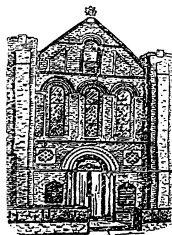


ST. JAMES THE LESS AND ST. HELEN

CATHOLIC CHURCH, COLCHESTER

WITH

MERSEA, MILE END AND MONKWICK



Fr Anthony McKentey

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THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [A] **10th July 2011**

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

On the face of it, it might seem from today's Gospel that Jesus taught in parables in order to prevent his hearers from understanding. But such a purpose is completely alien to the character of Jesus. Jesus used parables as an effective way of teaching. Those who had closed their minds against him received less. The fault lay not with Jesus but with the receiver.

The early Church adapted the parables to the new situation in which they found themselves. The shorter form is most likely the original form of the parable. The explanation reflects the missionary experience of the early Church. It accounts for the relative failure of the message of Jesus. The shallow mind, the hard heart, worldly preoccupations, persecution - these are precisely the obstacles that have frustrated the growth of faith.

As the First Reading suggests, the rain always produces positive results; eventually somewhere the earth responds and becomes fruitful. So God persists with his word until he gets a response.

REFLECTION

The word of God is to the human heart what a seed is to the earth.
However, just as a seed needs soil, so the word needs a receptive heart.
The earth responds to the rain and sun so that even the desert blooms.
But the arid human heart has the power to resist so that it remains barren.
Lord, soften our hearts with your grace, open them with your gentle love,
so that the precious seed of your word make take root in our hearts,
And bear fruit in our lives.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Wednesday 13 th July	7pm	SVP Meeting	Crypt
Thursday 14 th	7:30pm	Deanery Catechists Meeting	Crypt
Sunday 17 th	7:30-9pm	Confirmation Group	Crypt

DAILY: Morning Prayer 8:15am; Rosary/Divine Mercy 8:35am. [Wed. 11:15am]	
PRAYER GROUP	Mondays @ 8pm in the Crypt
MEDITATION GROUP:	Tuesdays @ 8pm in the Crypt
EXPOSITION	Saturdays at 9:45-10:30am

SICK: Please remember in your prayers May Banks, June Bickersteth, Joan Boyden, Frank Campbell, Nancy Drummond, Charlie George, Cara Maude, Bridie Murphy, Paula Nash, Casiano Pasumbal, Leah Patterson, Patrick Quinlivan, Hector Silva, Ellen Woodley.

TODAY IS SEA SUNDAY: when the Church remembers all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we use in our everyday lives. Let us remember them in our prayers and the work of the Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. For more information on AoS, visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

BAPTISM TODAY: Thomas Michael Ryan. God bless this child and congratulations to his family.

NEXT BAPTISM COURSE: Early notification of the dates of the next Baptism Course: **Friday 23rd September and Friday, 30th September. 7:30pm in the Crypt.** If you wish to present a child – newborn to aged 6 yrs – for baptism, you will need to attend this Course. No appointment is necessary, just turn up on the evening but, both sessions must be attended. As usual, reminders will be given via the Newsletter nearer the time.

FR IGNATIUS PAJAK: We welcome Fr Ignatius to the Parish who will be staying for a short while. Fr Ignatius is a Lecturer in Classics at Lublin University.

THANK YOU: For the very generous donation received during the week towards the cost of new Missals in the Parish.

MANY THANKS to all those who worked for the successful Polish-English Corpus Christi Mass and Procession. This could be the start of something! The refreshments were delicious. We have received a suggestion for the Feast of the Assumption ... The spiritual bouquet for Pope Benedict on the Feast of Ss Peter and Paul. Thank you for all those who supported Adoration and Benediction. Numbers exceeded expectations and Our Blessed Lord was never left alone!

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA LOTTERY: The Knights will be selling tickets in this Parish this weekend. [Last week's Newsletter item refers].

MERSEA NEWS: The next Coffee morning will take place on Tuesday, 12th July, at the home of Veronica Smith, 6 Trinity Close. All very welcome.

HEALING MASS at Abbotswick on Wednesday, 13th July at 2.30pm celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power. For further information or travel directions visit www.abbotswick.org or call 01277 373959.

COLCHESTER DEANERY CATHECHISTS' MEETING: On Thursday, 14th July here in the Crypt from 7:30pm-9:30pm. An opportunity for all Catechists of the Deanery to explore together questions related to our present approach to sacramental preparation - Baptism, First Communion/Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Christian initiation through the RCIA process. Facilitator: Sr Nuala Gannon.

