



9-WEEK
Gospel
REFLECTIONS

JULY 2 - AUGUST 27

*... You are my God, and I will give | thanks to y
you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.
Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!*

*Lord Jesus, who died and rose for our sake
again triumphing over You and our weakness,
Partakers of Your sacrifice, that we may have*



Welcome

As part of Eucharistic Revival efforts, the local Prayer Team is concentrating on creating awareness and deepening understanding of the True Presence of Christ, especially at Mass. Church teaching on the sacrament of the Eucharist is anchored in Scripture. "The liturgy of the Word and liturgy of the Eucharist together form 'one single act of worship;' the Eucharistic table set for us is the table both of the Word of God and the Body of the Lord" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1346).

This guide seeks to encourage Mass-goers to be more intentional at encountering Christ at the Eucharistic table. It includes Gospel readings and reflection questions for each of nine Sundays from July 2 through August 27, leading up to the "Becoming Eucharist" Eucharistic Congress Sept. 7-9. Visit stcdio.org/eucharistic-revival/ for more information.

The nine Gospel readings and questions in this booklet are for printing and using at the weekend liturgy. Parishes can print and make them available before each Mass or distribute them as booklets and encourage their use during or after Mass for a deeper understanding of the Gospel message. The questions may also be printed in the weekly parish bulletins.

Reflection Guide

Please print the Sunday Gospel reading and bring it with you to Mass each weekend. As the Gospel is proclaimed, you may read along or just listen.

There are two questions following each week's Gospel. Take time during Mass to reflect on the Gospel, what you heard and may be feeling. You can reflect on the questions and respond to them during Mass or take them home with you and write your reflections after some meditation time.

Once again, this is just a short moment of time for each of us to be more intentional at encountering Christ in the Eucharist through the Gospel.

Q2: **What does the bolded line from the Gospel reading mean to you?**

Lined writing area for the response.

Week 3

Gospel

Mt. 13:1-23

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 disciples approached him and said,
"Why do you speak to them in parables?"
He said to them in reply,
"Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven
has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted.
To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich;
from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away.
This is why I speak to them in parables, because
they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.
Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says:
You shall indeed hear but not understand,
you shall indeed look but never see.
Gross is the heart of this people,
they will hardly hear with their ears,
they have closed their eyes,
lest they see with their eyes
and hear with their ears
and understand with their hearts and be converted,
and I heal them.

"But blessed are your eyes, because they see,
and your ears, because they hear.
Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people
longed to see what you see but did not see it,
and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

"Hear then the parable of the sower.
The seed sown on the path is the one
who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it,
and the evil one comes and steals away

what was sown in his heart.
The seed sown on rocky ground
is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy.
But he has no root and lasts only for a time.
When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word,
he immediately falls away.
The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word,
but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word
and it bears no fruit.

***But the seed sown on rich soil
is the one who hears the word and understands it,
who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.***

Q1: Are there ways in which your eyes could be renewed through the Eucharist to see another as Christ?

Q2: What does the bolded line from the Gospel reading mean to you?

Week 4

Gospel

Mt. 13:24-43

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying:
"The kingdom of heaven may be likened
to a man who sowed good seed in his field.
While everyone was asleep his enemy came
and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off.
When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well.
The slaves of the householder came to him and said,
'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field?
Where have the weeds come from?'
He answered, 'An enemy has done this.'
His slaves said to him,
'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'
He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds
you might uproot the wheat along with them.
Let them grow together until harvest;
then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters,
"First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning;
but gather the wheat into my barn."'"

He proposed another parable to them.
"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed
that a person took and sowed in a field.
It is the smallest of all the seeds,
yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.
It becomes a large bush,
and the 'birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.'"

He spoke to them another parable.
"The kingdom of heaven is like yeast
that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour
until the whole batch was leavened."

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables.
He spoke to them only in parables,
to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:
I will open my mouth in parables,
I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation
of the world.

Then, dismissing the crowds, he went into the house.
His disciples approached him and said,
"Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."
He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man,
the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom.
The weeds are the children of the evil one,
and the enemy who sows them is the devil.
The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire,
so will it be at the end of the age.
The Son of Man will send his angels,
and they will collect out of his kingdom
all who cause others to sin and all evildoers.
They will throw them into the fiery furnace,
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.
Then the righteous will shine like the sun
in the kingdom of their Father.
Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Q1: You are an awesome kingdom builder. How have you built the kingdom of God?

Q2: How do you see the "kingdom of heaven"? What is the "kingdom of heaven" like?

Q2: **How do you see the kingdom of heaven? “The kingdom of heaven is...”**

Lined writing area for the response to the question.

Q2: **Was it answered? What was His answer?**

A large rectangular area with a light beige background and horizontal white lines, intended for writing an answer.

