

W THE WEDNESDAY Word

A GIFT FOR YOUR FAMILY FROM YOUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Spreading
Sunday's
Gospel



Wednesday 1st October 2008

Dear Parents and Carers,

The demand of parenting means that many of us lead hectic lives. It's easy to get caught up in the daily busyness and forget what life's really all about. However, out of His love for us, God sends us messengers.

The passage below can serve to remind us that we need not be anxious about the passing things of this world. In many ways we are simply like tenants, put on this earth to share, enjoy and develop what God has temporarily entrusted to our care.

Just follow the simple steps overleaf to enjoy a special *Family Time* together and explore this Wednesday's word which is **MESSENGERS**.

"Let the message of
Christ live in you."

St Paul – Colossians 3:16

The Year of St Paul

June 2008 – June 2009



FROM THE GOSPEL OF SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2008

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: one they thrashed, another they killed, and a third they stoned. 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 kill him and 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."

Taken from Matthew 21:33-43



Wednesday Word Plus



Starts Overleaf



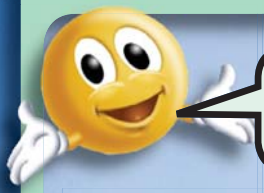


GROWING AS A FAMILY IN WISDOM AND IN LOVE

10 Minutes Family Time starts Here

Jesus said, "Where two or three gather together in my name, there I am with them." Matthew 18:20

READING & SHARING TOGETHER



After reading the Gospel overleaf, share as a family any images, words or phrases that stood out. Then simply read out these 3 steps to your children.

1 EXPLORING & UNDERSTANDING TOGETHER

Why do you think the farmers wouldn't give the landowner the fruit? Who did the landowner finally send to collect it?
This week we are reminded about the importance of listening to Jesus and to others who teach us about the love and ways of God. Who do you think the son represents in this story?
[Parent Help: Jesus]



2 GROWING IN LOVE TOGETHER

This Wednesday's word is **MESSENGRS**
Who regularly brings words of encouragement or messages of good news (e.g. a family member, a teacher, a neighbour, a priest, a friend)?
How can we be messengers of good news (e.g. by bringing love through our words or actions to the lonely, or when quarrels break out in the playground or at home or at work)?

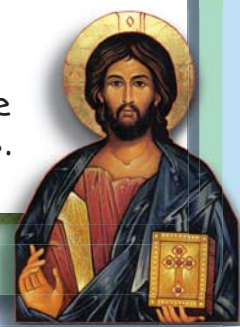


3 GROWING IN WISDOM TOGETHER

The message of God is not always easy to live up to – sometimes it makes us feel uncomfortable.
That was why the tenant farmers threw out the servant messengers. The farmers did not want to listen and to live up to the things they could and should do. Listening to God's message fills our minds, and our families, with wisdom and love. Enjoy your week together.



† Dear Lord,
Thank you for my family. Help us to hear, understand and share your message of love with those around us. Amen.



WHAT NEXT?

Learn more about this week's Gospel at Sunday Mass. *A warm welcome awaits you.*



PARENT PORTION ~ 30 SECONDS THOUGHT WITH DOM HENRY WANSBROUGH ~ BENEDICTINE MONK & BIBLE SCHOLAR

GOOD NEWS!
God is with us. He's waiting and wanting to help us.

In Jesus' story the servants represent God's messengers (the Prophets), the landowner is God and the tenants of the vineyard are obviously the leaders of Israel at that time. Jesus used this story to show that the leaders were not listening to God's messengers and were neglecting the really important things in life. *Do we ever get too wrapped up in our own interests to notice when God gives us a nudge, or even a dig in the ribs, to help us recognise what is really important in life?*