



The water that I will give them will  
become a spring of water within,  
welling up to eternal life.  
JOHN 4:14

# 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## 12th July 2026



### 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

#### Gospel: Matthew 13:1 - 23—Parable of the sower

Jesus tells a story or parable about someone planting seeds in a field. He does not carefully place the seeds in the ground but scatters them around. The seeds all land in different places, some in good soil and some not.

All around the world, people plant seeds to grow. It is really important to make the ground ready, to make sure that the seeds have all that they need to grow.

Seeds are very important. They are life. They are a gift from God. And they make growing food possible.

In today's gospel reading which is all about planting seeds, Jesus goes on to explain his parable and exactly what it means.

The seed that falls on the path is like those people who hear what Jesus is saying but don't really understand it or listen to it properly.

The seed that falls on the rocks is like the person who hears what Jesus asks of us and starts off really excited about it, but who gives up following him as soon as it is difficult.

The seed that falls in the thorns is like someone who hears what Jesus says but concentrates too much on having the best things, the most money, rather than on being the person Jesus wants us to be.

The seed that falls on the rich soil is like someone who hears what Jesus is asking, understands it, and lives their life as he asks them to.

So which one do you think we should try to be? How do you think you can be like the seed that falls on the rich soil? How do you listen to what Jesus is saying to you?

#### In addition, this week let us pray for:

We pray for world leaders and all people with power: that they may do what is best for all their people, especially those who are poor. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all people that grow crops to feed themselves and to feed others: that they may keep hold of the seeds that they need and have a good harvest. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be like the seed in the rich soil, listening to Jesus and caring for one another. Lord, in your mercy...



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