

# 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 23, 2017



## A Gospel Quiz

Yes, we've heard this Gospel before. It's the one about the sower and the seed. It's a piece of one of 5 longer talks Jesus gave during his public ministry. As a matter of fact, it's number 3, which takes up all of chapter 13.

Matthew is trying to get one main point across to his audience who were composed in large part of Jews who had converted to Christianity: Jesus Christ, the long awaited and promised Messiah, had come; he had lived a human life and died and rose from the dead for our salvation.

Today's Gospel is one of 7 parables or stories that Jesus uses to talk about the Kingdom, which he announced at the beginning of his public ministry:

- **Sower and the Seed – today's Gospel**
- Weeds and Wheat
- Mustard Seed
- Leaven/Yeast
- Treasure
- Pearl
- Dragnet

So what is today's parable telling us about the Kingdom? Remember that Jesus is teaching, probably to an audience of people who worked the land. People who understood how things grow, and how to grow them. Remember also that much of Palestine was and is rocky, and the topsoil is often quite thin, and temperatures can soar! Jesus, we notice, is trying his best to invite his audience into the story - "Think about this story I am telling you – where do you fit in?"

So where do I/we fit in? A few questions may help us:

- what is the seed being sown?
- what is Jesus hoping to accomplish by telling this story?
- which one of the different soils do we identify with right now?
- have you ever had the experience of looking but not seeing, listening but not understanding?

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz

Pastor



**MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS**

**MONDAY, July 24**

Ex 14:5-18/Mt 12:38-42  
 7:00 AM Georgeine Wendel  
 12:00 PM John Scott

**TUESDAY, July 25**

2 Cor 4:7-15/Mt 20:20-28  
 7:00 AM Margaret Ryff  
 12:00 PM Aldo Fronzi

**WEDNESDAY, July 26**

Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Mt 13:1-9  
 7:00 AM Eileen Tracy  
 12:00 PM Bill Casey

**THURSDAY, July 27**

Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Mt 13:10-17  
 7:00 AM Elina Baldaserini  
 12:00 PM Eileen M. Treacy

**FRIDAY, July 28**

Ex 20:1-17/Mt 13:18-23  
 7:00 AM Fr. Ignatius McCormick, OFM CAP  
 12:00 PM Marie E. Albert

**SATURDAY, July 29**

Ex 24:3-8 (400)/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42  
 8:00 AM Charlotte O'Donnell  
 4:30 PM Vivienne Dalton

**SUNDAY, July 30**

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46  
**Church**

7:30 AM Giovanni Tamburro  
 9:15 AM Parishioners of the Parish  
 11:15 AM Mary Ann Marx - 9th Anniversary

**Hall**

10:30 AM Kaz Tarnowski  
 12:00 PM Salvatore Puccio  
 5:00 PM Sean Donovan



**GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING**

**WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE**

July 16, 2017	\$17,084	\$639,632
July 17, 2016	\$19,673	\$682,613
<b>Co-Op Sunday</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>\$6,853</b>
	2016	\$8,503

**This week's second collection: Hospitality House**

**We're still here while you're on vacation!**



Please use *Online Giving* to keep up with offertory. Go to [www.smcr.org](http://www.smcr.org) and click on the *Online Giving* link.



**BAPTISMS**

We welcome to the Family of God and our Parish Family **Beckham James Cartelli, Evelyn Davie Kwasnowski** and **Daniel Cash Tully** who were baptized in our Church last weekend.

**Prayers for the Sick**

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Mary Jo Calamai, Josie Connelly, Joseph Lapera, Dante Ligi, Conor McLaughlin, Fr. Lionel Medeiros, and Barbara Ortonowska.** For the sake of privacy, only immediate family members may add someone to our prayer list. Individuals will be removed monthly unless we are otherwise notified.



