

TRUE PURPOSE FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS

From the prophet Ezekiel we read that the Lord says this: 'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches...I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green...' (cf. Ezk 17:22-24).

Beloved People of God, the true purpose of God's blessings to us is that we become a source of blessing to others. Like the tree that sprouts and bears fruits, so that every kind of bird will live beneath it and every winged creature rest in its shade...We can all count our blessings from God. Grateful persons are able to name God's blessings that they have received. They set out to be a source of blessing for others too. That's why the psalm says, 'it is good to give you thanks, O Lord. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night' (cf. Ps 91)

The blessings and favours from God are often unmerited, this we must learn to acknowledge. The gospel narrative about what the kingdom of God is like shows how sometimes, knowingly and or unknowingly, God continues to shower his blessings on his creatures, on his people. 'A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing: how, he does not know...' (Mk 4:26-34). May we remain a grateful people through whom God blesses others.

Fr. Ted

All to Jesus – Through Mary our Mother

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th June 2024