby Tripp Ravenfeld, Marie Gould, Christopher Diolosa, Steve Andolora, Doris Garbarino, Melissa Staiger, Bonnie Holton, John Jennings, Arlene Toth, Deborah MacInnes, Judy Bocchicchio, Leo Diaz, Glory D'Acunto, Josephine Brennan, Frank Trimboli, Gabrielle D'Acunto, Anthony Pelle, Jr, Joey Brune, Phillip Wenz, Patrick Abeel, Robin Trombino, Mary Miniscalchi, Lane Morell, Frank Falesto, Jean Stein, Ann Rosetto, Eileen Morello, Elaine Stemmler, Tom Martin, Sarah Thomas, Dorothy Palumbo, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Jennie D'Angelo, Paul Hetteroth, Cheryl Vega, Domenick DiCicco, Irene Kislán, Renee Brady, Carol Spezzano, John Lanteri, Michael Seiler, Shannon Hubert, Ronald Nuzzola, Ray Kijowski, Eileen Hmielewski

Contact the Parish Office to let us know of anyone to be remembered in prayer, so we may include them or, if they can be removed.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK – OCTOBER 8, 2023

Monday: Jon 1:1 — 2:2, 11; Jon 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28

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

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

There will be no daily Mass on Monday, October 9th and Parish Offices are closed.

~ ~

There are no Religious Education classes Monday, Oct. 9 or Tuesday, Oct 10.

~ ~

**Sunday, October 15 - 11:00 am Mass
Catechetical Blessing**

We invite Catechists and Religious Education Families to attend the Mass for a Special Blessing.

NEW ALTAR SERVER MANDATORY TRAINING

The 2nd mandatory training session for our **new servers** takes place Saturday, October 14 at 9:30 am in the Church. For questions, please contact Deacon John White at : dcnjohnw@gmail.com

NEW TO ST MONICA?

We welcome you to our parish family! If you are not currently registered, you may do so by visiting our website at www.saintmonica.com, pick up a registration form available at the church entrances or contact the parish office. 732-928-0279 parishoffice@saintmonica.com

The 2024 Religious Calendars have arrived. They can be picked up from the tables at the church entrances. Please help yourself.



**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS
SEPTEMBER 18 - 24, 2023**

Total \$3,834.00

Thank you for your contributions as we support the ministries, programs and facilities of our parish.



**Public Square
Rosary Crusade**

The Feast

Our Lady of Fatima

St. Monica's Parish is participating in a Praying a Public Rosary for America.

When: Saturday,

Oct 14th at 12 pm.

Where: Outside in front of St. Monica's

You are invited to join us in a Public Rosary Rally. This Public Square Rosary will be combined with our Knights of Columbus Novena for Life.

Please join us in responding to the pleas of Our Lord and Blessed

Mother, as we pray for America.

For additional info contact Deacon John L. White 848-992-1652 or via email at dcnjohnw@gmail.com

“Some people are so foolish that they think they can go through life without the help of the Blessed Mother.

Love the Madonna and pray the rosary, for her Rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today. All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother.” -*St. Padre Pio*

CELEBRATING OUR DEACONS

This weekend, October 7-8, the Diocese of Trenton joins with parishes throughout the country to celebrate the second annual "Deacon Sunday." Here in our Diocese, there are currently 188 active permanent deacons and 85 retired in our 97 parishes. A deacon is an ordained minister of the Catholic Church and, therefore, a member of its clergy. There are three groups, or "orders," of ordained ministers in the Church: bishops, priests, and deacons. Deacons are ordained by the bishop as a sacramental sign to the Church and to the world of the Lord Jesus Christ, who came "to serve and not to be served." The entire Church is called by Christ to serve, and the deacon, in virtue of his sacramental ordination and through his various ministries, is to be a servant in a servant-Church.

A Prayer for Deacons:

O Christ, you are the source of all ministries in the Church.

In response to the needs of the People of God, through the laying on of hands and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, you have called forth and ordained deacons as servants for our Church.

Continue to sustain those You have called to this ministry, so they remain ardent servants with gentle hearts, proclaiming the Gospel and serving at Your Holy table.

Help them reflect the real and true presence of Christ, the Deacon, to the needy among us.

We also give thanks for those who accompany these men in their journey of service—
their wives and families, their parish communities,
and all those who call them to respond in faith, hope, and love.

Loving Savior, continue to help Your Church affirm our deacons in their service.

Together as one family of faith, may all that we say and do
give honor and glory to You and draw others ever closer to Your Sacred Heart. Amen.

