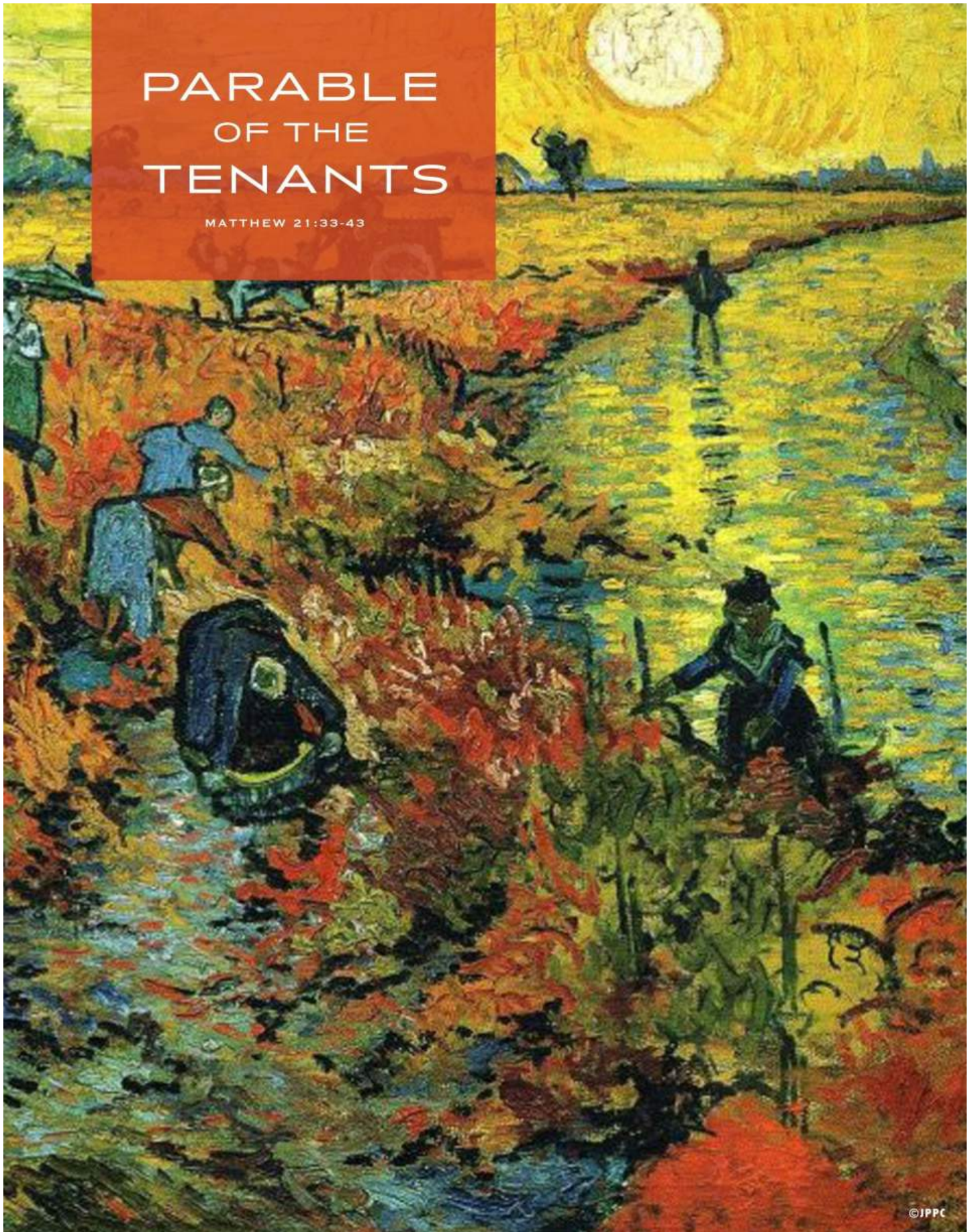


PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

MATTHEW 21:33-43



©JPPC

Our Lady of Mercy Parish October 8, 2023



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

16 Baboosic Lake Road
Merrimack, NH 03054
603-424-3757
www.olmnh.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:30PM
Sunday 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Weekdays Mon, Tues, Wed, & Fri 8:30AM
Holy Days 8:30AM and anticipated vigil 7:00PM

Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:00-3:45PM
By appointment: please call the office to schedule with Fr. Paul.

Baptism

Please call the office for an appointment. Baptisms are usually planned for the last weekend of the month.

Marriage

Please contact the office to schedule marriage preparation with Fr. Paul.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is a process for those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith with the possibility of themselves becoming a Catholic.

Funerals

The contact person for the deceased (or the funeral home) should connect with the office to schedule.

