

## SECOND WAVE

We were warned of the second wave, Father.

We endured the first wave—  
obeyed the rules,  
followed the guidelines,  
patiently restricted our contacts,  
Until we appeared to have this virus defeated.  
But the moment we relaxed,  
became less vigilant,  
invited people across our borders,  
re-united with our social networks,  
Then came the second wave—  
a new wave of infections,  
a new threat to all of us,  
a new imposition of restrictions.

It is so easy to allow ourselves to be duped,  
to become apathetic—  
And we suffer the consequences.

Jesus warned us that our faith was like this, Father.  
In his story,  
As the sower threw the seed,  
Some fell on rocky ground—  
Finding soil in which to germinate,  
It grew quickly;  
But its roots had no depth,  
And when the heat scorched it,

It withered and died.

The seed of faith may germinate  
And grow quickly,  
But if its roots have no depth,  
When the heat of life scorches it,  
It will wither and die.

Let me find depth in my faith, Father—  
Roots that are secured deep in you,  
Drawing life from deep in Jesus,  
Able to withstand the scorching  
Of whatever heat I may feel.

*The farmer plants the Word. ... And some are like the seed that lands in the gravel. When they first hear the Word, they respond with great enthusiasm. But there is such shallow soil of character that when the emotions wear off and some difficulty arrives, there is nothing to show for it. (Mark 4: 13, 16–17, MSG)*