(Prayer by Most Rev. Douglas Lucia, bishop of Syracuse, NY)


MUSIC AT ST. ALOYSIUS

On October 15th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Aloysius Church in Jackson, please join us for a concert of Aves. This will feature 10 different Ave Maria settings from many different composers. We hope you can join us for this concert that celebrates the month of the Holy Rosary! Parish Office: 732-370-0500.

There are no tickets, just a freewill offering that will be given to Good Counsel Homes, an agency that helps pregnant mothers in need while building a culture of life. Since 1985 they have helped more than 8,000 homeless women and children.



A Concert of Aves
OCTOBER 15, 2023
7:00 PM
ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH, JACKSON
Presented by the St. Aloysius Music Ministry of All Saints Parish Society



ORA PRO NOBIS
freewill offering to benefit Good Counsel Homes

CALENDAR

Saturday, October 7

10:00 am Altar Server Training (Church)
 3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, October 8

9:00 am Mass
 11:00 am Mass
 12:15 pm Grief Support (Little Church)
 6:30 pm Small Study Groups (Church)

Monday, October 9

Columbus Day
 No 9:00 am Mass
 No Religious Education Classes
 Parish Offices Closed

Tuesday, October 10

No Religious Education Classes
 9:00 am Mass
 7:00 pm Adult Choir (Church)

Wednesday, October 11

9:00 am Mass

Thursday, October 12

9:00 am Mass
 7:00 pm K of C Mtg. (Parish Hall)

Friday, October 13

8:30 am Parish Pilgrimage return 5:30 pm
 6:30 pm Wedding Rehearsal (Church/Hall)

Saturday, October 14

9:30 am Altar Server Training (Church)
 12:00 pm Public Prayer Rosary (Outside)
 3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, October 15

9:00 am Mass
 11:00 am Mass/Catechetical Blessing & Youth Mass
 12:15 pm Grief Support (Little Church)
 12:15 pm Setup - Wedding
 1:30 pm Wedding
 6:30 pm Small Study Groups (Church)

Monday, October 16

9:00 am Mass
 1:00 pm Legion of Mary (LC)
 4:30 pm Religious Education
 6:15 pm Religious Education

Tuesday, October 17

9:00 am Mass
 5:30 pm Rel Ed Students & Parents
 7:00 pm Adult Choir (Church)

Wednesday, October 18

9:00 am Mass
 5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal (Church)

Thursday, October 19

9:00 am Mass
 7:00 pm Men's Group (Church)

A LIFE-CHANGING MESSAGE



The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared in Fatima, Portugal every month from May to October 1917. She delivered a series of messages during that time to three young children, Lúcia dos Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto. While Mary discussed many things with the children, the message of Our Lady of Fatima can be summarized with three invitations:

1. Learn to pray the rosary, the prayer that can change the world.
2. Get spiritually healthy with penance and reparation.
3. Let Mary guide you to lasting happiness.

The message is simple and practical, yet it is profound and life changing. Every time Mary appeared to the children, she asked them to pray the rosary. Why? The rosary is incredibly powerful. It has the power to bring peace. The power to heal. The power to make a difference in your life, the lives of your loved ones, and in the world.

The rosary settles our hearts and minds. We live hectic lives in a chaotic world, a world troubled by war, violence, and brokenness. Amidst the chaos and confusion, our souls yearn for peace and clarity. How does the rosary bring us that serenity?

- The rosary puts things in perspective and allows us to see things as they really are.
- It reaches deep down into our souls and puts us at ease, creating a peace that is rare and beautiful.
- It teaches us to slow down, calm down, let go, offer our struggles to God, and listen.

from Dynamic Catholic

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES

Eucharistic Miracle of
PARIS

FRANCE, 1290



During Easter of 1290 a non-believer who harbored animosity toward the Faith and who did not believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist was able to gain possession of a consecrated Host with the intent to desecrate the Holy Eucharist. He stabbed the Host and threw the Blessed Sacrament into boiling water. The Host miraculously came out of the water right in front of the man, who was distressed by this. And so he put the Host in the basin of a pious woman. The woman immediately brought the Host to her pastor.



Window of the Church of St. Etienne representing the miracle des Billetes



Miniature of a cartulary (16th Century), kept in the National Archives which represents the scene of the sacrilege



Demolition of the Church of Saint-Jean-en-Grève, Pierre-Antoine Demachy (1797)



The Church of St. Etienne du Mont

There are numerous documents that testify to the events of this miracle. The Italian historian Giovanni Villani in Book VII, Chapter 136, of his celebrated *History of Florence* reports all the principal facts of the miracle. A deep study of the sources was done by Mrs. Moreau-Rendu in a work entitled, *A Paris, Rue des Jardins* published in 1954 with a preface by Bishop Touzé who was the Auxiliary Bishop of Paris. The author, after a detailed list of the documents, placed them under rigorous examination and declared with confidence the authenticity of the facts. The best known version of the story is found in the *History of the Church of Paris* written by the French archbishop, Archbishop Rupp, who tells of the Eucharistic miracle of Paris in the pages dedicated to the episcopate of Simon Matifas of Busay who held the See of St. Denis

from 1290 to 1304: "Easter Sunday, April 2, 1290, a man named Jonathas, who hated the Catholic Faith and did not believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist, was able to gain possession of a consecrated Host.

