

# Readings at Mass for the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

ENTRANCE HYMN *New English Hymnal* 265

FIRST READING *ISAIAH* 55.10-11

A reading from the Prophet, Isaiah

*Thus says the Lord:* 'For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout; giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose; and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*PSALM* 65(64). 10A-D, 10E-11, 12-13, 14; R. *LUKE* 8.8

**R. Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.**

You visit the earth, give it water;  
you fill it with riches.  
God's ever-flowing river brims over  
to prepare the grain. **R.**

And thus you prepare it:  
you drench its furrows;  
you level it, soften it with showers;  
you bless its growth. **R.**

You crown the year with your bounty.  
Abundance flows in your pathways;  
in pastures of the desert it flows.  
The hills are girded with joy. **R.**

The meadows clothed with flocks;  
the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy; yes, they sing! **R.**

SECOND READING *ROMANS* 8.18-23

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans  
*Brothers and sisters:* I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing, for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility; not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption, and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly, as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower;  
all who find him will live for ever. **R.**

GOSPEL *MATTHEW* 13.1-9

*At that time: Jesus went out of the house, and sat beside the lake. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach.*

*And he told them many things in parables, saying:*  
'A sower went out to sow. And, as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil - but when the sun rose, they were scorched. And, since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns; and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.'

OFFERTORY HYMN *New English Hymnal* 263

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.**

*The numbers of this evening's Entrance and Offertory hymns are also displayed on the boards on the pillars*