

# Our Gospel Value this week is Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dk7llf2LkKc&list=RDMM&index=24>

# Our Virtue this week is Solidarity



**We gather together to love,  
value and respect each  
other within our Catholic  
family, to nurture each  
individual's talents and skills  
as Jesus taught us.**

***Everyone matters and is loved  
by God.***

Peace be with you  
**and with your Spirit**

Jesus Christ light of the world  
... **shine brightly in our lives**



Jesus Christ God's living  
Word  
... **speak to us your truth**



Jesus Christ God's love  
revealed  
... **dwell among us**



Our lit candle reminds us that  
we are in God's presence as  
we mark ourselves with the  
sign of the cross

**In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit  
Amen**

# We Say Sorry

You call us to follow you  
Lord, have mercy.

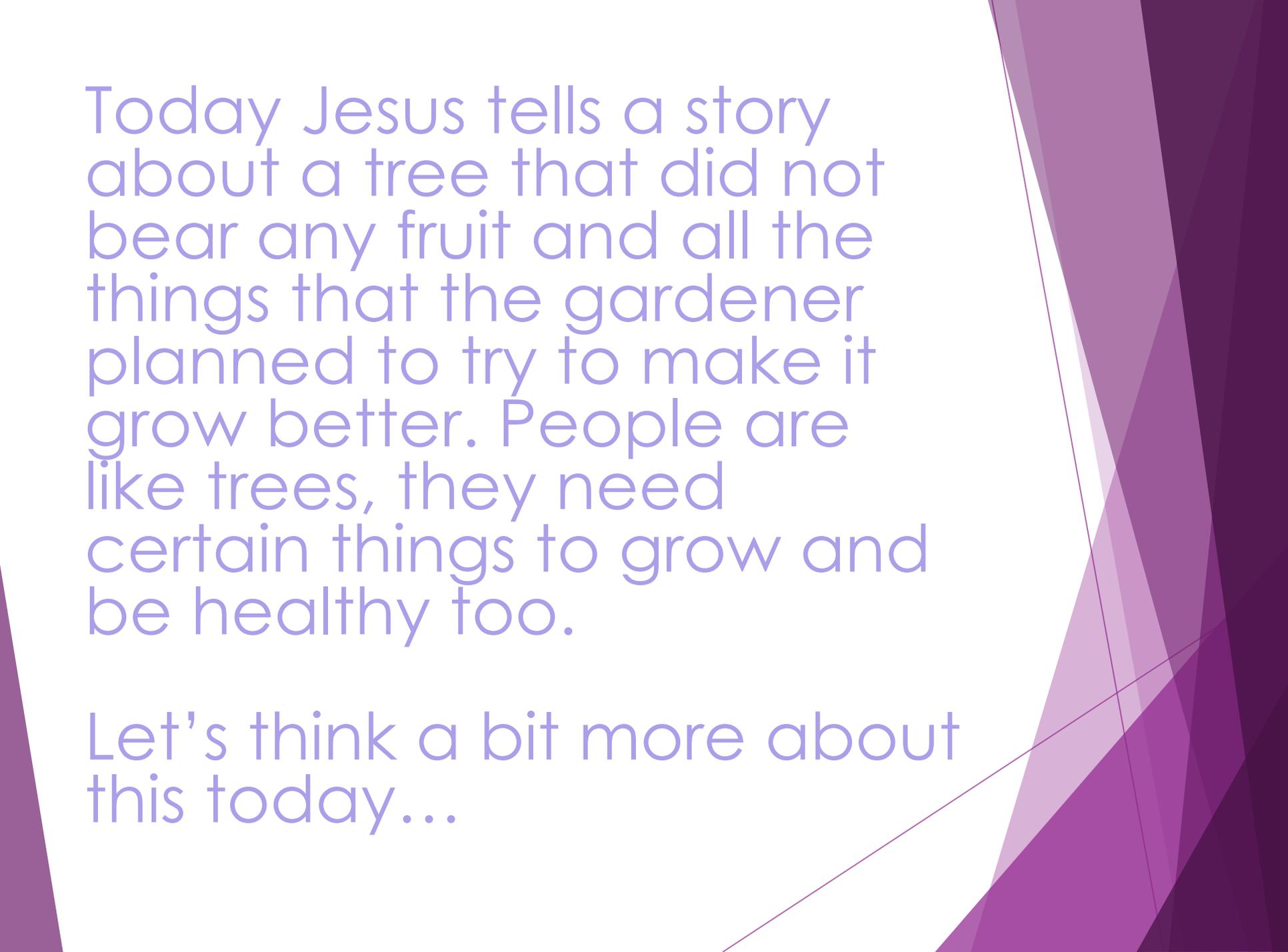
**Lord, have mercy.**

You ask us to love one another  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You open your arms to all of us  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**



Today Jesus tells a story about a tree that did not bear any fruit and all the things that the gardener planned to try to make it grow better. People are like trees, they need certain things to grow and be healthy too.

