

## **Selected Scriptural Commentary and Connection to Farmworkers**

*The Old Testament Lesson- Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29:*

This is a passage of God's people complaining to Moses about the food that God is providing for them. One could connect this with the importance for us to be thankful for what God provides for us, specifically the food we eat, and also aware of those who are God's agents in helping to provide the food we eat. One way that we can support the way that God is providing for us through the work of the farmworkers is to be concerned that they are being treated with the respect and dignity that all of the people serving the common good deserve.

*The Epistle Lesson- James 4:7-12 (4:13--5:6):*

In the latter verses (4:13-5:6) James is very clear that God sees the inequity between us who live comfortably while those who harvest our food and provide for our comfort are mistreated and inadequately paid. James even asserts that God not only shows compassion towards them, but also claims that God's wrath is being kindled toward us for our complicity in this inequality. Without soft words, James calls us to repentance and amendment of these injustices in our society—including the injustices of sub-poverty wages, lack of basic benefits (healthcare, overtime pay, sick days, etc), and the right to organize, which most workers enjoy.