

## 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." In the parable of the sower that Jesus tells in today's Gospel, the ideal is to be "the seed sown on rich soil" that yields an abundant harvest. As Jesus explains, this means we should strive to be "the one who hears the word and understands it."

So how do we place ourselves in this category? How do we assure that we will hear God's voice (i.e., the word) and actually understand what he's saying to us? The answer comes in the parable itself. Jesus explains what we need to avoid in order to make sure our seed bears fruit.

First, we must beware of "the evil one" who comes and steals away the seed of God's word. Faithfully praying the Lord's Prayer, with its request to "deliver us from evil," is a good starting point here. Placing ourselves under God's protection every day is like taking up a shield against the forces that would seek to derail us.

Secondly, we must be committed enough to God's word that "tribulation or persecution" do not uproot us or make our faith wither and die. Here, too, sincerely praying the petition in the Lord's Prayer-"Thy will be done"-can prepare us to accept whatever comes our way without waffling or wavering.

Finally, we must be careful that "worldly anxiety and the lure of riches" do not "choke" us. Again, we turn to the Lord's Prayer and find an antidote built in: "Give us this day our daily bread." We pray not for a new car or a winning lottery ticket, but for our basic needs.

So let us embrace the prayer Jesus gave us, indeed the words he himself gave us to say, as we seek to truly hear and understand God's word.

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### Sunday Collection

The Sunday collection for July 8 & 9, 2017 was \$3,224.00.

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### Divine Mercy Parish

Polo Shirts \$20.00

Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X Large and XX Large

Baseball Cap \$10.00

One Size fits all

Come to the parish office Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm and Saturday 9am to 5pm if interested.

## 15° Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

La palabra de Dios es inmensamente rica en misericordia, nos lo demuestra la primera lectura de hoy, motivándonos a la confianza en ella; el fin, lo explica muy claro, es dar fruto en la vida al escucharla. El profeta Isaías compara la palabra de Dios con la lluvia y la nieve que empapa la tierra y la hace germinar. La esperanza es que cada vez que se escucha la palabra empape el corazón hasta que un día dé fruto y lo dé en abundancia. "Así será la palabra que sale de mi boca: no volverá a mí sin resultado sino que hará mi voluntad y cumplirá su misión" (Is 55, 11).

Las lecturas enfatizan e invitan al oyente a profundizar en la palabra de Dios. La Iglesia siempre se ha preocupado para que sus fieles tengan acceso a la palabra, mejorando de esta forma su conocimiento. Desde el Concilio Vaticano II se han multiplicado los esfuerzos para profundizar y orar con la palabra. La palabra tiene poder, tanto en los tiempos de Jesús, como ahora, ya que ésta nos congrega, anima y fortalece. En el Evangelio escuchamos la parábola del sembrador y lo que Jesús explica a sus discípulos. La atención está centrada en como la palabra es recibida en la sociedad, de entonces y ahora. Pidamos al Señor que la palabra penetre en nuestros corazones y dé fruto en nuestra vida y en la vida de todas las personas. Que sepamos acogerla, en esta Eucaristía, que se nos da como alimento. ¿Cuántos cursos de la palabra de Dios has tomado en tu vida? ¿Qué frutos has dado a la familia y comunidad, gracias a la palabra de Dios?

### Readings for the Week of July 16, 2017

Sunday:	Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10-14/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday:	Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-8/Mt 10:34--11:1
Tuesday:	Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday:	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday:	Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27/Mt 11:28-30
Friday:	Ex 11:10--12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15, 16bc-18/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday:	Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Next Sunday:	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

## A Message from Fr. Tom

An important aspect of Matthew's Gospel is the teaching authority and ministry of Jesus. We know Matthew's Gospel contains more words of Jesus than any other Gospel. Like any good teacher, Jesus tries many ways to reach his audience. If he does not reach us by word and example, he then teaches by parables. Parables present profound truths set in the language of examples of daily life. And so for us, for the next three Sunday's, Jesus will teach us with parables about the Kingdom of Heaven. Today we are given the 'Parable of the Sower.' The key lesson for us today is the power of God's word. It is effective in bringing forward results—that is fruit—from each one of us—if it is received.

This parable is considered one of the key parables in all of the Gospels. It is a lens through which we can evaluate much of the Christian experience. There are many options here and at any given time we can identify with one option or another as speaking to our present circumstance.

Our faith can be stolen;

Our faith can wither from lack of roots;

Our faith is easily choked by its surroundings;

Our faith can give a harvest 100 fold!!

All of the options can be found in our experience. What is necessary is a deeper faith and the willingness to act upon it. This act of will seems fundamental for Evangelist Matthew in his outlook.