Let's think a bit more about this today...

Forgiving God, we thank  
you for the love and care  
that you show for us all.  
Help us to grow in that  
love, and to do all that we  
can to help each other to  
live free from poverty and  
hunger.

**Amen.**

*We listen to the word*

Gospel according to Luke 13:1-9

**May the words of Jesus be**

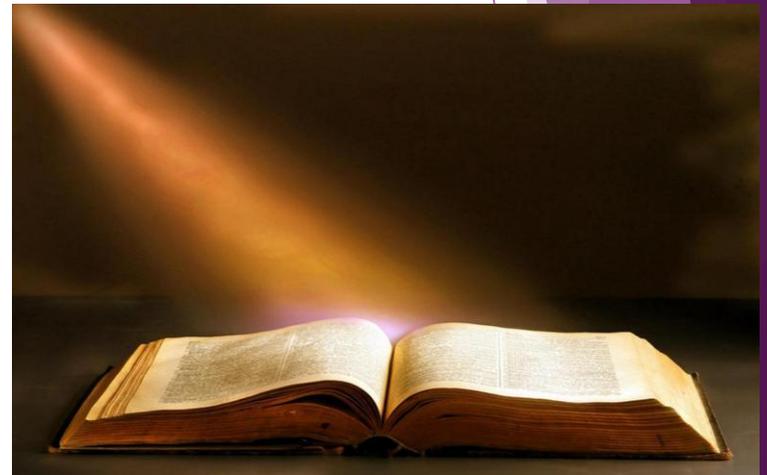
**On my mind**

**On my lips and**

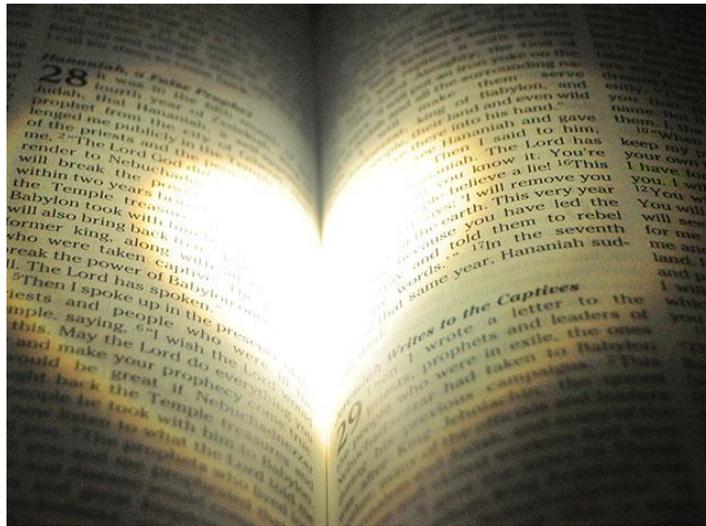
**In my heart**

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



We are still and silent as  
we reflect on God's  
word for us in the Gospel.



Jesus told a parable.

A parable is a story  
which teaches us  
something.

Jesus liked to use stories  
to explain things that  
were complicated.

The parable Jesus tells us today is about a fig tree.



The man who had planted the fig tree came out to pick some fruit, but there wasn't any.



How do you think the man felt?  
What did he decide to do?

The man had been waiting for three years for the tree to give him some fruit. He was angry and disappointed. He asked his gardener to cut down the tree.



But what did the gardener say?

The gardener asks for one more year to look after the tree – to dig round it and give it some manure to help it grow. Plants and trees need the right conditions to grow and the gardener hopes that by doing this, the tree will grow fruit.



People need the right conditions to live their lives well too. Everyone needs enough food and water to stay healthy and strong.

What else do we need to live?

- ▶ Love
- ▶ Shelter
- ▶ Clean air to breathe
- ▶ Peace

Lokho lives in a small village in Kenya, where there was no rain for almost three years.

When her cows and goats died because of the lack of water, she had no other way to feed her family.

It is very hard to live without water and it is hard to grow food too. But Lokho and the other women in her village have learnt some new skills for growing food in very hot and dry places.

They have special shade nets that protect their crops from the scorching sun and they use dry grass as mulch to keep as much moisture in the soil as possible.

The women work together and share with one another as Lokho explains, “Unity is strength – that is what we believe. Everything in this place is done as a community.”

The fig tree in Jesus' story is supposed to share its fruit with the man who planted it, but it is not doing what it is supposed to. Sometimes we are a bit like the fig tree. We do not share as well as we could.



So, if the fig tree in Jesus' story is a bit like us, who do you think the gardener is?



