

## Here's a text if you've only a minute .....

Lord, be merciful to your people. Fill us with your gifts and make us always eager to serve you in faith, hope and love.  
(Opening Prayer - 1st version)

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call..  
(Responsorial Psalm)

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.  
(Gospel Acclamation)

I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and sit down to supper with him and he with me. (Comm. Antiphon)

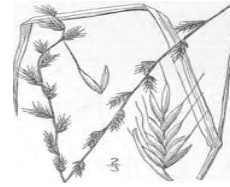
## Looking towards next week

*What does next week hold for me and how do I feel God may be calling me?*

*And so, what do I want to ask of God for myself and for others?*



SAINT BEUNO'S OUTREACH IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM



16th Sunday  
Ordinary Time  
Year A  
17th July 2011



**God has sent the Spirit of his Son to help us  
and to plead for us in our weakness.**

### Opening Prayer (2nd Version)

Let us pray that God will continue to bless us with his compassion and love.

Father, let the gift of your life continue to grow in us, drawing us from death to faith, hope, and love.

Keep us alive in Christ Jesus.

Keep us watchful in prayer  
and true to his teaching till your glory is revealed in us.

I begin my prayer by turning to the Holy Spirit who dwells in the depths of my being, asking that the longings and desires in the Opening Prayer may be truly my heartfelt desires.

I gently focus on what I am asking for, allowing the Spirit to show me where I am, or may be, blocking the gift of God's life in me through a lack of faith, hope or love.

With sorrow, but with trust and confidence in God's forgiving love and compassion, I turn again to his Holy Spirit who 'comes to help us in our weakness' asking that he will teach me what to ask the Father for, and how to pray more deeply.

I thank Father, Son and Spirit for their life within me and end with the Sign of the Cross.

**Responsorial Psalm (Part of Psalm 85)**

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of love to all who call.  
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer  
and attend to the sound of my voice.

All the nations shall come to adore you  
and glorify your name, O Lord,  
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,  
you who alone are God.

But you, O God of mercy and compassion,  
slow to anger, O Lord,  
abounding in love and truth,  
turn and take pity on me.

\* \* \* \*

**Second Reading: St. Paul to the Romans 8: 26-27**

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts, knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

**The Psalm gives us words of praise and confidence in God's forgiving love, while the 2nd reading reminds us that it is the Spirit of God who draws us into the prayer of love and trust which goes beyond words into the simple longing for and resting in God's saving love and presence.**

I pray in the Spirit, asking to be open and responsive to whatever God says or reveals to me in today's readings.

**Part of the Gospel : Matthew 13: 24-43**

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed **darnel** all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well..... The servants said. "Do you want us go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest .... at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.." .....

Then, ... his disciples said, "Explain the parable to us." He said, "The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one...; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels ... and they will gather out of his kingdom all the things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace ... Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears to hear".

**This parable is about waiting - and waiting is not easy for human beings! When we want something, we want it NOW. We often cannot understand why God doesn't do something about the evils in our world—and do it now!! But God is not like that; and so the coming of God's true Kingdom is not like that either.**

**The Kingdom comes about by the gift of the Spirit - the Easter gift of Jesus to us - and the Spirit works from within: sowing seeds, watering them, waiting to deal with the weeds until harvest comes. In the death and resurrection of Jesus God has already put our world to rights and invites us to witness to that by our lives. "Listen, you who have ears to hear."**

I speak to God about whatever in this Gospel touches me, asking to have an open heart and "ears to hear" his message.