

Saint Boniface Parish

Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, July 19th

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 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."

How have I found God to be patient with me?

First Grade

Who are the people that are the most patient with you? What are some of the things that you do that requires them to be patient and not get angry with you? What is something that you can change so that you don't upset other people and God causing them to have to be patient with you? How can you thank those people and God for being patient with you?

Second Grade

What does it mean to be patient with someone? Are you good at being patient with others when they annoy or frustrate you? Would other people agree with you that you are or are not patient? Who are the people that you have a difficult time being patient with? Is it people who are close to you or strangers? Why do you think that is?

Third and Fourth Grades

Our family, teachers and coaches are not the only ones that are patient with us. God has also been patient with us our whole lives, as He always waits for you to have a relationship with Him. In what ways do you work to keep a strong relationship with God? What do you think God is patiently waiting for you to do to strengthen your relationship with Him?

Fifth and Sixth Grades

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus tell us the parable of the mustard seed, which is a very small seed and grows into a large bush. How long do you think it takes for something to grow so big? How is patience necessary when something is growing from small to big? In what ways has your faith in God grown from something small to something large?

Seventh and Eighth Grades

Sometimes we can get frustrated when we ask God for something and we don't receive it right away or in the way that we asked for it. How does it feel when we are patient with God? Also, how is God being patient with you? Even though you asked for something He is patient in giving you only what is good for you. How can you thank God for His patience?

High School and Adults

In today's Gospel we hear the parable of the wheat and weeds. What are some of the weeds in your life? What are the weeds (sins) that you have let grow, and that God is waiting patiently to remove from your life? How long have the weeds been growing in your life that God has been patient? What can you do to take a first step to allow God to remove the weeds/sins?

For this Week...

We are Catholic always and in everything we do. Throughout the week bring your faith into your school, your work, your play and your family. Here are some ideas for you.

Monday

When we start to think about how God has been patient with us, it can be tempting to switch the thinking to how we have been patient with God. God does not answer our prayers immediately, but when and how it is best for us. Today, when you start to think about how you are patient with God, switch your thinking and consider how God is patient with you.

Tuesday

To help us better understand how God is patient with us now, it is good to remember how He has been patient with us in the past. When were the times that you moved away from God, such as choosing to sin, not coming to Mass, and not praying? Today, think back over the past few months and years and list times when God still loved you and was patient.

Wednesday

When we say that God is patient with us, we mean that He continues to love us and have a relationship with us even when we are choosing not to love Him, listen to Him, or have a relationship with Him. When we realize that He has been patient with us, it is important to say we are sorry. Today, take time to think of the moments when God was patient with you, and seek forgiveness.

Thursday

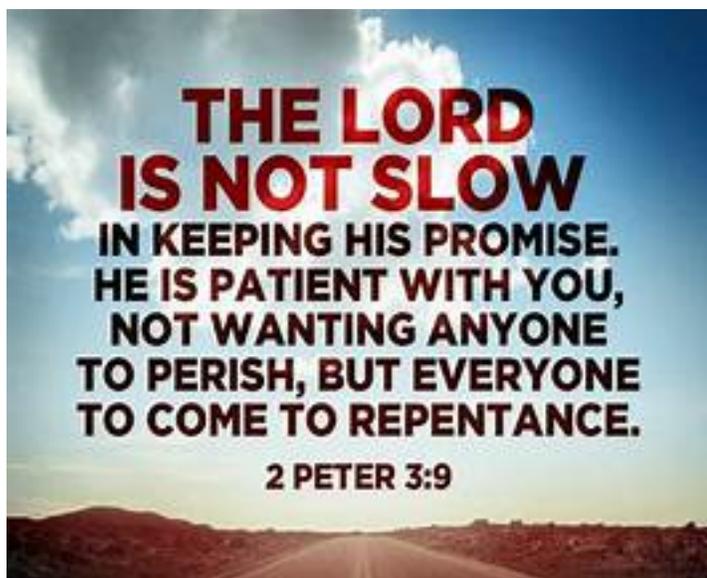
God is patient with us even when we become impatient or angry with Him. When we think back, there have been times when we became frustrated with God because He was not acting in the way we wanted or as fast as we wanted. Today, consider those moments and how God's patience with us was actually better for us. Give thanks to God for His patience!

Friday

We may have the temptation to say that we don't find God to be patient with us, but that would be wrong. He continues to love us even when we choose not to love Him or others. Today, when we think that God is not patient with us or that we are no longer aware of His patience, take time to make yourself aware of God's patience in your life.

Saturday

When we are aware of God's presence in our daily life, we can be more aware of His patience and love, which helps us to be happier and to act more confidently in all we do. Today, each time that you are aware of God moving in your life, perhaps experiencing His love directly or through someone else, give thanks! Recognize His presence by pausing and thanking Him.



FROM THE CATECHISM...

The Gospel is the revelation in Jesus Christ of God's mercy to sinners. The angel announced to Joseph: 'You shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.' The same is true of the Eucharist, the sacrament of redemption: 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1846

Next Week's Readings

Here are the readings for next Sunday so that on Saturday you can read through them. If you take a few minutes to read them and prepare, you will get a lot more from Mass. They are available online at www.usccb.org. Use the calendar on the right.

1 Kings 3:5,7-12 Psalm 119:57,72,76-77,127-128,129-130 Romans 8:28-30 Matthew 13:44-52

This handout was created by the Lynn Catholic Collaborative. For more info on how to use at your parish please email admin@lynnatholic.org