

The Vineyard is Entrusted, not Owned

Isaiah 5:1–7 • Philippians 4:6–9 • Matthew 21:33–43



Isaiah sings of a vineyard planted with care. Jesus tells of tenants who forget something essential: the vineyard was entrusted to them, but it never became theirs.

That distinction matters at Canadian Martyrs. We have spoken honestly about being a parish in a season of healing and rebuilding. It would be easy to look at what has been difficult, what has diminished, or what still needs attention and imagine that everything depends upon us.

The Gospel offers another way of seeing. This is still God's vineyard. We are not beginning from nothing. Faith has been planted here. People have prayed here, sacrificed here, celebrated the sacraments here, and handed on something precious. Our responsibility now is to cultivate that gift again: rebuilding trust, inviting participation, welcoming new people, and allowing small acts of faithfulness to bear fruit.

A vineyard does not become fruitful in a single afternoon. It needs patience, attention, pruning, sunshine and rain. So does a parish. God has not abandoned this vineyard. He asks us simply to tend faithfully what has been placed in our hands — and to trust Him for the growth.

Fr. Efren