

天主教華人牧民處

www.chinesechaplaincyparra.org



常年期第十五主日 (甲年)

2023年7月16日

進台詠

願我在正義中，能享見你的容貌；願我瞻仰你所顯示的光榮，而心滿意足。

讀經一 撒意亞先知書 55:10-11

上主說：「譬如雨和雪從天降下，不再返回原處，只有灌溉田地，使之生長萌芽，償還播種者種子，供給吃飯者食糧；同樣，從我口中發出的言語，也不能空空地回到我這裡來；反之，它必實行我的旨意，完成我派遣它的使命。」

—上主的話

答唱詠 詠65

【答】：落在好地裡的種子，結出百倍的果實。

領：天主，你眷顧大地，普降甘霖，使大地豐收。天主的河水洋溢，為人們準備五穀。【答】

領：你灌溉了田畦，又犁平了土壤，使雨鬆軟土壤，祝福植物生長。【答】

領：你的慈惠，使年歲豐收；你的腳步，常滴流脂油。曠野的牧場，豐滿外溢，漫山遍野，充滿了歡喜。【答】

領：羊群遮蔽了牧場，山谷蓋滿了食糧，一切在歡呼歌唱。【答】

讀經二 致羅馬人書 8:18-23

弟兄姊妹們：

我實在以為：現時的苦楚，與將來在我們身上，要顯示的光榮，是不能較量的。凡受造之物，都熱切地等待天主子女的顯揚，因為，受造之物，被屈伏在敗壞的狀態之下，並不是出於自願，而是出於使它屈伏的那位的決意；但受造之物，仍懷有希望，脫離敗壞的控制，得享天主子女的光榮自由。

因為我們知道，直到現在，一切受造之物，都一同歎息，同受產痛；不但是萬物，就是連我們已蒙受聖神初果的人，也在自己心中歎息，等待著義子期望的實現，即我們肉身的救贖。

—上主的話

福音前歡呼

領：亞肋路亞。

眾：亞肋路亞。

領：天主的話是種子；基督是撒種者；所有來到他那裡的人，將生活到永遠。

眾：亞肋路亞。

福音 聖瑪竇福音 13:1-23

在那一天，耶穌從家裡出來，坐在海邊；有許多群眾，集合到他面前。耶穌只好上船，坐下；群眾都站在岸上。耶穌就用比

喻，給他們講論了許多事，說：「看，有個撒種的，出去撒種。他撒種的時候，有的落在路旁；飛鳥來，把種子吃了。」有的落在石頭地裡，那裡沒有多少土壤；因為土壤不深，雖然很快發了芽，但太陽一出來，就被曬焦，又因為沒有根，就枯乾了。」有的落在荊棘中；荊棘長起來，便把它們窒息了。」有的落在好地裡，就結了果實：有一百倍的，有六十倍的，有三十倍的。

「有耳的，聽吧！」

門徒來問耶穌說：「為什麼你用比喻，對他們講話？」耶穌回答門徒說：「因為天國的奧妙，是給你們知道，而不是給他們知道。因為凡有的，還要給他，使他富足；但是，凡沒有的，連他所有的，也要由他奪去。為此，我用比喻，對他們講話，因為他們看是看，卻看不見；聽是聽，卻聽不見，也不瞭解；這樣在他們身上，正應驗了依撒意亞的預言，說：『你們聽是聽，但不瞭解；看是看，但不明白。因為這百姓的心，遲鈍了，耳朵難以聽見。他們閉了眼睛，免得眼睛看見，耳朵聽見，心裡瞭解而轉變，使我醫好他們。』

「但你們的眼睛，是有福的，因為看得見；你們的耳朵，是有福的，因為聽得見。我實在告訴你們：有許多先知和義人，希望看見你們所看見的，而沒有看到；希望聽見你們所聽見的，而沒聽到。

「那麼，你們聽這撒種者的比喻吧！凡聽天國的話，而不瞭解的，那惡者就來，把撒在他心裡的奪去：這是指那撒在路旁的。

「那撒在石頭地裡的，即是指人聽了天國的話，立刻高興接受；但在心裡沒有根，不能持久，一旦為這話發生了艱難和迫害，就立刻跌倒了。」那撒在荊棘中的，即是指人聽了天國的話，卻有世俗的焦慮和財富的迷惑，把話蒙住了，結不出果實。「那撒在好地裡的，即是指那聽了天國的話，而瞭解的人；他當然結出果實，有結一百倍的，有結六十倍的，有結三十倍的。」

