



## **At Seedtime: Celebrating a Diocesan Day of Prayer** **Friday February 4, 2022**

Seeds represent a microcosm of all life. By our prayer, we acknowledge God's love for all creation and our responsibility to care for it. As planting season begins in late winter or early spring we the Church seek God's blessing on seeds, crops, and all creation. Gardeners, farmers, and all growers especially ask God's protection for seeds (or young plants) in fields, gardens, and greenhouses.

In the past, when the Church marked certain times of the year with Ember Days and Rogation Days, it included prayers for the Blessing of Seeds at Planting Time, as well as prayers for the Blessing of Fields and Gardens.

Our diocesan day of prayer occurs on Friday, Feb. 4, 2022. Parishes can celebrate God's gift of seeds as a microcosm of all life in several ways:

- Parish masses on Feb. 4 use the Roman Missal's prayers "At Seedtime" (#27 from Masses for Various Needs and Occasions). Blessing of seeds can occur in this context.
- Parish formation programs can use this insert from the Office of Divine Worship (<https://kcsjatholic.org/office/divine-worship>), with groups of children or youth for sacramental prep or care of creation ministries.
- Households and small faith communities can use the insert on a suitable day later in the planting season.
- At the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Feb. 4 (12:15 p.m. mass) Bishop Johnston will bless all seeds present. Seeds can be brought in person, or sent with someone ahead of time. Especially invited are gardeners, farmers, greenhouse growers, and all who work with plants or seeds.

