



Liturgy Cycle A

Twenty-Seventh Sunday Of The Year The Fruitless Vineyard

Introduction

God cared for his people as a good vinedresser cares for his vineyard, yet they failed to produce the desired fruits. We are the new people of God, the vineyard planted by Christ. What do we produce?

First reading (Isaiah 5:1-7)

Israel is compared to a vineyard, which fails to produce fruit, in spite of the fact that the owner (God) has lavished the utmost care and attention on it. Sadly, it is destined to become a wilderness.

Second Reading (Philippians 4:6-9)

In this reading St Paul gives a good picture of the kind of fruit we should produce in the vineyard of the Christian community.

Gospel (Matthew 21:33-43)

This takes up the theme as the first reading, except here it is the leaders who are reproached for their failure to produce the goods.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray to our heavenly father that we may remember all he has done for us, and all we have received from him, so that we may produce the fruits of Christ like living.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That the Christian community, the vineyard of Christ, may produce the fruits of justice, love and peace. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For all believers: that they may realize that life is a gift from God, and use it wisely. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.



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For all the victims of ingratitude. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That we may be able to respond to God's love, so that our barren lives may become fruitful. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

Communion Reflection

Lord, it was you who first planted us on this earth.

You fenced us around with the love of our families and friends.

Their care towered over us.

Under the shelter of this tower

we grew in safety and peace.

We put our early blossoms,

we filled up with leaves.

People had great hope for us.

You had great hopes for us.

But now the year of our life is passing.

The harvest is approaching.

What we have to show?

What fruits have we produced?

What if, after all this care,

we should be found to be without the fruits of love?

What if we had nothing to offer

but the sour grapes of indifferences, selfishness, and neglect?

May you, Lord have mercy on us,

and with your patient urging

help us to return your love.