

God's Word is Like Seed...



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus explains the parable of the sower and the seed to the disciples. Like the seed, the word of

God comes to all sorts of people. Some people hear it and the devil takes it away, like the seed that falls on the path and is eaten by the birds. Some people hear God's word and love it for a little while, but they don't let it grow deeply in themselves, like the seed on rocky ground that doesn't grow good roots. Some people hear God's word and it starts to grow in them, but they have so many other things going on in their lives that they forget God.



The people who hear the word of God and let it grow in them are like the good soil. When the sower plants the seed in the good soil it gets deep roots, grows high and produces a good harvest. When we receive the word of God well, it



takes root in us so that it is really deep in our hearts. It grows when we feed it by learning more about God and trying to love Him more. It produces a harvest when other people come to love God because of us.

What kind of soil are you like? Do you let God's word be snatched away as soon as you hear it? Do you let it take root in your heart and love it, or is it like the seed sown on rocky ground that is too shallow? Do you let other things in your life crowd out God's life in you, or do you let God's word in deep and feed it and let it grow?



www.thekidsbulletin.com

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

Baptisms are usually celebrated on the fourth Sunday of every month. Please contact the Parish Office at least **6 weeks** before the date.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

Couples must contact the Parish Office to arrange at least **6 months** before the desired date.

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

Intentions must be booked at least by the Wednesday, one week before the desired date.

A D N B L P W W C F V B B H L  
 P L H M S E E D I H A R U R G  
 R Q D G R A S D O T O R M V G  
 O W X G P V C T X I H K M L P  
 O N V O J S A H B S V E E E B  
 T E R E T D T O J O X J R D R  
 P C G N W S T R U I X Y O R O  
 F F A O I E E N V L K O F E M  
 N L S N I Z R S W C G I K E C  
 P P B I R D S O O S B Q L H Q  
 K O W B Z P L R S C A B X T S  
 P P J S D L Y T R O A E I R L  
 C A R U A N A L X R F G J L T  
 Z E T H C G T L A C V O E L M  
 K Z S H W J R P W H M F Y Y Z

PLANTS	SCORCH	FARMER	THORNS	CROP
WITHER	BIRDS	ROOT	CHOKER	SOIL
FELL	PARABLE	SCATTER	SEED	GREW
ROCKY	SHALLOW	GOOD	SOW	PATH

**PRAYER DURING THE HURRICANE SEASON**

O Lord, our God and Father, who gives rain and sunshine to your children, we ask you in this rainy season to uphold us and provide for our needs.

You try our patience and test our faith and reliance on you; forgive our sin of ingratitude. So often have we forgotten to thank you for your goodness and acts of mercy. Teach us to look up to you each day, appreciative of rain and sunshine, as you, in your wisdom, through any kind of weather do feed us all.

In your mercy, protect us against hurricanes and tropical storms. Pour out your blessings upon our nation and our people, and make us grateful for the weather we receive from your bountiful hand.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 16TH JULY 2023 - YEAR A

Christ the Sower.

Today's readings, like last week's, ask us to meditate on Israel's response to God's Word, and our own. Why do some hear the word of the kingdom, yet fail to accept it as a call to conversion and faith in Jesus? That question underlies the Gospel, especially.

We see that the kingdom's mysteries are unfolded to those who open their hearts, making of them a rich soil in which the Word can grow and bear fruit. As we sing in the Psalm, in Jesus, God's Word has visited our land, to water the stony earth of our hearts with the living waters of the Spirit. The first-fruit of the Word is the Spirit of love and adoption poured into our hearts in Baptism, making us children of God, as Paul reminds us in the Epistle. In this, we are made a "new creation", the first-fruits of a new heaven and a new earth.

Since the first humans rejected God's Word, creation has been enslaved to futility. But, as the First Reading tells us, God's Word does not go forth only to return to Him void. His Word awaits our response. We must show ourselves to be children of that Word. We must allow that Word to accomplish God's will in our lives. As Jesus warns, we must take care lest the devil steal it away or lest it be choked by worldly concerns.

In the Eucharist, the Word gives Himself to us as bread to eat. He does so that we might be made fertile, yielding fruits of holiness. And we await the crowning of the year, the great harvest of the Lord's Day, when His Word will have achieved the end for which it was sent.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading**  
Is.55:10-11

**Second Reading**  
Rom.8:18-23

**Gospel**  
Mt. 13:1-23

MASS TIMES

**Gros Islet**  
Morning Prayers:  
Mon -Fri  
5:45 a.m.

✠  
**MONDAY**  
6:00 a. m./12:30 p.m.

✠  
**TUESDAY**  
6:00 a.m.

