



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Hear then the parable of the sower." With his analogy of the sower and the seed, Jesus gives us four images to help us gauge the depth of our spiritual maturity. What kind of "soil" does our faith exist in? Are we fruitful Christians? Does our seed yield as much as it could?

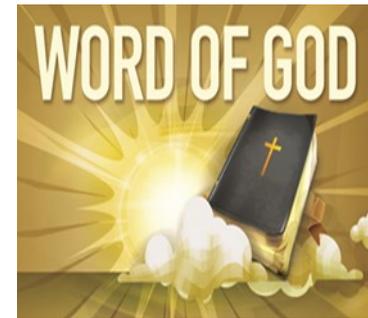
The first image is of the seed that fell on the path. This describes those who hear about Christianity "without understanding it." Nothing can grow, nothing can blossom at this level. We should ask ourselves if we have taken the time to be sure we understand the faith we practice. Are we stuck at a superficial level, allowing stereotypes, popular opinion, or media distortions to "steal away" the richness of the Catholic faith?

Perhaps we have been properly educated in the teachings of the faith, but our commitment has been fickle. Are we the seed on the rocky ground, that "has no root and lasts only for a time"? Have we experienced difficulties in the practice of our faith that have led us to become indifferent? Have we found it just too troublesome to bring our faith into our everyday lives?

Or have we heard the word, but allowed it to be choked by "worldly anxiety and the lure of riches"? Do we appreciate Christianity but fail to make the sacrifices that it requires? Are we more interested in a comfortable life than anything else?

Many of us have sampled these stages at different times. But ultimately, our goal as Christians is to be "the seed sown on rich soil." We are called to be open to hearing the word, to seek to understand it, and to allow it to take firm root in our hearts. When we do this, the seed of our own faith can produce a rich harvest for the world.

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July 16, 2017
Holy Rosary Parish

June 18, 2017
Margaret Major

To schedule intentions for Mass at Holy Rosary, contact Holy Rosary Office during office hours or leave a message at 601-583-9404. The stipend is 10.00!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10-14/Rom 8:18-23/
Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday: Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-8/Mt 10:34--11:1
Tuesday: Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/
Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7/
Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27/
Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Ex 11:10--12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15,
16bc-18/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2-6,
8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Next Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/
Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

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Date	Commentator	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
July 16	Nikki	Linda	Shirley, Arthur
July 23		Charo	Linda, Nikki
July 30	Shirley	Dominique	Voncile, Arhtur
Altar Servers	July 16	June 23	July 30
	Ameze Eknuwe Avery Leverette	AJ Sneed Adam Sneed	Raider Williams Ameze Eknuwe



**MEMORIAL
OF
ST. MARY
MAGDALENE
JULY 22ND**

St. Mary Magdalene is one of the most misunderstood women of the Bible. She was conflated with several other figures by medieval commentators, including Mary of Bethany (sister of Martha and Lazarus) and the sinful woman who washes Jesus's feet with hair in Luke's account. The confusion about who she is still exists in the Church's calendar: exactly one week from today we will celebrate St. Martha, sister of a different Mary. What we do know about Mary Magdalene is that Jesus healed her, and she was the first witness of his Resurrection.

2017 Liturgy Training Publications Sourcebook

OUR GIVING

July 2nd \$ 2,019.00
Expenses \$ 1,053.98
Diocese Supplment, Presto-X, Webmaster, Maintenance Supplies, Liturgical Supplies.



**Mondays
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Catholic Church**

St. John Paul II Chapel
9:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Rev. Ken Ramón-Landry, Pastor • Rev. Ignacio Jiménez Morales, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Warren Goff/RCIA: 601-447-3227 • Deacon Randy Duke
Office hours: Please Call

"But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." In the parable of the sower that Jesus tells in today's Gospel, the ideal is to be "the seed sown on rich soil" that yields an abundant harvest. As Jesus explains, this means we should strive to be "the one who hears the word and understands it."

So how do we place ourselves in this category? How do we assure that we will hear God's voice (i.e., the word) and actually understand what he's saying to us? The answer comes in the parable itself. Jesus explains what we need to avoid in order to make sure our seed bears fruit.

First, we must beware of "the evil one" who comes and steals away the seed of God's word. Faithfully praying the Lord's Prayer, with its request to "deliver us from evil," is a good starting point here. Placing ourselves under God's protection every day is like taking up a shield against the forces that would seek to derail us.

Secondly, we must be committed enough to God's word that "tribulation or persecution" do not uproot us or make our faith wither and die. Here, too, sincerely praying the petition in the Lord's Prayer-"Thy will be done"-can prepare us to accept whatever comes our way without waffling or wavering.

Finally, we must be careful that "worldly anxiety and the lure of riches" do not "choke" us. Again, we turn to the Lord's Prayer and find an antidote built in: "Give us this day our daily bread." We pray not for a new car or a winning lottery ticket, but for our basic needs.

So let us embrace the prayer Jesus gave us, indeed the words he himself gave us to say, as we seek to truly hear and understand God's word.

**July 16, 2017
HOLY ROSARY
CATHOLIC CHURCH
(Established 1949)
900 Dabbs Street
Hattiesburg, MS
39401-5111
Phone: 601-584-6528
Medical Emergencies ONLY: 601-964-0911
Email: HolyRosary1949@aol.com**

Sunday Mass 9:15 AM **Confessions** By Appointment
Weekday Mass Tuesday, 5:30 PM. **Hospital Visits** By Request
Baptism Call Office **Anointing** Call Office