FROM THE WOMB TO THE TOMB

Please pray with me for the respect and protection of all human life in all it's stages, recognizing it as a gift from God!



SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

Dear St. Joseph Parishioners and Visitors,

God does everything right. Isaiah tells us He plants His vineyard on a fertile hillside, clears the stones, plants the choicest vines, builds a tower to protect it. That vineyard is us. That vineyard is every human life He creates.

But this Sunday, God looks for fruit and finds bloodshed. He looks for justice and hears the cry of the oppressed.

That is why the Church gives us **Respect Life Sunday 2026** on this exact Gospel.

The parable of the wicked tenants in Matthew 21 is chillingly familiar. The tenants decide the vineyard is theirs. They forget they are stewards, not owners. They beat the servants, and finally kill the Son to seize the inheritance.

Whenever we decide who is worthy to live and who is not — the unborn child, the elderly parent with dementia, the disabled child, the mother in crisis, the prisoner — we act like those tenants. We forget: every life belongs to the Landowner.

God did not create disposable lives. He created a cherished vineyard.

So what fruit does He want today? St. Paul tells us: whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely. On Respect Life Sunday, that fruit is concrete: a prayer outside an abortion clinic, a meal for a new mom, time visiting a nursing home, mercy for someone who had an abortion.

The vineyard is the Lord's. We are just blessed to work in it.



Have a Blessed Week!

Fr. Rafal Ligenza.
Pastor