



JOSEF HANUS / SHUTTERSTOCK

To What Shall We Compare the Kingdom of God?

Today'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?*

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

St. Joseph, Cyclone & Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak

Pastor: Rev. RanJan Cletus

Mailing address: 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519.....**Phone** 254-985-2280

Email: cyclone.marak@gmail.com **Website:** marakchurch.org

Masses: Cyclone: Sat. 5:30PM & Sun. 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tue, Thurs & Friday: 7AM

Marak: Sundays: 10:15AM and Wednesday 5:30PM(unless otherwise stated)

The Sacraments:

Baptism: On Sundays after Mass. Please contact the pastor to schedule a meeting with him; a preparation program may be needed. Parents must be registered parishioners of St. Joseph, Cyclone or Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

Confessions: Before Mass on the weekend and anytime by appointment.

Marriage: Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before you set the date of the wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

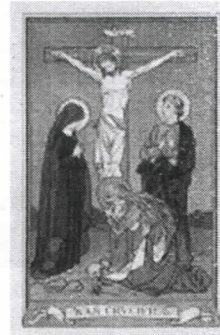
JUNE 13, 2021—ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In the cryptic message of the prophet Ezekiel, long centuries before the Lord's coming, God gave His people reason to hope. Ezekiel glimpsed a day when the Lord God would place a tree on a mountain in Israel, a tree that would "put forth branches and bear fruit." Who could have predicted that the tree would be a cross on the hill of Calvary, and that the fruit would be salvation? Ezekiel foresees salvation coming to "birds of every kind"—thus, not just to the people of Israel, but also to the Gentiles, who will "take wing" through their new life in Christ. God indeed will "lift high the lowly tree," as He solemnly promises.

Such salvation surpasses humanity's most ambitious dreams. And so we express our gratitude in the Psalm: "Lord, it is good to give thanks to you." It is indeed good, and better still to give thanks with praise. The Psalmist speaks of those who are just upon the earth, but looks to God as the source and measure of justice, of righteousness. Like Ezekiel, he evokes the image of a flourishing tree to describe the lives of the just. The image, again, suggests the Cross as the measure of righteousness.

The Cross is a sign of contradiction to those who would rather "flourish" in worldly terms. As St. Paul emphasizes to the Corinthians, we need courage. Our faith makes us strong, and it is proved in our deeds. He reminds us that we will be judged by the ways our faith manifests itself in works: "so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil."

God Himself will empower the works He expects from us, though we freely choose to correspond to His grace. In the prophetic oracles, He scattered the seed that sprang up and became the mustard tree, large enough to accommodate all the birds of the sky, just as Ezekiel had seen. He gave this doctrine to His disciples in terms they were able to understand, and He provided a full explanation. In the sacraments He provides still more: the grace of faith and the courage we need to live in the world as children of God.



6/6: Stewardship: Sunday Offering: \$2,807.00 6/6: Building Fund & Maintenance: \$455.00

Thank you for Your Generosity!

Bulletin Information: MARAK: Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - Email—pagaines2002@yahoo.com

CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

Bulletin deadline : Please call or e-mail info for the bulletin by Wednesday before the weekend!

Ministries for June 20, 2021

Rosary: Volunteers

Offertory: KJZT JRS.

Ushers: KJZT JRS.

Eucharistic Minister: Merlene Slavik

Lector: KJZT JRS.

Altar Servers: Gracie, Carter, Tessa

Sanctuary Light: June 14th-20th: Henry Sr. & Alma Litzmann by Lynne Hornung

Prayer Chain...Please remember in your daily prayers the faithfully departed, those souls in purgatory, those of our community that are in special need of prayer, those who are homebound or in nursing homes, all those in the military and to all those who have been affected by the Covid-19 Virus and also that the vaccine for the corona virus will help to stop this pandemic & for the following: David Minatra, Reenie Hubnik, Kathy Hubnik, Colt Charanza, Baby Townes Bush, Paulette Hubnik Foster, Carolyn Klecka, Edward Brenek, Jr., Marilyn Junek Gonzalez, and Doris Matocha. Prayers are powerful!

To be added to the prayer chain:

Please contact: **Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—Slavik@farm-market.net**

MARAK MASSES — June 13-20, 2021

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—6/13	10:15am	+ Mary Ann Plachy by Mary Stanislaw + Doris Bruggman by Eileen Schneider + Albina Vrazel by Evelyn Marek
6/16—Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Jessica & Diane Mendoza by Debbie Dohnalik Bush + Joe Vansa by Billy & Mary Ann Seaton + Martha Hertenberger by Richard & Betty Brenek
6/20 —Sunday— Father's Day	10:15am	In Honor of Alfred & Bernice Vrazel—60th Wedding Anniv. + Cyril Frank Hubnik by Robin & David Hickerson + Susan Jochec by Raymond Jochec Family + Evelyn Hubnik by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel

CYCLONE MASSES — June 13-20, 2021

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today – 6/13	8:15am	+ Walter & Lucille Greener by Monica Mikeska
6/15—Tuesday	7:00am	+ Randolph Green by Family
6/17—Thursday	7:00am	+ Scot Eixman by Joan Moeller
6/18—Friday	7:00am	+ Melvin Joe Tyroch by Bill & Carol Smetana
6/19—Saturday Vigil	5:30pm	+ Marvin Wilde by Oleta Wilde
6/20—Sunday	8:15am	+ Wilbert Mikeska by Helen & Carson Wallace

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **JUNE 15TH:** KC meeting at St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Cyclone at 7:30pm.
- **2021 HOMECOMING PICNIC RAFFLE:** If you can donate a prize or help buy a gift card, please contact Julie or Tom Motyka—254-605-0443. The prize list needs to be complete by June 13th.
- **USHER AND OFFERTORY:** We have began our regular routine for the Ushers and Offertory Gifts. Please check your lists to see when you are carrying the offertory gifts or being an usher. If you need a list, please contact Cindy Prcin or Patsy Gaines—check the website—marakchurch.org. Lists are on the Bulletin Board.
- **June 28-29, 2021:** Austin Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will have their 71st Annual Convention at St. Luke's Catholic Church in Temple. Please contact Kay Moraw or Merlene Slavik if you are interested in attending.
- **JUNE 20TH:** KJZT Jrs. will be selling Raffle tickets after Mass. Please support our Jrs.
- **PICNIC:** Picnic Worklist should be sent to Jeannine Dohnalik no later than August 15th. Please reply as soon as possible. Email: jwdohnalik@yahoo.com or text to 254-239-9188.

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



CNS PHOTO / KAREN CALLAWAY, CATHOLIC NEW WORLD

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



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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.

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