

July 26th 2026 17th Sunday Ordinary Time – Year A Matthew 13:44-52

¹³⁻⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. ⁴⁷“Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish.

⁴⁸When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked.

“Yes,” they replied.

⁵²He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

➤ **Read and re-read** – out loud and slowly the Gospel.

➤ **Meditate** - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.

➤ **Pray** - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition.

➤ **Action** – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).

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In this week's gospel we read about the Kingdom of heaven as a treasure hidden in a field, in exchange for which a man is prepared to sell everything because of the joy that it brings. The 'Kingdom of heaven' is a biblical expression which means 'What happens when God is really King'. Another way of looking at it is 'growing spiritually or getting closer to God'. What treasure have you obtained when you allowed God to be the centre of your life?

Prayer:

Thank You Lord for our conversion experiences when we met someone we could trust or went on a retreat or spiritual seminar. Up until then we were living scattered lives. Now that we have discovered a pearl of great value we are at peace.

Forgive us Lord for writing off people as if there was nothing good in them instead of letting you be the judge. You are the only one who has the right to judge as you created us all as good people.

Help us Lord to keep our faith in you because as you said "we only need Faith the size of a mustard seed to move mountains". These mountains are often negative thoughts which block the flow of positive energy and beliefs.