

Pope Francis' Words on the opening of Family Synod

Today the prophet Isaiah and the Gospel employ the image of the Lord's vineyard. The Lord's vineyard is his "dream," the plan that he nurtures with all his love, like a farmer who cares for his vineyard. Vines are plants, which need much care! God's "dream" is his people. He planted it and nurtured it with patient and faithful love, so that it can become a holy people, a people that bring forth abundant fruits of justice. But in both the ancient prophecy and in Jesus' parable, God's dream is thwarted. Isaiah says that the vine, which he so loved and nurtured, has yielded "wild grapes" (5:2,4); God "expected justice but saw bloodshed, righteousness, but only a cry of distress" (v. 7). In the Gospel, it is the farmers themselves who ruin the Lord's plan: they fail to do their job but think only of their own interests.

In Jesus' parable, he is addressing the chief priests and the elders of the people, in other words the "experts," the managers. To them in a particular way God entrusted his "dream," his people, for them to nurture, tend and protect from the animals of the field. This is the job of leaders: to nurture the vineyard with freedom, creativity and hard work. But Jesus tells us that those farmers took over the vineyard. Out of greed and pride they want to do with it as they will, and so they prevent God from realizing his dream for the people he has chosen. The temptation to greed is ever present. We encounter it also in the great prophecy of Ezekiel on the shepherds (Ez. 34), which Saint Augustine commented upon in one his celebrated sermons, which we have just reread in the Liturgy of the Hours. Greed for money and power. And to satisfy this greed, evil pastors lay intolerable burdens on the shoulders of others, which they themselves do not lift a finger to move (Mt 23:4)

We too, in the Synod of Bishops, are called to work for the Lord's vineyard. Synod Assemblies are not meant to discuss beautiful and clever ideas, or to see who is more intelligent... They are meant to better nurture and tend the Lord's vineyard, to help realize his dream, his loving plan for his people. In this case the Lord is asking us to care for the family, which has been from the beginning an integral part of his loving plan for humanity. We are all sinners and can also be tempted to "take over" the vineyard, because of that greed which is always present in us human beings. God's dream always clashes with the hypocrisy of some of his servants. We can "thwart" God's dream if we fail to let ourselves be guided by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit gives us that wisdom which surpasses knowledge, and enables us to work generously with authentic freedom and humble creativity. My Synod brothers, to do a good job of nurturing and tending the vineyard, our hearts and our minds must be kept in Jesus Christ by "the peace of God which passes all understanding" (Phil 4:7). In this way our thoughts and plans will correspond to God's dream: to form a holy people who are his own and produce the fruits of the kingdom of God (cf. Mt 21:43).

Daily Mass Schedule October 20-26

Mon: 5:30 p.m. +Marvin and Bette Daggett
 Tues: 9:00 a.m. Payton Wilde
 Wed: 9:00 a.m. +Bob Stroschein
 Thurs: 9:00 a.m. +Gary Pfeiffer
 Fri: 7:30 a.m. Theresia Schlaffer
 Sat: 5:30 p.m. Grey Mayer Family
 Sun: 8:30 a.m. Pro Popolo

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**Diocesan Victim
Assistance Coordinator:**
 Louann McGlynn
 Confidential Line:
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Mass Times
 Monday 5:30 p.m.
 Tuesday-Thursday
 9:00 am
 Friday 7:30 AM
 (Care Center)
 Saturday 5:30 pm
 Sunday 8:30AM

CONFESSIONS:
 Saturday 4:30PM

ADORATION:
 Tuesdays: 9:30AM-6 PM

We will pray the rosary during October starting 25 minutes before each of the weekend Masses.

On Monday, October 20, there will be a meeting of all the lady Cursillistas at 7:00 at Church

Safe Environment: There are still many that need to complete their Safe Environment. You must do this to do your ministries!

October is Pro-Life Month. The Christian Mothers will be giving out Pro-Life material today.

Knights of Columbus members
-Please have all tickets returned by Sunday October 26 for the drawing at the October 27th officers meeting.

Clem Neisen thanks everyone who prayed for him and contributed to his wonderful recovery.

Our prayers are important.

All Saint's Day, November 1, is not a Holy Day of Obligation as it falls on a Saturday this year. November 2 is All Soul's Day.

