15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday 17 July

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

At Mass yesterday, our Gospel was the parable of the sower.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large 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!'

Matthew 13:1-9

Lord, you have planted seeds of love, seeds of hope, seeds of potential and seeds of everlasting life. May we allow these to grow so they forever remain planted and built up in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

For our staff Tuesday 18 July

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our scripture for this week: Jesus said, 'The one who received the seed in rich soil is the person who hears the word and understands it.'

Matthew 13:23

Our school community is made up of many different people. As students we bring to this community our enthusiasm and desire to grow in knowledge and understanding of the world God has created for us to live in. The staff bring their knowledge, and their years of training, experience and commitment. Today we acknowledge the dedication of all the staff serving Cardinal Newman School.

Reader: Let us pray for our Year Team Staff - our head of year (*name*) our tutor (*name*) and all the tutors for Year ...

Lord, in your mercy. All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray for those who teach us each day - we remember the teachers in all the subjects we study, along with the teaching assistants, cover staff and technicians whose work is essential to our learning. We thank God for those who dedicate their time to work with those among us who have special needs and who experience difficult times at school or at home.

Lord, in your mercy. All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for those who work behind the scenes; those who cook, clean and maintain the environment in which we work and the administration staff who ensure that the school runs smoothly.

Lord, in your mercy. All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray for those who lead the school; for Mr Bull, for the deputy and assistant heads, and for those who give their time as governors.

Lord, in your mercy. **All:** Hear our prayer. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Last Day of the Year

Wednesday 19 July

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our scripture for this week: Jesus said, 'The one who received the seed in rich soil is the person who hears the word and understands it.'

Matthew 13:23

On this last day of the term and the school year most of our thoughts will be on enjoying the long holiday ahead.

Loving Father, as we come to the end of another year we turn to you in confidence and place any difficult relationships into the healing hands of Jesus, your Son.

Enable us to leave behind any pain of the past and any regrets or bitterness, entrusting the past to your mercy, the present to your love, and the future to your providence.

Help us appreciate more the need to keep a good balance in our lives. May the holiday be for us a time of rest and recreation to help restore us and re-create us in your image and likeness.

Guard us in all we do over the holiday; as we travel, explore new places and experiences keep us safe and protect our families and friends. Prepare us for the return to school, college or work. Make us ready to commit ourselves to develop our talents in the new year ahead. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.