

Wednesday 27th September 2023
Harvest Festival



In God's love we live, learn and grow

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We daily bless our food “In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Mark 4:26-29

Jesus went on to say, “The Kingdom of God is like this. A man scatters seed in his field. He sleeps at night, he is up and about during the day, and all the while the seeds are sprouting and growing. Yet he does not know how it happens. The soil itself makes the plants grow and bear fruit; first the tender stalk appears, then the ear, then the ear full of corn. When the corn is ripe, the man starts cutting it with his sickle, because harvest time has come.

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Our lives depend on the earth being fruitful, but we need people who till the soil, who care for the earth, who deliver its produce to shops in the towns. We need to be thankful to so many people.

But we must also care for the earth. The Church teaches us respect for plants and for animals. We cannot abuse our world but must use it with care and prudence. We are to have a care not only for the rights of others, but also the rights of future generations. We think of the respect that the saints had for nature and animals like St. Francis Assisi.

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For a moment in silence we give thanks for the good gifts
we have received.



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We give thanks to the Lord of the Harvest as we pray:
That the richer nations will have a concern for the poor
and hungry of the world.

All creation praise the Lord.

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That our politicians and the Christian community would always look after the poor in our midst.

All creation praise the Lord.

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That farmers and traders would receive just payment for their labours.

All creation praise the Lord.

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That we would always have respect for the earth and that wise policies be drawn up to protect our environment.

All creation praise the Lord.

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That we would always have a deeper hunger for the things
for God.

All creation praise the Lord.

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Blessing

May the Lord bless you and take care of you;
May the Lord be kind and gracious to you;
May the Lord look on you with favour and give your
peace.
Amen.

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