



Jesus said,
“The kingdom of heaven
may be likened to a
man who sowed good
seed in his field.”

Matthew 13:24

July 19, 2020

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

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St. Bridget Catholic Church

100 Highway 311 - Office 2076 W Main St - Schriever, LA

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — You taught your people that those who are just must likewise be kind (Wisdom 12:13, 16-19).

Psalm — Lord, you are good and forgiving (Psalm 86).

Second Reading — The Spirit comes to aid us in our weakness (Romans 8:26-27).

Gospel — Jesus proposes parables to the crowds, teaching them of the reign of God (Matthew 13:24-43 [24-30]).

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Very Rev. Simon Peter Engurait, VG *Pastor*
Deacon Stephen Brunet

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Mass Schedule

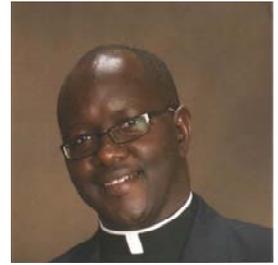
Daily Mass: Monday to Friday: 8:00 am
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 8:30 & 10:30 am

Confession: Saturday 3:00-3:50 pm
Sunday 7:30– 8:25 am & 10:00-10:25 am

All who attend Mass must wear face masks, use sanitizer on entering the Church and practice social distancing.

My Dear people of God,

Today we celebrate the Sixteenth Sunday of the year. The gospel this Sunday is a continuation from last Sunday where we delved into chapter thirteen (13) of Mathews gospel. In this chapter, more than any other, we have the parables of Jesus. Last Sunday, we had the famous Parable of the Sower. Today, in the long version of the gospel we have multiple parables. I will however focus on the first one only; **the Parable of the Wheat and Weeds**. Unlike other parables, this one is found only in the gospel of Mathew.



This parable addresses one of questions that baffles humanity- the question and reality of evil in the world. We often hear questions like: *'why do bad things happen to good people?'* or *'Why do bad people get away with the bad things they do?'* or *'Where is God when good people suffer?'* Because of these kind of questions, some have been tempted to argue that there is no God or there is no point in doing good, when evil seems to get rewarded.

At the core of this parable and indeed of this weekend's readings is the love and mercy of God. Our God is a God of second chances. A God of compassion. Can you imagine what would happen if God zapped us every time we sinned or did wrong. How many of us would be left? No wonder the Psalmist says: *"If you O Lord mark our sins, who would survive? But with you is found mercy and forgiveness, for this we revere you"* (Ps. 130:3-4).

In the first reading and the responsorial psalm, we find that God's attitude towards us His creatures is fundamentally one of care and concern. Although God has both the knowledge and power to root out evil people if He so desired, He is patient in the face of human wickedness and gives people a chance to repent. If this is how God deals with us, it should be a blueprint for our dealings with one another. Mercy, forgiveness and leniency towards our fellow man is an expression not of weakness but of real strength. This then prepares us for the parable of Wheat and Weeds.

Jesus proposed this parable to respond to the Pharisees who argued that the Kingdom of God was for saints only and as such sinners should be ruthlessly weeded out. The main point from the parable is that, up-to the last judgment, the Kingdom will be a mixed bag, consisting of saints and sinners. This is for two reasons. The first is explicitly given- namely; ***'if you pull up the weeds, you might uproot the wheat along with them'***! Anyone who has done gardening can attest to this. Some have even argued that the weeds strengthen the wheat species. The second reason is not stated explicitly in the gospel, but in allowing the weed to grow, provision is made for change and conversion. Indeed we all know **'weeds'** that have converted to **'wheat'**. A perfect Biblical example is **St. Paul** who as a weed was **Saul!**

My dear brothers and sisters, this parable invites us reflect on the two views we find in the Church today. The exclusive view which holds that the Church is only for good people and the inclusive view that holds that the Church should be open to both saints and sinners. For those who hold the exclusive view, the presence of sinners in the Church is unacceptable. If they had their way, only saints would be admitted. For such people, there is no room for repentance and redemption. This tends to affect even their personal relationships. Because someone did something bad, they are written off, instead of giving them a second chance.

That said, it is important to note that this does not mean that **'everyone will be saved'**! The entire gospel as well as this parable is very clear about that. There will be judgment where good will ultimately triumph over evil. In the parable, on the day of harvest, the farmer separates the weeds from the wheat. The weeds will be bundled and burned (an allusion of Hell fire). The good is separated from the evil. *"For we shall all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense according to what they day in the body, whether good or evil"* (2Cor 5:10). As we continue on our journey of faith, let us strive to do the good and to avoid evil.