**Candle Intentions**



**Adoration Tabernacle Candle** is Burning in Loving Memory of **John Hyland**

**A Church Altar Candle** is Burning in Loving Memory of **Victoria Cally**



**SAVE THE DATE!**

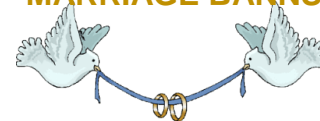


**Aug. 19** - Facing the Giants (Food Trucks) Outside  
**Sept. 16** - Hidden Figures (BBQ) Outside  
**Oct. 21** - Miracle Hour & Horton Hears a Who (Babysitting and your version of "Mac n' Cheese")  
**Nov. 18** - Case for Christ

**28<sup>th</sup> Annual Immaculate High School Golf Tournament** Wed., **Sept 20<sup>th</sup>** at Richter

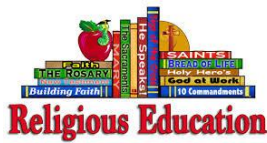
Park, Danbury. Enjoy 18 holes, continental breakfast, lunch, dinner, beer and wine, hole-in-one contest. 9:00am registration; 11:30am shotgun start - \$1000 for foursome, \$250 single golfer. For info on sponsorship opportunities and to register online, visit [www.immaculatehs.org/golf](http://www.immaculatehs.org/golf), or contact Debbie Basile, 203-744-1510, ext. 159, [dbasile@myimmaculatehs.org](mailto:dbasile@myimmaculatehs.org).

**MARRIAGE BANS**



**I. Bryan Paul Eisenman – Gina Marie Yost**

**II. Charles Thomas Denninger – Jennifer Mary Hnath**



**Online Registration!** Religious Education registration is now online! Visit our Parish Website for the link to sign up.

**New RE Programs!** Family Faith Formation is now available thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade! Visit our Parish Website to learn about our new RE Program being offered this Fall and for a video message from our Religious Ed Director, Pat Postiglione.

**RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE**

...the family, based on the marriage of a man and a woman, is not a simple social convention, but rather the fundamental cell of every society. Consequently, policies which undermine the family threaten human dignity and the future of humanity itself...More generally, and with particular reference to the West, I am convinced that legislative measures which not only permit but at times even promote abortion for reasons of convenience or for questionable medical motives compromise the education of young people and, as a result, the future of humanity."  
 ~Pope Benedict XVI, 2012  
[www.smcr.org/respect-life](http://www.smcr.org/respect-life)



**DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

Critics who say the Catholic Church is against universal health care are misinformed. The Catholic Church is founded on the Corporal Works of Mercy and helping others. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has always advocated for health care. The Catholic Church is opposing the health care mandate, because it violates the First Amendment, which is supposed to safeguard freedom of religion.

**20th ANNIVERSARY**



Saint Mary School  
 RIDGEFIELD

**Substitute Teachers Needed!**

Saint Mary School is seeking Substitute Teachers for the 2017-2018 school year. Candidates must have a college degree. Teaching certification is preferred. Openings are available for all levels, Preschool – Grade 8. Come experience teaching in an environment where the focus truly is the **whole** child. For more information, contact the Main Office. If you are interested, please complete an online application via the Diocese of Bridgeport at:

<http://www.applitrack.com/diobpt/onlineapp/>

*Saint Mary School is currently enrolling students in select grades for the 2017-2018 school year. For more information about SMS, or to set up a tour, please contact Anna O'Rourke at 203-438-7288 or visit [www.smsridgefield.org](http://www.smsridgefield.org).*

**FAITH FORMATION CORNER**



**Plant Seeds for the Future**

*"Faith is born of an encounter with the living God, who calls us and reveals his love, a love which precedes us and upon which we can lean for security and for building our lives." Lumen Fidei 4*

These words of Pope Francis are a reminder of the importance of the gift of faith in guiding our lives on a path of love and fulfillment as the people God created each of us to be. We do so much to help our children develop their gifts and talents so that they will be successful in life. Do we invest the same time and energy in their faith? And what of our own faith? Have we stopped learning and growing in our relationship with God just because the sacraments are behind us? Take time in prayer and silence this week to connect with our loving God. He alone knows what you need and the steps you need to take to plant your own seeds of faith and those of your children.

**Volunteers Needed - Dorothy Day Hospitality House**  
 Can you make mixed green salads the third Sunday of each month? We also need occasional help preparing the main meal. Great opportunity for students that need service hours. More info, email [mbreilly28@gmail.com](mailto:mbreilly28@gmail.com).

**The TEACHING MASS has been rescheduled to November 18<sup>th</sup>. RSVP on our Parish website.**

**CATHOLIC ACTION**

**DONATE: FOOD PANTRY**

In the month of July, collected food will go to Dorothy Day Hospitality House. Collection bins are in the Church and Hall. Thank you for your generosity!



**MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Don't you want to be the best role model for your child? The easiest way is to share the faith with your children by spending time with them and "walking the talk." Connect the words to action! Join the Knights for the opportunity to serve our church and community together WITH your children. We are looking for Dads and their kids to help us throughout the year. Contact John McNicholas at [jmpmcnich@yahoo.com](mailto:jmpmcnich@yahoo.com) or visit [www.kofc245.org](http://www.kofc245.org) for more info.

**PILGRIM VIRGIN**

This year we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady's message to the world: Do penance, amend your life, offend God no more and pray the Rosary daily for world peace and the conversion of sinners. Invite the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima Statue into your home. To schedule a visit call Elma Stoveken, 203-894-1341.



**WHO MIGHT CONSIDER RCIA?**

**Adults** who have never been baptized. **Adults** who have been baptized in another Christian denomination and wish to seek full communion with the Catholic Church. **Adults** who were baptized

Catholic as infants, but who have not celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation and /or Holy Eucharist. RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, is the process by which adults become members of the Roman Catholic Church. It is a

- Journey of personal growth
- Personal spiritual journey
- Time for discernment & reflection
- Place for sharing & questioning
- Time to learn about Catholicism and its Liturgy

RCIA is the Church's way of helping people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. It is concerned with the formation of a person into a fuller understanding of our Catholic faith, so that he or she can comfortably pray and serve within our Church. Contact RE Director, Pat Postiglione, 203-438-7335.



**ONLINE SUGGESTION BOXES!**

Give us your ideas for our **Church Refurbish** and our

**Parish!** Go to [www.smcr.org](http://www.smcr.org) for links. 😊

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**



**Praise the Lord! This Corpus Christi we celebrated 23 years of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration here at St. Mary Parish!** Our Adoration Chapel, the oldest one in Connecticut, is open 24/7. The entrance is near our Religious Ed Office. Stop by anytime or sign up for an hour:

SUN: 2-3am, 3-4am, 4-5am, 1-2pm; MON: 1-2am; TUE: 11pm-Midnite; WED: 1-2 pm; THURS: 1-2am

O=permanent or substitute adorer urgently needed.

X=1 additional adorer needed. Blank boxes=2 or more adorers.

	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
12M-1am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1am-2am	X	O	X	X	O	X	X
2am-3am	O	X	X	X	X	X	X
3am-4am	O	X	X	X	X	X	X
4am-5am	O	X	X	X	X	X	X
5am-6am	X	X			X		X
6am-7am	X		X	X	X		X
7am-8am	X		X	X	X	X	X
8am-9am	X	X	X		X	X	X
9am-10am	X	X		X	X	X	X
10am-11am	X			X		X	X
11am-12N	X						X
12N-1pm	X				X	X	X
1pm-2pm	O	X	X	O	X	X	X
2pm-3pm	X	X	X	X		X	X
3pm-4pm		X	X	X	X	X	X
4pm-5pm	X			X	X		X
5pm-6pm	X		X	X	X		X
6pm-7pm	X			X	X	X	X
7pm-8pm	X					X	X
8pm-9pm						X	X
9pm-10pm	X	X			X	X	X
10pm-11pm			X	X	X	X	X
11pm-12M	X		O		X	X	X

The kingdom of heaven is our God-given treasure to be entered & experienced. Through experience, wisdom & generosity we will be able to live it. We live the kingdom of God daily by using our treasure, allowing others to accompany us into a deeper faith in Christ. What better way to accept our gifts from God than by visiting & spending an hour with Him in the Adoration Chapel. We say, "Lord, I love your commands", but do we really know the Lord? Spend time with Him & get to know Him. Sign up for an hour by calling Bill & Monica @ (914)-533-2832. God bless us all.

**EVERY Thursday evening, 7-9pm, in our Adoration Chapel, the Chaplet of Mercy, 7 Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother and 15 decades of the Rosary sung and prayed. Please join us!**



**ST. MARY PARISH MEN'S MINISTRY**

Take an opportunity to deepen your relationship with the Lord - along with 50 to 60 other like-minded men. How about spending a weekly hour and half experiencing our Men's Ministry on Saturday mornings from 6:30-8:00AM? Besides having a great and welcoming community, we also serve bagels, coffee & OJ each week to ease the pain of a **very worthwhile wakeup call!**