



## Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 12, 2020

You have crowned the year with your bounty,  
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest.

### GOD'S WORDS

Each day we are bombarded with thousands of words. From the moment our clock radios click on in the morning, until the last moment of the day when the television is turned off or someone bids us "good-night," our life is filled with words. Some words that we hear bring news that leaves us feeling low. Some words lift our spirits. Many of the words we hear are trying to get us to buy something. Some words are hurtful. Today the Church focuses our attention on hearing the word of God. Are God's words just more of the same—part of the endless stream of words that flow into our ears each day? The challenge today is to allow God's word to inspire us in new ways so that our outlook and attitudes align themselves more closely with the heart and mind of Christ Jesus.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Charlemagne, crowned Holy Roman Emperor on Christmas Day, 800, had a major interest in shaping the worship life of the church, and began a long period of reform and regulation. We owe many confirmation policies and practices to his rule. A baptized person was required to be confirmed as soon as the bishop's presence made it possible. Priests were expected to do their best in seeing to it that a newly-baptized child received the Eucharist. One twelfth-century ritual insists that if the child is not yet capable of eating or drinking, then the priest might give him or her some of the Precious Blood on a leaf or a finger.

Despite the best efforts of the Empire to hold liturgical life together, the rules were not always lived out with great beauty. St. Richard of Chichester of thirteenth-century England, for example, was canonized for his holy life as a bishop. One of the remarkable signs of his sanctity was his willingness to climb down from his horse to confirm "merely baptized" layfolk who crossed his path! This praiseworthy practice points a finger of blame at less zealous bishops, whose casual attitudes revealed a sacrament in need of rescue.

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — My word will achieve the end for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:10-11).

**Psalm** — The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest (Psalm 65).

**Second Reading** — We, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:18-23).

**Gospel** — Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit (Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23;  
Mt 10:34 — 11:1

Tuesday: Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15;  
Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab,  
15- 21; Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10-  
12abcd, 16;  
Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14  
-21

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-  
16;  
Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 [24-30]

#### LIVE TODAY

When you stand in judgment before God. Live today the way you will wish you had live

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary  
Time

Monday: St. Henry

Tuesday: St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Wednesday: St. Bonaventure

Thursday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Saturday: St. Camillus de Lellis; Blessed  
Virgin Mary



July 19th

LECTOR Jeff

#### WEEKLY OFFERING

July 5th

BUDGET \$1351.00

\$948.00

B&M

\$280.00

### Remember In Prayer

Michaelle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,  
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,  
Louis Humble Sr. , Judy Hendricks  
Martha Jo Neuenschwander ,