Thanks and God bless,

Fr Simon Peter

PARABLE OF THE WEEDS

'The enemy sowed the weeds...'

In the parable of the Weeds this Sunday, Jesus used a familiar agricultural reality to illustrate the difficulty of distinguishing between genuine and false disciples. The weeds to which Jesus referred were, in all likelihood, a kind of ryegrass known as darnel. Not only was darnel poisonous, but also early in its life it was indistinguishable from wheat. Thus a farmer couldn't get rid of the darnel until the time of harvest, when wheat and darnel would finally look different from each other. You will ultimately know them by their fruits!

This parable should not be used to make us question our salvation. If we have truly put our faith in Christ as Lord and Savior, then we are wheat and will be gathered into the final harvest. The Parable of the Weeds should be used to caution us against judging others with respect to their faith. Some Christians spend an inordinate amount of time and energy criticizing and condemning other believers. This we should avoid, realizing that such judgment is reserved for God alone in the last days.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION: Do you find yourself judging other Christians? Whom? Why? What might help you to leave this sort of judgment to the Lord?

PRAYER: Dear Lord, for some reason, many Christians try to pull out the weeds before the right time. We can exhaust ourselves judging our fellow believers, deciding who's in and who's out. Forgive us, Lord, for our presumption, for doing that which is yours alone to do.

Yes, we are to be careful in discerning truth from falsehood. And, yes, we are to hold each other accountable to live out our faith in this world. But may we do so without a critical or haughty spirit. Help us to be as gracious to those with whom we disagree as you have been to us. **Amen.**

In response to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux is offering an Outreach Line (formerly known as the Child Protection Contact Line). The Outreach Line is an effort to continue the diocesan commitment to support healing for people who have been hurt or sexually abused recently or in the past by clergy, religious or other employees of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux.

The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Outreach Line operates from 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. Monday through Friday. A trained mental health professional responds to the line. Individuals are offered additional assistance if requested.

Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Outreach Line Telephone numbers (985) 873-0026 or (985) 850-3172

**For Church Support Envelopes
Call 985 446-6801**

9:00 am to 12:00 noon

CORONAVIRUS HELPFUL RESOURCES

Diocesan Website:

htdiocese.org (News, Videos, Prayers and More)

St Bridget Websites: stbridget-htdiocese.org

facebook.com/stbridget for live steam events.



The Sanctuary Light memory of:

July 19-25
Parishioners of St. Bridget

July 26-August 1
Brandon Filardo by Mom and Dad

Catholic Social Teaching: Call to Global Solidarity
We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers...We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, and ideological differences. Learning to practice the virtue of solidarity means learning that "loving our neighbor" has global dimensions in an interdependent world.

Today's scripture deal with the mystery of evil:

Evil that shows up growing in the midst of all the good in the world

Evil that can choke the good things that we would like to see grow and prosper

Evil that can tempt any of us toward violence, greed, and selfishness

Evil that can move us to be concerned about our group's good and not the common good

Today's scripture, especially the parable of the weeds and the wheat, reminds us that God looks on this world with all its problems with compassion, love, and patience, not panic, hatred, and violence. God invites us to look on the world in the same way and act accordingly.

Jesus models reconciliation and healing.

Welcoming the stranger and refugee is the way of Jesus.

Active solidarity with the poor is the way of Jesus. Jesus believes that change, growth, conversion and reform are all possible.

People in the wealthier half of the world, can be tempted to look on the other half with an attitude of judgment and even condemnation – much like the servants who want to rip out what they think are weeds right away. People in one culture can look at people in a different culture with the same critical and rash judgment. We can condemn and destroy or we can work together toward understanding, reconciliation and peace.

We are invited to discover and learn and grow as a community.

DA=Death Anniv.

B= Birthday

Mass Intentions

WA=Wedding Anniv.

July 18 4:00 pm

Jimmie Usey

July 19 8:30 am

Marion Knight by Godfrey Knight

Oliver (B & DA) & Alice Olin (DA) by Olin family

July 19 10:30 am

Parishioners of St. Bridget

July 22 8 am

William L. Fanguy (B) by Burnelle & Margaret Landry

July 25 4:00 pm

Tristan Ables by Ma Maw and family

Gail Sonier (B) by Donna Waguespack & family

July 26 8:30 am

Willie Mae (Minnie) Hebert (B) by family

July 26 10:30 am

Parishioners of St. Bridget

July 5, 2020

Envelopes \$ 5717.00

Loose 210.00

\$ 5927.00



Thank you for your generosity.

