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Have you ever wondered what it must have been like to meet Jesus? Or perhaps wondered about what it would have been like to be sat in front of him as he spoke his parables and explained them? It would have been such a privilege to have heard him, to have seen the things that he did.

Yet time and again in the Gospel, we find that when Jesus speaks to people, or when he teaches and preaches, people simply didn’t get it. It is easy to get frustrated when we read or listen to the Gospel, because people don’t understand who Jesus is. They don’t seem to understand what the message is about, and the power that the message might have. How could they be so blind?

Today’s Gospel is just such a frustrating passage. Jesus is acclaimed as one with wisdom and an ability to work wonders that does not match with his background as the simple carpenter, the son of Mary. The people are so distracted by their own ideas about who and what Jesus is, and cannot allow themselves to really listen to what he says, and look closely at what he does. They are not attentive enough to be able to truly see, and through seeing, truly believe.

If we are frustrated by this passage and by similar Gospel passages, we must take care that we do not fall into a trap. It would be all-too-tempting to pity these poor people who could not understand who Jesus was and come to believe in him. In doing so we might end up thinking that we are so much better than them. This would be to succumb to pride, something which St. Augustine refers to as the ‘love of our own excellence’.

Pride is certainly not good news, because it gives us the illusion that we already know it all, and prevents us being disposed towards receiving from God. We may think that we get the message, but our lives so often suggest otherwise.

So what are we to do? Well, we should take heart from our second reading. Paul had a dramatic conversion experience when he saw the risen Lord on his way to Damascus. This one profound experience was sufficient to change the whole course of his life, from being a person who persecuted the Church to being one of the greatest preachers and Church leaders.

Yet he understood that what he knew of Jesus might lead him to pride, and that God had his own way of keeping him in check. Paul’s weakness was God’s way of reminding Paul of who and what he was. The reality of Paul’s weakness shaped this energetic man into one who was truly zealous for the things of the Lord. It kept him humble, kept him in need of God’s grace.

And so it is for us too. The word humility comes from the Latin word for earth, or soil. To be good Christians we need to have our feet firmly on the ground, and this means knowing who and what we really are. This is important, because we are then open to looking more closely at Jesus, and recognising who and what he was. Then we can start living Christian lives that are shaped by God, attentive to his word, and open to the change that the Gospel message calls us to.

The next time we are tempted to think that we know all there is to know about Jesus, let us pause for a moment and think again. Let us dare to take a second look, and strive to live the Gospel at a deeper level, asking that we might receive that life which Christ has promised us.

fr Robert Gay works in the University chaplaincy in Edinburgh.
**Connect With Your Community: July 22nd**

Come join us for a relaxed, low key get-together outside the Round Room of Memorial Church after the 4:30pm Mass on July 22nd. Enjoy nibbles and refreshments while you get a chance to meet some of your community whom you may not know yet or spend time with those you already know and love.

**Back-to-School Backpack Drive for Needy Children:**
The Catholic Community at Stanford is hosting a Back-to-School Backpack Drive for needy children. On Sundays during the month of July you are asked to please bring new backpacks filled with school supplies for needy children in grades kindergarten through high school. Please tag your donated backpacks with the appropriate grade level. These donated backpacks will be collected after each Mass by CCAS volunteers and brought to the Family Giving Tree on or before August 1st. For more information please contact Peter Barling at peter_barling@hotmail.com.

**High School Confirmation For 2013:**
We are currently assessing the need for a high school confirmation class next year. If you are interested in having your high school child confirmed, please contact Nancy Greenfield at ngreenfield875@gmail.com ASAP.

**Regular Podcast Of The Catholic Community:**
If you like what you heard at Mass today, please subscribe to our regular podcast, “Catholic Cardinal Reflections” of the Catholic Community at Stanford University. This is a weekly podcast of Sunday homilies and theological reflections given by the staff of CCAS and their guests. Please visit our website, catholic.stanford.edu or subscribe via iTunes.

