

## **Gospel Reflection**

### **11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

#### **1. Sign of the Cross**

#### **2. Gospel: Mark 4:26-34**

*“The kingdom of God is a mustard seed growing into the biggest shrub of all...”*



#### **The Parable of the Growing Seed**

<sup>26</sup> He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup> The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup> But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

#### **The Parable of the Mustard Seed**

<sup>30</sup> He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup> yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

#### **The Use of Parables**

<sup>33</sup> With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup> he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

#### **3. Reflection: (reflect on your own or share together if with others)**

1. In the Gospel reading for today Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a tiny mustard seed which then grows into a large bush. Why do you think He uses this analogy?

2. Sometimes we forget that our experience of God often begins in the smallest ways – a kind word, a hug, a smile, or someone simply accepting us. How do you think the Lord is calling you to spread the seeds of faith in other people’s lives today?
3. Have you had an experience where you experienced a small gesture of faith from someone which had a deeper impact on your own life? Why do you think it was significant to you?

**4. Share petitions that you would like to pray for: Finish with the Special Petition.**

**Special Petition: For a spirit of spreading small moments of faith among all Christians: We pray to the Lord**

**5. Lord’s Prayer**

**6. Sign of the Cross.**