**He will lease his vineyard to other tenants**

**FRIDAY MARCH 5 (Mt 21.33-43.45)**

God takes care of his vineyard. The prophet Isaiah reveals that God sometimes abandons the vineyard to the animals of the field so that it understands that only the Lord is its life: *“Let me now sing of my friend, my friend's song concerning his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside; He spaded it, cleared it of stones, and planted the choicest vines; Within it he built a watchtower, and hewed out a wine press. Then he looked for the crop of grapes, but what it yielded was wild grapes. Now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard: What more was there to do for my vineyard that I had not done? Why, when I looked for the crop of grapes, did it bring forth wild grapes?  Now, I will let you know what I mean to do to my vineyard: Take away its hedge, give it to grazing, break through its wall, let it be trampled! Yes, I will make it a ruin: it shall not be pruned or hoed, but overgrown with thorns and briers; I will command the clouds not to send rain upon it. The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his cherished plant; He looked for judgment, but see, bloodshed! for justice, but hark, the outcry!" (Is 5, 1-7).*What are the fruits that the Lord expects from his vineyard? Obedience to all his commandments. Obedience to the Law transforms every human work into ever more abundant blessings and grace. Disobedience, on the other hand, distances God from the vineyard and this becomes a prey to evil and destroys it. However, the Lord always sends his prophets, without any interruption, to remind the people of what has been stipulated at Sinai. But the people have always been deaf to the cry of the prophets. Thus concludes the Second Book of Chronicles: “*Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy.*"( *2Cro*36,15-16). Yesterday was the great exile for the people. Today with Jesus will be the destruction of Jerusalem.

*"Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes? " They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes'? Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit. When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they knew that he was speaking about them. And although they were attempting to arrest him, they feared the crowds, for they regarded him as a prophet.*"

The Lord chose Abraham to make of his children a kingdom of priests and prophets to manifest his glory to all peoples. In this the people of God have failed. He is imprisoned in a tradition of men, in sharp contrast and opposition to the divine will, both the ancient one and the current one announced and revealed by Christ Jesus, the stone that they rejected and that the Lord placed as the cornerstone of his house. However, the Lord always remains the Lord and intervenes in history so that his will of salvation and redemption is fulfilled. The kingdom is taken away and given to others.

Made of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, make us rich in every fruit of obedience.