

Living FAITH

*We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land
and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.*

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A Secondary

“GOOD SEEDS”

WE GATHER

God of All Good Things,
Your Spirit flows within all of creation.
As we listen to Your Word,
help us to walk kindly with one another,
as we work to build Your kingdom on earth
as it is in heaven.
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus the Risen Lord.
Amen.

WE LISTEN

A reading from Gospel according to Matthew (13:24-30).

Jesus put before the disciples another parable:
“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;
but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat,
and then went away.
So, when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.
And the slaves of the householder came and said to him,
‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’
He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’
The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’
But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.
Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers,
Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned,
but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

For new beginnings.
Lord, hear us.

For wisdom in our decision making.
Lord, hear us.

For courage to face the unknown.
Lord, hear us.

For our own needs...
Lord, hear us.

Living FAITH

WE REFLECT

Does God allow evil in our world?

It's a question we often hear, and in a way, today's Gospel is a response to that question.

Our God is a God of love. God cannot and does not perpetrate evil acts, but that doesn't mean that sometimes bad things can't happen. Jesus uses the example of the weeds among the wheat to symbolise that. And unfortunately, those pesky weeds don't just go away. Jesus reminds us that they are a part of life and are often beyond our control. What we can control is how we respond when we are faced with challenge and uncertainty in our life.

As we go about our day let's reflect on the ways we can continue to be examples of the Good News.

How will you respond in a way that is life-giving and life-nurturing when you experience disappointment, grief or negativity?

WE ARE SENT FORTH

God of Each New Day,
We give thanks for all that we have been blessed with.
Fill us with a spirit of hope and a mind of justice
as we seek to follow in Your way,
bringing You to everyone we meet.
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, the Truth and the Life.
Amen.

*In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

*“God is the light that illuminates the darkness,
even if it does not dissolve it,
and a spark of divine light is within each of us.”*

- Pope Francis