

LIVING FAITH

OCTOBER 6, 2019
27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
WORLD COMMUNICATION DAY
RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

Luke 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!" '

TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

What is faith? Sometimes, people think of faith in a way that is similar to the way they think of trust. For the Christian, faith is a bit different from that. For Christians, faith is both a gift and a response. Faith is a gift of our loving God, freely offered to everybody. It is also our response to God's invitation to fullness of life, to love and relationship with Jesus and one another. Faith is trust, and more than that. Faith is belief. It is the certainty that God is Love, and that God's Love has been made manifest in the world in Jesus. It is the sure and certain assurance that Christ has died, Christ is risen, and Christ will come again.

PONDER AND DISCUSS

- What does faith mean to you?
- Who do you look up to as a model of faith?
- What would you say to somebody who asked you to talk about your faith?



A Mustard Seed Faith



He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you." Luke 17:6 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Q	T	S	N	O	Y	G	W	Z	I	C	F	B	J	A	D	P	U	M	H	R	K	E	X	L	V

- 17-25-15-4-2-23-16 _____
- 19-18-25-13-23-21-21-6 _____
- 3-23-23-16 _____
- 10-4-11-21-23-15-3-23 _____
- 3-19-15-25-25 _____
- 5-13-23-6 _____
- 12-15-10-2-20 _____
- 3-23-15 _____
- 19-18-3-2-15-21-16 _____
- 2-21-23-23 _____

OBEY MUSTARD	INCREASE FAITH	SMALL MULBERRY	SEED PLANTED	TREE SEA
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World Mission Sunday: "Go! Make disciples of all nations." (Mt 28: 19). These words - the imperative mission of Christ - call each baptized Catholic to action. The Church has a lasting mission to perform in this world, a mission that is ever more apparent, and the need for it ever more urgent. In fact mission isn't something the Church does. It is what the Church is! This year, World Mission Sunday and its collection is on October 20. This is a worldwide collection for the Missionary Church that offers emergency aid when disaster strikes, cares for refugees in war-torn countries, provides rural health clinics and transportation for priests, catechists, religious and lay pastoral workers. It offers financial support for the daily needs of all missionaries. Please pray for the missions and be generous on World Mission Sunday.

OCTOBER IS EXTRAORDINARY MISSION MONTH A THOUGHT AND AN ACTION FOR THE DAY

Sunday, October 6

Reflection: EMM stands for Extraordinary Missionary Month.

Action: Plan to be knowledgeable about how we are/can be Missionary Disciples.

Monday, October 7

Reflection: Pope Francis is encouraging us to “renew missionary awareness in today’s Church,”

Action: Reflect on how you are a Missionary Disciple.

Tuesday, October 8

Reflection: “In the past God spoke in partial and various ways”. (Hebrews 1:1)

Action: Name some of the ways God speaks to you.

Wednesday, October 9

Reflection: “Encourage each other daily while it is still today” (Hebrews 3:13)

Action: Take time to compliment or encourage someone today.

Thursday, October 10

Reflection: “Eternal Life is this: To know you the one true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent”. (John 17:3)

Action: Read something spiritual today to develop your relationship with God.

Friday, October 11

Reflection:

Jesus wept over Jerusalem, saying: “Would that you had known the things that make for peace” (Luke 19: 41-42)

Action: Do something today that contributes to making your heart, your home or your community more peaceful.

Saturday, October 12

Reflection: “The earth is really a shared inheritance whose fruits are meant to benefit every one” (*Laudato Si* #70)

Action: Do one thing today that shows that you are caring for the earth.

PRAYER FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY MISSION MONTH-- OCTOBER 2019

Heavenly Father,

when your only begotten Son Jesus Christ rose from the dead,
he commissioned his followers to "go and make disciples of all nations"

and you remind us that through our Baptism
we are made sharers in the mission of the Church.

Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit

to be courageous and zealous in bearing witness to the Gospel,
so that the mission entrusted to the Church, which is still very far from completion,
may find new and efficacious expressions that bring life and light to the world.

Help us make it possible for all peoples to experience the saving love
and mercy of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, forever and ever. Amen.

Watch a video about Extraordinary Mission Month [here](#).

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THE CHURCH TEACHES

Excerpts from the Message from Pope Francis
October's Extraordinary Missionary Month:

Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World

- *Our mission, then, is rooted in the fatherhood of God and the motherhood of the Church. The mandate given by the Risen Jesus at Easter is inherent in Baptism: as the Father has sent me, so I send you, filled with the Holy Spirit, for the reconciliation of the world (cf. Jn 20:19-23; Mt 28:16-20).*
- *The Easter event of Jesus breaks through the narrow limits of worlds, religions and cultures, calling them to grow in respect for the dignity of men and women, and towards a deeper conversion to the truth of the Risen Lord who gives authentic life to all.*
- *We entrust the Church's mission to Mary our Mother. In union with her Son, from the moment of the Incarnation the Blessed Virgin set out on her pilgrim way. She was fully involved in the mission of Jesus, a mission that became her own at the foot of the Cross: the mission of cooperating, as Mother of the Church, in bringing new sons and daughters of God to birth in the Spirit and in faith.*
- *I would like to conclude with a brief word about the Pontifical Mission Societies, already proposed in Maximum Illud as a missionary resource. The Pontifical Mission Societies serve the Church's universality as a global network of support for the Pope in his missionary commitment by prayer, the soul of mission, and charitable offerings from Christians throughout the world. Their donations assist the Pope in the evangelization efforts of particular Churches (the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith), in the formation of local clergy (the Pontifical Society of Saint Peter the Apostle), in raising missionary awareness in children (Pontifical Society of Missionary Childhood) and in encouraging the missionary dimension of Christian faith (Pontifical Missionary Union). In renewing my support for these Societies, I trust that the extraordinary Missionary Month of October 2019 will contribute to the renewal of their missionary service to my ministry.*

