

ASCENDING LIFE-CANADA

Spiritual resource Journal

June 2018

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Kingdom of God is like a Mustard Seed

Jesus in parables offers simple words and everyday images: trees, plants and birds, and with faith we listen attentively as Jesus speaks to us. We ponder how and where to scatter the seeds given to us.

The words in this Gospel invites us to consider the message to “simply sow small seeds”

Each word and action is a small seed, and we do not know where and when it will sprout and grow. We don't have to know! The seed will eventually mature, ready for harvest and one day will branch out.

In Eucharist, we offer bread and wine, gifts of harvest, each offering once hidden in a very tiny seed. We receive the gift of the Word privately, one at a time, we receive the Lord into our very being, strengthening and supporting our faith..

The harvest of grain and the vine nourishing both body and soul.

We are Blessed! We give Thanks!

For Consideration and Sharing

- Have you ever witnessed a word or small action bear the fruit of spiritual growth in someone you love?
- Have you ever experienced a change in heart, upon hearing a small word or experiencing a small action?

GOSPEL Mark 4:26-34

St Mark tells us that Jesus himself spoke in riddles and parables to the people around him, he even mystified his closest disciples! His strategy was to provoke his listeners to think more deeply about God and their lives. He wanted to awaken in them a hunger for God, so that they would come and ask him for more. Then, when they were ready, he could open their hearts to the “mystery of the kingdom of God”

The fact that you are reading these words- most likely reading the Scripture for today's Mass sets you apart as unusual. That you go to Mass on Sunday, while others sleep in and do a number of things, and that you join with others in singing to God and taking his Body and Blood, sets you apart. Also, that you forgive people from the heart, or at least try to and you try to see God in other people, makes people consider you a “Mystery”, and that is just what Jesus wants!

So, continue to Love, Forgive. Pray. Give. Then when people ask why you are the way you are, tell them you're just trying to be like Jesus. Who knows? You might just win them over. You might just be sowing that small seed!

For Consideration and Sharing

*Have you ever experienced people noticing your witness to God and questioned you about your faith. Have you felt that you might have sowed a seed or reawakened their faith? Felt hope that a loved one would return to the Faith? Perhaps, even had an opportunity to “Welcome” someone back to their Faith?