

Children's Newsletter

St Mary's

Matthew 13:24-43

16th
Sunday

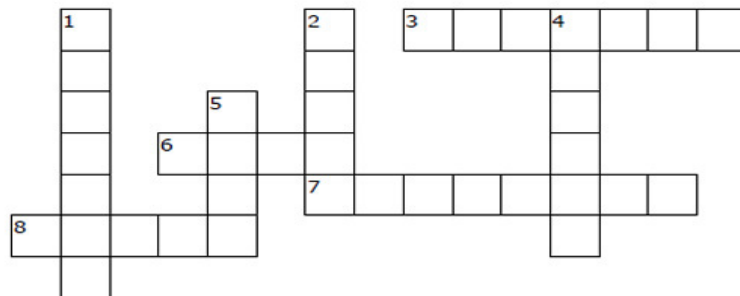
This Gospel follows on from last week and Jesus tells the crowd more parables. A parable is a story with a hidden meaning.

Today's parables are again about seeds and farming. One of them is about the mustard seed, which is the smallest seed but it grows into the biggest plant of all. What do you think it means? If you think how small you may be now, maybe you will make the biggest difference to the world as you grow up.

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade." Mark 4:30-32 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Mark 4:30-32



ACROSS

3. Bigger than any of the others
6. A small grain of a plant placed in the ground for growing another plant
7. Not as big as any of the others
8. A living thing that grows in the ground, usually with leaves or flowers

DOWN

1. A story told by Jesus to help explain his teachings
2. An animal that has wings and is covered with feathers
4. An area where plants are grown
5. The place where birds lay eggs or give birth to their young

SEED SMALLEST	PARABLE NEST	BIRDS GARDEN	LARGEST PLANT
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Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene is well known as one of the followers of Jesus. When she met Jesus for the first time she was so sorry for all the bad things that she had done that she wept. Jesus could see that she was sorry and said that she was forgiven.

After that she stayed with him and the apostles and listened to him teaching along with the other women, including Mary the mother of Jesus.

When Jesus was crucified, Mary was there standing at the foot of the cross, unafraid for herself, praying for him. Most of the apostles had run away and were hiding. And when she went to the tomb on Easter Sunday to prepare the body of Jesus for burial, it was Mary who discovered the empty tomb. It was also to Mary that Jesus appeared for the first time after his resurrection.



Fourteen years after the resurrection of Jesus, the Jews placed Mary Magdalene and other Christians in a boat with no sails or oars. They thought that this would get rid of them but the boat drifted out to sea and landed on the shores of Southern France. Mary spent the rest of her life there thinking about the things she had learned from Jesus.

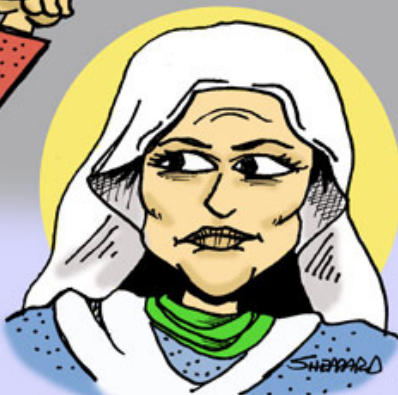
Her feast day is July 22nd

SAINTS FUN FACTS

From Sweden, Brigitta was a mystic and Saint, founder of the Bridgettine nuns. The order spread throughout Europe with monasteries from Scandinavia to Italy. Brigitta was also a wife and mother of eight children.



God appeared and spoke to Brigitta numerous times



Patron Saint of Sweden

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St Bridget's feast day is July 23rd