MONKWICK NEWS: Joyce Wrobel would like to thank all who came to her Coffee Morning on June 18th. Our next one will be hosted by Pauline Carter on Saturday, 16th July from 10-12 noon at 53 Old Forge Road, Layer de la Haye, CO2 0JT. All welcome – bring a friend!

WALSINGHAM GRANDPARENTS PILGRIMAGE: Celebrate your Grandparents at the Grandparents Pilgrimage in the Shrine of Our Lady, in **Walsingham** on Saturday July 23rd. Mass at 12 noon followed by Children's Liturgy. Bring a picnic! For further details www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.com/ phone: 01277 265252 or email familylife@dioceseofbrentwood.org

KSC STRAWBERRY TEA: On Sunday, 24th July at 3:30pm for 4pm the Knights of St Columba are laying on a strawberry tea for the senior citizens of the Parish in the Cardinal Bourne Hall, Priory Street. It would be helpful to know how many to expect. Please ring Ron on 797850 or 795715 if you are attending.

ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL'S PTA: Cocktail Party at the Minorities Cafe East Hill (entrance on Church Street) on Saturday 16th July 7.30pm until Midnight. Tickets £10 (includes a drink, buffet, and live music). Please contact Christine Lavelle on 07813 955476 for tickets.

CAFOD: The recent CAFOD collection, amounting to some £582, will be sent to them specifically for their East African Appeal.

LEADERSHIP IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS : The Diocese of Brentwood will be offering two year long courses aimed at Developing Leadership in Middle Management at Secondary level and aspiring senior leaders in primary schools (Assistant/Deputy Head). These courses aim to enhance leadership skills, knowledge and understanding in a Catholic context. These programmes are spread over a ten month period with strong face-to-face and mentor support, they start in October. Details of Middle Management course (Secondary) is available from Nigel Gardener Tel: 02082704242 email: ngardener@all-saints.bardaglea.org.uk Details of Developing Leadership (Primary) is available from Developing Leadership Team 01277 265265 email: jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org

CLEANING TEAM ROTA: Thursday, JULY 14th Team 3B.

**LITURGY FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [A]
10th July 2011 – Sea Sunday**

**Saturday July 9th
Sunday July 10th**

6:15 pm Christopher Cooke RIP
8:00 am Thomas Brett RIP [O&BH]
10:30 am Maria Zepeda-Farias RIP
2:00 pm **POLISH MASS**
5:00 pm **HOLY HOUR**
6:30 pm Canon John Bloomfield RIP
8:30 am Parishioners
9:15 am Brendan McCarthy RIP
10:15 am Intentions: Joan Boyden

*Mersea
Mile End
Monkwick*

Monday 11th

ST BENEDICT, Ab.

Church **7:30 am** Frederick, Elizabeth & Angelo Lucas RIP
Church **9:15 am** Dec.Rels: Herbert/Richards Families RIP

Tuesday 12th

Feria

Church **7:30am** Margaret Murray RIP
Church **9:15 am** Fr John Shaw RIP [Nottingham]

N.B.

Wednesday 13th

Feria

Church **12:15 pm** Intentions: Katherine Hardy

N.B.

Thursday 14th

St Bonaventure Bp, D

Church **9:15 am** John McGinley RIP

Friday 15th

Feria

Church **9:15 am** Special Intention [JH]
Church **6:30 pm** Thomas Brett RIP [AK]

Saturday 16th

Feria

Church **9:15 am** Sheila Healey RIP

**LITURGY FOR THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [A]
17th July 2011**

**Saturday July 16th
Sunday July 17th**

6:15 pm Intentions: Patrick Quinlivan
8:00 am Bridgid Lowe RIP
10:30am Nonie Castello RIP
4:00 pm **POLISH MASS**
6:30 pm Ints: Ryan & O'Connor Families
8:30 am Ints: Sr Margaret Collier
9:15 am Holy Souls RIP
10:15am Parishioners

*West Mersea
Mile End
Monkwick*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE
SCHOOLS *St Thomas More
St Benedict's*

Saturday 9:45-10:30am and 5:30-6:00pm
Baptismal Courses arranged as per Newsletter
At least six months notice is required
Head: Bridget Harris [865722]
Acting: Head: Peter Johnson [549222]

www.marriagecare.org.uk or 0800 389 3801.

www.brentwoodvocations.org

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092

