

# Dear Padre,

**I care for my mother, who has dementia. I was active in my parish, but now I hardly have a minute to spare for prayer, much less helping out at church. I'm getting very depressed. What should I do?**

**I have several ideas.** First, make your prayer life part of your mother's routine, and you'll find it easier to fit prayer into your day. People with dementia find it soothing to listen to repetitive prayer, so consider praying the rosary aloud in her presence. Sometimes people with advanced dementia can still remember and recite the Our Father and the Hail Mary, so you could end up praying the rosary together. That would truly be a gift.

Next, try reading aloud Scripture stories from a youth Bible. They'll be easier for her to understand than passages from an adult Bible, and you'll get some time with God's word.

Last, but absolutely not least, it's important for you to be connected. If your parish has a parish nurse, he or she can help you find respite care, in which someone takes your place with your mom so you can get away for a while, or

a caregiver-support group where you can talk with other people in your situation. If your parish doesn't have a nurse, your diocese can give you the same information.

Remember, attending to your spiritual health doesn't just help you—it helps your mother, too.

*Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR*  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*How often do we see a man or woman arrive at work with a weary face, with a tired countenance and, when we ask them, "What happened?" they answer: "I only slept two hours because we are taking turns at home to be close to... our grandfather, our grandmother"....These are heroic deeds, the heroism of families!*

GENERAL AUDIENCE, JUNE 10, 2015



## Calendar

**Monday**  
 JUNE 14  
 Weekday  
 2 Cor 6:1-10  
 Mt 5:38-42

**Tuesday**  
 JUNE 15  
 Weekday  
 2 Cor 8:1-9  
 Mt 5:43-48

**Wednesday**  
 JUNE 16  
 Weekday  
 2 Cor 9:6-11  
 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday**  
 JUNE 17  
 Weekday  
 2 Cor 11:1-11  
 Mt 6:7-15

**Friday**  
 JUNE 18  
 Weekday  
 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30  
 Mt 6:19-23

**Saturday**  
 JUNE 19  
 Weekday  
 2 Cor 12:1-10  
 Mt 6:24-34

**Sunday**  
 JUNE 20  
 Twelfth Sunday  
 in Ordinary Time  
 Jb 38:1, 8-11  
 2 Cor 5:14-17  
 Mk 4:35-41

### Daybreaks inspires during our Church's holiest seasons.

Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections & prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

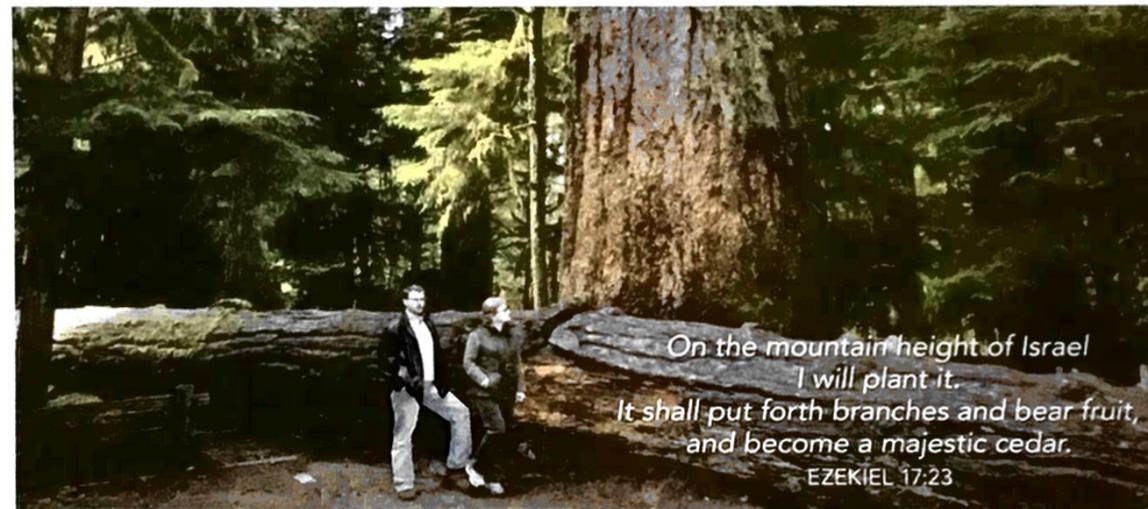
June 13, 2021

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Ez 17:22-24

2 Cor 5:6-10

Mk 4:26-34



*On the mountain height of Israel  
 I will plant it.  
 It shall put forth branches and bear fruit,  
 and become a majestic cedar.  
 EZEKIEL 17:23*