"The man stabbed the Host with a knife and the Host began to bleed. The Blood filled the container in which he had placed the Host. Panic-stricken, the man decided to throw the Blessed Sacrament into the fire, but the Host miraculously arose from the fire. Desperate, he threw the Eucharist into boiling water and the Host arose from the water, hovering in mid-air, and then taking the form of a crucifix. Finally, he deposited the Holy Eucharist in the bowl of a parishioner of Saint-Jean-en-Grève who brought the Blessed Sacrament to her parish priest. Over the centuries, the Sacred

Relic remained in a small reliquary in the church of Saint-Jean. During the French Revolution the Precious Relic was lost without a trace." Here are some other equally significant facts: The ecclesiastical authorities, the people and the king decided to transform the home of the one who desecrated the Sacred Host into a chapel in which the Holy Eucharist would be kept; the confiscation of the house of Jonathas, called "The House of Miracles" by King Phillip the Fair which was registered in a bill of sale from 1291; the transformation of the house into an oratory after the Bull that was obtained from Pope Boniface VIII; the name of the "Rue du Dieu bouilli" (The Street of God-boiled) given by the people of Paris to the "Rue des Jardins"; the Eucharistic celebration in the Chapel des Billetes of the Department of the Reparation on the second Sundays of Advent and Lent.

Announcements On The Eucharistic Revival

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL – Food for Thought: “Receiving the Eucharist means entering into a profound communion with Jesus. ‘Abide in me, and I in you’ (John 15:4). This relationship of profound and mutual ‘abiding’ enables us to have a certain foretaste of heaven on earth. Is this not the greatest of human yearnings? Is this not what God had in mind when he brought about in history his plan of salvation? God has placed in human hearts a ‘hunger’ for his word (cf. Amos 8:11), a hunger which will be satisfied only by full union with him. Eucharistic communion was given so that we might be ‘sated’ with God here on earth, in expectation of our complete fulfillment in heaven.” — Pope St. John Paul II, *Mane nobiscum Domine*, Oct. 7, 2004

Why Make a Pilgrimage?

To make a journey to Jesus. A pilgrimage is “the simultaneous movement of the feet and the soul”—a journey made both externally and internally.

The pilgrim travels to a location of spiritual significance, stepping outside of themselves in order to encounter God in places where he has revealed himself.

This action mirrors the interior journey of the pilgrim, who uses this experience to draw closer to Our Lord and seek him more intentionally.

The value of a pilgrimage is not in the distance traveled but in the disposition of our own hearts and the zeal with which we seek God. Many saints have had life-changing experiences while on pilgrimage, and the practice has been a part of Christianity from the beginning. There are very seats left. Claim yours today!

*Pilgrimage to The National Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima
Asbury, New Jersey
8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.*

*Leave St. Monica parking lot at 8:30,
return 5:30 p.m.*

Small Groups Initiative

The Eucharistic Revival sessions for “Jesus & the Eucharist” will start Sunday, Oct. 8th at 6:30 p.m. in our church, and will continue for a six more weeks. You do not need to attend every session, but it is suggested that you attend as many sessions as you can. Each session is full of theological content, powerful talks, and unique and timely messages from bishops across the country. Join us!



Have You Heard?

WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF A NATIONAL EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL!

The Church needs healing, and the world needs Jesus. The Holy Spirit is inviting us to return to the source and summit of our faith—the Eucharist.



eucharisticrevival.org

What does the Church mean by “Synod” and Why are we Praying for it?

Traditionally, from apostolic times to our own, Synods have been gatherings of bishops to advise and assist the Pope on matters of importance. Synods do not have teaching authority like an Ecumenical Council does (think Vatican II), and yet are important deliberative bodies.

Pope Francis opened the Synod agenda to the whole Church through meetings held over the past two years at parish, diocesan, and national levels. Our Bishop, David O’Connell, CM has said that Pope Francis wishes to develop a Church that listens more and talks less, and this is the central aim of this current Synod on Synodality.

The Holy Father reminded the whole Church last week that the Synod is under the influence of the Holy Spirit. Our role is to pray for the success of the Synod, that the participants allow themselves to be open to the urging of the Holy Spirit. We will know the results in the Fall of 2024 when the Pope issues his Apostolic Letter accepting or rejecting the advice given to him.



PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD ENGLISH

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts.
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful.
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance
lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity so that we
may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.
All this we ask of You, who are at work
in every place and time, in the
communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen.



The Eucharist - St Monica**Masses & Reconciliation**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am--3:30 pm
 Saturday 4:00 pm
 Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am
 Holy Days As Noted
 Reconciliation -Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm
 -1st Thursday of the month 7:00 pm
 -or by appt.

Exposition of the Holy Sacrament & Benediction

1st Wednesday of each month 9:30 am
 1st Thursday of each month 7:00 pm with Confessions

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Baptisms

Celebrated outside of Mass. Parents and godparents are required to attend our Baptism preparation program. Please call the parish office to register.

Visits to the Sick and Homebound

May be arranged by calling our parish office.

Knights of Columbus Council #11529

Catholic Men coming together selflessly for others through Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Visit our Website at www.kofc11529.org.

St Vincent de Paul Society

Emergency Assistance Helpline: 732-370-0098

Bereavement Ministry

Please contact the parish office for more information.

Grief Support

For those grieving the loss of a loved one or close friend. This is a Catholic centered Support Group offering a caring, compassionate, and confidential environment to support your journey from grieving to healing. For registration and details contact Deacon John White 848-992-1652 or dcnjohnw@gmail.com

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

For those seeking full membership in the Catholic Faith, please contact the parish office.

Youth Group

Open to all children of St Monica registered families and we would love to have you join us. For more information, contact Theresa Calsetta 732-299-0261.

New Parishioners

Welcome to our parish family! Registration forms may be downloaded at www.saintmonica.com. Please contact the parish office for further information.

Adult Faith Formation Core Team

Our mission is to encourage and support parishioners in their lifelong learning in the faith in order to grow closer to God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit through discipleship and evangelization.

Marriages

The Catholic Dioceses of New Jersey requests a one year period of preparation for marriage in the church. Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Religious Education

Children are expected to receive a Catholic-Christian upbringing in their family life, to worship regularly at Sunday Mass, and to participate in ongoing Religious Education classes. Our program includes grades 1-8. Please contact Karen Badach, Coordinator of Religious Education 732-928-4038 or stmonicaccd@yahoo.com

Legion of Mary

Members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick and assisting with pastoral needs.

Women of St Monica

Ministry of Catholic women of the parish striving to fulfill their spiritual needs, sharing their faith, promoting community and conduct fundraisers throughout the year and enhance parish life in a variety of ways.



If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at: abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org

Reflections on the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 8, 2023

THE VINEYARD OF THE LORD

It's said there are only a few basic plots for most stories. What the storyteller does with the plot—the twists and turns that are added—is what makes a story memorable. In this week's Gospel, Jesus takes a story of a vineyard, which would have been very familiar to his audience, and gives it an unexpected twist.

The priests and elders whom Jesus was addressing would have been very accustomed to the image of Israel as a vineyard. Prophets like Isaiah in the first reading had used the illustration for hundreds of years. So Jesus's audience probably wasn't expecting him to use the story against them.

Instead of focusing on the poor fruit that the vineyard was producing, Jesus concentrates on the tenants who are responsible for tending the fields. He says that when the master wants his produce, the tenants mistreat and even kill the messengers. When the owner finally sends his own son, the tenants kill even him.

In hearing the story, the priests and elders had to have realized that they were the tenants who hadn't been good stewards of the master's fields. They had to see that they were the ones who rejected the prophets sent by God. They might not, however, have completely understood that the person telling the story, Jesus, was the Son of God and that in a very short period of time, he would be rejected and put to death.

We *do* know, and so we are forced to ask ourselves the question: What kind of servant am I in the Father's vineyard? Am I welcoming the Son when he comes to the vineyard to collect the produce, or am I rejecting him by failing to produce good fruit in my words and deeds?

PRAYER

Close your eyes and envision yourself sitting beside Jesus. He reads the passage from Isaiah, directing it personally to you:

My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside; he spaded it, cleared it of stones, and planted the choicest vines; Within it he built a watchtower, and hewed out a wine press. Then he looked for the crop of grapes, but what it yielded was wild grapes. Why, when he looked for the crop of grapes, did it bring forth wild grapes?

What do you say to Jesus? Do you try to make an excuse for your lack of good grapes? What does Jesus say in response?

RESOLUTION

What is one thing, one "good fruit," that you could do this week to build up the Kingdom of God? Make a commitment to act on this thought by writing down a specific action and a time when you can do it. | [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)



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... *Tim Ryan*