**Fr. Tom**

## Aid to Persecuted Christians

A Gospel message a few weeks ago spoke about giving a cup of water to the little ones who belong to Jesus. Certainly those persecuted in Jesus' name fit that description. Here is how we may help persecuted Christians in the Middle East:

Msgr. John E. Kozar CNEWA  
Catholic Near East Welfare Association  
1011 First Avenue  
New York, NY 10022-4195  
1 800 442-6392

Aid to the Church in Need  
P.O. Box 220384  
725 Leonard Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11222  
1 800 628-6333

## Consecration of Divine Mercy Parish to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Recently we celebrated the Feasts of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. As you know, this year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions. The consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary plays a significant role in this Marian devotion. After praying over this matter for some time, I would like to undertake the consecration of Divine Mercy Parish to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at some point in the near future. I will endeavor to distribute more information about this devotion and have the parish participate in this consecration.

As previously announced, I also invite you to join us on the First Saturday Devotion of each month after the morning Mass. We will encourage the faithful participation in the fulfillment of the obligation to this devotion which is reparation for our sins and those of the world. Those obligations in brief are: (1) to pray the rosary on 5 consecutive first Saturdays; (2) attend Mass; (3) attend confession within a timely period (8 days); (4) to spend 15 minutes reflecting upon the mysteries of the rosary. **Fr. Tom**

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## Mammography Mobile Van

Wednesday, July 19, 2017

Girl Scout Troop 2-996 is hosting a no-cost Mammography Mobile Van, sponsored by the American Italian Cancer Foundation. On Wed. July 19, 2017 from 9am to 5pm, in front of the parking lot at 413 Humboldt St. Eligibility: any woman over the age of 40 who has not had a screening within 12 months. Open to all women who do not have insurance or have insurance (please bring your insurance card.) Do not wear deodorant that day.

Any further information or to make an appointment, please call Maria at 917-446-5969.

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## Mexico - Our Lady of Guadalupe December 9-14, 2017

Please join "M and M Travel" and Fr. Rafael on a pilgrimage to Mexico City, Mexico to celebrate the feast day of our Lady of Guadalupe, on December 9-14, 2017. The pilgrimage includes excursions to Tlaxcala & Puebla & the celebration of the Mass of Roses at the shrine on Our Lady's feast day.

Total cost is \$2,049. To book and for more details, contact Mike Milano: 1-800-773-2660 or visit [www.pilgrimages.com/mandmtravel](http://www.pilgrimages.com/mandmtravel).

15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GIFTS OF LOVE EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY  
AT DIVINE MERCY PARISH  
ALL ARE WELCOME

*For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome..." (Matt. 25:35-36)*

Today, we pray for our neighbors: the poor, the homeless, the sick and the lonely, and for those who have the courage and insight to serve them with love and hospitality.

We are grateful for our loyal benefactors and volunteers who serve so willingly as they live the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta: "Until you can hear Jesus in the silence of your own heart, you will not be able to hear Him saying, I thirst in the heart of the poor."

Specific item needed this week: **Condiments**  
Food Pantry Coordinator and Volunteers

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**Queen of the Rosary Catholic Academy**  
**Second Annual Benefit Dinner**

Honoring Deacon Philip A. Franco, PhD.

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

6-10pm

Giando on the Water

400 Kent Avenue Brooklyn, N.Y.

\$125.00 per Person

For Tickets, Commemorative Journal Submissions & Further Information:

[QOTRDinner@eventbrite.com-website](mailto:QOTRDinner@eventbrite.com-website)

[QOTRDinner@gmail.com-email](mailto:QOTRDinner@gmail.com-email)

718-388-7992 - phone

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**The 2017 OLMC Feast**

275 North 8<sup>th</sup> St., Williamsburg Brooklyn

July 5<sup>th</sup> to July 16<sup>th</sup>

*Highlights*

**Saturday, July 15**

11pm Mass in Honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Followed by: Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary and  
The Recitation of the Rosary

**Sunday, July 16**

1:30pm Procession of the Statue of Our Lady of Mount  
Carmel throughout the parish neighborhood

10:00pm Closing ceremonies & drawing of Raffle

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**Please pray**  
**for our People in the Military**