—上主的話

領主詠

萬軍的上主，我的君王，我的天主，麻雀靠近你的祭壇，找到了住所，燕子也找到了安置幼雛的窩巢。上主，居住在你的殿宇，常讚美你的，真是有福！

聖言 導讀

本主日的福音是著名的「撒種」的比喻，內容分為三段：比喻本身（3-9），耶穌說明比喻的用意（10-17），和比喻的解釋（18-23）。

比喻的重點並不在於「撒種者」或不同的「地形」，而是代表天國的「種子」。耶穌在宣講天國的過程中，也許會遭遇到挫折，因為人們沒有從他的話中察覺天國的臨在。撒種的比喻先對「失敗」做了相當詳細的描述，但重點則是最後的豐碩成果。耶穌有關天國的宣講，就有如撒下的種子是有活力的，因為天主一直在工作，不論有多少困難阻撓，天主的國必要實現。

比喻表達出天國的兩個特徵：一方面天國的來臨是天主的許諾和作為；另一方面，天國並不強迫人接受，因此比喻以「有耳的，聽吧！」作為結束，這是一個呼召，邀請大家相信，接受福音喜訊。

天國的奧妙是只給門徒們知道的，因為「凡有的，還要給他，使他富足；但是，凡沒有的，連他所有的，也要由他奪去。」此為聖經中常見的「被動」表達方式，說明這是天主的作為：只有相信的人才會了解，而且天主要賞賜他們更深的領悟；那些自我封閉的人，不但無法明白，而且將陷入更深的無知中。對瑪竇而言，凡是不屬於門徒團體的人，便是不能明白的人。他們雖然看到、聽見、也經驗了在耶穌身上所實現的救援，但卻封閉了自己的眼和耳，這是他們自己的過錯，因此耶穌只用「比喻」對他們說話。作者引用依撒意亞書六 9-10 的經文，目的針對「百姓的心遲鈍」提出一個神學性的解釋。他認為猶太人民的心硬，正應驗了先知的話；換句話說，這原是天主的計劃，使一切的理解及悔改成為不可能的事。

與眼耳被蒙蔽的猶太人對立的，是耶穌的門徒團體。耶穌稱讚門徒們的眼和耳有福，因為他們看見並聽見「先知和義人」所期望的，也就是耶穌所實現的救援。初期基督徒肯定，門徒們不僅了解而且相信了這一切。

學者們大多主張，18-23 節中的比喻的解釋，應該是初期教會對撒種的比喻更進一步的應用。在這個解釋中，重點不再是「話語」（種子）；它寓意式的指出「撒種者」代表初期教會中的宣講者，而種子的「命運」則被具體的用來描述聽眾對天國的話語，有著不同的接受態度。整個解釋充滿了警告及教導性的用語，「結果實」的意義不再指天國的圓滿實現，而是指基督徒的忠實信仰和良好倫理生活。這一切，反映了初期教會的福傳宣講情況；在這個時期，天國即將來臨、緊迫的「末世思想」已經淡化，隨之而來的具體問題是該如何在現世中好好生活，因此福傳的重點轉移為「倫理勸導」。初期教會把撒種的比喻應用到福傳宣講上，教會的宣講者成為比喻的講述者，其對象則是教會團體。比喻成為一個勸諭性的宣講，積極肯定並激勵基督徒善度信仰生活。

