



SAINT ANNE AND ASSUMPTION PARISHES,
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHAPEL
P.O. Box 99, Napoleonville, Louisiana 70390
(985) 369 -6656 OFFICE (985) 369-9718 FAX
E-MAIL: stanne@charterinternet.com Website is www.renewthebcc.com
Office Hours: 8:30 am until 4:00 pm



Weekend of 12-13 July 2008
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*“A sower went out to sow.
Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”*

FARMING LIKE A FOOL

Great results come even in the midst of our perceived failure – that’s what Jesus is trying to convey to his followers in today’s Scripture. In the parable about different sowings, a farmer is shown foolishly throwing seed on the ground and later plowing it under. It lands everywhere – on the road, in the rocks, and in the thistles. Who would expect good fruit to come from that? The shock is that despite the seed falling everywhere, one fourth STILL produces fruit that makes up for the loss of the rest of the seed. The point of the parable is that our failures will not surpass the power of God’s word and its ability to produce fruit in abundance in our midst!



Pastor

Fr. Trey Nelson

Associate Pastor

Fr. Jamin David

Secretaries/Bookkeepers

Cheryl Arboneaux and Carol Guillot

Director of Religious Education

Kathy Landry

Music Director

Brenda Landry

Maintenance

Mr. Jimmy Clement/Mr. Elvin Ponvelle

To Contact Us

(985) 369-6656 Office

(985) 369-9718 Fax

www.renewthebcc.com

Reconciliation

St. Anne/Saturdays at 3:00pm

Daily Masses

Monday 5:00pm St. Anne

Tuesday 7:00am St. Anne

Wednesday 7:00am Assumption

Weddings

There is a required 6 month process of preparation. Wedding dates are tentative until first meeting with priest

Funerals

Please contact church office for help with arrangements

Baptisms

Contact office for the dates and times of baptism seminars and baptisms

Emergencies

Call 369-6656 and follow directions given on voice mail message

From the Tee Box

The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
12-13 July 2008



Dear Friends in the Lord:

Like any good writer or movie director, Jesus illustrated important truths through the use of his parables. *Parable* is the translation of two Greek terms that mean *to throw along side of*. At face value, they are often entertaining and make common sense. Frank Seilhammer once noted that “what is involved is a story created to be thrown along side of a true-life situation to drive home the central point the storyteller is trying to make.” As Jesus demonstrated, a good picture is worth a thousand words that slip by, unillustrated, in strokes which a person can visualize and then pin to their memory.” The surface of today’s parable is filled with all of the classic literary elements: personification – *happy eyes* and *happy ears*; stereotypical characters – *the sower*; symbols – *we are the seeds that are sown*.

Underneath the initial layer, though, is hidden a greater vein of truth that was meant to be conveyed. Today’s excerpt from the Gospel of Matthew is one such example. *The Parable of the Sower* is filled with the wonderful image of the difference between those who are faithful disciples and those who are not. The faithful disciple hears the Word of God and understands it; he is receptive and sensitive to the things of heaven and listens to it all with regularity. The parable makes sense on the surface. But what about underneath it all? What is the parable trying to say to us?

Like any good story, the tale of the sower and the seed needs some unpacking, and like any terrific tale, the parable relies on a literary element – *allegory*. Allegories are styles of writing that use characters and events to describe something else via resemblance. In other words, it is a drawn-out metaphor! There is no question that this parable is allegorical: Jesus attaches labels to the seed that is sown on four different soils. How we label the allegory, though, affects the moral message that we receive.

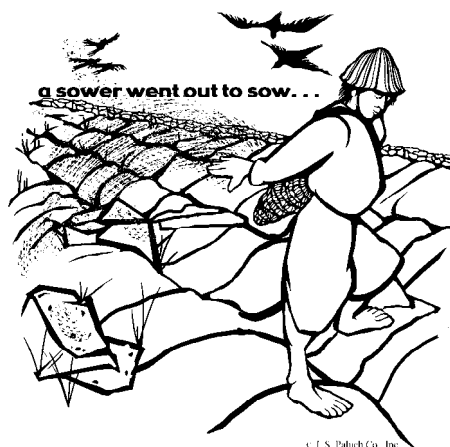
It is debateable as to whom the sower refers. If the

sower is interpreted to be Jesus, then the parable takes on a wholly different meaning. Parables, though, are meant to challenge the listener. If we become the sower in the parable, we directly receive the challenge and message.

