

newbee

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF COMMUNION
PARTICIPATION AND MISSION (MATTHEW 5: 13-16).

MONTHLY FOCUS
LET OUR CHILDREN GROW

Silent Growth

There's an old adage that says "Growth is silent and secret". In the Gospel, Jesus compares the Kingdom of God with a man scattering seed on the ground. The seeds sprout and grow in secret and in silence and the man knows not how. In so many ways this testifies as to how life and the way things happen around us - sometimes all too slowly. This can make us feel frustrated and even agitated, especially in today's world of 'immediacy'.



"Children are capable of enjoying the presence of God; they are able to give themselves totally to God's love."

Sofia Cavalletti



SCRIPTURE
of the DAY

Ezekiel 17: 22-24

Psalm 91: 2-3, 13-16

2 Corinthians 5: 6-10

Mark 4: 26-34

Everything is literally at our fingertips and the reality of things moving slowly around us, even in matters concerning faith can be hard to accept. We want fast remedies and instant answers and a faith that professes to answer every question.

The world may suggest that we can become who we ought to be or become someone worldly and important instantly. However, our faith suggest that such a type of fame and popularity is not what we should be seeking. St Paul reminds us that as Christians, 'we walk by faith and not by sight'. The world may suggest that we need to amass a fortune, get ahead of the rest, be competitive to the point of success at any point. However, as people of faith, we are to realise that this is not what God desires of us. **God moulds us slowly like gold tested in fire.** He shapes us into what is pleasing to Him.

The law of progress is such that we have to pass through periods of instability and insecurity. This is true of the passage of time in the world and also in every life lived in faith. Jesus reminds us that *"in this life there will be trouble, but take heart, I have overcome the world"*. Like a little mustard seed, growth takes time; it is a miracle happening in slow motion. Growth cannot be seen too clearly. The truth is that God alone knows and measures the growth we are making. We cannot be saints overnight; it takes an entire lifetime. We have to trust that things are happening and the gentle hand of God is working at every event, at every turn and at every moment. May we allow God to lead us. ✚