



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If you pull up the weeds  
you might uproot the  
wheat along with them.  
Let the weeds and the  
wheat grow together  
until harvest."

Matthew 13:29-30

July  
**19**  
2020

July 19th

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday we hear from the Gospel Proclamation the parable about the weeds and the wheat and another about the mustard seed and yet another about the leaven.

I want to focus on this Sunday's parable of the weeds and the wheat. We all agree that it was a dastardly deed for someone to intentionally sow weeds in someone else's field of wheat. The question is what to do about it. When the workers ask the owner of the wheat whether they should pull up the weeds, the owner tells them; "No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest time." This is a surprising answer, but it is obviously from a man who has learned from experience. In fact, we may say to ourselves, "Of course, why didn't I think of that?"

The purpose of this parable is not to instruct us how to deal with problems on raising wheat. Jesus is teaching us how to deal with the sin and evil that is everywhere in our midst. There are those that want to attack head on what they perceive as systemic injustice. It is said to be systemic injustice because it is an injustice that has become part of the system, whether it be a system of policing, governing, educating, or running a business, etc. This parable helps us to consider what might be the best course of action to take to deal with injustice that clings to our systems and our institutions. A great deal of prudence and experience is required to reform, change, or renew any system. If "pulling up the weeds" will irreparably damage that which is good in a system, a system of education or policing, for instance, Jesus' parable teaches us that it is sometimes better to put up with the "weeds."

I admit that the proper understanding and application of this teaching is difficult. There are injustices that cry out to God. The Psalmist says, "I cry out to God Most High, to God, who vindicates me, Ps 57:2. There are sins that cry to God for vengeance. From the very beginning of the Bible after Cain murdered his brother Abel, "The Lord said to Cain... the voice of thy brother's blood cries out to me from the earth," Gen. 4:10. In interpreting his parable of the widow and the unrighteous judge, Jesus says, "And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?" Lk. 18:7. In the Letter of James we read, "Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty," Js. 5:4.

We must patiently endure "the weeds," that is, "the children of the evil one", for a greater good. We know that the time will come when they will be tied in bundles and thrown into a "fiery furnace."

~Fr. Stephen F. Watson, O.C.D.

Julio 19

16º domingo del tiempo ordinario

Este domingo escuchamos de la Proclamación del Evangelio la parábola sobre las hierbas malas y el trigo y otra sobre la semilla de mostaza y otra sobre la levadura.

Quiero centrarme en la parábola de este domingo de las malas hierbas y el trigo. Todos estamos de acuerdo en que fue un acto cobarde para alguien sembrar hierbas malas intencionalmente en el campo de trigo de otra persona. La pregunta es qué hacer al respecto. Cuando los trabajadores le preguntan al dueño del trigo si deben arrancar las hierbas malas, el dueño les dice; "No, si arrancas las hierbas malas podrías arrancar el trigo junto con ellas. Déjalos crecer juntos hasta el tiempo de la cosecha." Esta es una respuesta sorprendente, pero obviamente es de un hombre que ha aprendido de la experiencia. De hecho, podemos decírnos a nosotros mismos, "Por supuesto, ¿por qué no pensé en eso?"

El propósito de esta parábola no es de enseñarnos sobre cómo lidiar con los problemas relacionados con el cultivo de trigo. Jesús nos está enseñando cómo luchar contra el pecado y el mal que está en todas partes entre nosotros. Hay quienes quieren atacar de frente lo que perciben como injusticia sistémica. Se dice que es una injusticia sistémica porque es una injusticia que se ha convertido parte del sistema, ya sea un sistema de vigilancia, gobierno, educación o administración de un negocio, etc. Esta parábola nos ayuda a considerar cuál podría ser el mejor curso de acción a tomar para enfrentar la injusticia que se aferra a nuestros sistemas y nuestras instituciones. Se requiere mucha prudencia y experiencia para reformar, cambiar o renovar cualquier sistema. Si "arrancar las hierbas malas" dañará irreparablemente lo que es bueno en un sistema, un sistema de educación o vigilancia, por ejemplo, la parábola de Jesús nos enseña que a veces es mejor tolerar las "hierbas malas".

Admito que la comprensión y aplicación correcta de esta enseñanza es difícil. Hay injusticias que claman a Dios. El salmista dice: "Clamo al Dios Altísimo, a Dios, que me vinda," Sal 57: 2. Hay pecados que claman a Dios por venganza. Desde el principio de la Biblia, después de que Caín asesinó a su hermano Abel: "El Señor le dijo a Caín... la voz de la sangre de tu hermano me grita desde la tierra," Génesis 4:10. Al interpretar su parábola de la viuda y el juez injusto, Jesús dice: "¿Y no hará Dios justicia para sus elegidos, que claman a él día y noche? ¿Seguirá posponiéndolos?" Lucas 18:7. En la Carta de Santiago leemos: "¡Mira! Los salarios que no pagaste a los trabajadores que cortaron tus campos están clamando en tu contra. Los gritos de los cosechadores han llegado a oídos del Señor Todopoderoso", Santiago 5:4.

Debemos soportar pacientemente "las hierbas malas", es decir, "los hijos del maligno", para un bien mayor. Sabemos que llegará el momento en que serán atados en manojo y arrojados a un "horno de fuego".

~Padre Stephen F. Watson, O.C.D.

### *Prayer to Mary*

*Mother, now that the need is at its  
Greatest and the powers of darkness  
Seem to have free rein, we come  
To you with childlike trust and  
implore your powerful aid.  
  
We consecrate ourselves to you.  
Preserve us in the love of your Son,  
protect us from the evil of this  
World and lead us safe to the heart  
of God. Amen*

*-Fr. Werenfried*

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**Proverbs 11:25**

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College Prep. Academy & Community

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Special Int./All Carmelite Friars

Estella Carreon/R.I.P.

Oscar & Frank Leon/R.I.P.

Alicia Valencia Lopez/R.I.P.

Lydia Lardizabal/R.I.P.

Martha Ramirez Meza/R.I.P.

In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/  
 Int. Nieves Ortiz & Family

Gus Lopez/R.I.P.

Carlos Gonzales/R.I.P.

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~ Website [santacruzchurchtucson.com](http://santacruzchurchtucson.com) ~

~ Email [avemariasc@hotmail.com](mailto:avemariasc@hotmail.com) ~

**Business Hours** Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

**Closed for lunch** 12:45pm - 1:45pm

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.  
 Associate Pastor: Rev. Godfrey Chandya Lega, O.C.D.  
 In Residence: Rev. Jose Luis Ferroni, O.C.D.  
 In Residence: Rev. David Costello, O.C.D.

**New Parishioners: Always welcome!**

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~ Masses ~

**Sun. 6:30 am, 8 am (Spanish), 10 am, 12 noon, & 6 pm**

Mon. - Fri. 6:30 am & 8:00 am Sat. 8 am & 5:30 pm (Vigil)

**Confession:** Sat. 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

**Baptisms:** 2nd Sunday of the Month (English) / 4º Domingo del Mes (Español)

**Matrimony:** Please call at least six months in advance.

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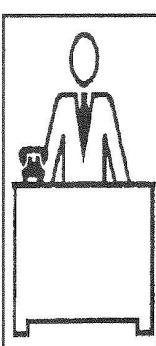
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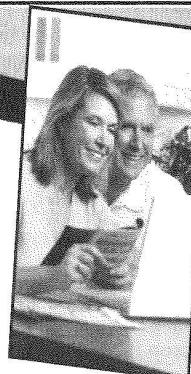
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