



1st Reading: IS 5:1-7

Responsorial Psalm: PS 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20

Second Reading: PHIL 4:6-9

Gospel: MT 21:33-43

October 4, 2020

God's Vineyard

The Bible frequently uses the image of the vineyard to express the relationship between God and His people. The vineyard image provides the assurance that God remains in relationship with his people, continues to care for and nurture the relationship even when the people fail to do so. This unconditional love found in the vineyard is a sign of hope. In the Parable of the Tenants, the vineyard symbolizes God's people, whom he gathers in. The tenants, those entrusted to care for the vineyard, do not permit the landowner's (God's) servants to gather what belongs to the landowner. The landowner even sends his own son (Jesus). This parable foreshadows the death of Jesus, our Savior. *"Christ has established his vineyard—the Church—and put it into our hands. Christ pays us the compliment of entrusting us with his work, with what he values. He not only gives us a job to do, but mysteriously puts the eternal salvation of other souls in our hands"* (Catholic.net)

This parable is asking us to do a self check as tenants. "How do we carry out the responsibilities God has given to each of us? Do we bear the fruits of loving and serving God and each other - the fruits God expects of us?"

October - Fruits of the Harvest

October is a time of harvest, especially here in Upstate NY where the harvest of corn, apples, pumpkins and grapes are a welcome for those comfort food recipes. The world seems to explode in brilliant colors. This is a wonderful time to reflect on God's presence through a Franciscan lens. The Feast of St. Francis is celebrated on October 4th. Learn more about St. Francis, and enjoy some nature time with some [Fall Family Activities](https://ggle.io/3SeB) <<https://ggle.io/3SeB>>.

October Highlights

The Month of the Holy Rosary

Respect Life Month

Pope Francis' Monthly Intention for October is:

The Laity's Mission in the Church

We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.
(Pope Francis)

This week

Feast of St. Francis - October 4

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary - October 7



*Our Lady
of the Rosary,
Pray for us!*

October 7, Feast of
Our Lady of the Rosary



St. Francis heard God asking him to "Rebuild his Church." Pope Francis, in taking the name of this great saint, has made "rebuilding the Church" a priority in our own times, through authentic Gospel living and care for those who are poor.

Conversation Starters for your home:

What is our job in building up the Church?
Whom can we pray for with love? How can we follow Jesus as St. Francis did?

David Dziena & Gloria Shahin, *Our Catholic Family*, Twenty Third Publications (2015)

Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

Loyolapress.com - Peace Prayer of St. Francis (FaithBuilder Prayer)

[YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) - How to draw a Rosary, Catholic Icing (Family Faith Builder)

Catholic-link.org - 5 Things St. Francis Teaches Us About Rebuilding The Church (Teens & Adult Faith Builder)

Catholic-link.org - 8 Contributions Christians Can Make To The World (According to Saint Francis of Assisi) (Youth & Young Adult Faith Builder)

thecatholicspirit.com - Autumn faith marked by patience, paradoxes, Dc. Mickey Friesen (Adults Faith Builder)

Sweetlittleonesblog.com - Feast Day Celebrations: St. Francis of Assisi- Make Bird Seed Cakes (Children Faith Builder)

DynamicCatholic.com - Ten Reasons to Pray the Rosary: hint- #1 Reason is PEACE! (Teen Faith Builder)



VIRTUE OF THE WEEK
PEACE