SAINT SHARBEL MAKHLŪF (1828-1898)

The convenience store owner chatted animatedly in Arabic with coworkers, but hardly at all with his American clientele. So soon after 9/11, he probably figured, with my accent, the less said, the better. That changed when an American customer recognized Saint Sharbel's portrait on the wall: "So you're Lebanese Maronites!" The owner was happily incredulous: "You know our saint?" "Not at first," the customer admitted. "But we help the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, and their magazine published that picture and called Sharbel the 'Paradoxical Artisan of Peace.'" "Everyone thinks we're Muslims," said the owner, "and some of my workers are. Saint Sharbel helps us live together in peace!" A hermit for twenty-three years, little is known of Sharbel's life. He died after suffering a stroke while celebrating the liturgy. Miracles attributed to his intercession number in the thousands, and in war-torn Lebanon, Catholics, Orthodox, and Muslims pray together where his incorrupt body is entombed. How lovely if after our passing, we too could be remembered for having brought very different people to the one God, together in peace. —Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

God's Word for Children

All of us who belong to God's kingdom can accomplish great things for the Lord.

To teach this idea, Jesus talked of how the mustard seed, the smallest of all seeds, grows into a large bush where birds live.

Follow the path from each seed to find what it will grow into someday.

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Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Matthew 13:43, Jesus promises a happy ending for "the children of the kingdom."

Find out what will happen someday by following the instructions on each window and at the bottom.

Cross out any words written in lowercase letters.	THEN THE gate door WILL after on LIKE THE	Draw a line through words that don't begin with S or R	righteous good can shine moon sun
Darken out words that have more than 7 letters.	in kingdom universe their recognize	Scribble out any words that have a U in them.	the of sum thunder Father Lettuce

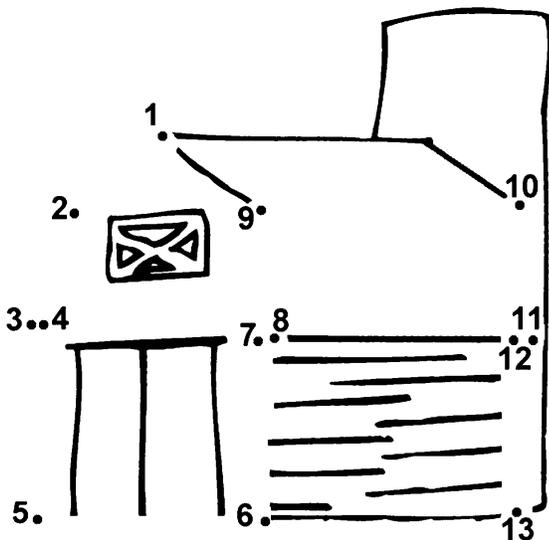
Now read the remaining words from left to right!



In the parable, the farmer said to, "gather the wheat into the barn".



Directions: Connect the dots to create a barn.



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Now read the remaining words from left to right!

St Bridget of
Sweden
Thursday July 23, 2020
is the feast day of St
Bridget, our patron
Saint.

St Bridget was born in Sweden in 1303. She married and gave birth to eight children for whom she was a devoted mother. One of her children is a canonized saint (St Catherine). After her husband's death, she continued to live in the world but devoted herself to the ascetic life as a member of the Third Order of St Francis. She then founded a religious order (the Order of the Most Holy Savior, the Bridgettines) and journeying to Rome for the sake of penance, became a model of great virtue for all. Among her charities there stands out especially her service to the poor and the infirm; she waited on them with great care, sometimes even washing their feet and kissing them. She also wrote many works in which she related her mystical experiences, the visions and revelations of the passion of Jesus. She died in Rome in 1373.

