

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11.

What God has begun he will certainly bring to completion.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 18-23.

The whole of creation is waiting to be redeemed and set free.

Gospel: Matthew 13: 18-23.

Nothing can frustrate God's loving plans for us.



Points for Reflection

People sometimes refer to the Parable of the Sower as the credo of good Gospel listeners. But there is more to the parable than that.

First of all, it tells us about the role that God plays in our life. It describes a Sower who throws seeds all over a field. While he sows, some seeds fall on the path where birds feast on them. Others fall on rocky ground where they sprout but wither for lack of roots. Still others fall among thorns: they sprout but are soon overrun. A good number of seeds fall on good soil and they bear abundant fruit.

God is the Sower, and the world is his field. He invites everyone to his love. But often, we refuse to heed his call. He sends prophets to bring the Israelites back to the practice of religion, but his chosen people turn to other gods. Then he sends his Beloved Son, but we still search for other gods. Even now, God never tires of inviting us to his "home", but we continue to seek shelter in other "homes": money, pleasure, power, or drugs.

If God were like us, he would have stopped inviting us a long time ago. As we often say when our well-meaning suggestions are ignored by others, "If you won't listen, I am out!" But despite our hardheartedness, God keeps on showering us with graces. He never tires of inviting us to seek shelter with him. He is confident that in the end we will realize that there is something infinitely more satisfying than the pleasures of this present world. God will never tire of sowing seeds of faith, hope, and love in our hearts.

A good example of a man who listened to God's word and responded to it is St Paul. God's word changed his whole life. It gave him a deep view of life, as we see in the **Second Reading** where he says: *"I consider that sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us"*.

Let us thank God for the light of his Word, and let us ask him to help us to be true to it in spite of all temptations and difficulties we may have to face in our daily lives.

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Parish Priest: Fr Carlo Tei (E-mail: carlotei@i-cable.com; carlotei@gmail.com) Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung, Fr Raja (helping on Sundays)	Anticipated Sunday Masses Saturdays: 6.00 pm (English) 7.30 pm (Chinese) Public holidays: 8.00 am (Chinese) Weekdays: 7.00 am (Chinese)
Secretary: Miss Tse Choi Ping Office hours: Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 5.30pm Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	Confessions: Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass Weekdays on call
Parish Council Chairlady: Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 st Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm

Kids' Corner

Colour the picture below based on today's Gospel reading.

