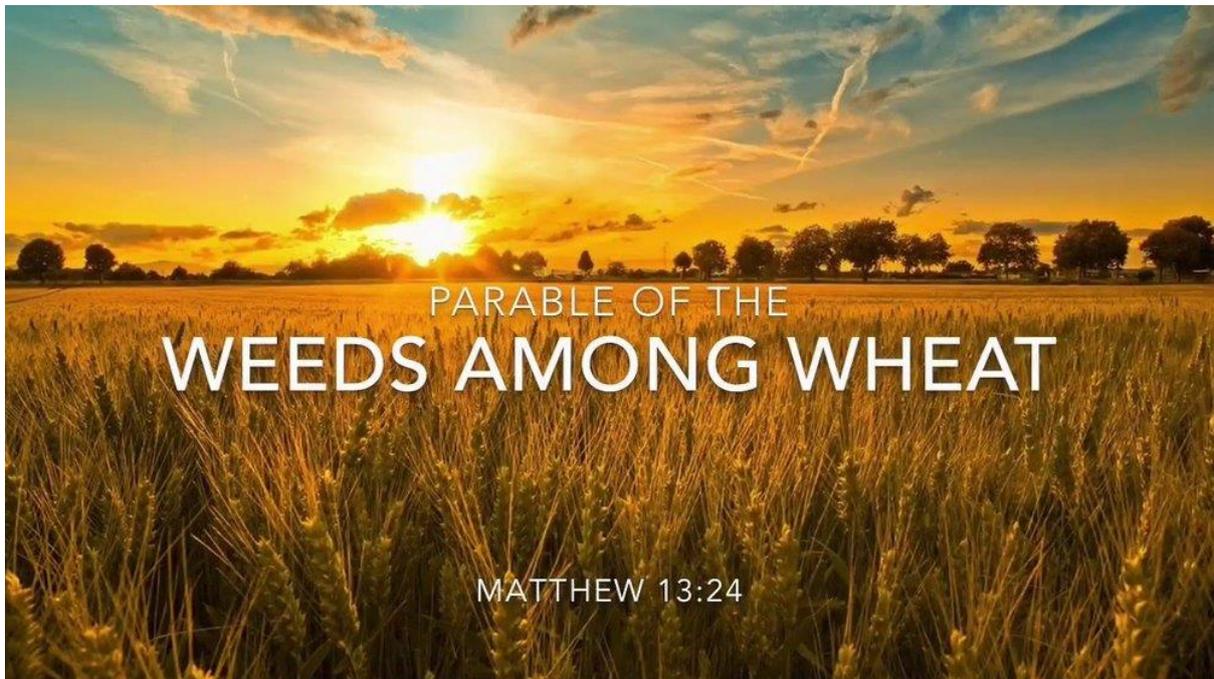


16th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Sunday 19th July 2020



**From the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew**

The Parable of the weeds among the wheat

Jesus told the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was asleep, his enemy came and sowed darnel among the wheat, and went away. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well.

"The owner's servants went to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? If so, where did the darnel come from?'

"Some enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and weed it out?'

"No,' he answered, 'because while you are weeding out the darnel, you might pull up some of the wheat with it. Let them both grow together until the harvest time. At harvest time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

Matthew 13:24-30

- Once again Jesus is using a parable, a story with a message, to teach the crowds.
  - Darnel is a weed which can grow up amongst the wheat, it can look very similar to the wheat.
  - Jesus uses a story about farming because it will be very familiar to his listeners.
- 
- In the parable we are the wheat or the darnel and God the Father is the farmer.
  - Our journey to the Kingdom of Heaven begins here on earth.
  - We may grow well, work hard and follow the teachings of Jesus, like the wheat.
  - Or we may be lazy and stray from the Word of God, like the darnel (weeds).
  - When we reach harvest time, or when we are judged by God, the good (the wheat) will enter the Kingdom of Heaven and the bad (the weeds) will be burnt in the furnace.
  - So are we like the wheat or the darnel?