Planning ahead for funeral Mass celebrations is also available to all parishioners.

Faith Formation

We offer Faith Formation for all ages. Please see the website for current dates and programs.

Parish Staff

Rev Msgr Paul Bouchard, Pastor
FrPaul@olmnh.org
John Castelot, Deacon
DeaconJohn@olmnh.org
Sharon Nagy, Business Manager
SNagy@olmnh.org
Michael Coughlin, Director of Faith Formation
MCoughlin@olmnh.org
Cindy Coughlin, Youth Minister
CCoughlin@olmnh.org
Christian Copeley, Director of Music
CCopeley@olmnh.org
Katie Corsetti, Faith Formation Admin Assistant
KCorsetti@olmnh.org
Tony Ste. Marie, Building & Grounds Facilitator

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-3:00PM

Church Hours

The church will be locked for safety. You are welcome to spend time in the church for prayer during office hours! Please come into the office and someone will be happy to let you into the church.

Live streaming available at olmnh.org

The 4:30pm vigil Mass is live streamed. View by going to the website at www.olmnh.org.

Sanctuary Candle

Please contact the office to have the sanctuary candle lit in memory of, or for the intentions of, a loved one.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 7th

Vigil: Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

4:30PM: Robert Dwyer requested by the family
Adoration

Sunday, October 8th

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

8:30AM: Rosanna "Irene" Caron req by Art Caron

10:30AM: Michael Fleming req by Paul & Mary Amato
For all parishioners

Adoration

Monday, October 9th

Columbus Day

No Mass

Tuesday, October 10th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Tom Hanlon req by Joe & Bessie Belanger

Wednesday, October 11th

Saint John XXIII, Pope

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Tom Voute requested by Rachel Watkins

Thursday, October 12th

No Mass

Friday, October 13th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Maura Scollin

Adoration

Saturday, October 14th

Vigil: Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

4:30PM: Tom Voute requested by the Lyons family
For all parishioners

Sunday, October 15th

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

8:30AM: Clayton & Helen Rush req by their children

10:30AM: Beatrice Remy requested by the family

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle burns
October 7th – 13th
in memory of
Carol Ann Hauver.



Lord, send your Spirit upon Deacon John
as he serves Your Church.

Give him eyes to see the needs of Your people.
Give him a discerning mind to know Your truth.

Give him a generous spirit when he is tired,
but needed. Amen!

Respect Life Month Rosary Intentions

October 8 - Mother of Miracles: Console those
suffering with cancer.

October 9 - Holy Mother: Change
the hearts of those considering
suicide.

October 10 - Our Lady of Grace:
Cradle those dying of a terminal
illness.

October 11 - Queen of Angels: Protect our bishop,
pastor, & deacon who unselfishly serve us.

October 12 - Mother of Consolation: Teach
forgiveness to those burdened with anger.

October 13 - Holy Mary: Heal the lives of those
imprisoned by addictions.

October 14 - Our Lady of Lourdes: Strengthen our
elderly who have grown weak with age.



Readings for the Week: October 8, 2023

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

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

Wednesday: Jonah 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: Joel 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



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates

- Grades 1-5:** Parent/Child session Wednesday, October 18 at 4:30 OR 5:45, church
- Edge & Life Teen Youth Ministry:** Sunday, October 15 from 6:15-7:45pm, church hall; friends welcome!
- First Reconciliation:** Parent/Child Session on Saturday, November 4 at 9:30am, church hall

Parable of the Tenants

Matthew 21:33-43

Today's Gospel follows directly after last Sunday's Gospel in which Jesus was questioned by Jewish religious leaders about the source of His teaching authority. After refusing to answer their questions, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons and then criticizes the priests and elders for their lack of belief in John the Baptist.

Today, Jesus again speaks to the priests and elders with a parable. This time, the landowner leases his vineyard to tenants and sends his servants to collect the portion of the harvest that the tenants owe to him. Several times the servants are sent to collect payment, and each time they are beaten and killed by the tenants. Finally the landowner sends his son to collect his rent. The tenants, believing that they will inherit the vineyard if the landowner dies without an heir, plot together and kill the landowner's son.

After telling the parable, Jesus questions the chief priests and elders about what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants. They all agree that the landowner will kill the wicked tenants and give the land to new tenants who will pay the rent.

Jesus is clearly drawing upon Isaiah 5:1-7, which is today's first reading and one that the priests and elders would have known well. As such, Jesus doesn't have to explain the symbolism of the parable; the Pharisees would have understood that the vineyard represented Israel, the landowner represented God, the servants represented the prophets, and the bad tenants represented the religious leaders. Yet Jesus nonetheless explains the meaning of the parable for His audience: the Kingdom of God will be taken from the unbelieving and given to the faithful. The chief priests and elders have condemned themselves with their answer to Jesus's question.

