

Sunday 12 July 2020

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Colour: Green.

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 16:15

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

Collect

O God, who show the light of your truth
to those who go astray,
so that they may return to the right path,
give all who for the faith they profess
are accounted Christians
the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name
of Christ
and to strive after all that does it honour.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

**The word that goes out from
my mouth does not return to
me empty**

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come
down from the heavens and do not return without
watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth
to provide seed for the sower and bread for the
eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does
not return to me empty, without carrying out my will
and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 64(65):10-14

*R/ Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its
crop.*

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. *R/*

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows;

you level it, soften it with showers;
you bless its growth. *R/*

You crown the year with your goodness.

Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. *R/*

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.

They shout for joy, yes, they sing. *R/*

Second reading

Romans 8:18-23

**The whole creation is eagerly
waiting for God to reveal his
sons**

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be
compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is
waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting
for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on
the part of creation that it was made unable to attain
its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still
retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its
slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and
glory as the children of God. From the beginning till
now the entire creation, as we know, has been
groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only
creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of
the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our
bodies to be set free.

Gospel Acclamation

1S3:9, Jn6:68

Alleluia, alleluia!
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Or:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower;
whoever finds this seed will remain for ever.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-23

A sower went out to sow

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied, 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,
see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,
their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut
their eyes,
for fear they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and be converted
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy.

But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Look upon the offerings of the Church, O Lord,
as she makes her prayer to you,
and grant that, when consumed by those who
believe,
they may bring ever greater holiness.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 83: 4-5

The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my
God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

Or:

Jn 6: 57

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Having consumed these gifts, we pray, O Lord,
that, by our participation in this mystery,
its saving effects upon us may grow.
Through Christ our Lord.

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