

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

19th September 2026

First reading

1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49

‘What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.’

Brothers and Sisters: Someone will ask, ‘How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?’ You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.

So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, ‘The first man Adam became a living being’; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 56(55):10. 11-12. 13-14. R cf. 14c

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the light of the living.

Then my foes will turn back on the day when I call to you.

This I know, that God is on my side.

In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord whose word I praise.

In God I trust; I shall not fear. What can man do to me?

I am bound by the vows I have made you. O God, I will offer you praise.

for you have rescued my soul from death; you kept my feet from stumbling,
that I may walk in the presence of God, in the light of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Luke 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are those who hold fast to the word of God

in an honest and good heart,

and bear fruit with patience.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 8:4-15

‘That which fell in the good soil, they hold fast the word and bear fruit with patience.’

At that time: When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, Jesus said in a parable, ‘A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil, and grew, and yielded a hundredfold.’ As he said these things, he called out, ‘He who has ears to hear, let him hear.’

And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, ‘To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that “seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand”. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones

along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.'

Short reflection on the reading for today

When the farmer sows seed in a field, not all of it produces a crop. Indeed much of it goes to waste. Only some takes root and goes on to provide a harvest.

The seed is vulnerable to various negative influences. The kind of soil itself is not always right for planting. The environment in which we live is not very conducive to faith. Sickness or other misfortune may shake our faith. The riches and pleasures of life can choke it.

We need to nurture the seed of faith that is planted in us. We have our personal part to play in providing the good soil for the seed to grow. One element for fostering our faith is prayer, both our own prayer and joining in the prayer of the community.

The parable includes hearing the word and taking it to heart. That suggests a deliberate *listening* to the word of God, which will then affect how we live and how we relate to others. Let's think about what we can do to help the seed of faith grow up fully in our lives.