## To What Shall We Compare the Kingdom of God?

**T**oday's readings are rich with answers to this question posed in Mark's Gospel. The prophet Ezekiel selects the metaphor of a cedar tree. Like such a tree, the kingdom of God begins as a tender shoot planted on a high mountain where it can grow unimpeded by other growth. There it will grow tall and firm, boasting many branches, rich with fruit, the home to various species of birds. The Gospel writer chose another metaphor—that of a small seed. This parable characterizes the inconspicuous nature of the kingdom's origin. We may not see it in the beginning because it is so small and surrounded by soil, but it contains within itself the force of life that someday will burst forth into a rich harvest.

The mustard seed is a special kind of seed. Today's Gospel calls it "the smallest of all the seeds on the earth" (Mark 4:31). However, following the pattern of growth that is hidden in the core of its being, it also brings forth one of the marvels of nature, producing "the largest of plants" (Mark 4:32). Metaphors also underscore the fact that these seeds must first

transform, lose the appearance of a seed in order to rise, filled with the mysterious character of its growth. All of this happens quietly, unpretentiously, as if under the cover of night.

These are very moving metaphors, quite easy to understand and envision. However, the reality for which the metaphors stand is sometimes very difficult to realize because of human selfishness. Still, it is God's tree, God's seed, God's kingdom, and it is God who declares: "As I, the LORD, have spoken, so will I do!" (Ezekiel 17:24).

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- *What about these metaphors gives you comfort and encouragement?*
- *How do you contribute to the health and growth of the kingdom of God?*



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 Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair 272-1030  
 Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair 355-6206  
 Altar Society President, Nanette Rice 355-7676  
 Tom Bachman, Grand Knight 640-8259  
 Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek 355-1696  
 & Nanette Rice 355-7676

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, June 14 8:00 a.m. Charles & Eileen Hoff+**  
**Tuesday, June 15 8:00 a.m. Harold Smith+**  
**Thursday, June 17 8:00 a.m. Ron Gorges+**  
**Friday, June 18 12:15 p.m. Private Intention (T.S)**  
**Saturday, June 19 4:00p.m. Charles & Eileen Hoff+**  
**Sunday, June 20 9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving for Rain**

June 12, 4:00 p.m. Karen Burden  
 June 13, 9:00 a.m. K of C  
 June 19, 4:00 p.m. Tom Bachman  
 June 20, 9:00 a.m. Mike Broeckelman  
 June 26, 4:00 p.m. Gwen Waechter  
 June 27, 9:00 a.m. Fred Jones

*Thank you so much for your ministry!*

**Reconciliation:** Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. every Friday from 4:15—4:50 p.m. or by appointment.

**Baptism:** Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

**Marriage:** Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

**11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME— JUNE 13, 2021**



**The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will live forever**

My friends, very often we want to do big things for our family or for our country or for the world. However, we need to be aware that little thing can make a difference.

Today is a day to pledge to do not just the “big things”, but the “little things” too, the seemingly insignificant tiny acts of kindness or mercy or generosity or compassion or love --- acts whose effects we can never know. How does one smile make a difference? How does one short visit to a lonely person, or helping an elderly neighbor do some yard work, or giving somebody who can no longer drive a ride, or inviting the kid no one likes to a movie, or forgiving a family member who has wronged you --- how can these things change the world?

We don't know --- no more than the guy racing from first to third knows exactly how the extra base might help them win the game or maybe even the championship. That's the honest answer. And that's ok. We don't have to see how everything will play out. The only thing we need to know and believe is that somehow our loving God will take all of our seemingly insignificant acts --- our “little” seeds, if you will --- and from them will bring something more meaningful and more beautiful and more life-changing than we could ever imagine.

So let's not wait around for that one “big thing” with our name on it. Rather, in faith let's do countless little things --- each and every day --- trusting that that might just be precisely the way we're going to help make the world the way God wants it to be.

