

Christ the King Parish

~ Archdiocese of Saint Boniface ~

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Mass prohibited at this time - (Saturdays 4pm / Sundays: 9am & 11am / Tues. - Fri.: 10am

Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

June 13th, 2021.

The Listener's Choice . . .

Many parables begin with the phrase "the kingdom of God is like. . . ." The English phrase is unfortunate because Jesus is not describing a place (kingdom) but rather a person (God). Many scholars prefer to translate: "The reign of God is like. . . ." In other words, a parable describes, or presents a scenario that illustrates what happens when God is totally in charge of life.

Seed ~ To understand the parable about the sown seed (Mk 4:26-29), a Western reader must be familiar with a very fundamental, ancient Middle Eastern conviction (common to all peasant societies): "All goods are finite in quantity, that is, limited in number, and already distributed." In other words, there is no more where this came from.

Any Middle Easterner who suddenly realized an increase in goods was considered a thief, because one peasant's gain usually meant another peasant's loss. Recall how the woman who lost a few coins rejoiced and invited friends to a party that cost more than the value of the rediscovered coins (Lk 15:8-9). It was imperative to demonstrate that she had not stolen the coins from another person or found what someone else had lost.

Yet peasants recognized certain yields, like livestock, a good crop, and children as exceptions. These increases were viewed as imponderable but very welcome gifts from God.

Even so, a limited-good culture expected that anyone who realized a sudden windfall should immediately share it with others rather than store it up for personal use in the future (see Lk 12:16-21). To keep it for one's personal benefit manifested greed.

In Mark's first parable today, the man is ignorant and perhaps even slothful. After planting the seed, he does nothing to help it along. He neither tills, weeds, nor irrigates the crop....

.... Yet the earth itself brings forth the harvest.

What is God's reign like? If it depends upon human effort, one risks failure. If humans choose to trust God instead of relying upon themselves, unimaginable success can result. The choice is up to the one who hears the parable.

Mustard Seed ~ This parable presents a slight variation on the previous one. Mark makes the parable botanically correct: the mustard seed becomes a shrub, sometimes rather large, but it never grows into a tree (see Lk 13:19). Yet Mark notes that the shrub has large branches and that birds can make nests in its shade.



The listener is challenged to imagine how great the kingdom will be: will it be small and selective, only admitting a few? or will it look small (like a shrub) but actually be large enough to shelter varieties of birds? The choice is up to the listener.

The puzzling remark about Jesus teaching the crowds in parables but explaining things in private to his disciples casts the parables into yet another light. To appreciate this, a reader needs to understand the importance of secrecy in the ancient Mediterranean world.

Honor requires that outsiders should learn nothing damaging about insiders. Hence, secrecy is an important strategy for family groups. Yet it is also socially unacceptable because others will suspect that those who keep secrets are plotting to damage their honor. A troubling dilemma. Jesus' parables spoken to the public (the "outsiders") carry one meaning, but explained to his disciples (the "insiders") carry another (e.g., compare the interpretation in Mk 4:10-20 to the parable in Mk 4:1-9).

Should the believer settle for the outsider interpretation or strive to gain the insider understanding? The choice is up to the listener!

~ Reflection by John J. Pilch,
Center for Liturgy

On this Eleventh Sunday in the Season of Ordinary Time, it is apropos at this gardening time of the year that the scripture passages speak about seeds, sowing, scattering, cultivating and tending. The parables of seeds as an analogy for the reign of God and our responsibility in the mission of the Church to make disciples by sowing the message of Christ and producing disciples for God's reign.

First Reading (Ezekiel 17:22-24) ~ Thus says the Lord God: I too will take from the crest of the cedar, from its topmost branches tear off a tender shoot, and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. God is the master gardener and we are left pondering as to what kind of tree we might become.

Second Reading (2Corinthians 5:6-10) ~ Paul encourages the people of Corinth to keep on pleasing the Lord through their actions and behavior until they are no longer in the flesh, but at home with the Lord. While we live in this mortal body, we are away from the Lord. Yet, we are filled with confidence and faith. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away.

Gospel (Mark 4:26-34) ~ Jesus teaches the large gathered crowds through parables: The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground of good soil, springs up and becomes the largest of trees.



