



St Benedict Parish St. John the Baptist Church

9/27/2026

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Readings Page 1003 Cycle A

Will You Work in God's Vineyard?

ANN M. GARRIDO

Most parents can resonate with today's gospel. Who hasn't had a child promise to do their chores and then neglect to do them? Or a child who threw a fit when asked to help but then pitched in after all?

Jesus' parables intend to give clues about a mystery he called the kingdom of God—a revelation about what the world will look like when God's dreams for it are realized. We get a good hint that this parable is meant to be about the kingdom of God because it speaks of a vineyard, and Jesus often compared God's kingdom to a vineyard. Vineyards throughout the ancient world were associated with joy and abundance, but they also required much tending. They needed workers, and that is what God has called us to be for the kingdom.

Jesus observed that those who professed to support God's coming kingdom often seemed to do little to help bring it about whereas those who historically had been viewed as resistant to God's ways were more receptive to John the Baptist's preaching—and, we can imagine, Jesus' message as well. They were the ones who proved in the end more willing to lend a hand.

The vineyard of which Jesus spoke still requires workers. It still requires people willing to collaborate with God in gathering the abundant harvest that will mark a season of great joy. We can imagine that, like any parent, God's greatest delight would be to have children who say "yes" and then follow through on their word! ●

When I am tempted to be resentful, what would be a healthy response?

***ST. BENEDICT "The Painted Church"** 84-5140 Painted Church Rd. Captain Cook, HI 96704
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Mass: ST. BENEDICT Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 am Capt. Cook Tuesday-Friday 7 am

***ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST** 81-6410A Hawaii Belt Rd. Kealahou Saturday 6:00 pm Sunday 10:00 am
Sat. 10am-12pm at St. Benedict Church email: st.benedict@rcchawaii.org

Pastor Administrator: Fr. William Quiamjot (Ke-yam-hot)
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OSV QR Code for online giving to St. Benedict



As Christian stewards, we are called to a high and holy standard — living as Christ’s disciples every day and with every person the Lord places in our path. But we can move towards this goal in “baby steps.”

Jesus demonstrates this comforting truth through the parable He tells in today’s Gospel from Matthew. It is the story of two sons whose father instructs them to go out and work in his vineyard that day. While the second son agrees to his father’s request, he does not follow through — he fails to obey the father’s will. The first son tells his father, “no.” At least he is honest! And in the end, he reconsiders and obeys his father.

The first son’s honest, less-than-perfect response is consoling to us Christian stewards. Haven’t we all felt this way at times when God’s will for us seems to be just too hard?

We can be honest with God at these times. He knows our thoughts already, after all. But when we stay engaged in a real relationship with Him, even if it’s just to say, “I don’t think I can, Lord,” He will supply us with just the grace we need to change our minds and do what He is asking us to do.

We can even take a step backward from time to time because our Father is merciful and kind. What matters is that we keep baby-stepping along, assured of the grace we need to more closely imitate the actions and attitudes of Christ. This is the beauty of the stewardship way of life.

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DEAR VISITOR TO ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH, ALOHA! THANK YOU FOR VISITING US TODAY! WE WISH YOU A BEAUTIFUL EXPERIENCE AND THAT YOU LEAVE ST. BENEDICT’S, TODAY, REFRESHED IN SPIRIT AND WITH PEACE IN YOUR HEART! SINCE THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CHURCH, IT HAS BEEN A CATHOLIC TRADITION TO OFFER A “MASS INTENTION”. THIS IS A WAY OF REMEMBERING A PERSON AND LIFTING THEM UP IN PRAYER. YOU MAY ASK THE GREETER FOR A FORM AND ENVELOPE.

Mass Intentions

September 26-27, 2026

***Saturday**

4:00 PM Mass for the People of our Parish

6:00 PM Alison Lancelotti, health

6:00 PM Michael & Dianne Mutersbaugh & family, Sp. Int.

***Sunday**

8:00 AM +Jack Verutu

10:00 AM +Monica Snyder

Weekdays September 15-18, 2026

7:00 AM Rick & Fressia Vargas, special Intention

7:00 AM Anthony Piganelli

7:00 AM +Lois Luther

7:00 AM +Mum, Dad, Margaret & Dominic Nash

Stewardship of Treasure

Thank you for your generosity!

