

Dear Friends,

“He also said, ‘The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.’”

[Mark 4.26-27]

A sure sign of the God’s presence is that his work is done in silence and quiet. The above quote from Mark’s gospel accents this point.

The ‘kingdom of God’ is not a place but rather an action on God’s part. His reign is realized through the action he imparts to the world. The concrete signs of this ‘kingdom’ are justice, compassion, charity, and mercy.

The beginnings always take place in silence, much like our Blessed Mother who quietly and silently carries her child to term. The only and appropriate response on our part is to wait. Thus we have Advent.

We also have the chance to make this silence real in our own lives by entering into the wait. Waiting can be mundane and boring. It can be filled with anxiousness an/or fear. But it can also be filled with love.

What is paramount is seeing God in all these things. Seeing his fingerprint in the specifics of our lives with its brokenness, rough edges, and untold concerns. But also seeing God’s care in the affirmation and beauty that fills every life. What beauty silence and waiting can bring! And God’s growth occurs -

Every honest Catholic knows how useless it sometimes feels to go on day after day finding the same sins cropping up in the examination of conscience, week after week confessing the same sins, the same number of times! He feels it is useless, but knows that he does it so that when the supernatural life pierces

the hard ground, it will not be choked [...] We must not abandon the struggle that the secret growing demands, or doubt its purpose: the getting up early on dark mornings for Mass when our presence at Mass has become only a losing fight with distractions, the offering of our daily work to form Christ in us when the monotony of our daily work makes it seem incapable of any meaning at all. But neither must we refuse the slumber, the repose of the winter time of growth, the stillness, the silence, the acceptance of the times set by God, God’s law of growth ...
[CARYLL HOUSELANDER]

Sincerely,
Father Beaudin