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN

PRAY FOR US

JULY 23RD

{1303-1373}



PRAYER LINE

If you or someone needs to be added to the prayer line, call Nina Richard at 446-1206 or the rectory at 446-6801. In the charity of your prayers, please pray for the sick, elderly, and homebound. Please pray for: Elaine Ables, Susan Arceneaux, Heidi Ardoin, Jacob Aucoin, Sara Aucoin, Elvin Babin, Tommy Badeaux, Chad Barrileaux, Ronnie Bednarz, Chuck Beebe, Gertrude Benoit, Judith Benoit, Fr. Paul Bergeron, Rosemary Besson, Mitzy Bettridge, Gretchen Bilello, Pat Billiot, Preston Billiot, Alvin & Gail Blanchard, Dennis Blanchard, Ronald Blanchard, Cody Bourgeois, Emile "Jay" Bourgeois, Patricia Bourgeois, Troy & Joan Bourgeois, Wade Bourgeois, Connie Bouterie, Beau Brassette, Dustin Brassette, Mark Brassette, Emma Del Broussard, Richard Broussard, Susan Caillouet, Bessie Chiasson, Randy Chiasson, Brad Clement, Bryce Comeaux, Jay & Tiffany Conner, Huey Cortez Sr., Martha Cortez, Randy Davis, Cary Davis, Jr., Barbara & Ronni Duhon, Alan Dunbar, Linda Ekiss, Avery "Brother" and Sonja Fonseca, Darin Fonz, Robin Ford, Marie Fournier, Alisa Frederick, Dante Galliano, Toby Gambarella, Leigh Ann Gardner, Carrie Gibbens Belinda Gil, Brandon Gil, George Gil, The Gil Family, Carrie Mae Givens, Austin Gros, Bryan Gros, Chad Gros, George Gros, Rosebella Gros, Vergie Gros, Kendra Guillot, Elaine Chauvin Hebert, Joy Hebert, Katie Hebert, Jerrell Hebert, Sr., Jessie Hoffpauir, Samara Holland, Kristen Koppel, Jackson LaFleur, Mona Lambert, Elmay Landry, Judie Landry, Joyce Landry, Craig Landry, Mark Landry, Barbara Nell Lapeyrouse, Allie LeBlanc, Evelyn Leger, Tammy Babin Loney, Tim Long, Payton Martin, Rick Melancon, Asher Miller, Savannah Miller, Emma Mire, Bethany Moore, Meghan Naquin, Misty Naquin, Shannon Naquin, Eric Olivieri, Robert Oncale, Annie Ordoyne, Kara Pellegrin, Sherry Pennison, Lisa Pennison, Kenneth Pitre, James Pierce, Kip Pierce, Sharon Prejean, Ed Raidl, Alice Resweber, Kerri Reynolds, Bryce Richard, Ella Richard, Gladys Richard, Lorita Rodrigue, Susan Rodrigue, Cynthia Rogers, Danielle Samanie, Chester Sanchez, Karla Saunier, Kathy Savoie, Earline Simmoneaux, Penny Simmons, Brenda Sonier, Deacon Ryan Stawaizz, Louis Stevens, Melissa Tardiff, Susan Talbot, Trish Templet, Pierre & Mary Theriot, Cammie Thibodeaux, Lacey Thibodeaux, Thibodeaux Family, Ronnie Thomas, Chris Toups, Joyce Toups, Ricky Turner, Suzanne Usey, Sara Day Vignes, Allison Walters, and Wanda Wawrose, Anna Wooten.

Please notify the office when names can be removed.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

It has long been a Catholic understanding and practice that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

(As you follow the Mass on facebook, this is the prayer to pray at the time for Holy Communion)

I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

By St Alphonsus Liguori

GOOD SEEDS

Today Jesus continues to speak to his followers using parables. What a rich treasure we are given today in three parables about the kingdom of heaven! The kingdom is likened to a man sowing good seed in his field, a mustard seed, and yeast mixed with flour. As they did last week, today the disciples press Jesus for an interpretation of one of the parables—the parable of the man sowing good seed. Lest we think that these parables are simply amusing little anecdotes, Jesus' interpretation should be seen for what it is—a warning. Wailing and grinding of teeth in a fiery furnace await those who are children of the evil one. This parable points to the struggle for today's believer. Sometimes, through sin, we sow weeds and prevent the love of Christ from blossoming. Let today's Gospel help put us back on track. Let us recommit ourselves to preparing for the last days, the harvest, by blossoming as the good seeds we were created in love to be. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-8; Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17;

Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-11;

Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17; Jer 31:10-12abcd, 13;

Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-6; Mt 20:20-28

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77,

127-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 [44-46]

*Love one another
As I have loved you*



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Please Pray for the
repose of all
souls, especially the
Soul of

Marjorie LeBoeuf

&

Tegwyn Weigand

May the souls of all the faithful
departed rest in peace. **Amen.**

WORDS AND WEEDS

A man of words and not of deeds

Is like a garden full of weeds.

—Anonymous nursery rhyme

DO

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

—Theodore Roosevelt