

## ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass intentions  
for June 13, 2021  
11th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday, 5 p.m. —  
† Dotty Clark  
By: Pat Grimes

Sunday, 9 a.m. —  
† Dean Batchelder  
By: Shirley Batchelder  
& Susan Mock

Wednesday, noon —  
† Ted Cruz  
By: Mally Cruz

11th Sunday of Ordinary Time



**Ezekiel 17:22-24** — I the Lord, bring low the high tree, lift high the lowly tree, wither up the green tree, and make the withered tree bloom.

**Psalms 92:2-3, 13-16** — Lord, it is good to give thanks to you. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

**2 Corinthians 5:6-10** — We are all courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight.

**Mark 4:26-34** — The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed, the smallest of all seeds. It becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds can dwell in its shade.



### MIGHTY MUSTARD SEED

A mustard seed the size of a pencil dot growing into a tree about 10 feet high — that's how Jesus describes the growth of the kingdom of God. He uses a familiar image from the Old Testament, where mighty trees represent the authority of empires like Babylon, Egypt and Israel (as in the first reading today). The disciples may feel insignificant, especially compared to the ruling Roman empire. But Jesus reminds them that his kingdom will start small and grow to phenomenal heights. It will shelter all those who rest in Him. They *will* succeed and change the world. And so will we if we rest in Christ.

# FAITH

*is not believing that God can  
it is knowing that He will.*

### Weekly readings

**11th Sunday  
of Ordinary Time**  
Ezekiel 17:22-24  
Psalm 92:2-3, 13-16  
2 Corinthians 5:6-10  
Mark 4:26-34

**Monday**  
2 Corinthians 6:1-10  
Matthew 5:38-42

**Tuesday**  
2 Corinthians 8:1-9  
Matthew 5:43-48

**Wednesday**  
2 Corinthians 9:6-11  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday**  
2 Corinthians  
11:1-11  
Matthew 6:7-15

**Friday**  
2 Corinthians 11:18,  
21-30  
Matthew 6:19-23

**Saturday**  
2 Corinthians  
12:1-10  
Matthew 6:24-34

**12th Sunday  
of Ordinary Time**  
Job 38:1, 8-11  
Psalm 107:23-26,  
28-31  
2 Corinthians  
5:14-17  
Mark 4:35-41

### Reasons to Believe

St. Thomas Aquinas outlines his “five ways” to help us reason our faith in God:

1. **“Argument from motion”** — Everything moves or changes, but nothing moves itself. Everything is moved by something already moving, except at the beginning. And that initial mover is God.
2. **“Argument from efficient causality”** — Every effect has a cause. But just like with motion, no cause can be the ultimate beginning. That first cause is God.
3. **“Possibility and necessity”** — “Something” cannot come from “nothing.” That ultimate being, necessary in and of itself, is God. “God is the origin and end of the universe.” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*)
4. **“Degrees of perfection”** — We use relative measurements to describe various qualities in life — “more or less,” “greater or lesser.” But the degrees of measurements must be compared to a constant, an absolute standard. That constant, that fullness of all perfection, is God.
5. **“Argument from design”** — Everything acts in a purposeful way, with order and predictability, even “things” with no intelligence. Some examples are laws of the universe, such as gravity and animal instinct. Everything was designed with a particular purpose — a seed’s purpose is to become a plant, fire’s purpose is to burn, ... The designer for each is God.
  - A. “How precious to me are your designs, O God; how vast the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the sands; when I complete them, still you are with me.” (Psalm 139:17-18)
  - B. “Since the creation of the world, invisible realities, God’s eternal power and divinity, have become visible, recognized through the things he has made.” (Romans 1:20)

—From Scott Hahn’s *Reasons to Believe*

### Saintly Wisdom

“Faith is like a bright ray of sunlight. It enables us to see God in all things as well as all things in God.”  
— St. Francis de Sales —

### Parish Life

**Happy Ordination Anniversary** — Our pastor, Fr. Dennis Kress, celebrates his 22nd anniversary of ordination as a priest this weekend (June 12). Please keep him in your prayers.

**Parish Work Day** — The Knights of Columbus’ work day to spruce up the church property will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday (June 19).

**Honors for May and June** — The Knights of Columbus have honored the following people:

- Family of the month — Cathy Champon and her granddaughter Allison Jordan for May; Ladies’ Guild for June
- Knight of the month — Ed Yarwood for May; Jimmy Townsend for June

**Knights of Columbus to Meet** — The Knights of Columbus will meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 23.

**Communion Visits** — If you or a loved one is hospitalized, in a nursing home or at home because of an illness, you may ask that communion be brought to you by calling John Tolejko (543-4089) or Barbara White (895-5150). For a hospital visit from Fr. Dennis, please call 518-1166. (Hospitals do not notify a patient’s pastor because of the Privacy Act.)

**New Parishioners** — Are you a new parishioner? If you are, we welcome you and ask that you fill out a registration form, which can be found in the vestibule. Forms can be returned in the weekend collection. Thank you!

**Email for Fr. Dennis** — To reach Fr. Dennis in a non-emergency, please feel free to email him at stelizabeth@chartertn.net. Only Fr. Dennis has access to this pastoral email address.