Our hearts ache and our minds are perplexed by the discovery of the graves of the children's bodies. We are saddened by the injustices perpetrated upon all. In a special way as the body of Christ, may we unite our hearts in prayer for our First Nations sisters and brothers as we journey with them, and all people, on the path of truth, healing, and reconciliation. May we always make an option for the poor and downtrodden, and resolve in creating a society in which families and communities share love, justice, equity, and mutual respect for one another.

In-person Mass / religious services are still temporarily prohibited until at least June 26th.

We pray the present Covid pandemic protocols are eased soon, and indoor gatherings are permitted in our homes, as well as our churches, though with limited numbers.

We continue to join our hearts together in prayer through Holy Spirit, and participate at Mass by going on-line or on our TVs (albeit not the ideal, and not the same).



Invitation: You are warmly invited to contact the Parish Office by phone or email, and set up a suitable, convenient time to come sometime during the day to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance (confession), or Anointing of the Sick, or if you would like to receive the Eucharist. Come!

Take good care! Stay safe! Keep well!

Fr. Chrys is celebrating daily Mass, and remembering the "requested Mass Intentions" in prayer. If you would prefer to re-schedule your requested intention to a day when you are able to attend, please don't hesitate to phone or email the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 12th, 2021 Vigil of Eleventh Sunday of OT
4pm Mass ~ For Bang Valera+ by her friend Shiela

Sunday, June 13th Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time
9am Mass ~ For the intentions & needs of all Parishioners
11am Mass ~ For Lorraine Raymond + by Yves Raymond

Monday, June 14th Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass in our Parish on Mondays.

Tuesday, June 15th Weekday in Ordinary Time
10am Mass - For Ursula Remer (Final perseverance)
by Monika Dueck & Family

Wednesday, June 16th Weekday in Ordinary Time
10am Mass ~ For my children to return to God by Mom Monika

Thursday, June 17th Weekday in Ordinary Time
10am Mass ~ For Cam to seek God by Monika Dueck

Friday, June 18th Weekday of Ordinary Time
10am Mass ~ For all the intentions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
by Fran Everett

Saturday, June 19th Vigil of Twelfth Sunday of OT
4pm Mass ~ For the needs & intentions of all Parishioners

Sunday, June 20th Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time
Father's Day!
9am Mass ~ For Chizzy Chira - Birthday Blessings
Love Mom & Dad
11am Mass ~ For Lionel+, Merlyn+ & Emmanuel+
by Gunasekera & Novosel Families

May we unite our hearts together in prayer for: Ashleigh, Ene, Gail, Jean, Jim, Joan, Kevin, Patti, Harold Abs, Mavis Dick, Orval Everett, Merle Grossman, Lisa Hackett, Heinz & Rita Herold, Maria Hirschfeld, Betty Johnston, Bertrande Liberty, Lucille Magne, Mark Mariano, John Miller, Silvia & Hans J. Müllerleile, Marlene Ould, Norbert & Ursula Remer, Blaine Silverthorne, Robert Snowaert, Leona St. Onge, Priscilla Smith, Tillie Suggitt, Warren Weldon, Martha Wolbert, Vera Wurzinger, Lillian Yule, Penny Zahodnik... for those struggling with coronavirus... for families and all communities affected by the death of loved ones, especially children... for all who seek healing and comfort in body, mind, or spirit..... for all frontline & health care workers...



Our sincere condolences to Janet Franczyk & her family & friends, grieving the death of her daughter Donna Marie Franczyk+.

FOOD ITEMS ~ Thank you ! For the month of June, we are all invited to contribute and help by dropping off items of:

- + Deodorants, soaps & razors
- + Packaged and canned soups + Crackers of any kind
- + Cereal of any kind + Bottled water (in this hot weather)
- + Or any other items you would like to donate.

Year of Saint Joseph ~ *St. Joseph, guide and protect us, the beloved people of your Son Jesus. + Amen.*

O Momma Mary, pray for us, your beloved children!
Turn our hearts to the truth of your Son Jesus' promise of new life in each present moment. + Amen."

CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL NEWS:

A) One JOB OPP @ Christ the King School ~ Part-Time/Full-Time Educational Assistant. Interested applicants are invited to forward a resume to icarreiro@ctkschool.ca

B) Wine Raffle Fundraiser ~ CTK SCHOOL will be holding Wine Raffle by electronic draw ~ Purchase tickets online www.fundingchange.ca/ctkschoolwpg
Share this link with Family & Friends. The draw date is THIS coming Wednesday, June 16th at 9am. Thank you for your generous support.

