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In the Gospel today, Jesus' words are full of hope and good news. The challenge of evangelization, and more precisely, the *proclamation of God's Kingdom*, is as important today as in the past. When the first disciples left on their mission, they were fragile, hesitant, without means, *like sheep in the midst of wolves*. Christ's words encourage us to put everything in perspective. These circumstances are not different for us today.

We acknowledge that on certain days, our tasks will appear to be disproportionate. Human and financial resources are dwindling. Our voices may be weak in comparison to experienced adversaries. Yet things have not changed much from the days of the first missionaries and their adventures. As in the past, Jesus invites us to sow, remembering that a seed will sprout and grow by itself.

The prophet Ezekiel spoke words which Christ repeated: *I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish* (Ezek: 17,24). Other words reiterate the same reality. The Lord remains the great administrator of his Kingdom and oversees its existence and growth. The Lord can take even the smallest mustard seed ... *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...* (Mk 4:32).

Inspired by St. Mark, these missionary challenges can be approached with hope.

Jacques Houle, c.s.v.

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli



St. Lucy Parish

P.O. Box 36, Arborfield, SK. S0E 0A0

Email: stlucyarb@hotmail.com

Website: <https://pasquiacatholic.com/>

Facebook Page: StLucyArborfield

Pastor: Fr. Travis Myrheim

Home Phone: 767-2458

Sunday June 17, 2018 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The image is simple but powerful: *The kingdom of God is as if a man would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, without his knowing how...* (Mk 4:26-27). It could even become a tree. There is nothing ambiguous about this. The *Kingdom* is God's work that had modest beginnings and continues to unfold.

The lesson is important especially in view of the urgent invitation of our bishops: to meet the challenge of evangelization in the context of our *missionary crossroads*. Perhaps we should talk more about a right-angle shift when we consider their message in the realistic analysis of current situations. Religious practice is in free fall. Churches are deserted and we close and sell them. Mega-parishes are being created, bringing together several small communities. However, we must not confuse *parishes* with *communities*. The current situation of Christianity experienced in our province requires us to differentiate these two realities. Community practice and culture are different because the traditional *parish* first filled a leadership role in our Christian lives. It is not surprising when some people miss the traditional leadership role and have withdrawn, become silent, and feel a great loss and even hopelessness for the future.

The Week at a Glance

Sat June 16 7:30pm Mass in Arborfield **For †Jack Lalonde**
 Sun June 17 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River **For the people**
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Armand Dion**
 Mon June 18 *Fr Travis' day off*
 Tues June 19 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Leon**
Marchildon
 Wed June 20 no mass
 Thurs June 21 6:00pm Adoration in Carrot River
 7:00pm Mass in Carrot River **For Zeke Whelan**
 Fri June 22 10:00am Mass in Arborfield Care Home
 7:00pm Adoration in Zenon Park
 8:00pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Jacqueline**
Perrault
 Sat June 23 7:30pm Mass in Arborfield **For Victims and**
Families
 Sun June 24 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River **For the people**
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Gilles Favreau**

Mass Times for May/June

Sat 7:30pm – Arborfield
 Sun 9:00am – Carrot River
 Sun 11:00am – Zenon Park

Mass time for July/August

Sat 7:30pm – Carrot River
 Sun 9:00am – Zenon Park
Sun 11:00am – Arborfield
(changes will take place July 7/8)

Announcements and Activities

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>June 16</u>	<u>June 23</u>
Commentator	Joann	Marie
Reader	Mary	Jeanne
Cup	Beatrice, Sue	Neil, James
Hospitality	Neil, Lorraine	James, Flo
Offerings	Bob, Lisa	Brian, Pam
Sacristan	Mary	Jeanne

Cleaning Schedule

June 18-24, 2018	Mark & Sue Munson
June 25 - July 1, 2018	Alois & Laurie Bronner

Last week's collection total: **\$ 500.00 Thank You**

St. Lucy's will be hosting **Vacation Bible Camp** for youth this summer. Watch for more info.

Clergy appointments - please see the notice on the bulletin board for all changes to clergy appointments for our diocese.