天主教聖莫尼加堂 St. Monica's Catholic Parish

Corner Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta

牧民處熱線電話	0411 192 278 短訊 (SMS)、WhatsApp、微信 (wechat)、粵語及國語(普通话)留言
主任司鐸 / 華人專職司鐸：	林勝文神父 電話：9630 1951 電郵： shingmanlam@gmail.com
助理司鐸：	張勇浩神父（英、韓語） 電話：9630 1951 電郵： stmonicanp@bigpond.com
主日彌撒時間：	粵語：星期日上午11時30分 英語：星期六黃昏5時，星期日上午9時、黃昏6時
平日彌撒：	星期二至五上午9時15分〔英語，附粵語講道〕
明供聖體：	逢星期四晚上8時至9時 逢星期五上午9時15分彌撒後至10時45分〔附修和聖事〕
修和聖事：	逢星期六下午4時至4時45分，每月第三主日上午10時15分至11時，或與林勝文神父預約
病人傅油聖事 / 外送聖體：	請與林勝文神父聯絡 電話：9630 1951 電郵： shingmanlam@gmail.com
婚配聖事：	請於婚配日期前至少12個月與林勝文神父聯絡
嬰孩聖洗聖事：	需與林勝文神父預約並在聖洗前準備妥當
成人聖洗聖事：	必須先參與慕道班(RCIA)，請與林勝文神父聯絡
牧民處地址：	8 Daking Street, North Parramatta, NSW 2151
牧民處辦公時間：	星期二至五 - 上午8時半時至下午2時半
堂區聯絡：	電話：9630 1951 傳真：9630 8738 電郵： stmonicanp@bigpond.com

2023-24年 成年人慕道班（粵語）

想加入天主教的朋友，新一屆慕道班逢星期日早上10時半至11時半，在堂區會議室舉行。

查詢及報名請用牧民處熱線（0411 192 278）留下聯絡電話，或與林神父聯絡。

請各教友介紹未信主的親友參加，亦歡迎再慕道者。

天主教青年教理 YOUCAT導讀（粵語，ZOOM網上講座，歡迎青年和成年人士參加）

由林勝文神父主講，逢每月第二個第四個星期六，晚上8時舉行。下次舉行日期：2023年7月22日

已報名者可重用現有的Zoom聯線，亦歡迎新參加者。

請致電：Eric Wong 0450 477 003; Thomas Tse 0413 304 285

善導之母興趣小組 烹飪示範

今日下午2時至3時30分，在禮堂，有肉絲炒麵及潮州兩面黃的示範。學費可自由捐獻。

牧民處誠邀 Mr Eric WONG (mortgage specialist)，於7月23日，星期日，下午2時至3時，在禮堂舉辦

「房貸知多少」講座。歡迎大家參加，無需報名。查詢請 WhatsApp 牧民處熱線 0411 192 278。

主日午餐服務將於下星期日（7月23日）恢復，今日彌撒後在聖堂門外發售餐券。參加者請自備杯碟餐具。

抄寫聖言 2022-2024

為慶祝本堂成立130週年，誠意邀請各位參與「抄寫聖言」，並藉此行動讓大家更熟悉天主聖言。詳情請在聖堂大門索取有關單張，亦可致電堂區（9630 1951），或發電郵給 write.the.word.2024@gmail.com

Write the WORD 2022-2024

To anticipate the celebration of the 130th anniversary of this parish, everyone is invited to join in "Write the WORD" to increase our familiarity of the Holy Scripture. For details you can take a leaflet at the main entrances of the church, or call the Parish Office (9630 1951), or send an email to write.the.word.2024@gmail.com

聖雲先會冬季扶貧

本堂聖雲先會將於下星期日（7月23日），於各台彌撒收集今年的冬季扶貧捐款，幫助有需要的家庭。捐款者可用聖堂跪凳的特設信封，或用手機掃描聖堂大門海報的二維碼。多謝各位的慷慨捐輸。

有關巴拉瑪打教區會議，請參閱以下網址：www.parracatholic.org/synod2023

歡迎把這通訊帶回家細閱

本主日答唱詠出自聖詠第65篇。教會選擇這聖詠是為配合今日福音「撒種的比喻」，答句亦是改自這比喻其中一句（見瑪13:8）。

本詩的作者和寫作年代已不可考。部分譯本註釋為達味君王所撰，卻在以民充軍開始時，由耶肋米亞（或厄則克耳）重新編寫，預言被迫離家的以民終有回國的日子，天主會以豐盛的恩寵祝福祂的選民。這詩就在充軍結束後，回國重建的旅途上，由當時的人民領袖帶領詠唱。全詩共十四節，今日彌撒只選了後半的部分。

第10至11節（你眷顧大地，普降甘霖，使大地豐收；天主的河水洋溢，為他們準備五穀。原來這一切都是由於你安排就緒。你灌溉了田畦，又犁平了土壤，使雨鬆軟土壤，祝福植物生長），「天主的河水」其實就是從天降下的雨水。居住在地方水源不足的以色列子民，雨水為他們是極珍貴的資源。眷顧和愛人的天主，為世人早已預備永不涸竭的恩寵之泉（見若4:10-14），讓人的耕耘得享成果。