God's commandments are meant to guide us in divine ways, not to place undue burdens upon us. Abba guides us in truth. May we be empowered to depend on the Lord God, living God's will and in God's ways, drawing others into deeper relationship with the living Word, Christ Jesus.

Never apologize for being sensitive or emotional. Let this be a sign that you've got a big heart and aren't afraid to let others see it. Showing your emotions is a sign of strength.

~ Unknown

Hope is the only thing stronger than fear.

In God we live and move and have our being, but God is a mystery and his kingdom, though present, has not yet come into its fullness. Today, the Kingdom of God is present in the Church. The mission of proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom given to the Apostles is now given to us. But just as seeds need time to come to fruition, so does the Kingdom of God. That is why in the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "thy kingdom come." We know that it will come in its fullness at the end of time. All we need is faith. ~ Excerpt of reflection by John Foley

"You can't instantly reap what you sow today, it does not work like instant grits. No matter what you sow in life, it takes time to grow and be ready for harvest." ~ James D Wilson

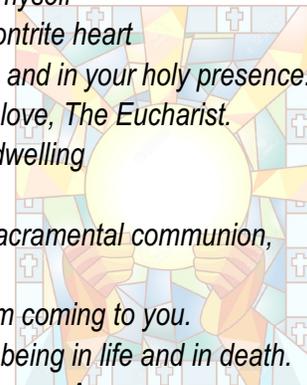
"In your deeds and in your works, don't expect to start reaping just as you start sowing." ~ Ernest Agyemang Yeboah



Sow kindness. Sow mercy. Sow love.
Sow compassion. Sow goodness.
Sow wisdom. Sow honesty.
Sow hope. Sow integrity. Sow joy!...

With in-person Mass still temporarily prohibited in this covid pandemic's code Red Alert, there are numerous opportunities available on-line or on our TVs to participate in Mass. Though it is **not the ideal**, we are invited to spiritually receive the Eucharist. May we be nurtured by the loving offering of Christ's body and blood, and become what we eat, in and for the world.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion - by Pope Francis
*At my feet, O my Jesus, I prostrate myself
and I offer you repentance of my contrite heart
which is humbled in its nothingness and in your holy presence.
I adore you in the sacrament of your love, The Eucharist.
I desire to receive you into the poor dwelling
that my heart offers you.
While waiting for the happiness of sacramental communion,
I wish to possess you in spirit.
Come to me, O my Jesus, since I am coming to you.
May your love embrace my whole being in life and in death.
I believe in you; I hope in you; I love you. Amen.*



SUNDAY OFFERINGS ~ Dear Parishioners, thank you for your thoughtful generosity in offering continued financial help during this time of covid pandemic disruption, restriction, and uncertainty. Your kind and generous support to the ongoing expenses and maintenance of our Church's building is very much appreciated.

+ Some options for you in making donations:

1/ Drop-off during open Office hours. Also, for ease of drop-off, there is a **mail-slot** beside the Parish Office LENNOX AVENUE (Tim Horton's side) door.

2/ Canada Post mail.

3/ E-transfer, please email office@ctkp.ca.

4/ Pre-Authorized Debit forms are available at the Parish, and on our website for automatic monthly donations.

Sincere Thank you, All!

Offerings mailed-in & dropped-off this week:

- Sunday Collection	\$1,687.00
- Building & Maintenance	\$305.00

Thank you for your faithful generosity !

"The things we do today - sowing seeds or sharing truths of Christ - people will someday refer to as the first things that prompted them to think of Him." ~ George Matheson

"You can't sow an apple seed and expect to grow an avocado tree. The consequences of your life are sown in what you do and how you behave." ~ Tom Shadyac

"If you would reap Praise you must sow the Seeds, Gentle Words and useful Deeds." ~ Benjamin Franklin



Children's Corner

Dear Girls & Boys, even the littlest mustard seeds grow into the biggest plants. With a humble heart, and Holy Spirit's, even the littlest person can grow into a kind, good and wise person.



