

Theme:



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- ★ Hymn of the Week: Song of Ruth
- ★ Reading of the Week: [Matthew 13:1-23](#)
(Click to view the reading)

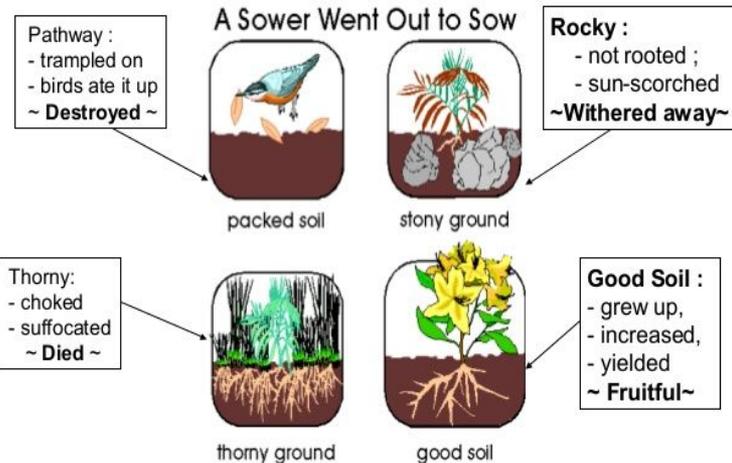
Monday, 17th July



This weeks Gospel is the Parable of the Sower and is a great one to finish our year on. By using this parable Jesus wanted to teach his disciples about how people would receive the Good News. He was about to send them out to preach and teach the gentiles and he didn't want them to be disheartened if people didn't immediately jump up and follow them.

Often we are like that seed that fell among the thorns and can get distracted by our busy lives and forget to listen to God. take a moment this morning in silence to ask God for a good summer break and to help us find the time to spend with him this summer holiday

4 Types of Soil



**Lord, Help me to hear your Word and be encouraged by it.
Help us this summer to remember to take time with you
Lord. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Tuesday, 18th July

Nelson Mandela International Day, also known as Mandela Day, is held on July 18th each year. The day remembers Mandela's achievements in working towards conflict resolution, democracy, human rights, peace, and reconciliation.



Nelson Mandela Day not only celebrates Nelson Mandela's life, but it is also a global call to action for people to recognize their ability to have a positive effect on others around them. Why not try at least once today to encourage those around you and make their day a little special? And if someone is in need in some way, respond generously and with kindness.

Let us thank God for the example of Nelson Mandela and commit ourselves to working for justice in our world, both in the big things and the little things.

Amen.

Tuesday, 19th July



Maurice Garin was the French cyclist who won the first Tour de France on this day in 1903. The Tour, makes huge demands on the competitors and such an epic undertaking is a bit like our journey of faith through life, full of twists and turns, with uphill and downhill and the occasional fall and injury.



The important thing is to keep going and to rely on those around you to help you through it, giving help yourself when it is needed.

As we travel through life, help us to recognise that we often need help ourselves and that we also need to give help to others. May our faith strengthen us and give us the courage to carry on. Amen.

Thursday, 20th July



On this day in 1969 TV pictures showed two people walking on the moon for the first time. As Neil Armstrong descended the ladder of Apollo 11, he said: **“That’s one small step for a man; one giant leap for mankind.”**

They planted the American flag on the moon, saying that they landed there in peace and for all mankind. They also left behind on the moon a small sealed capsule which contains the words of one of the prayers of the Bible. It is Psalm 8, and we’ll use that as our prayer today:

Let us pray: Lord, our God and King, your greatness is seen throughout the earth. When I gaze at the heavens which your fingers have formed, and look at the moon and the stars which you have set there, I realise how small we are in the majesty of your creation. Yet you treasure us above all that you have made, and you give us control over all the works of your hand – animals both wild and tame, birds in the air, and the creatures of the sea. Lord, our God and King, your greatness is seen throughout the earth.



PRAYER BEFORE LUNCH

Generous God,
we come to thank you for the food we
are about to eat. May we never take your
gifts for granted and never forget those
who are hungry.

Amen.



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PRAYER FOR THE END OF THE DAY



Give me this night, O Father, the peace of mind which is truly rest. Help me to be at peace with myself at peace with my fellow human beings at peace with you.

Amen.

