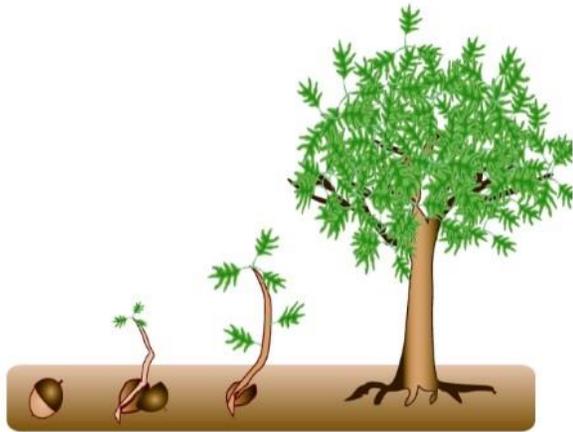


**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,
June 13, 2021**

THE SEED



Since the time of Jesus, the number of people who have heard and accepted God's message has grown tremendously. That has happened because of the action of God who plants the seeds, gives the growth, touches the human heart, and works through his Church.

Sunday's Gospel might lead us to consider the people and the situations that God has used to plant the seed of faith in our personal lives. It may have been our parents, grandparents, or other relatives. It may have been our parish priest, a religion teacher, or other persons who impressed us by the way they lived as followers of Christ.

The Lord may have sown the seed of faith in our lives during a moment of unexpected joy, during a time of personal crisis, or as we watched the birth of a child, or as someone spoke about a personal journey of faith.

God's kingdom, God's presence and action in our lives, happens not because of what we do, but because of what God does. The fact we come to Mass, that we pray, are ways that the Lord nourishes our faith so that his will - his kingdom - will blossom in our lives.

This Sunday, Jesus reminds us that God plants the seed. God nourishes that seed so that it may grow and develop and bring forth a harvest of goodness.

It is a wonder to consider what comes forth from a tiny seed. But it is even more wonderful to consider what can come forth from the seed of faith planted by God in the human heart.

In your service, prayerfully.

Father John Carlos