✠  
**WEDNESDAY**  
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.  
**G/Riviere:** 6:00 p.m.

✠  
**THURSDAY**  
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.  
**Monchy:** 6:00 p.m.

✠  
**FRIDAY**  
6:00 a. m./12:30 p.m.

✠  
**SATURDAY**  
6:30 a.m./6:00 p. m.

✠  
**SUNDAY**  
**Gros Islet/G. Riviere**  
7:30 a.m.

**Gros Islet/Monchy**  
10:00 a.m.

✠  
**HOLIDAY**  
Variable  
✠

St. Joseph the Worker Parish  
Gros Islet, Grande Riviere & Monchy

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday  
9.00 - 10.00 a.m.  
&  
by appointment

Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis  
 Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. David Popo  
 Rev. Madison Stanislaus. Rev. Winston Taylor.  
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 Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

**St. Mary Magdalene: Feast Day July 22nd**

St. Mary Magdalene is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we do know she was present with Christ during His public ministry, death and resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels.

Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute or sexually immoral in western Christianity, but this is not supported in the scriptures. There is also debate over if Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed woman who weeps and washes Jesus' feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are skeptical this is the same person.

It is believed that Mary was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did. Mary's epithet "Magdalene" most likely means that she came from Magdala, a fishing town on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. Luke 8:2-3 lists Mary as one of the women who traveled with Jesus and helped support his ministry "out of their resources", indicating that she was probably relatively wealthy. The same passage also states that seven demons had been driven out of her, a statement which is repeated in the Gospel of Mark.

Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her life after meeting Jesus is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God. She was one of those who stood by the cross of Jesus with His mother, and, of all the witnesses who might have been chosen for the first awareness of the Resurrection, she was the one to whom that privilege was given. As she was the first to testify to Jesus' resurrection she is known as the "apostle to the apostles."

Mary Magdalene has been a victim of mistaken identity for almost twenty centuries. Yet she would no doubt insist that it makes no difference. We are all sinners in need of the saving power of God, whether our sins have been lurid or not. More importantly, we are all, with her, witnesses of the Resurrection.

St. Mary Magdalene is the patroness of converts, repentant sinners, pharmacists, tanners and women, and many other causes.

(excerpt: catholic.org)  
(excerpt: americancatholic.org)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
& Friday: 9:00am to 2:00pm.  
Closed Tuesdays**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR  
THE SICK**

Patsy Crafton  
Iris Macauldy  
Martha Mason  
Theresa Huntley

**DECEASED**

Kate Moise  
Thomas Louis  
Rupert Evans  
Christophe Alfred

**WEEKDAY READINGS**



**MONDAY**  
Ex.1:8-14,22  
Mt.10:34-11:1



**TUESDAY**  
Ex.2:1-15  
Mt.11:20-24



**WEDNESDAY**  
Ex.3:1-6,9-12  
Mt.11:25-27



**THURSDAY**  
Ex.3:13-20  
Mt.11:28-30



**FRIDAY**  
Ex.11:10-12:14  
Mt.12:1-8



**SATURDAY**  
Sgs.3:1-4  
Jn.20:1-2,11-18



**MASS INTENTIONS**

GROS ISLET	CLERGY/RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
<b>15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A</b>		
Sat July 15 - 6:00 p.m.		Thks: The Destang family
Sun July 16 - 7:30 a.m.		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		29th Wedd Ann: Chris & Carole Jn. Marie
Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		Eucharistic Service
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		Eucharistic Service
<b>WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS</b>		
Mon July 17 - 7:00 a.m. <i>Holiday</i>	Fr. Yvon Tremont	Thks: Cuthbert & Sharon Elizee Wedd Ann: Mauricia & Andrew Edward
Tue July 18- 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Gabriel Arockiasammy Sr. Bernadette Peter	B'day: Erwin Richard Thks: Glace Motors Ltd.
Wed July 19 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Lambert St. Rose	B'day: Anthony Kodia Louis Thks: Francillia Elcock & family
Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.		B'day: Dianne Augustin
Thu July 20- 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Paul Vu	B'day: Rufus Verdant Margaret Deterville Guid & Protec: Cuthbert & Sharon Elizee
12:30 p.m.		Dc'd: Antoine Glace Augustin Alexis, Andy Delmar
Fri July 21 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. John Douglas Rev. Robert Harvey	B'day: Hemish D. Lesmond
12:30 p.m.		Int: Donors and benefactors
Sat July 22 - 6:30 a.m. <i>St. Mary Magdalene Disciple of the Lord</i>	Fr. Cecil Goodman Rev. Thomas Alexander	Dc'd: Marie Headley