St Oliver's Mini Newsletter

Term 4  Week 1  2014

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Gospel Mt 21:33-43. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. “They will respect my son,” he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, “This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.” So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They answered, ‘He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures:

'It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord’s doing and it is wonderful to see? ‘I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.’

Reflection In last Sundays Gospel reading, Jesus tells the parable to warn the chief priests and elders that they have mismanaged the Kingdom of God. They haven’t listened to the prophets, and they do not listen to him. The Kingdom of God awaits those who lovingly care for it and bear a rich harvest of faith.

When we reflect on ourselves we may find parts of our character we are ashamed about. The parts we most despise could be the most marvelous moments of amazing grace. Nothing is irredeemable to God; nothing has gone too far or become too ingrained. In the Christian life there is no room for shame, only for repentance and starting over. Looking at things we have thought of as only being problems provides us with the greatest potential for ‘ah-ha’ moments, where the healing and love of Christ enables us to turn our lives around, to destroy all the negative in our lives but which we can indulge and rebuild ourselves with Christ, the master builder.

In the second reading, Paul’s Letter to the Philippians comforts the people in times of anxiety. All their troubles can be brought to God in prayer, and they will receive a peace and a sense of quiet that are too wonderful to even try to understand. Paul urges the people to keep their eye on what is good and right, to live by Jesus’ example. God has called me to produce good fruits in his vineyard.

We apply this parable to our lives by asking two questions; first, do we know Jesus, or do we reject Him like the Jewish leadership did? The process is simple, as long as we are sincere in seeking a relationship with Christ. We need to recognise our sins, and then accept Christ can save us from our sins. Second, if we believe, what have we done with Jesus? Are we like the bad tenants, rejecting His Word and living a life of disobedience? If we are, we need to read the gospels and pray for guidance, seeking His will for our life and living out that will as best as we can, day by day.

Prayer

Dear God, Let us turn to you with our prayers. Help us to share our gifts with others we ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

The Rosary During the month of October, we will be praying a decade of the Rosary each day at 12pm. Parents you are warmly invited to pray with your child in the learning spaces.

Franca Bonserio
Religious Education Coordinator
The Essential Components of Reading...

What Makes a Good Reader?
Reading is a complex process and the concepts are acquired and built upon over time. Many complex understandings take years to develop. Being a good reader relies on the development of many different skills—it is not just about decoding words. Scientific research shows that there are five essential components of effective reading that children must be taught in order to learn to read.

The Five Essential Components of Effective Reading are:
1. **Phonemic Awareness**: Recognising and using individual units of sound to create words.
2. **Phonics**: The relationship between letters in the spelling of words and the sounds of the spoken language.
3. **Reading Fluency**: Recognising the words in a text rapidly and accurately and using phrasing and emphasis that is reading with appropriate rate, expression and phrasing so that what is read sounds like spoken language.
4. **Vocabulary**: Learning the meaning and pronunciation of words and their context.
5. **Reading Comprehension**: Acquiring strategies to construct meaning from text that is accurate. Strategies that help to understand, remember and communicate what is read.

What Makes A Good Reader?
The way to identify a good reader goes beyond checking the number on the back of a book. Good Readers employ a wide variety of skills and strategies that help them to make sense of a text.

**Good Readers:**
- Use pictures and their knowledge of sounds and letters to understand the text.
- Use and consider their prior knowledge
- Make connections between texts and their own lives
- Self-correct if something doesn’t make sense they will re-read
- Look for meaning while they read. Does this make sense?
- Ask questions as they read, and keep reading to find the answers
- Make predictions about what will happen next and use clues in the text to determine things the author does not say directly
- Understand what they have read
- Re-read to find answers to questions and change their predictions as they get new information
- Notice who the author is
- Talk about books
- Constantly check their understanding
- Use clues in the text to figure out the meaning of new words
- See patterns in texts
- Decode accurately
- Can summarise a story and identify the main idea

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**Building our children’s motivation to read and their love of reading is central to developing effective, life-long readers**

Urgent – Canteen helpers required – please contact the office or Tania on 0408 050 457.