

LYNNFIELD CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

Children's Liturgy of the Word

15th Sunday of Ordinary Time



Family Guide:

This is a guide designed for families to use in addition to our Children's Liturgy of the Word video for the 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time! Included in this guide are the Opening and Closing prayers, the Gospel Reading, Reflection and Reflection Questions, and Directions for the craft activity. You will find a resource page with additional activities as well! Be safe, be healthy and know of our prayers!

Opening Hymn:

For the Beauty of the Earth ([CLICK HERE](#))

Opening Prayer:

God of life and love, open our ears so that we may hear your Word. Help us to grow in faith and understand your Word so that we might live in love, faith and hope. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

1st Reading

Isaiah 55: 10-11

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the LORD: Just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

2nd Reading

Romans 8: 18-23

A reading from the the first letter of Paul to the Romans:

Brothers and sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia ([Click Here](#))

Gospel

Matthew 13: 1-9

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in

parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear.”

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ*

Reflection and Reflection Questions:

In today’s Gospel reading, we hear the story of the farmer planting seeds. The seeds that are planted fall on different parts of the ground: some of the seed falls on the road where birds can easily find it; some seed falls on the rocky soil; and some seed falls on the rich, healthy soil. Where the seed fell made a difference for how well the seed could begin to take root, sprout and grow.

When you think about planting seeds, what are some things you can think of that are important for them to grow? What do seeds need to become beautiful flowers, vegetables, or fruits? One thing that seeds need is healthy soil – soil that is rich with nutrients, and not too rocky. Seeds also need to be watered. The soil in which the seeds are planted also need sunlight.

Now in today’s Gospel reading, Jesus uses this story, of a farmer planting seeds, to talk about how we live out what Jesus teaches. He says that the seed which falls on the road are like people who hear what he says, but don’t really do anything with it. Seed that falls on thin, rocky ground are like people who listen but give up quickly. Seed that falls on the thorns are like people who hear Jesus’ message, but get caught up with other things. The seed that falls on the good ground though takes root, and are like people who live out Jesus’ message daily.

It can be easy for any one of us to be like the seed that falls on the road, or on the rocky ground, or even on the thorns. It can be easy for any one of us to hear Jesus' message, but not live it out as well as we could. This week, think with your family about ways that you could be like the seed that falls on the rich, healthy soil. What are some things that you and your family can do to better hear and live out Jesus' message? Try to be like the seed that falls on the healthy ground and really take in Jesus' message of love.

Profession of Faith

Yes Lord, I Believe! ([Click Here](#))



Prayer of the Faithful

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*



Family

Activity:

Our activity this week is to plant a seed of hope for someone. With an adult's help, we need to gather all of our supplies. You will need: a terra cotta flower pot, kid's paint, and sponge brushes. You will also need potting soil, and flower seeds, newspaper, and small stones.

Our first step is to set up everything that you need to paint and decorate your flower pot. First, spread out the newspaper over your work area. Then, make sure you have the paint and brushes that you need, as well as your terra cotta flower pot.

Decorate your flower pot as you wish. Make it nice and bright and cheerful.

Then, once the flower pot is dry, add in a thin layer of stones, just covering the bottom of the flower pot. These stones will help the soil absorb the water. On top of the stones, add in the potting soil. Once you have filled your flower pot, add in the flower seed of your choice, being sure it is covered by some of the soil.

Be sure to water the seed and care for it.

Once the seed has begun to sprout and flower, share this with someone: a grandparent, a friend, someone that you know might need some hope or cheer in their life. Tell them about the story you heard – and how just like the seed, we too should care for our faith and really try as best we can to listen to Jesus' message.

Closing Prayer:

Loving God, help us to hear your word. May your word help us to grow in faith and in love. May we share that faith and love with those that we

meet. Amen.

Closing Hymn:

Christ Be the Word ([CLICK HERE](#))

Family Resources

- **[The Kid's Bulletin: July 12th](#)**
- **[Loyola Press Monthly Craft: July](#)**
- **[Loyola Press: Helping Children Develop Their Gifts](#)**