

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES
October 4, 2020
27th Sunday of the Year (A)
Isaiah 5:1-7 † Philipians 4:6-9 † Matthew 21:33-43



Reflection by: Sister Honora Werner, OP

Vineyards! More vineyards! Our readings are filled with them—and the loving God who gives them to us. But they are also stories of tenant farmers who neglect them—or who try to use them for their own selfish gains.

We enjoy lovely gardens here at the Mount, but no vineyards. Other areas can serve as vineyards as we pray these readings. Let's take a look at our "vineyards."

Chapter 2020 is now history! But we did commit ourselves to care for a vineyard: our Dominican Congregation. We reaffirmed our Mission and Vision statements—and our directives for the next five years. Our vineyard includes attention to the health care of our Sisters, faithful use of our properties and continued work with the tenders of other Dominican vineyards in New York. Let's check to see how our stewardship is going. The Lord of the Vineyard expects good fruit from us—and not just for ourselves! The fruit of our vineyards feeds and satisfies many outside our own vineyards.

But also, look at the larger Vineyard entrusted to our care. Yes, Earth. Together with workers worldwide we toil to protect, enhance, and promote Earth's health. How are we doing? Is there another way we can tend Earth? The Lord of this vast vineyard will come looking for a healthy harvest. We, the workers in this vineyard, toil to ensure that happy outcome and promote the health of creatures all over this world! The Earth Vineyard, when healthy, feeds and protects so many!