

Eleventh Sunday of the Year

THEME: GROWTH

Christians throughout the ages have followed the apostles' example. Knowing that they, too, would meet hostility and resistance, they have found the courage to declare the coming of the kingdom of God and to encourage the faith of others.

The whole history of the Church, from the time of Christ our Lord right up to the present day, is a history of constant development and growth. Growth is an essential characteristic of the Church. It will never cease to grow until the end of time.

Today's Gospel parable about the mustard seed gives us the chance to reflect on the growth God gives and the part we play in it.

Christians must be ready to speak for the faith and to spread the Word of God to nonbelievers. However subtly, the world always tries to prevent Christians from declaring Jesus' message. Yet, bent on following God's will, and influenced and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, who is with us today as he was with the apostles long ago, we find the courage to witness to the faith.

Silver Jubilee Celebrations: Special Meeting in the Crypt: Monday, June 17th, 8.00 p.m. If you would like to help, please come.

Sunday Masses: First Mass of Sunday : Saturday 7.30 p.m.

Sunday: 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.15.

Weekday Masses: Morning 9.00, 10.00; Evening 7.30 p.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Saturday 8.15 - 8.45 p.m.



Introduction to Scripture Readings:

First Reading (Ezekiel 17: 22-24)

In the first reading the prophet Ezekiel takes the image of a tree on a high mountain to describe how all creation will acknowledge the true God.

Second Reading (2 Corinthians 5: 6-10)

In this second reading St Paul, already united with Christ, looks forward to the completion of that union.

Gospel (Mark 4: 26-34)

The Gospel passage illustrates the power of God's word: once planted it must bear fruit.

It is foolish to think that the mission of witnessing to Christ belongs only to the apostles who were sent forth by Jesus and, therefore, is solely the work of the institutional Church. It is interesting to note that Jesus appeared to others before he appeared to the apostles. These others were the first to declare that he had risen from the dead. Their witness reminds us that the Good News must be proclaimed to the world by persons in all walks of life.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Wednesday (After Evening Mass).

Saturday: 12.00 - 1.00

7.00 - 7.30; 8.15 - 9.00

Thanks to all who participated in the Eucharistic Procession.