



MONTHLY BULLETIN

June 2024

At Home with the Lord

Jesus compared the kingdom of God to a tiny mustard seed that grows into a plant large enough for birds to nest in its branches. Later in the first century, a naturalist known as Pliny the Elder pointed out the practical impossibility of getting rid of mustard once it springs up and soon goes to seed.

Mustard seeds fall and easily take root. Although Pharisees rarely saw eye to eye with Jesus, they surely liked comparing faith in Him to a plant that readily invaded their patch. Within a short time, huge crowds followed Jesus.

After His Ascension to heaven, the Church continued to grow. On the other hand, in our individual lives, we sometimes experience doubts that can leave us wondering if even a tiny mustard seed outsizes our faith. Fear not!

Garden-Variety Faith

Seeds even smaller than mustard exist. Seeds only the size of a dust mote in a shaft of light become spectacular orchids.



Fr. Tony Scannell
Chaplain

When an orchid seed pod opens, wind or breeze can spread millions of seeds. With precious little time at hand, some of the minuscule seeds attach to fungus in order to grow. Landing on a surface sporting a specific type of fungus needed seems almost impossible!

We sometimes get carried away by our worries and struggles and doubts.

How, we ask ourselves or ask in prayer, will we ever land where we can stick with the Lord and grow in faith? Jesus came so that people could find the way to Him.

More than 26,000 different kinds of orchids bloom with flowers in an array of sizes, shapes, and colors. Orchids grow around the world on mountains and in the tropics, in deserts and wetlands, on mangrove roots and rocks.

Whether mustard seed or orchid seed, Jesus reminded a crowd that plants sprout and develop without people understanding exactly how. Not knowing requires faith.

God gives us life on a well-tended garden. Here, the heavenly Father enables faith the size of a mustard seed to grow like a weed and faith as small as an orchid seed to blossom in spectacular display.

New Station in Dallas, Texas

TV Mass is now on these channels:

6:00 a.m. – KDAF (CW) ch. 33

7:00 a.m. – WE tv (cable & satellite-DirecTV ch. 260 / Dish ch. 128)

7:30 a.m. – GetTV ch. 49.2 and 4.4

8:30 a.m. – NEW! KTXA ch. 21.1

Father's Day Prayers

Please use the enclosed spiritual bouquet card to send names for remembrance at Father's Day Mass celebrated by Heart of the Nation's chaplain on June 16.



“I want to thank you for bringing the Mass to us via TV and the Internet. I am the sole caregiver for my 92-year-old mom.”

– Christine



“I sent a donation. Your organization will surely put it to good use!”

– Susan



“My mother (92) and son Brian watch the Mass every Sunday. Thank you for the wonderful service.”

– Brian

Reaching New Shores

With four commercial fishermen among the Apostles, our Lord had a crew with plenty of nautical experience. When it came time to head toward a new shore in His ministry, Jesus could settle on a cushion in the stern and nap while his friends handled the boat.



One of the Sunday readings this month takes us to the Sea of Galilee. After leaving a crowd in the evening, Jesus got into a boat with the Disciples and fell to sleep.

Suddenly, a violent storm arose. Squalls on the Sea of Galilee can whip waves to heights of 10 feet. Waking Jesus, the panicked Disciples asked if He didn't care. Our Lord calmed the storm but asked if they didn't have faith. Touché!

In 1986, drought had brought the Sea of Galilee's water level way down. Two fishermen, brothers and archaeology hobbyists, spotted something poking up from the exposed, muddy shore.

After digging a little more, they excitedly reported their discovery. They had found the fragile but intact hull of what quickly became known as the “Jesus Boat,” now displayed in a museum.

Additional artifacts, including an oil lamp, and later carbon testing placed the boat in the period around Jesus' lifetime on Earth. While no one can say whether our Lord ever sat (or slept) in the Jesus Boat, the discovery shows that the Apostles had reason to panic in a storm.

Although 27 feet long, the Jesus Boat had a depth of only about 4 feet. It could hold Jesus and the Twelve, but we can envision water

crashing over the sides as four Apostles at the oars battled against capsizing.

It took more than a week to extricate the sunken Jesus Boat. Years of preservation work followed, using a wax compound to replace mud from the Sea of Galilee that had held the hull together.

Most of us never find ourselves on a sinking boat, but storm surges and other catastrophes come ashore. Who among us has never gotten short-tempered because God seems not to care?

Even when sin and doubt muck things up, God will help. His Word waxes eloquent with the promise of every blessing we need.

Sharing High-Spirited Hope

After the Ascension, Saint Peter had no money to give a crippled beggar. Instead, in Jesus' name, the Apostle gave him the ability to walk—and to jump around—as the man exuberantly praised God. Saint Paul, a former Pharisee and ruthless persecutor, became the “Apostle to the Gentiles.” Near the end of his life, Paul acknowledged that the Lord had stood by him to give him strength (2 Timothy 4).

