

understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

**Intercession:** We place before the Lord the desires of our hearts. Pray for the Holy Father, for Bishop Mark and the clergy of our diocese, for vocations to the priesthood, for those who are sick, for your own personal needs, and for those who have died.

**Thanksgiving:** In thanksgiving we pray the Divine Praises.

Blessed be God

Blessed be his holy name

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man

Blessed be the name of Jesus

Blessed by his most Sacred Heart

Blessed be his most Precious Blood

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the altar

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy

Blessed be her holy and immaculate conception

Blessed be her glorious assumption

Blessed be the name of Mary, virgin and mother

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her spouse most chaste

Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints



© Diocese of Shrewsbury 2020

Excerpts from the English translation of *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

From *The Jerusalem Bible* © 1966 by Darton Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Ltd.

## A Visit to the Blessed Sacrament



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Reflection Resource



DIOCESE OF  
SHREWSBURY

**Stillness:** As we approach the Lord in the Tabernacle we make the Sign of the Cross.

**Preparation:** we open our hearts to the Lord and make a prayer of preparation.

*O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Invocation:** Make an Act of Spiritual Communion.

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

**Read:** Meditate on the Gospel of 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