This Gospel has a parallel in Mark 12:1-12. There are some notable differences however. In Matthew's version the religious leaders condemn themselves; in Mark's Gospel, Jesus answers His own question. Matthew names the religious leaders as Pharisees and chief priests. Clearly this Gospel shows the tension that was mounting between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders who thought that His message was dangerous. Matthew's Gospel was written about 70 years after Jesus's death and reflects the conflicts and tensions found in the Christian community for whom Matthew was writing. Many biblical scholars believe that the tension between Matthew's community and their Jewish neighbors can also be heard in today's reading.

Today's Gospel reminds us of the importance of listening to God's word. God speaks to us in many ways: through Scripture, through our Church tradition, in our Church's teaching, and through modern-day prophets. Are we attentive and receptive to God's word to us through these messengers?

-edited from Loyolapress.com

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

radical
solidarity



From the USCCB

Since 1973, the Catholic Church in the United States has observed October as "Respect Life Month." This year, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Arlington, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Pro-Life Activities invites Catholics to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Respect Life Month by embracing "radical solidarity" with women facing difficult or challenging pregnancies.

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, October 8 after Masses, sponsored by the Knights

Adoration: Sunday, October 8 after the 10:30 Mass

Columbus Day: Monday, October 9 there is no Mass; the office is closed

K of C Prayer Ministry: Monday, October 9 from 6:30 to 7:00pm for a rosary, church; All are welcome!

Knitting Ministry: Thursday, October 12 from noon to 2:00pm, parish office

Life Teen & Edge Youth Ministry: Sunday, October 15 at 6:15pm, church

October Flu Clinic

A flu clinic will be offered from 9:00am to 12:30pm on Sunday, **October 22** in the church hall.

Holy Family Academy Open House

Holy Family Academy in Manchester is hosting an open house on **October 25** from 5:30 to 7:00pm. Holy Family Academy is a private, Catholic school for grades 7 through 12. The open house is an opportunity to meet students and faculty, tour the building, and engage in four mini classes. For more info call or email Teresa Rouillard at 603-644-7241 or trouillard@holyfamilyacademy.org. To sign up for the open house, visit www.tinyurl.com/4525rr2w.

Trinity High School Open House: Date Change

Trinity High School will host an Open House for eighth graders and transfer students on **November 15** at 7pm.

All future students in attendance will be entered into a raffle to win \$1,000 off tuition. To RSVP and have a Chance to win, please contact the Admissions Office at admissions@trinity-hs.org or 603-668-2910, x220.

Parish Stewardship

Weekly Collections Sept 25 - Oct 1, 2023

Offertory/Miscellaneous

Budget: \$9,231

Actual: \$18,765

Variance: (\$9,534)

September online: \$19,030

Thank you for your generosity!

Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available Saturday, October 7 after the 4:30 Mass and Sunday, October 8 after the 10:30 Mass. Spend a few minutes, an hour, or some time in between in the Real Presence of Jesus.



*I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give is my flesh
or the life of the world.*

-JOHN 6:51

Eucharistic Adoration Prayer

I adore You Jesus, true God and true man,
present in the Holy Eucharist,
kneeling before You and united in spirit with all
the faithful on earth and all the saints in
heaven. In gratitude for so great a blessing, I
love You with all my heart, for You are worthy
of all praise and adoration. Amen!

K of C Craft Fair

The 23rd annual Knights of Columbus Fall Craft Fair will be held Friday, **November 3** from 5:00pm to 8:00pm and Saturday, **November 4** from 9:00am to 3:00pm in the Masticola Upper Elementary School, 26 Baboosic Lake Road, Merrimack. There will be more than 40 crafters offering a wide variety of handmade crafts. The event will also include a bake table, chance auction, and a food counter serving homemade meals and snacks. Please join us for some fun, buy some excellent crafts, and support the charitable efforts of Our Lady of Mercy's Knights of Columbus.

We also welcome donations of baked goods such as sweet breads, pies, muffins, cookies and whoopie pies. Please bring them directly to the craft fair on Friday after 4:00pm or on Saturday before 11:00am and we will sell them as part of the fundraiser. Thank you for your support!

Celebration of the Apparitions at Fatima

Saturday, **October 14** from 10:00am to 2:00pm
St. Joseph Church in Salem, NH

For more information contact Carolyn Scanlon at 603-772-0906 or Carolyn.scanlon@comcast.net

OLM Music Director Christian Copeley will be participating in the music for this special event.



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