



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's easy to get caught up in the daily busyness of life and forget what life's really all about. However, to assist us on our path through life, God sends messengers to help us remember what is most important.

In this Sunday's Gospel, the servants represent God's messengers (the Prophets) and the tenants of the vineyard represent the leaders of Israel at that time. Jesus told this story because some of the leaders were not listening to God's messengers.

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023

In many ways we are like 'tenants' in this world. The messengers that God sends today remind us that God has a great plan for our lives. We are created for everlasting life and, for now, we are here to share, enjoy and develop what God gives to us in this life.

Pope Francis reminds us, "May you always be messengers of peace and goodwill." Enjoy your week and help spread the message of God's love.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: [wednesdayword.org](http://wednesdayword.org) - Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023



Jesus said, "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, rented it to some tenant farmers and then went off far away. When the fruit-season came, he sent some of his servants to the farmers to collect his fruit. But the farmers seized his servants. He then sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. But the farmers said to one another, 'Look - here's the heir: come on, let's take over his inheritance.' So they seized the son, threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the lord of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?" "He'll bring those bad men to a bad end," was the reply. "Then he'll rent the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruit at harvest time."

Adapted from Matthew 21:33-43  
The 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

You are warmly invited to learn more about the Gospel through your local parish church.

"May we help people to discover the joy of Jesus' Message."

Pope Francis

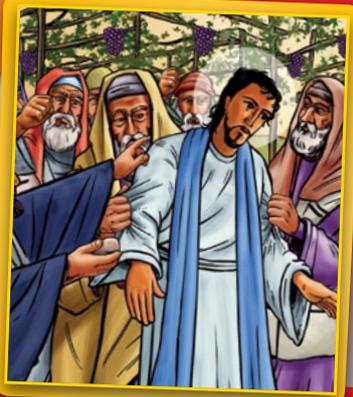


Our schools and parishes continue to share Jesus' message today, so that all people can live in a right relationship with God. Through our words and especially through our actions we too can be God's messengers, sharing God's joy and love at home, at school and in the community.



# 1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)



Jesus said, "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, rented it to some tenant farmers and then went off far away. When the fruit-season came, he sent servants to collect the fruit which he was owed. But the farmers seized his servants. Finally, the landowner sent his son, but they treated him like the other servants so that they could have the vineyard for themselves." Then Jesus said, "When the landowner returns to the vineyard he'll remove those tenants and give the vineyard to good tenants instead."

**Did the tenant farmers listen to the servants sent by the landowner?** Which words stood out for you, and why? See the Gospel picture opposite. What does it make you think about?

# 2 Wednesday's Word is ...

## MESSENGER

# 3 Loving God & Each Other

"Let the message of Christ live in you." *St Paul*

Ask your child what the word 'messenger' means to them. Who do they think are God's messengers today? Who brings the message of Jesus to them? Which of Jesus' messages does your child like best, and which is your favourite? You may want to tell your child which messengers brought the good news about Jesus to you when you were younger (e.g. a family member, a teacher, a priest, a friend), through what they said and how they lived.

"How wonderful it is to proclaim to everyone the love of God which gives meaning to our lives!"

*Pope Francis*

What do we think are the best ways that we can be God's messengers in these coming weeks? Perhaps we can: demonstrate our faith in God through being peacemakers - showing God's love and kindness to those around us; remember to start our day with a quiet time of prayer, just listening to God in our hearts before moving into action; talk with others about why we believe in God. **Let's help God's messengers throughout the world by offering this week's Family Time prayer below for priests, missionaries and for all those who share the message of God's love.**

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for all your **messengers** who help us to know you. Help us to be your faithful **messengers**, so that others will come to know the joy of loving you. Amen.

## Gospel Gallery

S T R E N W O D N A L T  
 E R E J E C T E D R A M  
 R V M S E R T O S O N D  
 V I O E T D E V S N D E  
 A N V S S R E M N N O T  
 N E E T T S Z T O R W C  
 T Y D V N N E S D V N E  
 S A N T E N A N T S E J  
 D R A Y E N I V G T R E  
 V D V A T D N T R E T R  
 S E M E S S E N G E R S  
 T N S T N A N E T M S S

## WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- LANDOWNER
- VINEYARD
- MESSENGERS
- SERVANTS
- SON
- REJECTED
- REMOVE
- TENANTS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **x k z** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

**gikvexz goxkozd Wkhexzn krexturzns**

\_\_\_\_\_ the landowner \_\_\_\_\_ to the vineyard

he'll \_\_\_\_\_ the vineyard to \_\_\_\_\_ tenants instead.



**A MESSAGE FROM CAFOD!** This Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> October, is CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day. Find out how you can make a difference, and spread the message to others about this special day at: [cafod.org.uk/primary](http://cafod.org.uk/primary)

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

