



Prayer Poems

Poetic Reflections for Sundays and Feastsdays
by Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND



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Soil and Soul Searching

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND. on 07/12/2017
in ORDINARY TIME

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time–Cycle A July 16, 2017

*“But some seed fell on rich soil, produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty-fold.”
(Matthew 13:8b)*

Soil and Soul Searching

Is your soil made of clay?

- An old and weathered rock
- Hard and not easily seeded
- Water bogged

Perhaps your ways are hardened; and you suffer from change or new growth.

Is your soil made of silt?

- Water flows freely and with it nutrients.

About Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND

Sister Juliemarie McDonald joined the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio in 1951. She holds an MA in English Studies from John Carroll University MA in Scripture from St. Charles Seminary. After 32 years of teaching classes ranging from first grade to college level, she then became a researcher, campus minister, director of religious education and a pastoral minister in Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida. In her semi-retirement, Sister Juliemarie writes reflections and faith sharing sessions for the young sisters in formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.



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- Spaces between particles create fertile and rich soil,
- Fine drainage and fruitful soil.

Lucky for your soil and soul! I see you as one who lives in the present.

Is your soil made of loam?

- Ideal for gardening
- Great drainage
- Not water bogged, nor root rot

This soil and soul lives life in all of its fullness beautifying God's garden, bringing hope to those they meet.

Is your soil chalky or peat?

- Extremely alkaline
- Dries out easily
- Stones mingle with soil.

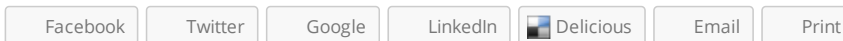
Are these the dried and burnt out workaholics?
Might they be those who care for everyone but themselves?

Gardening is not an easy chore; it is well worth the dig!
Master Gardener, nourish me with good soil and a hope filled soul. Amen.

For Reflection and Sharing:

1. Digging deep into your soul, what did you discover?
2. How else might you symbolize soils with souls?
3. Why does rich soil produce a hundred or sixty, or thirty-fold?
4. What do those numbers represent to you?
5. What kind of soil to you see in me?
6. How can I enrich and fertilize my soul?

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