

12th July 2020 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time in the Year of the God who speaks to us.



The Gospel today from Matthew Ch 13, is the parable of the sower. The sower represents Jesus and the seeds our world's response to Jesus' invitation about faith.

Three out of the four different types of soil do not allow God's word into their lives. The seed that fell onto the path and was eaten by birds represents those that hear what Jesus says but do not listen to it. The seed that falls on rocks starts off willing to live out faith but gives up when it becomes challenging or takes effort. The seed that falls on thorns hears Jesus, but their faith does not grow because they focus on worldly values ie wealth, status, ego etc. and do not produce fruit.

One group let God into their lives and let his message take root. The seed that falls on rich soil hears what Jesus is saying and lives out this message to produce seeds. In this parable Jesus challenges us to look inward at ourselves and our reaction to faith.

In 2017 when Pope Francis spoke about this parable he said,'

"Our heart, like soil, can be good and then the Word brings so much fruit, but it can also be hard, impermeable. This happens when we hear the Word, but it bounces off of us just like on a road: it does not enter," he said.

May we this week be like the seed that produced fruit.
May we listen to Jesus' message and live our vocation as God wants us to.



Prayer from Cafod.

God of life help us to hear your word. Guide us to understand it so that we may grow to live our lives the way you want us to. We ask this through Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

