

## KEEPING FAITH FIRST- FAMILY FUN

T R N K A J R E S S  
N S O A W E C I N O  
E N E U M I N A P A  
M T L V O O T D M E  
Y J E J R I W A O B  
A F E S R A Z S R S  
P R R A T E H O H A  
R N M U D I U W C V  
D A B H I G F S S I  
S D E R H T D I A O  
J L L T I M S I E R  
S R I C H R I S T D  
U O E L A N R E T E  
Y W V I B B A R A J  
P L E F T C G D R Y  
D I S C I P L E S D  
V C Q D A I A X O A  
W Q R V B P F O L E  
O S N U J D F R E A

AMAZED	HARVEST	SAMARITANS
BELIEVE	JAR	SAVIOR
BROUGHT	LEFT	SOWS
CHRIST	PAYMENT	TESTIFIED
DISCIPLES	RABBI	WOMAN
ETERNAL	REAP	WORLD
FOOD	REJOICE	
FRUITS	RIPE	

## Catechizing Corner!

The fig tree was a symbol of God's blessing of the land of Israel. In Deuteronomy it is named as characteristic of the promised land. The fig tree is the only tree mentioned in Adam and Eve's paradise. Destruction of the fig tree also represents a curse on the land. Thus, the fig tree was used as a metaphor for blessings and curses. Good figs were illusions of the righteousness and bad figs to the unrighteousness. Ultimately the common biblical metaphor of the fig tree was associated with the blessing of God and the dawning of the messianic age. The tree in today's story is barren and fruitless. To illustrate how barren the tree was, we are told that it is beyond the third year of cultivation, which, under normal conditions, would mean that the tree was beyond restoration and would have to be cut down. However, the tree was given a reprieve, one more chance, one more hope for growth. It is suggested that Jesus point was clear. Just because the tree was not cut down, did not experience God's judgment, and was given a reprieve, does not mean that it was not deserving of the judgment or punishment. By all normal standards, it should have been cut down. It was spared only because of the vinedresser's mercy. Regardless of righteousness or the lack of it, the tree was allowed to remain simply because of God's mercy. The implications? All must repent, turn from no growth--death-- to new growth-- life. The parable indicates that mercy is available for all who were present in time."

Mary Birmingham, Word and Worship  
Workbook, Cycle C Paulist Press, 1998



**Holy Family Catholic Church**  
South Pasadena, CA  
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## Disciple's Reflection for the Question of the Week

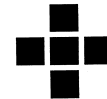
Third Sunday of Lent  
3/23/2025

A Call to Prayer

The Word of God  
Luke 13:1-9

Faith Sharing  
Questions of the week

Closing Prayer



**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH**

***Holy Family is a welcoming Catholic Eucharistic community of disciples of Jesus Christ connecting faith with life and reaching out to those in need!***

## Call to Prayer

*Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.*

Let us pause for a moment and listen attentively to this week's passage.

## The Word of God Luke 13:1-9

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans?"

By no means!  
But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!  
Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem?  
By no means!  
But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!"

And he told them this parable:  
"There once was a person who had a fig tree

planted in his orchard,  
and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none,  
he said to the gardener,  
'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.  
So cut it down.  
Why should it exhaust the soil?'  
He said to him in reply,  
'Sir, leave it for this year also,  
and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it;  
it may bear fruit in the future.  
If not you can cut it down.'"

### The Gospel of the Lord.



To **Cultivate** means to care for a plant.

### *Gospel Glossary*

A **Galilean** is one who lives in the northern area of Israel. This is where Jesus did most of his ministry

## Faith Sharing

### Questions of the Week:

**Adults:** What can you do this week to really spend time alone with God, listening with your heart?

**Teens:** Who has shown you mercy? Have you offered mercy to another?

**Children:** What is one way that God helped you this past week?

**Families:** How can you as a family cultivate your faith?

## Closing Prayer

Lord, You have called us to be your disciples, to live in faith, walking always in your footsteps. By your suffering, death, and resurrection, you have made us children of God. As you have loved us and asked us to love one another, help us to love and embrace everyone in our lives.

Fill us with love, compassion, forgiveness, patience, understanding, and tolerance, even when we face the pain of hatred, rejection, and failure.

Guide us to be good disciples. May we seek always the praise and glory of God and the good of all people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Third Sunday of Lent