

# PARISH CALENDAR

Sixteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

July 23, 2023

The Lord is  
gracious and merciful!



Saturday, July 22	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, July 23	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass ( <b>Live Stream</b> )
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, July 24	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, July 25	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, July 26	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, July 27	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Friday, July 28	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Saturday, July 29	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	<b>Confession - Church</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**1 Kgs:3:5, 7-12:** God appeared to Solomon in a dream and offered him whatever he desired. The king requested wisdom to govern Israel well.

**Rom:8:28-30:** All things work for good for people who love God.

**Mt:13:44-52:** Jesus said that the reign of heaven is like a buried treasure and a fine pearl. Those who find it sell all they have to attain it.

**We continue to Live Stream the Sunday Mass @ 9:00 a.m. @ <https://www.sritananakuli.org/livestream>**

## Gospel Reflection Vigilance with the Truth

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." Matthew 13:24-26

This parable would have made much sense to the people of Jesus' time. It was common practice for an enemy to get revenge upon another by sowing a weed named "cockle" in with the wheat. As the cockle began to grow, it looked much like wheat until the grain was formed. And if it were mixed with the wheat and eaten, it would cause severe nausea. Due to this, it was also common practice for farmers with enemies to have servants stand watch over their fields after they were planted. Therefore, this parable reveals that the servants who were to keep watch failed in their duty.

In explaining this parable, Jesus says, "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" (Matthew 13:37-39). One common tactic of the evil one is to subtly mix his lies with the truth. He knows that if he were to propose some grave and obvious lie that many would reject it outright. Therefore, he attempts to create division and confusion by slowly and slightly suggesting his errors in such a way that they are more easily believed. Therefore, "the children of the evil one" can be understood as those in this world who are under the influence of the devil, as well as the legions of demons who attempt to sow confusion in our lives and within the Church.

One helpful way to prayerfully ponder this parable is to see yourself as one of those servants who is entrusted with the task of guarding the field. Since the field is the world, we all have a duty to keep the lies of the evil one from flourishing. To do that, we certainly must confront the most serious errors we encounter. For example, the dignity of the unborn child must be protected and the diabolical practice of abortion must cease. Additionally, we must work to protect the Church, our communities, friends and families from not only the grave errors of our times but also those most subtle ones. For example, within the Church, conflicts and confusions often arise. These divisions are part of the subtle lies sown by the evil one.

We must also see our own souls as the fertile soil. Certainly God's Word has been planted, but oftentimes we allow ourselves to believe subtle errors. This leads to internal conflict, sin and confusion. Thus, we must regularly guard our souls from these lies by relying upon the authentic teachings of our Church and the teachings of the saints.

**Reflect, today, upon your sacred duty to be vigilant and constantly on the lookout for the seed of error sown within our world, the Church and your own soul. Vigilance is key. The evil one is always on the prowl. If we are to learn one of the central messages of this parable, then we must learn to guard and protect all that God has revealed and hold firmly to the Truth alone.**

Glorious Word of God, You have sown Your seed of truth in our world, within Your Church and in my life. May I always listen to Your Word and respond to it wholeheartedly. Please also reveal to me the many lies of the evil one so that I can reject them with all my heart. Jesus, I trust in You.. (My Catholic Life)

PRAY  
ALWAYS

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

All young adults invited to the World Youth Day Stateside Celebration "An Evening with Christ & Community." The evening starts with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by food and fellowship.

Learn more at [www.catholichawaii.org/oyyam/yam/wyd](http://www.catholichawaii.org/oyyam/yam/wyd)



**WORD OF LIFE:** "Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together. . . That power to create a new life with God is at the heart of what spouses share with each other." *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Married Love and the Gift of Life*

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Jul 23 Sun: 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Wis:12:13, 16-19; Ps:86; Rom:8:26-27; Mt:13:24-43

**Jul 24 Mon: Ordinary Weekday**

Ex:14:5-18; Ps:15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt:12:38-42

**Jul 25 Tue: Saint James, Apostle**

2 Cor:4:7-15; Ps:126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Mt:20:20-28

**Jul 26 Wed: Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Ex:16:1-5, 9-15; Ps:78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28; Mt:13:1-9

**Jul 27 Thur: Ordinary Weekday**

Ex:19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b ; Dn:3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Mt:13:10-17

**Jul 28 Fri: Ordinary Weekday**

Ex:20: 1-17; Ps:19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt:13:18-23

**Jul 29 Sat: Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus**

Ex:24:3-8; Ps:50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Jn:11:19-27 or Lk:10:38-42

## NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

*"In today's second reading, Saint Paul bids us to take comfort in knowing that when God invites us to pray to him, he knows our true needs, even if we do not. The Holy Spirit intercedes and prays for us even if we can't come up with appropriate words; even when we don't have a clue what to ask for. We are not left alone. Good stewards know that prayer is an important part of living a life in Christ. The important thing is to make space for God. Do we let God into our hearts? Do we make room for the Holy Spirit to pray within us? (International Catholic Stewardship Council)"*

## PRAYING HARD

There are many ways to pray. When alone, we might pray in silence, or meditate on verses from the Bible, or say the Rosary, or read from a prayer book. When with others, we may pray before a meal, bow our heads during an invocation, or join in the Mass.

On some days prayer seems less satisfying. It is hard to concentrate. We are distracted by our surroundings or by the affairs of the day. The words do not make much sense. Or we are just too tired.

Those troublesome days come, but there are other days when prayer works. We feel drawn into the presence of God. The songs truly give praise. Our needs prompt us to call on God more directly. The faith of others inspires us. We may feel discouraged by a lesser prayer once we have experienced all that prayer could be.

Even when we cannot pray the way we wish, our prayer still pleases God. When you do something for someone you love, you may not always have the right words, and you may not always select the perfect gift, but the beloved knows what is in your heart.

St. Paul tells the Romans, "The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought." The Spirit intercedes for us with inexpressible groaning.

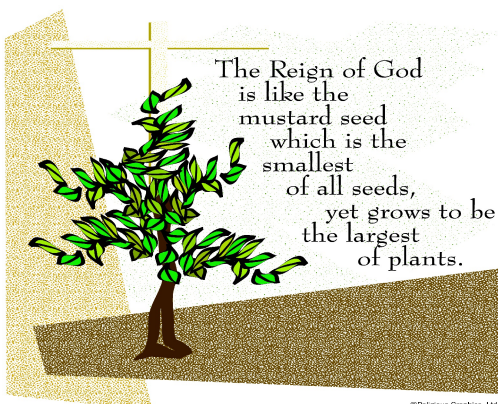
If we do not feel like prayer, all we have to do is try. The Spirit will take it from there.

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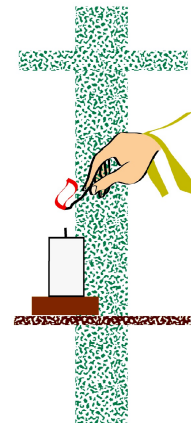


Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
abounding in kindness to all who call upon you

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