**Check out the CC@S Podcast!**
“Catholic Cardinal Reflections” is a weekly podcast of Sunday homilies and theological reflections from the staff of CCAS. Two of our students, pianist Albert Tomasso and Percussionist Shane Clarkson, have graciously added their talents to the podcast by adding a soundtrack! Check it out on iTunes or through the website, catholic.stanford.edu.

**Korean Catholic At Stanford (KC@S) prayer meeting:**
Join us at our community for Korean Catholic at Stanford University. This summer, we continue praying and sharing every Friday evening with various summer activities. Also, Bongssoo is leading our lunch gathering every Wednesday. For more information, contact Eun-Soo at eschoi@stanford.edu.

**Eucharistic Ministers Needed for 4:30 Mass:**
Our roster of eucharistic ministers has fallen short. Do you feel drawn to serving the community in this part of the liturgy? Training is provided for you. You would be scheduled approximately every 3 weeks. Contact Teresa for more information, tpleins@stanford.edu.

**Young Adult Bible Study:**
Tues. July 10th at 7:30pm, Our Lady of the Rosary, 3233 Cowper St, Palo Alto. Over the next several months, we are going to focus on some common questions we face as Christians. The topic this month is “Twenty Arguments for the Existence of God”. We meet regularly on the first Tuesday of each month and we welcome you to join us this summer!

**Hiking at Henry Cowell State Park in the Santa Cruz Mountains:**
Sat. July 14th, 10:00am, Meet at the REI in Mountain View. Join us for a hike in the Santa Cruz Mountains. We will meet up at the REI store and carpool to the park. The hike should end around 3 p.m, but some may opt to stay and ride the steam train near the park. Please confirm your attendance on our Facebook Page “Young Adult Circle” or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

**Dinner at Pluto’s:**
Tues. July 17th at 7:30pm, 482 University Ave., Palo Alto
The Young Adult group meets for its monthly social gathering. Please confirm your attendance on our Facebook Page “Young Adult Circle” or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

**Oakland A’s Baseball Game:**
Sat. July 21st, 6:00pm. Join us for a baseball game as we watch the Oakland A’s play the New York Yankees. We will meet up at the stadium ticket office near the BART walkway. Please confirm your attendance on our Facebook Page “Young Adult Circle” or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

**Young Adult Mass:**
Tues. July 31st at 7:30pm, St. Simon Church, 1860 Grant Rd, Los Altos. The Young Adult Circle will be gathering for Mass in the Small Chapel at St. Simon Church in Los Altos. Celebrate the Eucharist with young adults (20’s and 30’s, single or married) from this and neighboring parishes with fellowship to follow. If you have questions or would like more information on the Mass, please contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

For more info, see our website, www.YoungAdultCircle.org, check the Facebook Fan Page “Young Adult Circle”, or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

**Attention Married Couples:**
“We loved each other very much, but it seemed as if the world was slowly pulling us apart. Finances, jobs, kids, and daily pressures were steadily becoming more important than our relationship. Our Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend helped us put things back into perspective. We got back the joy-filled relationship we had as newlyweds.”
The next local Catholic Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is: Oct 12-14, 2012 (Mountain View). For more information or to register, please visit our website at: www.rekindleyourmarriage.org or contact Thomas & Sandy Pavick, 408 262-4061 or Email: gr8marriages@sbcglobal.net.
Volunteer Opportunities

St. Anthony’s Soup Kitchen:
“The Catholic Community at Stanford is committed to serving the needy, elderly and homeless at St. Anthony’s Soup Kitchen in Menlo Park. If you are interested in volunteering on Saturday July 28th from 8:30 until 1:00pm, please contact Michael Bova at mpbova2001@yahoo.com to have a volunteer position reserved for you. In general, the CCAS has the first and fourth Saturday’s of the month reserved for us at St. Anthony’s. So plan your schedules in advance and please join us in helping those in need”

Back-to-school Backpacks For Needy Children:
The Catholic Community @ Stanford (CC@S) needs 20 volunteers to work at the Family Giving Tree Back-to-School Backpack Project for needy children on Saturday, August 4th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. This project will take place in a warehouse location to be determined. Our task will be to perform quality assurance which involves emptying pre-filled backpacks, sorting items on sorting tables to insure that everything needed is there, shopping in the warehouse for missing items and placing completed backpacks in rows according to age groups. Families with young children who are able to sort with the assistance of a parent(s) are welcome. If you are interested in participating in this quality-time family activity, please contact Peter Barling at peter_barling@hotmail.com to have a volunteer position(s) reserved for you.

Weekly Readings

Monday, July 9
Hos 2:16, 17e-18, 21-22  Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9  Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday, July 10
Hos 8:4-7, 11-13  Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10  Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday, July 11
Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12  Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7  Mt 10:1-7

Thursday, July 12
Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9  Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16  Mt 10:7-15

Friday, July 13
Hos 14:2-10  Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14, 17  Mt 10:16-23

Saturday, July 14
Is 6:1-8  Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5  Mt 10:24-33

Sunday, July 15
Am 7:12-15  Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14  Eph 1:3-14  Mk 6:7-13

Week at a Glance

Sunday, July 8, 2012
• 8:00 am - Memorial Church
• 4:30 pm - Memorial Church

Monday, July 9 - Friday, July 13
• Office hours (Tues - Fri) 10am - 3pm

Daily Liturgy:
M - T - W - F 12:20pm Memorial Church
no daily Mass on Thursday

Confessions
by appointment only: call 725-0080

Rice Bowl to date:
59 participants gathered: $1894.50 and counting...

Join Our Living Faith Society:
Become a CC@S Living Faith Society member by donating a set amount each month on a predetermined day. You no longer need to remember to bring money to Mass! By joining LFS, not only are you supporting your Stanford Catholic campus ministry, but you will also receive the Living Faith devotional each quarter, a devotional that provides a different scripture verse and short meditation for each day of the year. Join today:
Gathering

All Are Welcome M. Haugen

First Reading Ezekiel 2:2-5

The Spirit sent Ezekiel to Israel and empowered him to speak with authority. God told Ezekiel that, whether the people hear or refuse to hear, they will know that a prophet was there.

Psalm 103 What Is Your Name? D. Haas

Gospel Acclamation From Age to Age DeSilva

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Paul confessed his weakness but also thanked God for it "for in weakness power reaches perfection." Therefore, Paul humbly accepted persecution for Christ’s sake.
Gospel  Mark 6:1-6
Jesus went to his own part of the country and began teaching. The people were incredulous. They all knew him as a child. He was one of them; how could he teach them?

Apostle’s Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory  Were I The Perfect Child of God  T. Alonso

Sanctus  Mass From Age to Age  de Silva

Amen  Mass From Age To Age  DeSilva

Lamb of God  Mass From Age To Age  DeSilva

Memorial Acclamation: Mass From Age To Age

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1) I will bless the Lord at all times,
His praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord;
for He has been so good to me.

2) Glorify the Lord with me,
Together let us all praise His name.
I called the Lord and He answered me;
from all my troubles he set me free.

3) Worship the Lord all you people
You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that God is good;
in Him we need put all our trust.

1) Far too late have I begun to love you;
you were there within me, I was outside,
and I sought you, seeing blindly just beyond myself;
and poured away like water,
I took flight from you and I was lost,
surrounded by such beauty which is not you.

2) Then you called and cried aloud to me,
breaking through the silence of my deafness,
Dazzling brightness, you appeared to me,
and at once you put to flight my blindness.
Drawing deep, I smell your fragrant presence,
still I gasp for breath and long for you.
Since I tasted you I only thirst and hunger after you.
How, with a simple touch, your fire consumes me.
Now my heart, aflame and blazing, leaps to you for peace.