

**The English Speaking  
Roman Catholic Community on Gozo**  
Patron Saint – St. Thomas More  
Our website: [www.esccgozo.org](http://www.esccgozo.org)  
Seminary guest WiFi: Letmein123!  
Sacred Heart Seminary Chapel – Enrico Mizzi Street , Victoria

**12th July 2026  
15th Sunday Ord A  
Celebrated by  
Fr. Loretu Tabone**

*I shall be filled with the vision of your glory*

**First Reading**      **Isaiah 55:10-11**

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm 64(65):10-14**

**(R) Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.**

You care for the earth, give it water,  
you fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **(R)**

And thus you provide for the earth;  
you drench its furrows;  
you level it, soften it with showers;  
you bless its growth. **(R)**

You crown the year with your goodness.  
Abundance flows in your steps,  
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R)**

The hills are girded with joy,  
the meadows covered with flocks,  
the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R)**



♪ **Hymns for Today** ♪

490 Morning Has Broken  
870 Gifts Of Bread And Wine  
118 Colours Of Day

**Second Reading**      **Romans 8:18-23**

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Memorial Acclamation**  
**We proclaim your death, O Lord**  
**and profess your Resurrection**  
**until you come again**

**We Pray For**

Those in our community and all our relatives and friends who need our prayers and those who have died

**Gospel Acclamation**  
**Alleluia Alleluia!**

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**                      **Matthew 13:1-23**

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!' Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied, 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. 'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**COMMUNION REFLECTION**

Now if the earth truly was created to provide man with the necessities of life and the tools for his own progress, it follows that every man has the right to glean what he needs from the earth ... All other rights, whatever they may be, including the rights of property and free trade, are to be subordinated to this principle. They should in no way hinder it; in fact, they should actively facilitate its implementation. Redirecting these rights back to their original purpose must be regarded as an important and urgent social duty. ST POPE PAUL VI FROM

After listening to today's readings let us now consider the following :  
**Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.**

Like any good teacher, Jesus uses pictures - or parables. Ever heard the one about the elephant and the wasp? Or electricity like a toy train going round a room? Anyway, for the next three weeks we have some of these pictures, to show us what Jesus is trying to do. This first one is rather sad. Whatever the sower does seems to fail: seed pecked up by birds, scorched by the sun, choked by thistles. What are my pecking birds, my scorching sun, my choking thistles which annihilate the seed Jesus sows in me? It's probably different for every one of us. But some, just a little, of the seed bears a fantastic harvest. There must be something I can show to the Lord with pride and gratitude: 'Look, this is the seed you gave me; it has grown, developed, and here is your harvest.' Jesus, too, reflected on his mission to establish his Father's sovereignty on earth. Jesus, too, may well have wondered if he was getting anywhere. It was only when he had failed utterly, alone, deserted and tortured, that his perseverance won the crown. Jesus doesn't want the successful. He wants the failures as his followers - and that is where the harvest lies. In Jesus' story what is the seed? What prevents the seed reaching its full growth in me? In what way has the seed made me a better person?

**And from Fr. Robert Draper**

I suspect many of those who hear this parable today would have some limited experience of gardening, would know that the quality of the seed matters, the preparation of the ground, the care of seedlings, the need to water regularly and so forth. We are probably all aware of how seriously commercial farming takes all these things, the research that goes into finding out precisely how, where and when to plant and all that goes with that, so as to be most efficient, effective, and economical and produce maximum return. What a contrast to the picture we have in the Gospel. It is clear that the seed is simply sprayed around without regard to where it lands, the sower has little interest in efficiency, effectiveness and economy. It is obvious that there is no shortage of seed - it is abundant and can be sown lavishly regardless of the conditions. In the end, all that matters is that some of the seed actually finds suitable soil and so can produce a harvest plenti-ful or meagre. The passage from Isaiah is a very profound commentary for us. We are assured that regardless of appearances, God's word will always bring results - and for us, that word is the Word who has brought about the new creation that Paul talks of to the Romans.

**Eucharistic Ministers**

<b>12-Jul-26</b>	<b>Johanna Marks</b>	<b>Monique Sant Georges</b>
19-Jul-26	David Felice Pace	Mary Newman
26-Jul-26	Iain Dando	Johanna Marks
02-Aug-26	Monique Sant Georges	David Felice Pace
09-Aug-26	Mary Newman	Iain Dando

**Readers Rota – If you would like to join please contact Johanna on johannamarks3@gmail.com**

<b>12-Jul Readings</b>	<b>Angelika Camilleri</b>	<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Vince Vella</b>
19-Jul Readings	Rachel Holland	Prayers	Chris Holland
26-Jul Readings	Chris Holland	Prayers	Rachel Holland
02-Aug Readings	Johanna Marks	Prayers	John Attard
09-Aug Readings	John Attard	Prayers	Vince Vella

**Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention For July**

**For respect for human life**

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

**FOR YOUR DIARY**

Commencing **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**, and on the 15 Wednesdays up to the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August, there will be a **Mass in English at Ta Pinu at 11.15a.m.** Readers are needed for these masses please.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in English at Ghasri church will resume later in the year. More details as they become available

**Celebrations in July**

**Birthdays**

**16th Charlotte Carrington, Julie Vella & David Felice Pace**

**Anniversaries**

**18th Sylvia & Marcel Marguerat-Grech**

**Money Matters**



**The collection for last Sunday was € 244.00**

**All monies collected are deployed to cover the costs of running our community and for good causes**

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**Council Members:**

**John & Veronica Grech 21551180**

*David Felice Pace 79560051*

*Marcel & Sylvia Grech-Marguerat 77051050*

*Johanna Marks 99950596*

*Mary Newman 77047872*

**Would you like to join us on the Council and help in running our community?**

**Contact johannamarks3@gmail.com**