September 20-21

Collection	1710.00
Maintenance	315.00
Food Pantry	155.00
Total	\$2180.00

Attendance	Sept.-20-21-2026	
St. Benedict	73	5
St. John	94	14
TOTAL	167	19

Do nothing out of selfishness or out of
vainglory; rather, humbly regard others
as more important than yourselves.

PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4



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LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

When I am tempted to be resentful, what would be a healthy response?

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 28	September 29	September 30	October 1	October 2	October 3	October 4
Weekday	Sts. Michael,	St. Jerome, Priest	St. Thérèse of	The Holy	Weekday	Twenty-seventh
Jb 1:6-22	Gabriel, and	and Doctor of	the Child Jesus,	Guardian Angels	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6,	Sunday in
Lk 9:46-50	Raphael,	the Church	Virgin and	Jb 38:1, 12-21;	12-17	Ordinary Time
	Archangels	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16	Doctor of the	40:3-5	Lk 10:17-24	Is 5:1-7
	Dn 7:9-10,	Lk 9:57-62	Church	Mt 18:1-5, 10		Phil 4:6-9
	13-14 or		Jb 19:21-27			Mt 21:33-43
	Rv 12:7-12ab		Lk 10:1-12			
	Jn 1:47-51					



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Jesus taught us that in discerning how to help our neighbor, we must imitate the example of the Good Samaritan, who selflessly gave of his time and resources to someone whom he had never previously met.... When we help those in need, especially those who cannot repay us, we become the Lord's instruments.

MESSAGE TO FADICA NETWORK, ROME, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

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Never Too Late to Change

This Week's Readings at Mass

- Ezekiel 18:25-28 • Personal responsibility
- Philippians 2:1-11 • Imitating the humility of Christ
- Matthew 21:28-32 • Parable of the two sons

All three readings today give advice and encouragement for every person to live an upstanding life. The first reading from Ezekiel does this by way of a threat that was in keeping with how the ancient Jews thought of life and death. The idea of everlasting heaven and hell hadn't developed yet, so they didn't believe in the afterlife as we do. They thought that if you don't live a just and virtuous life, your punishment would be an early death. On the flip side, if you lived well, you would earn yourself a longer life. It's not hard to imagine how that thinking developed into the Christian understanding that how we live on earth will determine our fate for the afterlife. Jesus, and later St. Paul, expanded on this idea by stressing that God's mercy and grace reach beyond human behavior. We don't earn our salvation—God grants it.

Jesus' parable today seems straight-forward. It's better for a child ultimately to do what he or she was asked, even if they didn't agree to it initially. The chief priests and elders knew right away that is the preferred outcome compared to a son who promises something but doesn't follow through. So what is the point of the parable? It seems so obvious.

The kicker comes when we think about who Jesus is addressing here. He is talking to the chief priests and elders, the ones who thought they were the good ones, the righteous ones, the virtuous, chosen ones who deserved to be handed the Kingdom of Heaven because of their good behavior. Yet he points out that when John the Baptist came preaching repentance, inclu-



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"Humbly regard others as more important than yourselves."

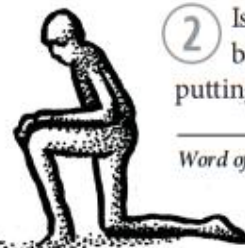
Sheepish Question:

When have I been humbled by serving someone in need? How?

sion, and economic and social justice, they dismissed him and ignored his message. On the other hand, the tax collectors and prostitutes (people looked down upon and ridiculed by the chief priest and elders) listened and heeded John the Baptist. They had the humility to recognize they needed to ask forgiveness and change their ways, and they did. Suddenly, Jesus' point becomes clear—it's never too late to change our ways, ask for forgiveness, and be welcomed into the Kingdom. On the other hand, if we say we want to do God's will, but never get around to it, we are no better than the hypocritical chief priests and elders.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Who do you usually relate most to—the first or second son? Why?
- 2 Is there something God might be asking you to do that you are putting off or resisting?



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