第12至13節（你的慈惠使年歲豐收，你的腳步常滴流脂油。曠野的牧場豐滿外溢，漫山遍陵充滿了歡喜），當中「天主的腳步，常滴留脂油」，這是表達天主豐厚的恩寵。以民最常用的油脂是橄欖油，來自一年只結果一次的橄欖樹。在以色列地種植橄欖無需人工灌溉，這植物自然生長，甚至在極乾旱的曠野，都能結實。以民藉此形容天主直接恩待善人，自然地為人賜予恩寵。

第14節（羊群遮蔽了牧場，山谷蓋滿了食糧，一切在歡呼歌唱），詩人用另一個角度，以宏量的羊群和食糧，描寫天主格外豐盛的恩寵。用今日福音「撒種的比喻」來說，這就是在好土裡的種子，有三十倍、六十倍，乃至於一百倍的收穫。

~勝文神父

為巴拉瑪打教區會議禱文

天主，在人生旅途上，祢常與我們同行，求祢引領我們，團結合一，共同邁進。請降福、帶領我們的教區會議，使我們常存祢的愛，打開心扉聆聽，用心彼此理解；並求祢指引我們的前路，划到深處，且懷着謙遜與勇毅，努力實踐祢給我們的使命。願我們的教會，能日新又新。因我們的主基督，祂藉聖神，由始至今，時刻領導教會，達至圓滿，直到永遠。亞孟。
聖母進教之佑，為我等祈。
聖瑪利亞麥基立，為我等祈。

聖彌額爾禱文

聖彌額爾總領天使，在戰爭的日子裏保衛我們，免我們陷入魔鬼邪惡的陰謀，和奸詐的陷阱中，我們謙卑地祈求，但願上主譴責牠。上主萬軍的統帥，求你因上主的威能，把徘徊人間，引誘人靈，使其喪亡的撒彈及其他邪靈，拋下地獄裏去。亞孟。



SOAP Reflection 16th July

Scripture:

“For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.” - Matthew 13: 1-23

Observations:

In this day and age, it can be difficult to remain faithful when our faith is constantly questioned in an increasingly secular world. Despite this, God continues to sow his seeds, the message of the kingdom, whether we are open to listen and see or not. As I’m reading this week’s Gospel, I find myself questioning, what’s the use of recklessly wasting seeds on soil that is bound to be infertile? Perhaps, it is because of his great love for us, that even in those who hear but choose not to believe, those who hear and are lukewarm and those who are too preoccupied to hear, one day the seed will sprout.

Jesus’ love for us is so great and never fails, even if we are thorny, rootless or parched. But if we choose to receive the messages with faith, the seeds will take root, growing the message of the kingdom and spreading love in the world.

Application:

We often find ourselves seeking help from the Lord in times of desperation. But, how often have we neglected our relationship with God in times where we’ve felt invincible or too preoccupied with our daily stresses? In the coming week, and the many weeks ahead, may we be more aware and thankful for the reckless and never ending love God has for us despite our sins. May we remain steadfast in our faith so that we too, can understand the mysteries of the kingdom. Importantly, let us flourish through this love to live out God’s Word and be healed by Him.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for your constant love. Thank you for loving me despite my flaws and shortcomings. May I be open to the graces You have to offer by opening my eyes to see and ears to listen with faith. I pray for guidance to remain steadfast in my faith as I endeavour to deepen my understanding of Your Word. And finally, I pray for all those with calloused hearts who hear but choose not to believe, may they witness Your love and discover the joys of faith. Amen!

Youth Announcements

St Monica’s Youth Group (FYRE)

Youth group continues for another month in the community room, starting at 10:30AM! Feel free to drop by for some games and friendly chats next month in July! 😊



World Youth Day

On behalf of the team going to World Youth Day, we would like to thank everyone for their support, prayers, and generous donations over the past year. We will definitely keep the community in our hearts and minds throughout the pilgrimage, and continue to pray for everyone here and any intentions they may have. We can’t wait to share with you our experiences when we get back!



St. Monica's Parish

North Parramatta

ST MONICA'S
CATHOLIC PARISH AND PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

16th July 2023

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps 64

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. (R.)
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. (R.)
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

Second Reading Romans 8:18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel MATTHEW 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the

path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise..