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**UNIVERSITY POST OFFICE
KUMASI, GHANA,
WEST AFRICA.**

Date: June 13, 2021

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Readings: Ez 17:22-24; Ps 91:2-3,13-16; 2Cor 5:6-10; Mk 4:26-34

We Walk By Faith, Not By Sight in Partnership with God

“The Lord be with you”.

Dear People of God, today Holy Mother the Church celebrates the Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B. The Liturgical readings invite us to reflect and meditate on how small things become great thanks to the power of God. The reign of God, overlooked by most people as an insignificant seed, is however cherished by those who know its full potential. The Reign or Kingdom of God is presented to us as a mustard seed, though smallest of all seeds, springs up and becomes the largest of plants, like the tender shoot from the cedar which will bear fruit and become a majestic cedar. Thus, shall the just and faithful who have been planted: they flourish, grow, bear fruit and are vigorous and sturdy, like a cedar.

Beloved, two common phrases we are used to hearing these days are “the bigger, the better!” and “the more, the merrier!” Many corporations want to be the largest in their industry. People want to live big, live in the biggest house, drive the biggest car and belong to the biggest Church. Churches and prayer centres want to be the biggest of their time and be able to organize the biggest events of a life time. Today’s Gospel reading presents a contrast to that in two brief but all important parables: the parables of the scattered seed and that of the mustard seed. They both compare the reign of God to seeds. In the first one, the seed grows slowly day by day. The second, about the mustard seed, is very small but grows large enough to give shelter and shade. Both of these parables are about big results emerging from small beginnings. A few bags of grain can produce a harvest large enough to fill a silo. A tiny mustard seed can become a home for the birds of the air.

These Agricultural images are beyond simple farming. They serve as a caution by asking us to avoid identifying “size” with “significance”. Experience has shown that bigger is not necessarily better; nor more necessarily merrier. We often find quality products in smaller business. Similarly, a majority does not necessarily decide what is right. More often than not, minorities have been the great “change agents” and carriers of truth for the rest of society. Renewal and revival have come through minorities. Confusing size with significance has led us to believe that the Church with the most members is effective. Size can often make a community or society complacent, fat and lethargic. Numbers sometimes create confusion rather than a blessing. It is not the number of people who claim the name “Christian” that will change our world but the intensity with which they live their faith. The faith that makes a difference is not the one that grows outward but the one that grows within.

When we look at the beautiful world around us, we should call to mind the magnificent truth that the growth we see began with small seeds that grew slowly over the years. The same is true in our Church life and our spiritual life. God's loving care has established us in the Church through Baptism and nourishes and watches over us through the sacramental economy of salvation. Our spiritual vitality begins with a trickle of water at Baptism. It grows with a wafer of bread in Holy Communion and a smudge of consecrated oil at Confirmation. Slowly the graces planted in us through those sacraments can grow into a heroic and life-changing holiness that profoundly affects others. The life of the Church cannot be left out. The seeds of the Kingdom are always being sown. When a parent teaches a child to make the Sign of the Cross; when religious education teachers, Sunday school teachers, and catechist struggle to hand on the truths of faith through their activities, teaching and catechesis; when marriage counsellors prepare couples for holy matrimony with the truths of God and the Church; when we meet as a group or society to have Bible Studies and pray; when a Catholic visits the sick, help the homeless, and counsels the doubtful; when we celebrate Mass and pray for the living and the dead; we are sowing seeds of the Kingdom. Which of them will grow and at what rate is not for us to determine. The growth will happen in God's appointed time. Ours is to sow the seeds and God will give the growth.

God's reign unfolds in our moral conduct when in our homes and workplaces we are patient or forgiving towards those we live and work with. It is recognized in the helping hand extended to anyone in need, or in the gentle and healing touch of the health caretaker. The reward we will receive from the Lord, as St Paul reminds us in today's second reading, is not for the growth but for the number of seeds we tried and managed to sow. We all want to look forward to a great future for our nation and for our Church. If and when that will happen is not in our control. We should focus on the faithful seeding, the generous planting, and leave the rest to God. Never count your small and humble beginnings as little and insignificant. Everything great we see around us started little, thanks to the power of God. Imbedded in little and humble beginnings is the potential for greatness. Our beginnings may be compared to a mustard seed, very small but has all the potentials in itself. It is most time overlooked by many, seen as an insignificant seed, but for those privileged to know its potential they love and cherish it. Love and cherish your humble beginnings.

As a plant grows unnoticed by many, if not all, so does the development of God's reign escape our awareness. However, there is difference between plant growth and the growth of God's reign. A long time is usually required to see the progress of a plant. But time alone will not reveal the action of God in the world today: we need the eyes of faith. With the eyes of faith we recognize the reign of God being realized in our midst everywhere and at all times. As we walk by faith and not by sight, may our lives bear fruit in abundance!

Please, remember to stay well, healthy and safe. Be not afraid to attend Mass. Wear your nose mask and observe all the safety protocols. Your life is dear to us. God bless and keep you safe.

Have a Blessed and Joyful Week.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Pray for Us.

11TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

CHURCH NOTICES:

Weekday Masses and Readings are as follows:

Monday, 14/06/21 – 6:30pm - 2 Cor. 6:1-10 / Ps. 98:1-4 / Matt. 5:38-42

Tuesday, 15/06/21- 6:30am/7:00pm -2 Cor. 8:1-9 / Ps. 146:2, 5-9 / Matt. 5:43-48

Wednesday, 16/06/21 – 6:30am - 2 Cor. 9:6-11 / Ps. 112:1-4, 9 / Matt. 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, 17/06/21 – 7:00pm - 2 Cor. 11:1-11 / Ps. 111:1-4, 7-8 / Matt. 6:7-15

Friday, 18/06/21 – 6:30am - 2 Cor. 11:18, 21-30 / Ps. 34:2-7 / Matt. 6:19-23

Saturday, 19/06/21 – 7:00am - 2 Cor. 12:1-10 / Ps. 34:8-13 / Matt. 6:24-34 (**St. Romuald**)

Please come early to go through the Safety Protocols.

Next Sunday June 20, 2021 – 12^h Sunday in Ordinary Time (B): Usual 5 Masses.

1st Reading – Job 38:1, 8-11

Res. Psalm – Ps. 107:23-31

2nd Reading – 2 Cor. 5:14-17

Gospel – Mk. 4:35-41

Sacrament of Reconciliation: There is Confession every Saturday at 6:00pm. All safety Protocols will be observed.

Chaplaincy News Bulletin: Please, sign up to receive News Bulletin from the Chaplaincy. You can do so at the Covid-19 Registration Desk after Mass or send a WhatsApp message to this number: 0596036520. **NB:** You need to save the number to receive messages from the number on WhatsApp.

Dues (Membership) Cards and Registration: All parishioners who haven't got themselves Dues Cards and all those who have not registered should see the Catechists after Mass to help you or come to the Chaplaincy Office to do so. Please take note.

Chaplaincy Cloth on Sale: We have a large quantity of the Chaplaincy's Cloth on sale. The cost goes for Twelve Ghana Cedis (GH12.00) per a yard. Parishioners/Students who do not have or whose are old should please go to the Chaplaincy Office for theirs.

Chaplaincy Momo Pay: The Chaplaincy has acquired a Merchant Sim. Parishioners are advised to make payments of Harvest Levy, Chapel Fund Contributions, etc. through the Merchant ID: 097655 to enjoy less charges.

Reverting to the old System of taking Collection: The Chaplaincy, has from Sunday June 6, 2021, reverted to the old system of taking collection within the Mass. Please all parishioners should take note.

One Parish Tree Planting Project: The Catholic Archdiocese of Kumasi – Research and Innovations Committee (RICE) presents One Parish Tree Planting Project – 5th Anniversary of Laudato Si.

COMMITTEES, GROUPS AND SOCIETIES

Pax Romana – 1. Catechism for Students: All students who want to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, 1st Communion and Confirmation are been informed that classes have resumed at Room 5 at the Baffoe Complex this and every Sunday at 4:00pm.

2. Life in the Spirit Seminar (LSS): All students who would want to be enrolled in the Life in the Spirit Seminar are being informed that it has commenced on this Saturday and Sunday at 4:00pm at the Sarpong Hall.

3. Pax Week 2021: It is a week purposely planned to help Pax members grow and flourish. This is starting from Monday June 14, 2021 to Sunday June 20, 2021 with the **Theme: “A Chosen Generation”**. The activities are as follows:

Tuesday June 15 --- Students’ Mass

Wednesday June 16-Pax Seminar (A seminar on Entrepreneurship, Investments, Finances and Career

Skills. The CEO of Pizzaman/Chicken Man and a resource personnel from Data Bank will be the Guest Speakers.

Friday June 18 --- Cells’ Day

Sunday June 20 --- Pax Trade Fair

If anyone wants to display any products during the Pax Trade Fair, he/she should kindly call on Valentine or Ebenezer on 0544695456 / 0505591410. You are being counted upon to make this Week a glorious and an impactful one. Tell a friend to tell a friend to come!

Chaplaincy Youth Leadership Workshop: The Chaplaincy Youth Council is organising a Leadership Workshop for all Leaders of various Youth Groups and Societies on Saturday June 19, 2021, with the theme: *‘Equipping Ourselves for Ministry’*. The venue will be the Archbishop Sarpong Conference Hall. The Workshop will start from 8.00am to 2.00pm. All Leaders of the various Groups and Societies in the Chaplaincy are expected to be present at this workshop.

Request for Support – Daughters of the Most Holy Trinity (FST): The FST Sisters of the Catholic Archdiocese of Kumasi are requesting parishioners to support them with used (or new) clothing, food stuff, stationary, and / or funds to support their Rural Outreach to aid their tradition of reaching out regularly to rural communities. As we know ‘the harvest is rich but the labourers are few’ so we need more labourers to support them wholeheartedly to make a meaningful impact in the lives of needy people. Your support in this matter will be very much appreciated. For more enquiries, please, call on this number

Sunday School Classes: Parishioners (Parents/Guardians) are being informed that Sunday School Classes have resumed. However, only children from the Pre-Communion Class (age 7-9) to the Confirmation Class are admitted. Children in the Nursery Class are not starting now due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. You should also take note that Catechumens who were prepared for last year will be allowed to receive the 1st Communion. All new entrants would have to wait for the next period. Parents must ensure that their children wear their Nose Masks and come with water bottles, if possible. Please bear with us.

Twi Catechism – 1st Communion and Confirmation Classes: All parishioners who were attending 1st Communion and Confirmation Classes last year and had to stop due to the Covid-19 Pandemic are all expected to resume classes this and every Tuesday at 5.00pm. Please take note.

Charismatic Renewal (Local): Members of the Local CCR are being informed of their usual meeting. Please take note.

Catholic Women Association (CWA): The Catholic Women Association is inviting new members to join them. Interested parishioners are to meet with the President after Mass.

Sacred Heart of Jesus and Rosary Confraternity: All members are informed that Church has resumed. Parishioners who wish to join the Confraternity are warmly welcome so that we all pray together.

Legion of Mary: The Legion of Mary Praesidium has resumed their meetings for both Twi and English on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 6:00pm and 5:00pm respectively. Both new and old members are warmly welcome.

Saint Vincent De Paul (S.V.P.): Members of the St. Vincent De-Paul are meeting today Sunday June 13, 2021 after the 8.30am Mass at the usual rendezvous. Please, all members should try to be present. (Inside and Outside).

Dagaaba Union Meeting: All the Dagaaba Union members will meet next Sunday June 20, 2021 immediately after the 10.30am Mass. All members are entreated to be present at the meeting.

House Wiring, CCTV Camera & Solar Installations etc.: Do you need a quality work done in the field of House Wiring, CCTV Camera and Solar installations? Please, contact 0246103830 for enquires.

Inspirational Quotes For Living: Are you down hearted, living to find your purpose and excited about life? Look no further. Grab your copy of Books on Quotes by Prof. Marian Asantewah Nkansah to add colour and flavour to your life. Copies are at the Sales Desk for GHC30.00.

Job Opportunity: 1. A parishioner is in need of Live-In Domestic staff, male and female. Interested persons should please call on the following numbers: 024427633 and 0203085867

2. **Holy Family School** at Ahensan Estate, near the Ahensan Youth Centre and behind the Mc Kenzie Hospital is looking for Care Givers, Teachers and Cleaners. Interested persons should kindly leave their application letters at the school premises or the Chaplaincy Office and also call any of these numbers: 0208168643 / 0209488403.

Rent Accommodation: 1. A parishioner needs a single room apartment around Bomso, Maxima, The Cabin and Sussanso. Please, call to help him/her on 0248588860.

2. A parishioner is in need of a single room accommodation to rent for occupation. Please, call and help him on: 0548991681 / 0553605278. Thank you.

House for Rent: A 3 Bedroom Flat with hall, kitchen, toilet, bathroom, spacious frontage veranda overlooking Phimady Pub located at Ayeduase New Site on the Main Road opposite Rhema Salvation Ministry is available for Rent from 1st July, 2021. For further enquiry, please contact: 0244416770 / 0502693796.

Sale of Peanut Butter: Thy Grace Natural Peanut Butter has in stock unadulterated butter (groundnuts paste) ideal for soup and bread-spread. For domestic and commercial (schools, restaurants, canteens, chop bars, food joints eateries) needs, contact the following for delivery: 0244158635 / 0244077147.

MARRIAGE BANNES: 1. **Mr. Eric Akyen Ampah**, son of Mr. Eric E. Ampah and Mrs. Cynthia Ampah, born at Aburi, used to reside at Akyem-Asafo, now residing at Amakom – Kumasi and **Ms. Marian Essel**, daughter of Mr. Dominic Otomfo Essel and Mrs. Rose Otomfo Essel, born at KNUST – Kumasi, residing at Adarko-Jachie. (2nd Announcement).

Funeral Announcement: 1. We announce the death of **Mrs. Diana Afia Kotoka** a parishioner, member of St. John's International and a member and immediate past president of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus. The One Week Observation is today Sunday, 13th June, 2021 at Nik Pizza, Nhyiaeso (Near Capital Radio) from 6:00am to 6:00pm. All parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family.

2. The funeral arrangement of Mr. Sylvester Kuudaar, a parishioner, member of the Eucharistic Ministry and Dagaaba Union and also the husband of Mrs. Marcelina Kuudaar, a parishioner and member of the Local CCR is as follows: there will be no wake keeping, lying in state on Saturday June 13, 2021 at his residence Plt.13, Blk. J (AE – 0148 – 1893), Kwamo at 5.30am, Burial Mass at the Chaplaincy at 9.00am, burial at Nandom-Bu in the Upper West Region, funeral rites at the KNUST Community Centre from 12noon to 6.00pm, thanksgiving Mass on Sunday June 20, 2021 at the Chaplaincy. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family. (Mrs. Marcelina Kuudaar and children to be introduced)