As a pre-requisite, you have to know a little about seed spreading. Seeds were usually broadcast by hand over a large area by hand. Sowing was extremely imprecise, and naturally, some seeds would fall into unfavourable conditions. There were paths beaten by use and shallow areas of topsoil covering stony ground that would heat up quickly and cause the seeds to sprout prematurely. Thorny fields and weed seeds could hurriedly choke up vibrant young plants. The sower would know all of this and still liberally spread the seed.

What does that mean for us? On the surface, you might be afraid to go out and spread the word of God so liberally because of the prodigality involved. Often, the sowing only reaps ten or twelve products, though hours were invested in planting. Sometimes the seeds are sown without ever seeing any response. The message of the parable is that we need not worry that what we are doing is in vain. Some seed is taking root due to the natural events of God’s providence. God will bring about an abundant harvest. We must take faith in this knowledge, though immediate benefits will not be so evident. Do not despair and by no means give up! *Whoever has ears ought to hear.*

Father Jim



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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REMINDERS

Vacation Bible School

**Come join us at Son World Adventure Park
July 14—18**

Where: St. Anne Church

Time: 9:00 am until 11:30 am

Ages : 3 years to 4th Grade

Cost: \$10.00 per child to cover crafts and snacks

Please call Ms. Kathy at 369-2130 to register or to volunteer your time.

**Church of the Immaculate Conception
865 Hatchell Lane
Denham Springs
Sunday, August 3, 2008**

Father Vincent J. Dufresne was ordained a priest by Bishop Stanley J. Ott, on July 30, 1983. Immaculate Conception Parish and the Mission of the Sacred Heart Mission invite you to join with them in praising God and celebrating Father Vincent's 25 years of priestly service.

Father Vincent will celebrate a special Mass at 3:00pm on Sunday, August 3, 2008, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

A reception will follow at Denham Springs Junior High School, 401 Hatchell Lane (near the church).

**Immaculate Conception Ladies Altar Society
Pot Luck Luncheon**

All ladies of St. Anne/Immaculate Conception/Assumption Church Parish are invited to a Pot Luck Luncheon to be held in St. Anne Hall, Wednesday, July 30th. Please arrive at 11:30am with your dish and luncheon will begin at noon. Be ready for great food and conversation!

If you have any questions, phone Jane Templet (369-6270), Barbara Blanchard (369-7029), Joyce Thibodaux (369-7915), or Wanda Daigle (369-7976).



July 2008

*All deceased members of our church
community.*



Baptisms & Seminars

The next baptism seminar will be **Tuesday, August 5** at 7:00 p.m. in the Landsmann Center.

Parents are to contact Mrs. Kathy Landry prior to the Baptismal Seminar at 369-2130.

Any questions regarding seminar, please call Mrs. Kathy Landry. Please call the church office to schedule baptism. Unless otherwise noted, baptisms always take place on the *third Sunday of the month* after the 9:15am Mass at Assumption Church.

The St. Anne Novena will be prayed every weekday morning at 8:30am St. Anne Church beginning July 17th.

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder (1895-1981)

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of Your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask You to plead with your Son in our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE...
burns this week in memory of:



Assumption Church
 Victoria Oncale Bourg

St. Anne Church
 George & Peadie Melancon, & George Jr.



A Prayer for Our Soldiers

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.

The Bayou Parishes
Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturdays

4:00pm St. Anne Church
 4:00pm St. Jules Church
 5:00pm St. Philomena Church
 6:00pm St. Elizabeth Church

Sundays

7:00am St. Anne Church
 7:45am St. Philomena
 8:30am St. Jules Church
 9:15 am Assumption Church
 10:00am St. Philomena Church
 10:45am St. Elizabeth Church

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

June 28th & 29th, 2008

Unavailable at time of printing.

St. Anne Offertory	\$2,349.00
<u>Assumption Offertory</u>	<u>\$1,161.00</u>
Total	\$3,510.00

July 5th & 6th, 2008

St. Anne Offertory	\$4,039.82
St. Anne Maintenance & Repair	\$ 966.17
Assumption Offertory	\$1,166.00
<u>Assumption Maintenance & Repair</u>	<u>\$ 386.00</u>
Total	\$6,557.99

Thank you for your generous support!

