

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.



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*

JOSEF HAUS/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?*



St. Mary's Church
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church
Bridgeport, NE 69336
Pastor: Rev. Dr. C.P. Varghese
Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336



Sacred Heart Church
Bayard, NE 69334

Parish Office & Fax: (308)262-0709. Rectory: (308)262-1332 Email: allsoulsbridgeport@gmail.com Website: www.smassh Catholics.org

Dear Sisters, Brothers and Children in Jesus Christ,

Today's readings focus our attention on the birth and growth of the reign or rule of God (Kingdom of God), in our human lives and on the gigantic growth of the Church from very humble beginnings. Both growths are slow and mysterious, guided by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The first reading, taken from Ez 17:22-24, is a Messianic prophecy. Ezekiel tells us how the Lord God of Israel will allow a descendant of King David to become the Messiah and Savior of the world. In contrast with the parable of the tiny mustard seed in today's Gospel, Ezekiel sees the Messiah originating in a royal family (lofty Cedar, David). In today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 92), the Psalmist sings of Jesus, "The Just One shall flourish like the palm tree, like a Cedar of Lebanon shall He grow." In the second reading, St. Paul teaches the Corinthian Christians that they are to advance the growth of God's Kingdom and His rule in their lives by doing His will so that they may be amply rewarded in the final judgment. In today's Gospel, Jesus compares the growth of the Kingdom of God to the germination of a wheat seed and that of a tiny mustard seed. Both have exceedingly small beginnings. The wheat seeds, by gradual but steady growth, help the farmer to get a bumper crop. In the same way, the life principle in a tiny mustard seed enables it to grow into a large bush. The reign of God in human hearts and the growth of the Church in the world also have small beginnings. But the Source of all life, God the Holy Spirit, gives to both a steady, persistent, and gigantic growth, provided we, the members of the Church, cooperate with God's grace.

As announced earlier, Fr. Rayappa (Roy) Pasala will be your new pastor from July 1st, 2021. After the weekend masses on June 25/26, I will be moving to Sidney NE to assume responsibility as the pastor at St. Patrick's Sidney NE, and St. Joseph's Kimball NE. Kindly pray that this transition may be a smooth one for all of us.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Fr. C. P. Varghese
Pastor

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
06/14	Monday	No Mass Today		
06/15	Tuesday	No Mass Today		
06/16	Wednesday	No Mass Today		
06/17	Thursday	No Mass Today		
06/18	Friday	No Mass Today		
06/19	Saturday	5.30 PM	Dalton	Rosa Devier
06/20	Sunday	8.00 AM	Bayard	For religious vocations
06/20	Sunday	10.30 AM	Bridgeport	Gloria Lamer

ALL SOULS
617 P STREET
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336

Parish Council Meeting
On Sunday, June 20,
2021
At 4.00 PM

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$585.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$192.00
SUBTOTAL	\$777.00
MASS STIPEND	\$20.00
COMMUNICATIONS	\$10.00
TOTAL	\$807.00
BUILDING FUND	\$74.00
HEAT/AC	\$50.00
APPEAL GOAL	\$6,046.00
DONATIONS	\$3,615.00
BALANCE	\$2,431.00

- Prayer line requests may be made to Carolyn-262-0453 or Teresa-262-0439.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.
- All Souls is hosting a farewell pot-luck dinner for Fr. CP after the 10:30 AM mass on Sunday, June 27. All 3 parishes are invited. Drinks and tableware will be furnished.



SACRED HEART
1003 AVE B
BAYARD NE 69334

Parish Council Meeting
On Monday, June 21,
2021
At 6.00 PM

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$970.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$20.00
SUBTOTAL	\$990.00
MASS STIPEND	
TOTAL	\$990.00
BUILDING FUND	\$25.00
APPEAL GOAL	\$4,907.00
DONATIONS	\$3,015.00
BALANCE	\$1,892.00

- Prayer line requests may be made to Paula-586-2992.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.
- All Souls is hosting a farewell pot-luck dinner for Fr. CP after the 10:30 AM mass on Sunday, June 27. All 3 parishes are invited. Drinks and tableware will be furnished.



SAINT MARY'S
718 FRANCIS ST
DALTON NE 69131

Parish Council Meeting
On Wednesday, June
23, 2021
At 6.00 PM

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	\$876.00
CHILDREN	
PLATE	\$20.00
SUBTOTAL	\$896.00
MASS STIPEND	
TOTAL	\$896.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	\$6,136.00
DONATIONS	\$6,439.00
BALANCE	(\$303.00)

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.
- The rosary is prayed ½ hr before Mass, please come and pray.
- All Souls is hosting a farewell pot-luck dinner for Fr. CP after the 10:30 AM mass on Sunday, June 27. All 3 parishes are invited. Drinks and tableware will be furnished.