**Mass Intentions for the Week**  
**St. Francis of Paola Church**

**Saturday, July 15, 2017**

5:00pm Peter Ferrante by Wife & Children

**Sunday, July 16, 2017**

8:00am Sara Porcelli

by Anthony Porcelli & Family

11:30am Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

**Monday, July 17, 2017**

7:45am Anastasio Vavladelis

by Rose & Cathy De Marino

**Tuesday, July 18, 2017**

7:45am Anthony Giudice by his Children

**Wednesday, July 19, 2017**

7:45am Ralph Panarese by Marie & Joe Bavuso

**Thursday, July 20, 2017**

7:45am Annette Antonello by Family

**Friday, July 21, 2017**

7:45am Agatha Zhu

by Aunt Agnes & Joseph Sun

**Saturday, July 22, 2017**

7:45am Helen Jacobs by niece Diana Altadonna

5:00pm Joseph Di Giovanna by Daughter

**Sunday, July 23, 2017**

8:00am Guiseppina Arlistico by Arlistico Family

11:30am Marie Daniele by Family

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**Life Line Screening**  
**Community Health Care**

Will be at St. Francis of Paola Auditorium  
200 Woodpoint Road, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11211

**Monday July 24, 2017**

5 Important Screenings

Carotid Artery (Plaque), Heart Rhythm (Atrial Fibrillation), Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, Peripheral Arterial Disease, and Osteoporosis Risk Assessment.

Please call 1-888-653-6450 to register for your screening.

(Please have your Medicare card ready when you call.)

See flyer located on the table in the back of the Churches for more information and cost.

JULY 16, 2017

## Mass Intentions for the Week St. Nicholas Church

### Sunday, July 16, 2017

10:30am Octavio Carrillo  
En Agradecimiento a la Virgen  
Milagrosa por Salud by Iris Batista  
12:45pm For the People of Divine Mercy

### Sunday, July 23, 2017

10:30am Juan Ramos  
12:45pm Paul & Mary Giudice  
by Barbara Giudice

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## Pray For the Sick

*Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:*

Regina Monka, Deacon John Orlandello, Wanda Zadwarny, Carmela Caiafa, Al Campisi, Manuel DeJesus Valenzuela, June Sannasardo, Steven Witknowski, Maddox Moises, Rodolfo Bienvedno Pichardo, Luberky Novas, Patrick Del Vicario, Ralph Varano, Peter SanPaola, Joseph Mauceri, Rae Pacifico, Frank Cremato, Dora LoGrosso, John Porcelli, Jeanette Pelot, Vinny and Nancy Gonzales, John Porcelli

## Pray for the Recently Deceased

Dominick Diglio, Angelina Villano, Frank Fiorentino, Manny Franquinha

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## Chance to Purchase a House

Newly married couples of St. Francis of Paola seeking a chance to purchase a house, hopefully below the average market price, who are looking to set roots in the parish, please contact Leo and Queenie Marie Fiorica at 917-676-7461 or email [LFiorica@hotmail.com](mailto:LFiorica@hotmail.com).

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## Bring Back a Bulletin

Other Churches have some very good ideas, activities or information in their weekly bulletin which could be incorporated here at Divine Mercy.

So when you are away and visit another Church for Mass please consider picking up an extra bulletin and drop it off at the parish office or in our Sunday collection basket.

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## Pray for Vocations

## Mass Intentions for the Week St. Cecilia Church

### Sunday, July 16, 2017

9:30am Jo & Ed Collins  
Eamon & Ray McGinn  
Joseph Kluisca  
7:00pm Michelina Ronzo by Loretta Pizza

### Monday, July 17, 2017

8:30am Nancy Feldman

### Tuesday, July 18, 2017

8:30am Gwendolyn Owens

### Wednesday, July 19, 2017

8:30am Joseph Kluisza

### Thursday, July 20, 2017

8:30am Anthony Del Vicario (Anniv.)

### Friday, July 21, 2017

8:30am Donald Trump: Living Intention

### Saturday, July 22, 2017

8:30am Lawrence Tino

### Sunday, July 23, 2017

9:30am Raffloer Family  
Sarubbi Family  
Thomas Petrowski  
7:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

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## Saint Ann

Just inside the main entrance of St. Cecilia's Church is a statue of St. Ann and Mary. St. Ann is the Patroness of the unborn and represents a Pro-Life statement against abortion. Her feast day is July 26.

From now through Sunday, July 25, the Rosary Society will be collecting new clothing, diapers etc. for 3 months up to toddler.

Please leave your item at the foot of St. Ann in St. Cecilia and at St. Francis and St. Nicholas leave your donation in the back of Church, or bring it to our parish office.

All Items collected will be given to Hour Children

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## Religious Ed

See you in September. Have a safe and wonderful vacation.

**END OF BULLETIN**  
**ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE**  
**WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN**

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CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

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**Comments:**

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