



SAINT LOUIS ABBEY



Wednesday of the 20th Week of the Year The Gospel of the Vineyard Workers

Fr. Laurence Kriegshauser, O.S.B.

One of our problems is the tendency to compare ourselves with others and find, like the workers in the vineyard, that they have received a better deal than ourselves. At least two things are wrong with this attitude: it implies a lack of appreciation, even a contempt, for the gifts we have received and an arrogance that we should be able to determine how God should treat others. Jesus is asking us to be aware of the gift we have received: he has given us everything we could want, everything we need: he has given us himself, eternal life, and a love for the unique human being each of us is. We have only to accept this gift of his love for us, even for the parts of us we find unacceptable. When we accept this love we not only find joy but experience the transforming power of this love so that we gradually come to love as he loves, recklessly, generously. We can then fulfill our mission of sharing with others the magnanimous love we have received, extending it especially to the needy, the unwanted, the undeserving, the weird, the sinful. We will spread the Gospel by helping others know that they are loved as they are by an infinite love.