Heart of the Nation will gratefully receive whatever you can donate or pledge. Your generosity and prayers will lead to many finding spiritual strength through Holy Mass and publications filled with hope in the Lord.



Father's Day Prayer

Heavenly Father,
from You comes
the kind of love
meant to fill the hearts
of children.
Thank you for fathers,
grandfathers,
and all fatherly love given.

For the countless ways
such love
has become a blessing
for me,
I give You praise
while asking You
to bless fathers abundantly.
Amen.

Prayer in Summer

Heavenly Father,

In these days of summer,
offering again the chance,
may I look with
new perception
to see Your
love's abundance.

While the days of summer
bring longing to be carefree,
please watch over us,
Your children,
safely in Your company.

In the gift of summer,
sign of Your love's faithfulness,
I pray, too, that all
who suffer
may endure with holiness.

Amen.

Corpus Christi (Body of Christ)

Jesus told the Disciples at the Last Supper that the bread and wine given to them had become His Body and Blood. With every Consecration, breaking, and sharing of the Eucharistic presence, the yield of Christ's sacrifice multiplies.



On the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (June 2), the Church takes the Host beyond church walls.



To visibly and reverently present the Body of Christ in *Corpus Christi* processions, a majestic vessel called a monstrance holds a Eucharistic Host carried outdoors. Bearers of a canopy called a baldachin typically provide a sacred space and practical covering for the Eucharist in case of rain. Jesus wants people to make space for His presence in their lives, on bright days and on days that threaten to dampen faith.

Wearing a humeral veil—a shawl vestment—the celebrant holds some of the fabric over his hands. *Corpus Christi* focuses on the Eucharist, the Body of Christ adored by a Church in God's hands.

Like the *Corpus Christi* processions, celebration of the TV Mass reaches beyond church doors. Please invite anyone in need or just curious about the Catholic faith to tune in the TV Mass.



Most Sacred Heart of Jesus



In the Body of Christ shines the Lord's loving and Sacred Heart. On the Friday after *Corpus Christi*, Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

In apparitions to a 17th-century religious sister later canonized as Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, the Lord Jesus revealed His desire for a Sacred Heart feast day and other devotions. Promises made by the Lord to Saint Margaret Mary for devotion to His Heart included help for people in all states of life, through blessings such as peace in families and consolation. For those who labor for the salvation of souls, He promised the ability to touch even the most hardened hearts. Saint Margaret Mary saw visions of His loving Heart inflamed, and Jesus expressed desire to give blessings for the honor of the Sacred Heart through displayed images.

Did You Know?

In Nazareth, people knew Jesus as the son of Joseph, a small-town carpenter. The family tree, described in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, includes royalty on the branch of King David. While the Gospel of Luke does not include King Solomon, the illegitimate son of David, such differences in the Scriptural lineages likely reflect biological versus legal status as adopted sons. In any event, Joseph and Jesus appear as father and son.



*On Father's Day, celebrate men who follow
the example of Saint Joseph,
patron of fathers and the Church.*



Although the royal dynasty of the House of David had long since collapsed, God chose Joseph to serve as the earthly father of Jesus. Scripture tells a bit about him.

Meeting his civic responsibility, Joseph registered in a required census. Faced with Mary's pregnancy, he wanted to do the right thing. Joseph had faith enough to discern the difference between dreams and messages from God. Despite hardship, the Holy Family fled to Egypt to escape murderous King Herod and later settled in out-of-the-way Nazareth to keep Jesus safe. In accordance with their Jewish faith, Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the Temple as their firstborn son and made an offering that reflected their lowly financial status. In the last mentions of Joseph, he and Mary anxiously searched for 12-year-old Jesus, who had stayed behind after the Passover festival. Back home in Nazareth, Jesus humbly obeyed His parents.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 2, 2024
The Most Holy
Body and Blood of Christ

Sunday, June 9, 2024
Tenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Sunday, June 16, 2024
Eleventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Sunday, June 23, 2024
Twelfth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Sunday, June 30, 2024
Thirteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Online Mass:
www.HeartoftheNation.org

Reminder:

For the faithful who are able to attend in person, TV Mass does not meet the Sunday Mass obligation.

Prayer & Worship Guide



Order a free subscription to use during TV Mass and in spiritual reading throughout each week. Please send the recipient's name and address to Heart of the Nation.



Thank You, New Members!

With gratitude, Heart of the Nation includes Circle of the Heart monthly giving club members in perpetual prayers placed at the altar for every Sunday TV Mass. If you do not already belong to this special group, please consider a pledge.



For local time and TV
channel information,
please visit
www.HeartoftheNation.org

or

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