Homily of 25th Sunday- Year A- September 20th, 2020

Theme: "You Too Go Into My Vineyard"

A man who became a Catholic at the age of 65 was asked what made him change his mind and to become a Catholic. He said, that ever since the day the new priest in the parish put a big crucifix in front of the Church, anytime he came around and saw the crucifix with hands of Jesus spread out, there was always a voice inviting him to come and to see. That made him to come and see. Hence, the beginning of his journey becoming a Catholic.

The story connects to one of the themes the readings of today invite us to reflect on. Jesus invites each of us to enter into his vineyard of love and mercy. As the Gospel, the Parable of the laborers in the Vineyard reminds us, the owner of the vineyard made effort to see to it that no laborer was left behind. God who made all of us in His image and likeness wants all of us to be saved and come to the knowledge of His truth. It is on the same invitation that Prophet Isaiah in our first reading calls on us to "turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving".

This time of Covid 19 Pandemic with all its anxieties and fears is a time that this invitation God gives us cannot be ignored or be taken for granted. God needs us to be near Him to receive strength to overcome the challenges of this time. Our continuous prayers help us to feel God's ever-abiding presence and He is the one that will help us to live the life he has called us to live as St. Paul reminds us in the second reading, "conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ".

Think about where and where you need God's presence to live a life worthy of the Gospel we profess and believe. As you say yes to His invitation, ask Him for the wisdom and grace to live a life worthy of a true disciple in words and deeds. No matter the situation, always hear his voice calling and inviting you by your name saying, "You too go into my vineyard" Amen.