

# Sunday 27th (A) in Ordinary Time

**Gospel text (Mt 21,33-43): Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, «Listen to another example: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a fence around it, dug a hole for the winepress, built a watchtower, leased the vineyard to tenants and then went to a distant country. When harvest time came, the landowner sent his servants to the tenants to collect his share of the harvest. But the tenants seized his servants, beat one, killed another and stoned another. Again the owner sent more servants, but they were treated in the same way. Finally, he sent his son, thinking: ‘They will respect my son’.**

**»But when the tenants saw the son, they thought: ‘This is the one who is to inherit the vineyard. Let us kill him and his inheritance will be ours’. So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now, what will the owner of the vineyard do with the tenants when he comes?». They said to him, «He will bring those evil to an evil end, and lease the vineyard to others who will pay him in due time». And Jesus replied, «Have you never read what the Scriptures say? The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This was the Lord's doing; and we marvel at it. Therefore I say to you: the kingdom of heaven will be taken from you and given to a people who will yield a harvest».**

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***«Finally, he sent his son, thinking: ‘They will respect my son’»***

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**Today, we contemplate the mystery of the shunning of God, in general, and of**

**Christ, in particular. Men's repeated resistance and rejection of God's love, is quite extraordinary.**

**But today's parable specifically refers to the Jewish rejection of Christ: «Finally, he sent his son, thinking: 'They will respect my son'. But when the tenants saw the son, they thought: 'This is the one who is to inherit the vineyard. Let us kill him and his inheritance will be ours'. So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard and killed him» (Mt 21:37-39). This is not easy to understand: is it because Christ came to redeem the whole world, while the Jews were awaiting their own "messiah" who would grant them the dominance of the whole world...**

**When I was in the Holy Land I was given a tourist pamphlet about Israel where they describe the most famous Jews in history: from Moses, Gideon and Joshua to Ben Gurion, who was responsible for the creation of the State of Israel. However, in that pamphlet it does not appear Jesus Christ's name. And Jesus is the best-known Jew in history: today He is known in the whole world, though He died two thousand years ago...**

**Great persons are admired, throughout time, but they are not loved. Today, nobody loves Cervantes or Michael Angel. However, Jesus is the most beloved personage in history. Men and women give their lives for Him. Some through martyrdom; others, drop-by-drop, living only for Him. There are thousands of them in the whole world.**

**And Jesus is the most influential figure in history. Some world wide accepted values today have a Christian origin. Not only, but today it is to be noticed a rapprochement to Jesus Christ, and also amongst the Jews ("our elderly brothers in the Faith", as said by John Paul II). Let us specially beg to God for the conversion of the Jewish people, because this people, of great values, if converted to Catholicism, could bring great benefits to the whole of mankind.**