Fr. Peter Tran

**COLLECTION** for June 6, 2021: Envelopes: \$1235; Loose: \$130; Online Giving: \$1210.50; Total \$2575.50; +Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under (+814.33)

*Thank you so much to your faithful stewards for supporting our parish, diocese, and worldwide Church.*

**K OF C BREAKFAST** Right after Sunday Mass on June **13th** The Knights of Columbus will host a delicious breakfast at the Parish Hall. ALL ARE WELCOME! Please plan to attend to build up our Parish Community of Faith.

**CONGRATULATIONS** We would like to extend our congratulations to our newly Baptized, Xavier Arian Leyva-Vazquez, son of Dayana Vazquez, who was baptized on June 12. Welcome to God's family in the Church! May our Loving God continue to pour down His abundant blessings upon Xavier Arian Leyva- Vazquez and his family.

**RUMMAGE SALE** Plans are to have your Rummage Sale this Summer. There has not been a date set at this time. We would like to start collecting items. If you have something you would like to donate, please contact any of the following:

Jana Jenkinson	290-5201	Janet Rooney	640-1946	Tressa Power	260-6247
Jane Sullivan	355-5118	Carolyn Robertson	290-5569	Gwen Waechter	272-1030

**BUDGET SHOP REMINDER** our church is scheduled to work at the budget shop every four weeks. We always appreciate all your help. We will be working on June 5 and 8, July 6 and 31st, August 3, 28th, and 31st and on September 25 and 27th. Please put these dates on your calendar. Your children can qualify for a very good scholarship from the Budget shop by volunteering 12 hours a year. So encourage them to work also. Thank you.

**VOCATION VIEW** "Lord, it is good to give thanks to You." Our life is one of gratitude for the many gifts that God has given. What are the gifts God has given to you, uniquely; and how is He asking you to share those gifts with the Church and the world? (Psalm 92)

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT** Like the sower in today's Gospel, I scatter as seed my gifts of time, talent, and resources; and I trust that, by God's grace and in God's time, these small gifts of myself may grow and flourish and help to bring about the Kingdom of God.

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** (adapted from St. Vincent de Paul) O divine Savior, you came into this world to preach your gospel in delightful simplicity. I humbly ask you to let me learn from your example. Make me acquire your spirit of simplicity and by your grace spread it around in a simple and direct manner for the spiritual well-being of others. May I thus promulgate your word, spreading it wherever I go as your good and faithful servant. O my dear Savior, pour out your spirit of simplicity into my heart so that I may be your true apostle by always fully cooperating with your grace. Amen.

#### **UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - CORPUS CHRISTI (Mark 4;26-34)**

**Hearing and believing** These two parables come right after the parable about the sower. People who hear and accept the teaching of Jesus sprout from the seed planted on good soil. Such people become Jesus' followers. Jesus directs these next two parables to them.

**Parables** While reflecting on a parable we must remember that parables don't mean only one thing. A good parable invites people to think about it, talk about it, and come to more than one insight. Parables are not allegories. In an allegory each element of the story directly corresponds to something else, which narrows the meaning of the story. Good parables change the way people think about something. Ideally, parables also change the way people act. One of the reasons Jesus was such a good teacher is his parables inspired people to think and live differently.

**Hidden but certain growth (vv.26-29)** The farmer plants seed and then watches it grow through no power of his own. Jesus is like a farmer who plants the seeds of God's kingdom. If Jesus' followers wonder how or if God will complete his kingdom, this parable assures them he will. The harvest is God gathering people into his kingdom.

**Tiny seed (vv.30-32)** Mustard seeds are only a few millimeters in diameter. Jesus thus creates a clever contrast between the tiny seed and the large tree that grows from it, a tree large enough to shelter birds! If Jesus' followers are ever dismayed by the delay of God's kingdom, this story encourages them to be patient and remain faithful.

