

focus on sunday

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 19th July 2020

God knows the good and evil in a person's heart and accepts both in us. He knows our struggles over evil and he both heals and forgives the wrong-doing in our lives.



Our life is a bit like this field...



In the normal garden we find flowers, grass, maybe some trees, we also find weeds. Jesus looks at a piece of land – a wheat field with weeds. He talks about the gardener who was constantly digging up weeds and the wheat with them he says to leave them and separate them at the harvest.

Our life is a bit like this field. Faults, failings, and the bits and pieces of ourselves that are sinful. We would like to get rid of them and the intolerances we have, or the bad temper, or the grudges and bitterness and judgements on others. We do our best but some of our personal faults and failings stay with us.

Maybe some faults and failings, or the weaker side of our lives, have made us more compassionate and humble. Maybe if we didn't fail at something, we would be pompous and proud. We can sometimes feel a bit humiliated by our weaknesses, but in this we grow in humility and in our dependence on the understanding and forgiveness of God. With Jesus we do our best in life, changing what we can and accepting what we cannot. In that there is great wisdom.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



If there was no dark, we would not see shining stars. Babies live in the dark before they are born. Light and Dark is God's Mystery of Love. When someone scores a goal, he/she is delighted, but the goalkeeper is sad. Saints say that when we see GOD, all sad and bad things will be lit up in the Love of God's Face, in Jesus Christ. A Saint who died in prison prayed "May the hurt done to me be accepted as Forgiveness, for those who know not what they do".



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,.....
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who in the one perfect sacrifice brought to completion varied offerings of the law, accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants and make it holy, as you blessed the gifts of Abel, so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty may benefit the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**
 Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**
 May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen**
 Go in peace, **Thanks be to God.**

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
 You came to call sinners:
 Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
 You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
 May almighty God have mercy on us.....

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
 and on earth peace to people of good will.
 We praise you, we bless you,
 we adore you, we glorify you,
 we give you thanks for your great glory,
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 O God, almighty Father,
 Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us;
 you take away the sins of the world,
 receive our prayer;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
 have mercy on us.
 For you alone are the Holy One,
 you alone are the Lord,
 you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ,.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Wisdom 12: 13. 16 - 19

A reading from the book of Wisdom
 There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.
 Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.
 You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it;
 but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience,
 for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

R. O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

- O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.
 Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. **[R]**
- All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. **[R]**
- But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. **[R]**

SECOND READING Romans 8: 26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 13: 24 - 43 (* shorter form 13: 24 -30)

The Lord be with you **And with your spirit**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn." *

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of

the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREEED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
 I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
 He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
 I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.