

July 19th 2026 16th Sunday Ordinary Time – Year A Matthew 13:24-43

¹³⁻²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. ²⁷“The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ ²⁸“An enemy did this,” he replied. “The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ ²⁹“No,” he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.” ³¹He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³²Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” ³³He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.” ³⁴Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. ³⁵So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: “I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.” ³⁶Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. ⁴⁰“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴²They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel.	➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition.
➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.	➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).

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In this week’s gospel we read about the owner of the field who allowed the wheat and the darnel to grow together. This is a reminder to us to be patient with ourselves and with others when we see all is not right. In all our lives there is the wheat and the darnel. No one has the right to judge any of us except God.

We also have the parable of the mustard seed and the leaven bread which are reminders to us that with Gods help insignificant things can have positive results.

Have you ever been surprised by the benefit to yourself or others of a small kind word of encouragement or a kind gesture?

Prayer:

Thank You Lord for the Church today which was once a mustard seed until people of faith took the seed and sowed it with love. It is now a big tree with shelter in its branches for all people.

Forgive us Lord for writing off people as if there is nothing good in them. We forget that they are all good seed that you sowed in the world. The evil in them is weeds which will be tied up and burnt by you.

Help us Lord to commit ourselves to making the world more human. Let us sow even the smallest seeds in the belief that eventually there will be an abundance of love and concern for all.