THE Wednesday WORD™

SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

Wednesday 8th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

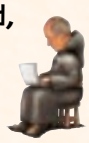
Children love to be listened to and it helps them to grow in self-esteem. If, from a young age, they know that we truly listen to them, they are far more likely to keep listening to us as they mature.

Listening to the right people and the right messages is important for us and for our children. In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear Jesus inviting us to listen to him and act upon his words.

Like any good teacher, Jesus uses pictures or parables to make his teaching clearer. Jesus is like a sower, scattering his words like seeds. Jesus' words have stood the test of time. They are rooted in love and can be trusted to guide us and our children.

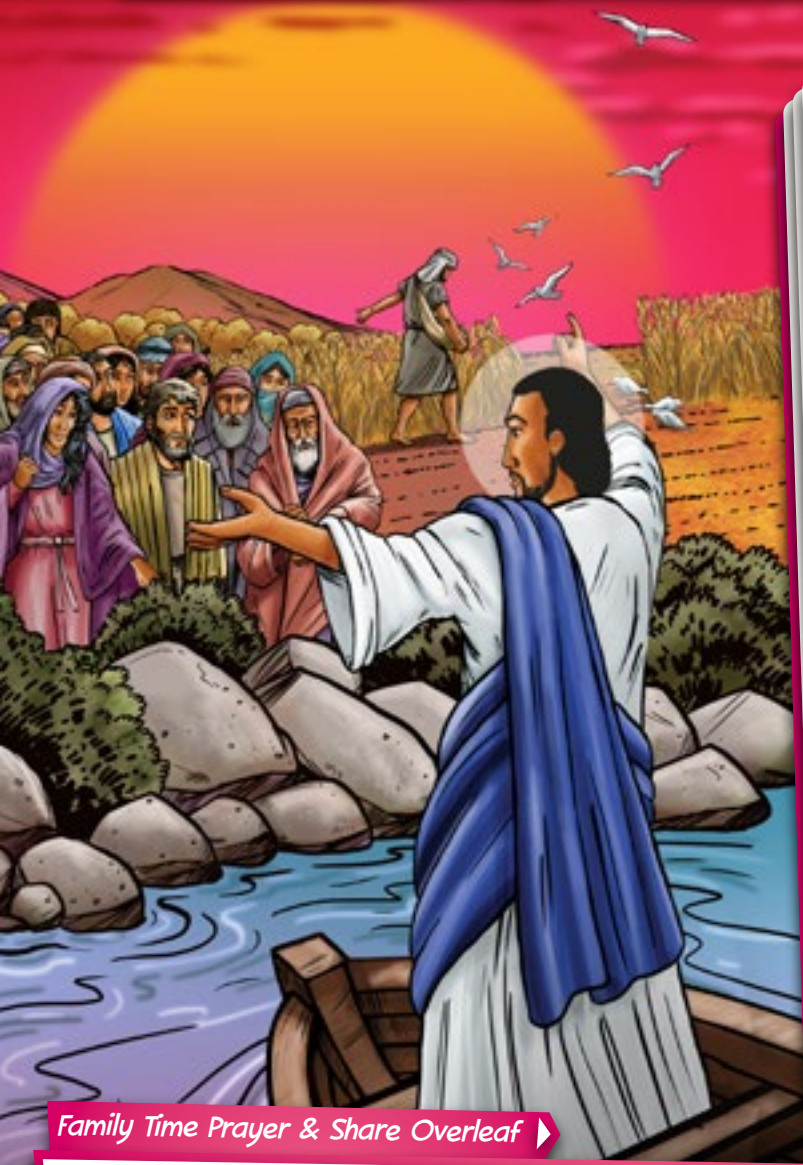
Enjoy a very special time together this evening, listening to your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **LISTENING**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"Before we speak, it is necessary for us to listen. God speaks in the silence of the heart." St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 12th July 2026



Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such 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. Other seeds fell on rich soil and produced a great crop. This is like those people who hear my words and understand them; they yield a great harvest and produce now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!"

Adapted from Matthew 13:1-23
The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful. Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf

Good News for Everyone

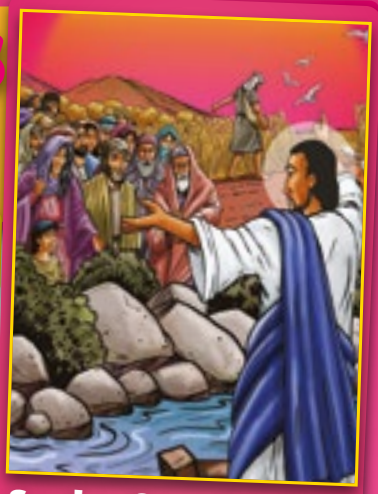
Jesus often used parables (little stories) to teach the crowds who came to listen to him. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus reminds us how important it is to take time to listen to God and to be open to receive and act upon what we hear. This helps us to make wise and safe life choices.

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Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

Jesus was teaching the people by the lakeside and he told them a story. He said, "A farmer went out to sow seed. As he sowed the seeds, some fell on the path, some among weeds and some upon rock where they could not grow properly. But some seeds fell on good soil and they produced a great crop. This is like those people who hear my words and understand them; those people grow strong and produce a great harvest. Now, anyone who has ears – listen to what I am really saying!"

What did Jesus tell the crowd that they should do?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"Listen carefully to the Master's instructions."

St Benedict – Patron of Europe (Feast Day 11th July)

LISTENING

Ask your child if they know someone who is a really good listener. Who does your child like to listen to? Do they know people who speak with kindness and love, and want good things for them and others? It may help your child if you give them an example of your own. **Listening to Jesus and acting on his words helps us to become the best people we can be.**

Jesus does not force us to listen to him, but he knows what's best for us. Regularly listening to Jesus reminds us what's really important in life. As the summer holidays approach, explore ways that can help you to listen to Jesus in these coming weeks. Perhaps you can: remember to have quiet times in prayer when you wake up, at bedtime or some other time – just for listening to God as he speaks to your heart; worship together; regularly read the gospels together. What other ways can you think of?

3

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for **listening** to us. Please help us to **listen** and understand your words and to be good **listeners** to each other too. Amen.

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

S	D	D	E	E	D	O	T	H	W	A	C
V	S	M	T	S	J	V	H	A	V	F	S
M	H	S	U	S	E	J	W	R	E	A	F
W	F	H	T	D	S	E	E	K	M	R	V
O	S	A	M	O	U	L	D	S	V	M	G
R	T	R	R	W	S	L	I	S	T	E	N
D	S	V	I	M	H	V	H	S	O	R	D
S	E	E	D	S	E	D	D	I	T	T	S
W	V	S	M	D	G	R	E	A	T	E	O
O	R	T	G	R	O	W	S	M	S	S	N
R	A	D	V	O	T	V	W	O	R	G	S
B	H	S	H	W	O	R	K	W	O	R	M

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- ☑ FARMER
- ☑ SEEDS
- ☐ JESUS
- ☐ WORDS
- ☐ LISTEN
- ☐ GROW
- ☐ GREAT
- ☐ HARVEST

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

Cross out the letters **b c d** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

becards ancybonde scadybing clibstden

Jesus said, "Now, _____ who has _____ –

_____ to what I am really _____!"

Jesus wants us to take the time to think and really understand what he is saying – to be like good soil in which the seed (his words) can take root. Then God can work through us to produce a great crop of goodness in our world.

FINDING THREE



Find and **draw 3** differences, then colour the picture

This week I will try my best to...

. . . . . .

Write a promise & **draw** a big smile on Smiley

More about the Catholic Faith: **wednesdayword.org** & **cbcew.org.uk**