

Subject: Daily Prayer 20th July 2020
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Date: 20/07/2020, 08:00
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Good morning everyone

Let's start with a few moments of silence.....

Lord our God, we thank you for all who have taught us our faith
and who set us an example by their lives.

We ask your blessings upon our homes, our loved ones and all who have cared for us.

In Jesus name we pray. AMEN

Psalm 50:3-7,14

Our God comes and does not keep silence,
before him is a devouring fire,
and a mighty tempest all around him.
He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:
'Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!'
The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge.
Selah

'Hear, O my people, and I will speak,
O Israel, I will testify against you.
I am God, your God.
Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and pay your vows to the Most High.

Matthew 13:31-35

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

The Parable of the Yeast

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

The Use of Parables

Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet:

'I will open my mouth to speak in parables;

I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world.'

Reflection

Notice how Jesus spoke about small things, how he found great significance in what might easily be overlooked. Jesus always relates his teaching to simple everyday objects which people know and can therefore understand the messages of the parables. Jesus tells of how the smallest of seeds grows to the biggest of trees and how the yeast mixed with the flour grows in size. Jesus is likening these everyday objects to our faith and the kingdom of heaven. If the seed is watered and has sunlight it will grow just as our faith fed by reading of the word of God and praying will grow. Nothing is instant and we must have patience but as the old adage goes 'Great oaks from little acorns grow'. We are lucky because we have priests and teachers to help us on our way but we still have to have ears to hear, eyes to see and a heart to grow in faith if we are to become spiritually mature. Growth takes time and patience. Why not invite Jesus look at your life – even at your humble tasks – to see if he might not lead you to wisdom, insight and truth.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. AMEN

*'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand,
And seeing you will see and not perceive;
For the hearts of this people have grown dull.
Their ears are hard of hearing,
And their eyes they have closed,
Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears,
Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,
So that I should heal them'*

But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear" (Matthew 13:11-16).

AMEN

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. AMEN

Blessings and love
Until tomorrow
Vicky x