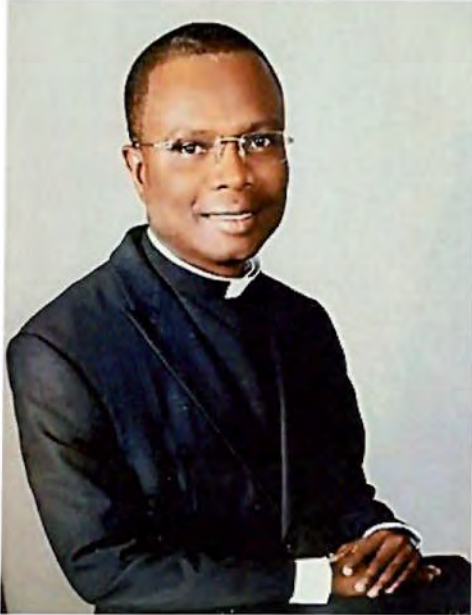


WORD FROM THE PASTOR

GOD'S CALLING TO BE GOOD STEWARD HIS VINEYARD



My brothers and sisters in Christ, the liturgy of the Word speaks to us of the vine. The vine is not just a harvest like any other. It's above all a passion. The greatest joy of a winegrower is to show us his vineyard and his cellar; his greatest pain is to see an abandoned vineyard, given over to thorns, thorns and wild boars. The prophet Isaiah starts from this relationship of the winegrower and his vineyard to speak to us about God and His people. For the prophet this vine is the people of Israel. God is presented to us as a master who did everything for her. But this passionate love of God is disappointed. Throughout our lives we are invited to recognize God's tenderness towards us. God loves us all with a passionate love. But our response does not always measure up to this love. The violence, the lies, the betrayal are there.

In the second reading we have the testimony of Paul. We often see him taking a harsh look at the behavior of pagans. But he also knows how to recognize their qualities. There are gestures of welcome, sharing and solidarity among them. He will then discover with wonder that the Holy Spirit has preceded him in the hearts of those He has put on his path. This change of outlook will make us humbler. He will help us bear the fruit that God expects of us.

The Gospel also tells us about the vineyard. But there is a difference. The problem does not come from the harvest but from the winegrowers. They have forgotten that they are just simple managers. But now they behave like owners. They keep the entire harvest of the vineyard for themselves. This Gospel also addresses each of us. The Lord has entrusted us with the goods of the Kingdom. He has entrusted us with the good news of the Kingdom of God. We are sent to be its messengers. But we must not forget that we are not self-employed. The mission is not primarily our business but that of the Lord. We live in a world that seeks to put Him out there. But His crucified Love will be stronger than anything. It is with Him that our life will bear fruit. This is how the Lord renews His trust in us. It is up to us to prove ourselves worthy of it. Parishioners, **we are all called to take our responsibility to advance the Kingdom of God** while converting ourselves into good Christians and parishioners who are totally dedicated to the service of the church. It is to us that he entrusts the management of his vineyard. Let us ask the Lord to grant us the courage to be **Good Servants of His Kingdom.**

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