

11th Sunday Ordinary Time B

- I was ordained in 2002 – but I applied for the diaconate in the 1980's & was rejected
- I know that Harold also was turned away the 1st time he applied for the diaconate
 - 1st Reading from Ez “I the Lord bring low the high & bring high the low. I make the green tree wither and make the withered tree bloom”
 - When I applied I was full of energy, willing, ideas of what I could do
 - Rejected I felt like a green tree, withered
 - But when I was finally accepted that withered tree bloomed
 - We are about to enter a period of change
 - My ministry – to our ministry – to Harold's ministry
 - Today's Gospel can be our roadmap
 - How does a seed grow? SEED to BLADE to EAR to HARVEST
 - The same is true of the ministry on Andros
 - I have planted seeds that Harold will water
 - I have watered seeds the Fr. Roger planted
 - Harold will water my sprouts
 - Each of us is at a different place in our spiritual walk
 - Some of us here are already bearing fruit
 - Some of us here are sprouts
 - Some of us here are still seeds, yet to surrender to the Lord
 - Today we are going to baptize two brothers – seeds will be watered
 - Maxi will water them.
 - Parents will weed them.
 - They will watch us – all of us – and learn what's OK & what's not
 - Today, they are mustard seeds
 - But the potential of the mustard seed is great
 - Their potential is great
 - It is up to us to help them realize that potential
 - NOT just parents, grandparents, Godparents
 - Together, our church, our community begins to grow these seeds = Let's get started