

Thoughts on the Daily Word

7th Week of Easter. *Tuesday 14th May. St. Matthias, Apostle. Readings: Acts 1:15-17,20-26; Psalm 112; Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13; John 15:9-17.*

I took the difficult decision to clear the rhododendron from our church garden a few years ago. There were over 16 bushes that had grown well over 6 foot. It was a scene of devastation! Ruthless but necessary, it leaves a large bare space to be filled. Fortunately, I had some tub-bound small trees in my back yard. One is barely alive in the summer, usually. I have planted this orphan plant; nobody knows what kind of tree it is. Every day I go out to see how it is doing! I am worrying over it like a parent, waiting to see what it will become. I watch for signs of life flowing through its bare branches. Today's readings have that kind of deep love for the vine, with a God who is loving his plant, the Church into life. The empty space needs to be filled with new life. Just like the Church at its beginning which needed a new apostle to complete the Twelve. I ask myself whether I really have that same love for the Church, perhaps we all have to ask that question as we move towards the birthday of the Church at Pentecost.