

Technology pervades most every aspect of our lives. Only 100 years ago, electric lighting was the epitome of “high-tech.” These days, it’s cell phones, handheld devices, and tablet computers.

Many of us have a basic understanding that electricity comes from a power plant, through sub-stations, into our homes, and is available at wall sockets conveniently scattered throughout the house. We know if we throw a switch, a light comes on. Or if we push a button, the television comes on. Yet I would hazard a guess that for most of us, the inner workings of electrical distribution systems or electronic devices are a great mystery.

But that doesn’t stop us from utilizing these technologies and devices every day. In today’s Gospel, Jesus uses two parables to provide insight into the Kingdom of God.

Looking at the first parable, we hear about the sower who scatters seed, which grows through various stages into a plant, eventually yielding fruit, which in turn is harvested.

Jesus goes on and says of the farmer: “*he knows not how*” - that is, the farmer doesn’t need to know the inner-biological workings of the seed or plant in order to do his work.

And so it is with us. The Fathers of the Church spoke of Theology as “Faith seeking Understanding.” In our own day-and-age, people seem to think that faith is based on some kind of understanding. Or else they build their knowledge from doubt seeking misunderstanding.

Faith is a free gift, given to us at Baptism and strengthened through the action of Christ in all the other Sacraments.

Just as you don’t need to be a Silicon Valley Ph.D. to benefit from modern technology, so too the benefits of Faith are not reserved to Theologians.

While we may not know how God’s presence is with us at all times - and in a special way in the Eucharist ... and while we may not know how the action of His grace pervades our lives ... the gift of Faith is ours to receive and nourish.

Let us pray for a strengthening of the Supernatural Virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love in our own lives. May our Faith increase - beyond our understanding - that we may recognize and trust the movements of grace that occur in our lives.