



16 July 2023

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A



INTRODUCTION:

We are all invited to grow and mature in our faith, and may we see the necessity of accepting the Word of God in giving us life. If we have faith in our hearts, we have life given to us and created in us by that powerful Word. Let us celebrate Christ who came to sow the seed of the Word of God both in our hearts and in the world at large.

READINGS:

First Reading: Is 55: 10- 11
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 64: 10-14
Second Reading: Rom 8: 18- 23
Gospel: Mt 13: 1-25

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Dear friends, an abundance of God's word has been sown in our hearts. Let it now bear a rich harvest of prayer for the whole of creation.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church: may we spread the hope and vitality of the Good News with both our words and deeds so that others may experience the compassionate mercy of God. We pray to the Lord. **R/**

For courage to share our faith through stories: may we offer others the joy of coming to know God's love through sharing the story of our journey with God. We pray to the Lord. **R/**

For the calming of the restlessness in our hearts: may we find fulfilment of our deepest longings in the embrace of God. We pray to the Lord. **R/**

For all who have closed their hearts to God's Word: may God break through their barriers, heal them and may we be living signs of the Good News as priests, deacons, religious, married, or single persons. We pray to the Lord. **R/**

For the ill: may they know healing and comfort through the loving prayers of those around them. We pray to the Lord. **R/**

CELEBRATION: By your Word, O God, you made all things, and by your Word, you redeemed us. Hear our prayers and send us out to sow your seeds of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.