



With many such parables [Jesus] spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it.

MARK 4:33

Life Happens

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The adage that "life is what happens to us as we're busy doing other things" seems to be a rewording of this week's Gospel about the kingdom of heaven, namely about God's reigning activity in our lives. It is a parable about a man who sows seeds in his field. The seeds sprout, grow, and bear fruit, all without his knowing how. In effect, the message says that it is *God* who happens to us as we're busy doing other things.

We tend to convince ourselves that we have complete control over our lives, when in reality that is somewhat of an illusion. Though we may decide what we will have for dinner, what TV program to watch, or what we will wear, we have much less control over the portions of life that so often give meaning and shape to who we are. The person someone marries

is dependent upon the mutual commitment of the two people in love. The degree of job satisfaction we eagerly hope to find can partly depend upon the people with whom we work and the expectations of others. "We walk by faith and not by sight" reveals that we recognize the reigning presence of God bringing us to a life we'd never imagined. In reality, the one thing we do have control over is how we respond to life's events, which can then open us to the ways by which God brings us to fruitful abundance. ●

Reflect

**Think of three of your blessings:
How much did you have to do
with their coming about?**



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Emergency Number for all 3 Churches 779-248-2164



Our thoughts and prayers are with family members and friends of Josephine Weberski, as they mourn the death of their beloved mother, grandmother, and friend. May the merciful Father bring this faithful and dedicated daughter of His to the Beatific Vision.

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of June 17, 2024

Monday	6/17			+ No Mass
Tuesday	6/18	9:00 am	STM	+ Richard Mariani
Wednesday	6/19	5:30 pm	HT	+ Jerry Henkel
Thursday	6/20	9:00 am	HT	+ No Mass
Friday	6/21	9:00 am	STM	+ No Mass

Mass Intentions for the weekend of June 22 - 23, 2024

Saturday	6/22	4:00 pm	St Thomas More	+ Gene & Josie Weberski
Sunday	6/23	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	+ Dec. Mem. Laverne Eiten Fam.
		10:30 am	St Patrick	+ For the Parishioners

GOD AS THE PERFECT IMAGE OF FATHERS

Every child wants to have a father he or she can be proud of. As we celebrate Father's Day this weekend, let us take a look at how fathers are seen in the image of God.

Fathers represent a person's source (he who begets a child), protection and are supposed to modelled life for their sons and love for their daughters. The life of Jesus on earth paints the exact picture of how much the presence of a father can affect the trajectory a person's life can take. In the Bible, we see how courageous Jesus spoke. It was so obvious that the people listening to Him marveled at the manner He spoke and the authority with which He spoke. Jesus didn't just speak that way because that was His personality; He spoke that way because that was what was modelled to Him by God His Father. In His own word Jesus stated that all He says and does is what He has seen His Father do. Jesus lived life on earth just as God modelled life before Him in heaven.

This is instructive to fathers everywhere as we seek to parent and raise families. God left an example of how fathers should relate with their children. It is an aberration for our children to learn the fundamentals of life and faith from an external source when we are alive and healthy. Even at thirty, God was still using every opportunity He had to speak to people what He thought about His Son, Jesus Christ. He declared without mincing words that He was proud to be Jesus' Father. His open declaration of what He thought about His Son influenced the way Jesus was perceived both by those He was sent to and His disciples.

Every young man hoping to get married one day and every man married already must know that his children will replicate his values and patterns as they grow. They will also act like the person their father declares them to be. Fathers must learn to call out the best out of their children. Our children just like Jesus and God must know, hear and see that we are proud of them and can go all out for them.

(Excerpted from Busaosowo Osowoodarunae Bisong "linkedin.com")

From the Pastor's Desk

Fr. Thaddeus will be going on vacation starting June 20 - July 3, 2024. During his absence, Fr. Vien Do from LaSalle will help with the weekend Masses on June 22nd & 23rd; Fr. Rogers Byambaasa, AJ, from Bloomington, IL will cover Masses for the weekend of June 29th & 30th. Please help make these two visiting priests feel welcome. Please note that during Fr. Thaddeus' absence, there will be no weekday Masses or Saturday confessions.



Happy Father's Day!



As we celebrate Father's Day Sunday, June 16th we would like to wish all our beloved fathers good health and plenty of blessings from God.

LATEST OFFERING'S

JUNE 9TH WEEKEND

HT – \$930.00

SP – \$232.00

STM – \$921.00

E-giving is a great way to continue to give, especially during the busy summer months. To sign up on website, bureaucatholic.org, scroll down on home page to "Please Consider Our Online Giving" on the right side. If you need help, contact the church office.

CONFESSIONS

NEXT CONFESSIONS
WILL BE SAT. JULY 6TH
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM AT
ST. THOMAS MORE
IN THE HALL

Dear Padre,

**Why did Jesus always speak in parables?
Why didn't he give us clearer answers?**

Parables are short, relatable stories. Their simple images or comparisons convey a moral or religious lesson and put us in touch with the mystery of God and ourselves. Thus, parables confront the hearer or reader with a radical choice to enter God's kingdom: "One must enter the kingdom, that is, become a disciple of Christ, in order to 'know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 13:11). For those who stay 'outside,' everything remains enigmatic" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 546).

About a third of Jesus' recorded teachings are in parable form. After the Pharisees rejected Jesus (Matthew 12:14), he immediately changed his straightforward preaching to parables. This fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation [of the world]" (Matthew 13:35; see Psalm 78:2).

Parables are intended to reveal as much about us as they do about God. As John Shea writes in *Stories of God*, "God not only loves to hear our stories, God loves to tell stories. And, quite simply, we are the story God tells." In the telling, we ourselves are told. The timeless, universal stories of Jesus speak to us at different stages of life and provide multiple levels of meaning to the openhearted. ●



SHUTTER/STOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22	June 23
Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	St. Aloysius	Weekday	Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Kgs 21:1-16	1 Kgs 21:17-29	2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14	Sir 48:1-14	Gonzaga, Religious	2 Chr 24:17-25	Jb 38:1, 8-11
Mt 5:38-42	Mt 5:43-48	Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	Mt 6:7-15	2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20	Mt 6:24-34	2 Cor 5:14-17
				Mt 6:19-23		Mk 4:35-41



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

It may happen that we get discouraged, because we see the weakness of good as compared to the apparent power of evil.... The Gospel asks us to take a fresh look at ourselves and at reality...to discover the presence of God who as humble love is always at work in the soil of our life....

ANGELUS, ROME, JUNE 13, 2021

VARUNA / SHUTTERSTOCK