

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022

## Third Sunday of Lent



Listen to today's Gospel reading or read it in Luke's Gospel, chapter 13, verses 1 to 9. We're going to think about the second part of the reading.

😞 It is lovely to see the blossom beginning to appear on fruit trees at this time of year. We hope that plenty of blossom will mean good fruit!

When fruit trees are planted in good soil and have water and sunshine, they give us tasty fruit to eat and enjoy, but if a fruit tree is not looked after and withers, it will not produce good fruit. Just like fruit, when we are rooted in God's love, when we read our Bibles and pray and trust in God, our lives will produce good "fruit". If we turn away from Jesus and don't trust in him, we will dry up like a shrivelled plant!

😞 What kind of fruit do you think our lives produce?

No, not apples and oranges or bananas! Our fruit looks like things that Jesus would demonstrate : love, kindness, patience, joy, gentleness, self-control.... things that mean we care about other people and want good things for their lives too. If we are truly connected to Christ, these fruits grow naturally and they help other people. God really wants us to produce good fruit and keeps giving us another chance to do so – just like the vine dresser in today's Gospel reading, who asked for the fig tree to be given another chance to produce good fruit. This Lent, let's see if we can really try to produce good fruit in our lives.

🙏 A prayer for this week:

Dear God, we thank you for your love for us and your patience with us when we turn away from you. Please help us to grow in you so that we can produce good fruit. Amen.

## Living a Fruitful Life

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' " Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

Based on Luke 13:1-9



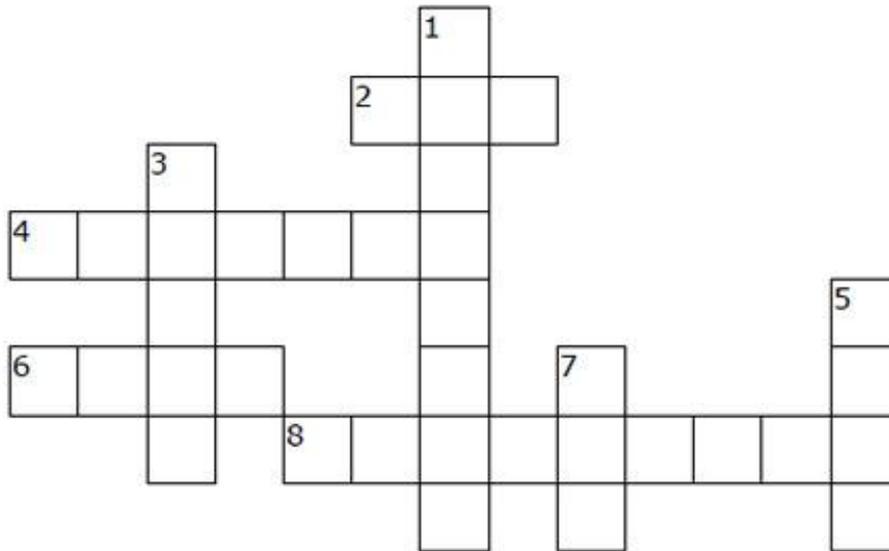
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P L A N T E D W E P M H Z H L

LEAVE	PARABLE	FRUIT	LOOK	THREE
VINEYARD	MAN	SOIL	FERTILIZE	FIG
TOLD	TREE	DIG	FIND	DOWN
YEARS	USE	PLANTED	CUT	ALONE

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## ACROSS

2. The sweet, pear-shaped, fruit of a plant found in Bible lands.
4. A simple story teaching a moral or religious lesson.
6. The top layer of the earth's surface favorable to plant growth.
8. To spread a something on land or plants to help plants grow.

## DOWN

1. An area of ground planted with vines and fruit trees.
3. The usually sweet-tasting part of a tree which can be eaten.
5. A large plant with a trunk, limbs, branches, and leaves.
7. To break up and move dirt using a shovel.

DIG	VINEYARD	TREE	PARABLE
FIG	FERTILIZE	SOIL	FRUIT



“For three years now  
I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree  
and haven’t found any.”

Luke 13:7