



ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

SUNDAY 13 JUNE 2021

REFLECTION By Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

The first of the parables in today's gospel reading has no parallel in the other gospels. It compares God's kingdom to a trusting sower who scatters the seed by day, sleeps by night, and simply observes the "earth produce of itself" until it is time to harvest the grain. The sower's actions of scattering, sleeping, rising, and going in with his sickle are paralleled by his "not-knowing how" the seed is transformed into grain. We may, in our times, have a more sophisticated, more scientific understanding of the process of growth. We have no less reason to stand in awe at the wonder of it all. In an era of urbanization, of supermarket chains and online shopping even for groceries, we can easily lose sight of the source of food and the miracle of food production. This little parable might serve as a reminder of the goodness of the Earth and of the God who sustains our planetary home. It might inspire us to contemplate the myriad ways in which the Earth speaks to us of God and God's empire or kin-dom. At another level, we might ask about the identity of the sower. We might question how the sower's actions and attitudes provide an image of God's reign. Is it in the sower's trusting that all will be well while "not-knowing"? Is it in the observation that the grain is ripe for the harvest? Is it in the prompt action to bring in the harvest? The sower's "not-knowing" might resonate with us in our "not knowing" all we would like to know about dealing with the spread of Covid-19. Parables are meant to tease their hearers/readers. They are open-ended and challenging. The second parable appears in all three synoptic gospels. Matthew and Luke both parallel the mustard seed parable with a parable about a woman mixing yeast into flour. Mark, in contrast, juxtaposes his mustard seed parable with that of the trusting sower. Mustard seeds were tiny, although they were not the smallest of seeds and have never been known to become the largest of shrubs. The idea that God's reign provides shelter for the birds to make their nests is a challenging one at a time when so many species are becoming extinct precisely because their habitats are being destroyed by human activity. Some scholars have pointed out that the mustard seed was a weed. To compare God's reign with a weed may have brought a smile or two. It would certainly have exercised the minds of Jesus' audience. Maybe Jesus' disciples were in need of encouragement even in the early stages of the Galilean ministry. Maybe the curious and hostile were in need of a reminder to take this movement seriously since extraordinary things can come from the most inauspicious beginnings. Opposition to Jesus had surfaced at the outset. Mark's community may also have been experiencing opposition and feeling the need for the wisdom that comes from a carefully crafted and perfectly timed story.

RE-OPENING OF ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL FOR MASSES.

With the easing of restrictions announced on Wednesday 9 June for people gathering in places of worship we are pleased to be able to open the Cathedral. Adhering to DHHS and State Government regulations we can only accommodated a maximum of 50 people at this stage.

MASS TIME TABLE

**Monday 14 June Queens Birthday public holiday
Mass 11.00am.**

Tuesday 15 June 1.00pm.

Wednesday 16 June 1.00pm.

Thursday 17 June 1.00pm.

Friday 18 June 1.00pm.

(There will be no 7.00am Masses for this week).

Saturday 8.00am and 6.00pm.

Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 6.30pm.

(11.00am televised on C31. and live streamed on CAM).

Bookings for weekend Masses can be made via Trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/BSCYE> available on the Cathedral website or by ringing the Cathedral Office on 9662 2233, between 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. Calls made outside these times will not be guaranteed a place at Mass.

Adhering to Government regulations, all people wishing to attend Mass will need to scan the Victorian Government QR Code on entry.

We ask that people arrive 10-15 minutes before Mass and you will be seated in assigned place by an usher.

Masks will be mandatory on entry to the Cathedral.

You will need to follow strict social distancing requirements while waiting and while in the Cathedral.

Entrance and exit will be from the front door of the Cathedral only. (Cnr of Gisborne Street and Cathedral Place.)

Bookings for weekend Masses will need to be made before the cut off time of Friday 4.00pm.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available after Mass, Tuesday to Friday following 1pm Mass and Saturday following 8.00am Mass.

Reconciliation will take place outside behind the statue of Archbishop Mannix.

We look forward to welcoming you back to the Cathedral.

With warmest regards,

Fr Werner Utri.

Dean St Patrick's Cathedral.

TODAY'S LITURGY—YEAR B

Entrance Antiphon

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.
Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

1st Reading

EZEKIEL 17:22-24

I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this:

‘From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Every kind of bird will live beneath it,
every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches.
And every tree of the field will learn that I,
the Lord, am the one
who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow,
who withers green trees and makes the withered green.
I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3.13-16

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)
3. Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

2nd Reading

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

*Whether we are living in the body or exile from it,
we are intent on pleasing the Lord.*

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

*The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds,
grows into the biggest shrub of all.*

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.’

He also said, ‘What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.’

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Parables provoke interpretation. They make us wonder what Jesus was referring to and what he really meant. At times, he is quite vague about the real meaning and his disciples are left wondering. Think, for example, of the parable of the Sower, which Jesus must later explain (Mark 4: 13-20).

At other times, like the instances we have in this gospel reading, Jesus is quite explicit: he tells his hearers that he is talking about the kingdom of God. Even so, he must still explain his meaning to the disciples when he is alone with them.

Unfortunately, Mark does not report for us what interpretation Jesus places on these parables. In the Old Testament, the imagery of the reign of God had an apocalyptic dimension; it was to come to fullness at the end times, when the wicked would be punished and the faithful vindicated.

Only then would there be a new heaven and a new earth.

The message in Mark’s Gospel, however, is quite different.

Jesus proclaims that the kingdom of God has already begun.

It is among us now. ‘This is the time of fulfillment.

The kingdom of God is at hand’ (Mark 1:15).

