

**Deacon Tony's June 13, 2021, Homily
For
Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time**

TODAY'S MASS readings are about how God works -- with us and without us. In another sense, we could say they remind us that God's work will be carried out whether we cooperate or not. If we choose not to cooperate, God's plans

will not be frustrated but we ourselves will be the losers.

Jesus uses two parables to explain the KINGDOM OF GOD.

They both involve plants that start off as small seeds and grow into large fruitful trees that yield their fruit and provide shade for all.

When Jesus explains the process by which these trees come about, he wants to remind us of how we need to have patience in His methodical plan to wait and trust that His ways are always the right ways.

Paul in writing to the Corinthians, remind us that we

“walk by faith and not by sight”

Walking by faith requires a lot of courage because we are unsure of where it is that God is calling us. Walking by faith requires a lot of trust.

As Thomas confessed to Jesus that

“we do not know the way...how are we to know where we are going?”

And Jesus replied –

“I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE” - FOLLOW ME!

We must always be ready to change and submit ourselves to be remade in His grace. When he calls us to put our plans aside, let us recall Ezekiel's prophesy:

**“all the trees of the field shall know, that I, the Lord,
BRING LOW THE HIGH TREE, AND LIFT HIGH THE LOWLY TREE,
WITHER UP THE GREENTREE, AND MAKE THE WITHERED TREE BLOOM.”**