On the back of the All Soul's Offering envelope, be sure to list the names of your deceased loved ones and friends who will be remembered in our Masses and prayers throughout the Month of November.

Parishioners' Prayer Requests

Parish families have asked us to keep in our prayers their loved ones who are ill

Please pray for:
 -Bonnie Wallace -Emily Martin
 -Luella Baumgart -Betty Cook
 -Casey Courneya -Arlene Schreiner
 -Dave Goebel -Connie Ulschmid
 -Ken Jacobson -Roger Wolden
 -Norman Buseth -Paula Stegeman
 -Lisa Flynn

Collections Oct 12, 2014

Collection Basket
 Adult \$ 2,096.00
 Loose 387.00
 Direct Deposit 540.00
 Children 4.00
Total: \$ 3,387.00

Attendance
 303

Needed per Week to Reach Budget: \$5,642.00—This figure includes all sources of parish income (i.e., funerals, flower collections, fall dinner, Building, Steeple, and Window Funds, etc), not just the Sunday collections.

Other Budgeted Income

Vigil Lights \$ 11.00
 Building Fund 530.00
 Steeple Fund 421.00
 Window Fund 420.00
 ARISE book 12.00
 Calendar Ads 195.00
Total \$ 1,589.00

This week's Total:
 \$ 3,387.00
 1,589.00
 85.00
\$ 5,061.00

Other Parish Fund Raisers: FACC—\$85

UPCOMING:

Oct 20: Lady Cursillista meeting 7:00 @ Church
Oct 20: Faith Formation Committee meeting @ 7:00 at Church
Oct 25: Marriage Retreat
Oct 27: KC Officers' Meeting 7:00 @ Church (note change in date)
Nov 1: Mariology; Rosary at 8:30 am; Mass at 9:00 am

Ministry Schedule for Oct 26, 2014

	5:30 PM	8:30 AM
FCC— Beverly	Roberts and Ruth Ann Lehmann	
Ministers	Cheryl Stegmaier	Carol Aarness
Of Holy	Kathy Ulschmid	Bev Roberts
Communion	Joan Schraufek	Dallas Flynn Karen Nelson Christine Daggett Virginia Thompson
Lectors	Vince Roers	Mark Byer
Ushers	Adam Jaroszewski Jim Jaroszewski	Bruce Hofer
Servers	Hayley Courneya Isaac Courneya Ethan Byer	Sierra Brolin Max Matejka Maddie Matejka Sarah LaSart

**Note to ministers: This schedule does not reflect any recent changes or substitutions you may have made.*

Circle 2 is in charge of donuts in October
 Circle 3 is in charge of donuts in November

October 2nd Collections: 19th—World Mission (Propagation of the Faith)

October 19, 2014

*** Youth ***

*If you have not registered your children for RE yet, please do so as soon as possible.

*Forms for each of these can be found in the kiosk and the entrance of Church: Questions? Contact Cheryl

October RE schedule:

- Afternoon, regular class: , 22 and 29
- Evening classes, regular classes: 22 and 29

Children's Bibles: There are very nice Children's Bibles from St Mary's Press. I will be putting an order in for anyone wanting to purchase one. The Cost is \$23.00 for the Grades 1 through 4 and \$19.00 for Age 10 and over. Please contact Cheryl if you would like to purchase a Youth Bible. Order will be made on November 2, 2014

Couples: Married. Engaged. Dating... Here is a retreat for you

Blessed are the Married: The Beatitudes as a guide for Christian Marriage

- Presented by Dr. Mark and Julie Krejci
- Sacred Heart, Frazee
- Saturday October 25, 2014

8:15 AM, Ending with Mass At 5:30PM (See Poster, Schedule and Sign Up in Back and Entrance of Church)

Register before October 22, 2014

The newest CD of the month is 'Understanding the Crusades', by Dr. Thomas Madden, plus a bonus excerpt on the Inquisition from 'Fire and Sword' a 3-CD set on the Crusade, Inquisition, & Reformation, by Matthew Arnold. Dr. Thomas Madden is a professor of History at St. Louis University and has appeared in such venues as the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the History Channel. In this eye-opening presentation, Dr. Madden debunks popular myths surrounding the crusades and shows us the different misconceptions that exist among most people today. This CD and many others are available in the kiosk of the church for a \$3 donation.