Like the seed planted, it takes root and grows mysteriously into something much larger than itself. The kingdom or reign is a gracious gift from God brought near in Christ and demanding a response of faith from those who recognise the truth of his word. The kingdom offers a challenge; like the man who sowed the seed, we must be ready to cooperate in God’s work when the harvest time comes.

- The kingdom or reign of God refers to the time when God’s will is done. What signs of the growth of the kingdom of God can we discern in our world today? Where do we see God’s will being done?
- What things do you think hinder the growth of the kingdom today?
- How are we called to cooperate in God’s work? What must we do?

Source: Archdiocese of Melbourne—Summit

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to all who are making regular contributions through the Catholic Development Fund App available on the Cathedral website.

Your presbytery and church contribution supports the priests of the Cathedral with the running of the Cathedral parish, maintenance and operation of the day to day costs associated with the presbytery and Cathedral. Thank you for your generosity.

www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au
(Cathedral is listed as Melbourne Cathedral Parish)

MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL

	Sunday 13 June 11.00am Mass Cantor: Judith Dodsworth Organist: Dion Henman
Entrance Antiphon [Verse 1 will be sung. If time, verse 2 may be also sung]	O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour! v1. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? v2. Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Kyrie	CWBII 27a
Gloria	Mass Shalom CWBII 27c
Psalm	Psalm 91: 2-3,13-16 Response: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you. CWB 372
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia! CWBII 51 Colin Mawby
Preparation of the Offerings	(organ music)
Eucharistic Prayer • Holy, Holy • Memorial Acclamation • Great Amen	Mass Shalom 27f Mass Shalom 27h When we eat Mass Shalom 27j
The Lord's Prayer	CWBII 14a & 15
The Fraction (<i>Agnus Dei</i>)	Mass Shalom 27k
Communion	Ave verum (plainsong)
Recessional	

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE CATHEDRAL

Special Collection for Catholic Missions - Propagation of Faith will be held on 17 and 18 July 2021.

Catholic Mission operates through the international structure of the Catholic Church and is part of the international Catholic network known as the Pontifical Mission Societies. Catholic Mission respects the principle of "local initiative" and "self-determination" as all project funding requests originate from an existing community or work, often from a parish community or a religious congregation.

The special collection helps with Catholic missionary priests, brothers, and nuns in mission areas.

**Wednesday 16 June - Baptism Preparation Evening
- Cathedral Room**

**Wednesday 16 June - Young Adults Group Evening
- Cathedral Room at 8.00pm**

Sunday 27 June - Cathedral Baptism's

**EXTRAORDINARY FORM
LATIN MASS HELD IN THE CATHEDRAL
EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 5.30PM
PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE
NO LATIN MASS ON
WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE .**

**HOLY HOUR HELD IN THE CATHEDRAL
EVERY THURSDAY AT 6.30PM
PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE
NO HOLY HOUR
THURSDAY 17 JUNE**

ANXIOUS ABOUT COVID OR TIMES AHEAD?

We know that many people have experienced and will continue experiencing anxiety as a result of COVID, but it's normal to feel anxious about the end of Covid restrictions too. Change, and the unknown, can be scary. But you're not alone. Speak to a friendly counsellor today to learn how you can ease anxiety and improve your mental wellbeing.

For more information:

Please go to CatholicCare website;

www.ccam.org.au



'Mindfulness & Meditation' (via ZOOM), Saturday 19 June 2021, 10am-3pm (AEST) . When we are present to the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a natural part of life, and we know how to act from a heart of love. This is a day of reflection in the practice of Mindfulness & Meditation, and we invite you to come prepared to be still and journey within. Facilitated by Paola Cheng. Cost \$50. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne or email info@heartoflife.melbourne.

READERS ROSTER

**Weekend Masses 19th and 20th June
Saturday 6.00pm**

Vanessa Sammy & Martina Chin

Sunday 8:00am

Lilian Rusek & Robert Muldeary

9:30am

Karlene Treyvaud & Michael Hare

11:00am

Saba Rahet & Rosa Gonzalez

6:30pm

Ingrid V Dijken & Thandi Chindove

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Saturday 19 June - St Romuald

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven, *(All bow)*
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man. **(Continue)**
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Creator Spirit,
We see in St Joseph a tenderness and reverence for all
your creation.
We learn from him to approach others justly and
tenderly,
and to see our world as endowed with the glory of
God.
Teach us to love one another
and to be of humble service to all of creation,
empowered by your life within us.



Image: Saint Joseph and the Christ by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (1617–1682)

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

We pray for the sick and for all who have asked for our prayers.
We pray for all who have died recently, especially Tony Nadielo and those whose
anniversaries occur at this time, especially Rose Misuraca.
May God welcome them into the eternal kingdom.

Archbishop

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Dean of

St Patrick's Cathedral

Very Rev Werner Utri

Assistant Priest

Rev Trevor Tibbertsma

Cathedral Master of Ceremonies

Priest in Residence

Rev Zaher Mhanna

Chaplain: St Vincent's Hospital

Sacristans

Patrick Mirabella

Nadhun Buthpiyiya

Music & Cathedral Choir

Philip Matthias

Director

Cathedral Organist

Dion Henman

Cathedral Singers

Christopher Mason

Director

Thomas Grubb

Organist

Child Protection Officer

Julie Allan

Cathedral Office

T: 9662 2233

E: Cathedral@cam.org.au

www.stpatrickscathedral.org.au

SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

The Cathedral Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display at the entrance of the Cathedral and all Diocesan Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.

<https://www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements>