

June 13, 2021

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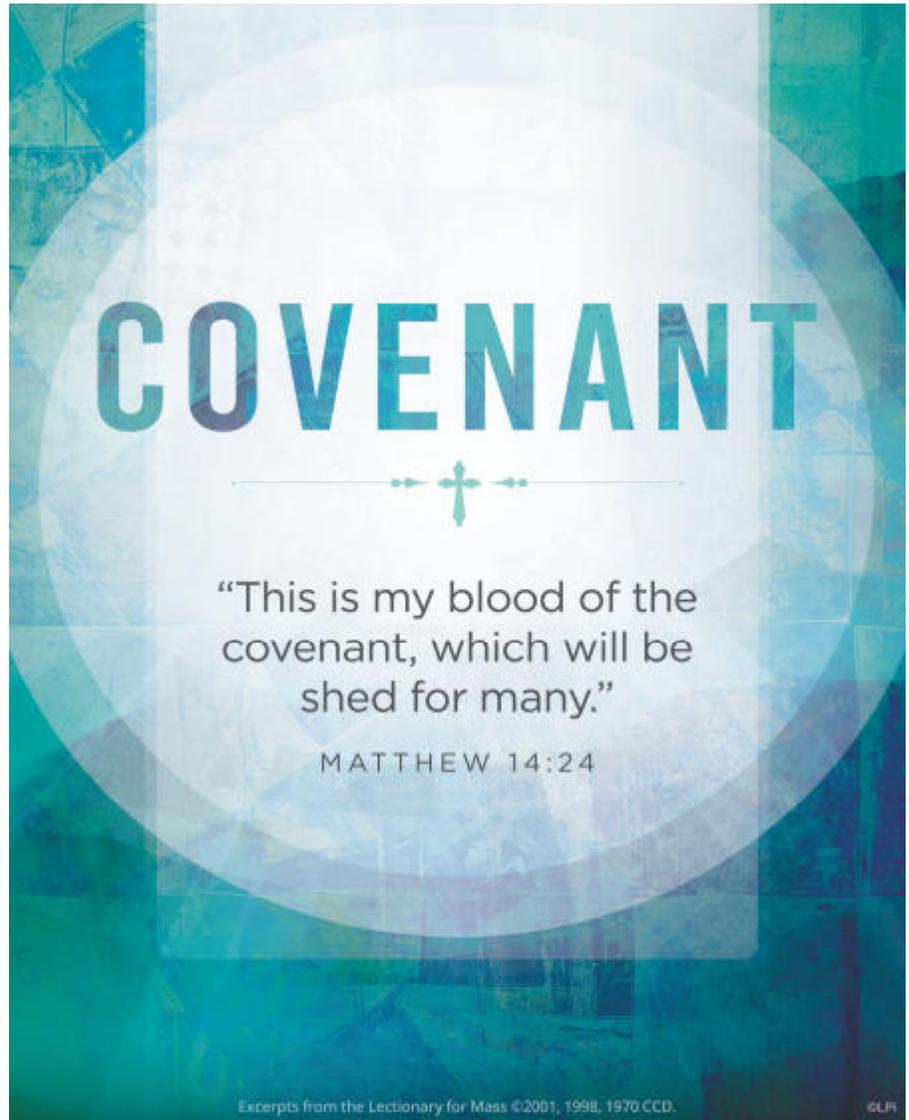
Prayer Chain 727-460-9540
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Pastor: Fr. Paul Kochu

Associate Pastor:
 Fr. Camilo Simoes SAC

Assisting Priest:
 Fr. Kevin Tortorelli

Deacon: Joe Reid



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass
 8am
 10am
 4pm

Monday-Friday
 8am

Saturday
 4pm

Confession: Saturday 3-3:45pm

Caution

Please be patient and avoid areas around the Ministry Building as renovation work is going on at this time.



COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel* Vivir VALIENTEMENTE *el Evangelio*

June 13, 2021

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Like a Mustard Seed

“He said, ‘To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade.’” Mark 4:30-32

“The Kingdom of God is like...” is a phrase Jesus uses throughout the Gospels to teach His followers. He uses images or parables to help the crowds to come to a greater understanding of a difficult concept or reality. This is the case in this weekend’s Gospel according to Mark.

He tells them that the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed which is one of the smallest seeds on the earth. Yet, it grows into one of the largest of plants with branches so big that the birds can dwell in them. It’s something that has very small and humble beginnings, but over time it continues to grow into something significant.

You cannot watch a seed grow when it’s first planted. But over time, it sprouts, takes root, expands, and produces fruit. It’s very gradual process, but the growth is always present, always working. The potential to become something great is there from the moment it is planted. Our faith is like that seed. As children, we don’t have a full understanding of things. But the potential is already present. It takes years of prayer, contemplation, study and reflection to even grasp the basic concepts of our faith. But through our dedication and commitment, our faith can grow and become transformative and life-giving for others around you through our example and witness.

Athletes devote a great deal of time to training so that they can become stronger and more skilled. It’s the same with our faith. The more you study, pray, and practice the faith, the more God may reveal things to you. Spend some time this week, studying scripture, maybe just a verse or two, and see how God might be speaking to you through His Word. You might just be surprised about what you discover about yourself and how you fit into the Kingdom of God. ~Bishop Gregory Parkes

Are you being called to offer some time every week to serve the Lord? We need volunteers in the office. Church office number is 727 786-3648.

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I [Ez 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; on the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it. It shall put forth branches and bear fruit, and become a majestic cedar. Birds of every kind shall dwell beneath it, every winged thing in the shade of its boughs. And all the trees of the field shall know that I, the LORD, bring low the high tree, lift high the lowly tree, wither up the green tree, and make the withered tree bloom. As I, the LORD, have spoken, so will I do.

Responsorial Psalm [92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16](#) R. (cf. 2a) **Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.** It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, Most High, To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night. R. **Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.** The just one shall flourish like the palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon shall he grow. They that are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God. R. **Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.** They shall bear fruit even in old age; vigorous and sturdy shall they be, Declaring how just is the LORD, my rock, in whom there is no wrong. R. **Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

Reading II [2 Cor 5:6-10](#) Brothers and sisters: We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord.

Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

Alleluia R. **Alleluia, alleluia.** The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will live forever. R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel [Mk 4:26-34](#) Jesus said to the crowds: “This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come.”

He said, “To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade.” With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it. Without parables he did not speak to them, but to his own disciples he explained everything in private.

A NOTE FROM FATHER PAUL

Roof Repair

Our Church's roof reminds us constantly of its age and cries for attention. I have been working through the Diocese to obtain the best contractor and the best method to repair it. The lowest estimate, with 25 years of guarantee, is \$119,957.35. The repair or replacing of the windows is not part of this quote. This is a critical time for us to get the roof done. Thank you for your contributions to the Building Fund. Because of your generosity, funds are available to complete this project. But it will substantially reduce the money meant for other renovations. I prayerfully appeal to your ongoing generosity and sacrifice as in the past. Together we can achieve it and make our facility a great place to gather for worship, for study and to carry on other family activities. Let us make the sacrifices for a greater cause.

It is little over two months now that I am serving here at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, Palm Harbor as the associate Pastor. I came directly from India to St. Luke's and my experience here so far has been quite a happy and enjoyable one. Your words of welcome and good wishes have been heartening and encouraging. Father Paul our Pastor has been particularly encouraging and supporting me to overcome the tide of cultural transition and get into the life of the Parish. With your support and encouragement, I hope to give my best to the parish and to the Diocese of St. Petersburg in Courageously living the gospel.

During this time, some of you have been asking me about myself and my Religious Congregation. So, I thought, for the benefit of all, I could share it in this Parish bulletin. My full name is Father Pedro Camilo Simoes, but you can call me Father Camilo. I am a Religious priest belonging to the Society of the Catholic Apostolate, (commonly known as The Pallottines) a Congregation founded by Saint Vincent Pallotti ((21 April 1795- 22 January 1850) a priest of the Diocese of Rome in the year 1835, with its headquarters in Rome. His charism was to revive faith and rekindle charity among Catholics and serve the growing needs of the Church in the missions. His motto: "The love of Christ impels us" (Caritas Christi Urget Nos). His incorrupt body is enshrined in the church of San Salvatore in On-
da, in Rome. Our Congregation is blest with over 2400 members serving the Church in over 50 countries.

In the United States of America, we have "Catholic Apostolate Center" in Washington DC. The Center is collaborating with various Church entities at the international, national, diocesan, and local levels to provide in-person and online formation programs for the New Evangelization and assists in fostering deeper collaboration and greater co-responsibility among all the baptized. ~~Father Pedro Camilo Simoes SAC

Show a Sign of Mercy

Next week we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection, which is a way to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including helping Pope Francis with the funds to carry out his charitable Works. These Works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous.

For more information, visit www.peterspence.va/efn.html.

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SHARING THE GOSPEL

You and a few others believe in God. You do not think you can do much because you are a very small group. Like the very small mustard seed, God will help you grow into the largest church in the world. Its branches, like the mustard tree, will grow large enough to hold you and all God's other children. He will teach you his ways and help you share his love.

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, show me how to teach the word of God to others.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will share the word of God with my family and friends.

Second Collections

Starting from June

- 1st Sunday of the Month— APA
- 2nd Sunday of the Month— Building Fund
- 3rd Sunday of the Month—Outreach



Religious Education

From September 2021 we will have in person Religious Education classes. Please register your children . We also need volunteer catechists and assistants. Please give your time and talent to sow the seeds of faith in these young minds.

Staycation

Looking for an amazing "Staycation"- the Coral Reef Resort on St. Pete Beach is the place to go! A wonderful friend of St. Luke ECC donates her timeshare week each year as a fundraiser for the preschool. This amazing week stay, August 21th-28th is valued at over \$1500 and it can be your's for a minimum donation, to the preschool, of \$500. Please call the Early Childhood Center for more information- 727-787-2914.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2021 | 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Date	Time	Intentions	Office
Sat, 6/12	4:00pm	Annie Pompa	Closed
Sun, 6/13	8:00am	† Donna Moffo Sloss	Closed
		† Virginia Austin	
	10:00am	† Brian McParland	
	4:00 PM	† Alexander Thurston For the Youth of the Parish	
Mon, 6/14	8:00am	Raymondte & Eleanor Weaver Thomas Giacometti	8:30am-12:30pm
Tues, 6/15	8:00am	Bindu (Sr.Vigy's Sister)	8:30am-12:30pm
Wed, 6/16	8:00am	† Albert Tilow	8:30am-12:30pm
		† Living & Deceased Members of the Conte Family	
Thurs, 6/17	8:00am	† Tom Catanzaro	8:30am-12:30pm
		† Renato Costabile	
Fri, 6/18	8:00am	Ellen Tillow	8:30am-12:30pm
Sat, 6/19	4:00pm	† Teresa Pion	Closed
		† Karl Fodor	

The Day of the Seafarer is June 25.

Each year, the Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking (CCOHT) launches a campaign to raise awareness of forced labor in the fishing industry. This year, due to the global pandemic, a new humanitarian crisis has emerged. Hundreds of thousands of seafarers have been stranded aboard ships beyond the length of their contracts. Sign the petition below urging Walmart to acknowledge their reliance on seafarers for the healthy functioning of their business model, and to show concern for seafarers' wellbeing by signing the Neptune Declaration.

<https://sistersagainsttrafficking.salsalabs.org/solidaritywithseafarers/index.html>

Seafarers Prayer

Lord God, we depend on you for life itself. We depend on seafarers for many of our daily needs. Watch over them, keep them from danger, befriend them in loneliness and bring them safely home to those they love. Amen.

Did you make a donation to APA in 2021?

Let us make ourselves outstanding by doing our part. Please do your part. We depend on you.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:
Where does the money go that is collected each week at Church?

Answer:
This is a good question! Every parish has financial obligations, including the basic operation of the buildings, salaries, maintenance, and improvements. In addition, there are schools to support, programs to run, charities to be funded, and operational expenses like hosts and wine for Mass, music books, vestments, and so on. In some cases, cemeteries and other buildings need attention. Finally, there is the diocesan assessment that each parish pays to help run the diocese and the support services provided to each parish.

Most parishes manage to get by with the collection, a few fundraisers and endowments. But contrary to popular opinion, cash flow is also a problem, and many parishes operate in the red. The Finance Committee is responsible for assisting the pastor in fiscal management, and good stewardship is the basis for successful programs.



Are you afraid or unable to come to Church physically? You can participate in Mass on your TV, radio, smart phone, or online. Please remember to mail your contributions. It may be convenient for you to contribute for the whole month with one check. For APA and building fund please send separate checks in the same envelope. One envelope but separate checks.

Direct Mailing of Your Contributions:

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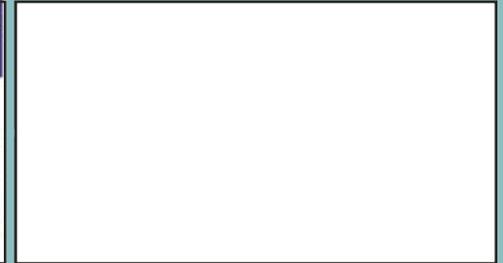
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