**KINGDOM GOD MASTER GARDENER GRACE
SOUL FAITH CARE MUSTARD SEEDS BULB
HEART SOIL SOW KINDNESS PLANT MERCY
LOVE PRAY TEACH LEARN GROW SPROUT
NURTURE FEED WATER NOURISH
RIPE GATHER HARVEST REAP CROP
DISCIPLES ACTION OUTREACH BRANCHES**

F	A	I	T	H	N	B	W	K	P	U	Y	D
S	C	Y	V	K	D	R	U	L	S	G	W	S
E	T	K	O	S	I	E	A	R	O	I	O	H
E	I	S	I	U	E	N	R	E	I	U	R	S
D	O	C	E	N	T	H	D	U	L	P	G	I
S	N	P	M	V	G	R	C	N	T	M	E	R
G	O	D	G	A	R	D	E	N	E	R	T	U
L	A	W	I	R	S	A	O	A	A	S	U	O
D	E	T	O	S	A	T	H	M	C	R	S	N
R	C	S	H	E	C	C	E	M	H	H	B	T
A	B	A	V	E	D	I	E	R	T	N	U	R
T	U	O	R	Y	R	R	P	D	E	O	C	A
S	L	Y	A	E	C	O	E	L	R	T	F	E
U	B	R	A	Y	R	E	F	P	E	B	A	H
M	P	P	L	C	F	K	S	D	E	S	C	W

We must always stay awake and be ready, anticipating something greater than ourselves, something the Spirit bestows.

We are to be humble. The Spirit's plantings in our souls will seem exceedingly tiny, even unnoticeable. Our humility – like the farmers' with the seeds – means waiting, or in other words, being patient.

This means that the "largest of plants" will not be you or me, but God - present in our lives and in our communities. Since God is great and to be loved above all things and within all things, since God is taller than a man or woman's head, so to speak, then he is large enough to found our greatest plans or hopes.

Let us be fallow. ~ Adapted reflection excerpt by John Foley, SJ

If you have even just a mustard seed's worth of faith and obedience, you still have the kingdom of God within you. ~ Eleonore Stump

Soak up the warm sunshine of God's grace every single day, and live love!



Catechism & Youth News

>> Please contact Suzette 431-373-0572 or email suzette@ctkp.ca with any questions or concerns. Visit Facebook and Instagram, too.

>> **Eucharist Celebrations** ~ In the uncertain fluctuations of this pandemic, the first Eucharist celebrations have now been tentatively re-scheduled to:

+ Sept. 19th at 11am Mass for the 2020 Group

+ Sept. 26th at 11am Mass for the 2021 Group

May we continue to hold the Children in our prayer. They are very excited and ready to celebrate and receive the Lord Jesus for the first time in a very special, sacred way in the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist. We hope, trust and pray that their celebration comes to its fruition.

>> **Sacrament of Confirmation** celebration for our 13 candidates of our 2020 class has tentatively been re-scheduled to **Sept. 15th, 2021 @ 7:00pm**. May we continue to hold these young people in our prayers.

>> **Young Adults' Group** ~ Thank you for your participation this year! Let's keep in touch!

You are invited to visit CTK Parish Website & Facebook Page > www.ctkp.ca

You are also invited to visit Saint Boniface Archdiocese website - > www.archsaintboniface.ca

Any kind of seed needs necessary time to develop – to be planted... to wait... to germinate... to grow... and to produce. We can tend to the seed, water and nurture it with attentive care, but we cannot speed up the growth of that seed; its growing can't be rushed.

Our Lord God has planted seeds of wisdom and goodness within us. Spiritual growth comes in times of faith and trust in God on our part. May we cultivate good heart-soil and allow God's gracious seeds to grow, tending them, weed 'n feed 'n watering them in Spirit's wisdom and discernment with scripture and prayer. May we be patient and attentive, watching with joy and expectant anticipation as God's Spirit creates, nurtures, cultivates and produces growth within and all around us... and mercifully weeds us of prejudice and pride, prunes us of poison (ivy) and all deadness... May we in turn offer our time to others with encouragement and support in their garden of growth. God the Master Gardener is sowing, showering Spirit upon us, quietly and powerfully working, and helping us to grow ... now.

> "God's timing determines the fruit of the harvest."

~ Lailah Gifty Akita

> "I will sow my seed. The sacred time will determine the harvest."

~ Lailah Gifty Akita

> "Anyone can count the seeds in an apples, but only God can count the number of apples in a seed." ~ R.H. Schuller

> "With every deed you are sowing a seed, though the harvest you may not see."

~ Ella Wheeler Wilcox