**Other insights** Here is more – though only some more! – of what the parables invite us to ponder. • God's kingdom has humble beginnings; it doesn't always grow in obvious or awe-inspiring ways • God controls the growth of his kingdom • We don't always see or understand how God is at work • There's often a difference between what we see and what's really happening ([www.oursundayreadings](http://www.oursundayreadings))

#### **UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST READING (Ezekiel 17:22-24)**

**The bad news gets worse** Ezekiel prophesied as the Babylonian empire conquered Jerusalem in the sixth century BC. The Israelites believed that God would protect Jerusalem and its temple, but Ezekiel warned that God would leave his holy city in the hands of their enemies as a punishment for his people's sins.

**God replants the messiah** Although Ezekiel prophesied that total devastation would accompany the Babylonian invasion, he also offers consolation. God had promised that a descendant of King David would reign over Israel forever (2 Samuel 7). When the Babylonians deported the Israelite king, God seemed to have broken his promise. Here God assures his people that he will one day enthrone a new descendant of David in Jerusalem. The tree represents David's ancestral line. The top of the tree is the future Davidic king. The mountain is Jerusalem. Although things look bad now, one day David's line will be restored and God's people will return home and rebuild in safety ([www.oursundayreadings](http://www.oursundayreadings))

## QUESTION AND ANSWER

**Question:** In the 2016 movie *Silence*, a central premise is that intentionally stepping on a holy image, even if done out of fear or to save the lives of others, is apostasy. Is this a correct notion? — James Macdonald

**Answer:** The notion in the premise of the movie, at least as you state it here, is simplistic. And this is so for two reasons.

The first oversimplification involves the definition of apostasy. The Catechism of the Catholic Church distinguishes four sins against faith and the First Commandment: “Incredulity is the neglect of revealed truth or the willful refusal to assent to it. ‘Heresy is the obstinate post-baptismal denial of some truth which must be believed with divine and catholic faith, or it is likewise an obstinate doubt concerning the same; apostasy is the total repudiation of the Christian faith; schism is the refusal of submission to the Roman Pontiff or of communion with the members of the Church subject to him’” (2089). Stepping on a holy image could be irreverence or disrespect, which, while serious, is less than apostasy per se. For the act to be formal apostasy one would have to indicate or mean, “I, by this act, intend to utterly and totally repudiate the Christian faith.” Unless that intent is actively and consciously operative, simply stepping on holy images is not formal apostasy. For the premise of the movie to hold, it would have to set up this exact scenario.

A second oversimplification is that apostasy, like any mortal sin, requires not only that the act itself be grave (which apostasy is), but also that there be sufficient reflection and full consent of the will. From what you indicate in your summary of the movie, those who step on holy images are under significant duress. And this fear is not related merely to their own lives but the lives of others as well. Thus what they do may be sinful, but it is not necessarily mortally sinful. And this fact may also affect the very question of whether this is even apostasy. For, if faith cannot be forced by threats and fear, neither can apostasy be said to always occur when it is obtained under severe duress.

However, as the martyrs remind us, fear alone cannot excuse acts of irreligion and apostasy. To some degree we must leave the final judgment of such matters to God, who alone can see into the heart. (From *Catholic And Curious: Your Questions Answered*—Monsignor Charles Pope)

### ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SURPRISING YIELDS AHEAD

Many have been glad to shake off the past year with good riddance. We're quick to write off difficult situations as sinkholes of our personal efforts, with nothing to show for our suffering. Every plague, war, and famine of history has caused its multitude of lost lives, endless grief, and economic devastation. Yet Jesus promises us that underneath the soil of human experience, the kingdom of God is always at work, pushing new life and fresh hope into existence. Many are working hard right this moment to promote a new vision for humanity. Commit to the new seed of Kingdom Coming. (Prepare the Word)

### DÉCIMO PRIMER DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO RESULTADOS SORPRENDENTES EN EL FUTURO

Muchos se han alegrado de despedir el año pasado con alivio. Nos apresuramos a desechar las situaciones difíciles como sumideros de nuestros esfuerzos personales, sin nada que mostrar por nuestro sufrimiento. Todas las plagas, guerras y hambrunas de la historia han causado una multitud de vidas perdidas, dolor interminable y devastación económica. Sin embargo, Jesús nos promete que, bajo el suelo de la experiencia humana, el reino de Dios siempre está trabajando, impulsando una nueva vida y una nueva esperanza. Muchos están trabajando arduamente en este momento para promover una nueva visión para la humanidad. Comprométete con la nueva semilla del Reino que viene.