The gardener is like Jesus. The gardener gives the fig tree another chance and gives it all the things it needs to live. Jesus is always ready to forgive us when we have done something wrong. And Jesus shows us how we should live our lives.



God gives us the chance to change, to share what we have and to do all that we can to make sure that all people have the things that they need to live.

In silence, pray for each other - that God will be with all of us.



As we try to draw closer to  
God this Lent, we pray  
together:

We pray for the world's  
leaders: that they may make  
real changes so that we may  
all have the right conditions to  
live our lives well.

Lord, in your mercy...  
Hear our prayer

We pray for all people throughout the world who are hungry or struggle because of a lack of water: that together we may make a change, so everyone has their fair share of God's gifts.

Lord, in your mercy...

Hear our prayer

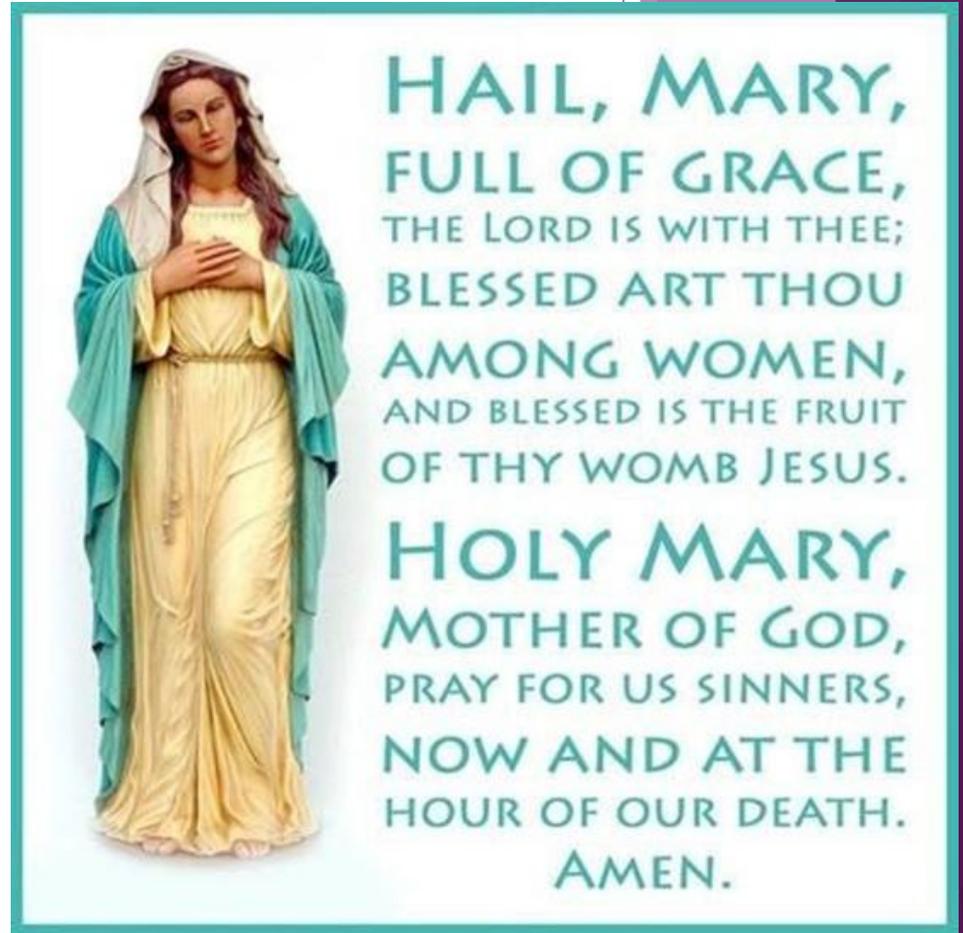
We pray for our school,  
parish, families and friends:  
that we may share what we  
have with others, and help  
make sure that all people  
have the chance to grow  
and live well.

Lord, in your mercy...

Hear our prayer

We take a moment now to pray for our own intentions.

We ask Our Lady to intercede on our behalf as we say together...



Creator God,  
you gave us a world full of  
wonderful things. May we share  
these fairly with each other, so  
all people have the chance to  
grow and live happy lives.

Amen

St Anthony  
**Pray for us**

St Mark  
**Pray for us**

St Francis  
**Pray for us**

St Alban  
**Pray for us**

How will  
you follow  
Jesus this  
week?

# What will you do this week, to show love?

- ▶ Share with other people
- ▶ Include others in your games
- ▶ Take turns

**Jesus, I offer my day to you**

**Jesus, I offer my day to you**

**Jesus, I offer my day to you**

Let us go in  
peace

**Thanks be to God**

# Our Gospel Value this week is Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMWrAqMWhWs&list=RDMM&index=11>

# Our Virtue this week is Solidarity

