

Kerygma: Being Christian – Decisive Direction

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For the last three months in *Kerygma*, we've looked at a quote from *Deus Caritas est*: "Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." This time I would like to focus on the decisive direction that being Christian gives.

Most of us have had the experience of being lost in some form or another. Maybe we took a wrong turn while traveling somewhere, or we did not know what to do with our lives for a while. The most classic version of being lost is a hiker lost in the woods. Most lost hikers do not die of exposure, hunger, or wild animals. The greatest danger for a hiker is when he realizes he is lost and panics. Panic causes the hiker to forget everything he knows about hiking, and he starts to move around the woods wildly. Instead, the hiker would be much safer staying calm and trying to find a sense of direction. He could follow a stream, look for the sun, or simply travel in one direction. These would help him get out of the woods and back to a place when he can get help, but he must not panic.

Panic sets in when we suddenly realize that we are lost. The lost hiker did not even realize he was lost and in need of direction. The encounter with Jesus gives the Christian's whole life new direction; direction we did not even know that we needed. Jesus is the new direction. We are all moving toward him. We are moving towards being like him, towards being in heaven with him, to be fulfilled and happy like him, and to rest in his truth. This new direction comes almost as a surprise. Again, we did not even know we were lost and in need of direction. Imagine a different lost hiker but before she realizes she is lost. Imagine if she happened upon a trail with a map and then from a cursory look at the map realizes that she is far from where she is supposed to be. What relief would wash over her that disaster was avoided. Further, imagine if the trail she happened upon goes back to where she needs to be. This is greater narrative of finding Jesus in the life of the Christian.

We did not even realize that we needed direction until the direction was given, and the direction brings us to the very place we did not know we wanted to go. The encounter with Jesus shows us where we are headed and how to get there. Following Jesus contains moral demands of how we are to live but is more than just the way we should behave. It includes the hope for heaven and the relationship with the very one who grants us access to the heavenly realm. We simultaneously realize that we fall short of his call and are shown how to and given the strength to follow him.

The question that remains is how do we encounter this Jesus. Over the next few months we will dive into how we encounter Jesus in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, in the Church, and in each other.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Alex Gaudet

Where to find more: Bishop Robert Barron's Homilies
<https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/homily/>
or any podcasting app.

MASS INTENTIONS

For the Week of January 22, 2017 – January 28, 2017

Tuesday, January 23rd - January 26th **NO MASSES AT ST. ANN PARISH during the weekdays.**

Fr. Alex will be attending the "Good Leaders/Good Shepherds Conference" at the Houma-Thibodaux Diocese. Masses at St. Francis in Houma are Tuesday - Thursday at 5:30pm and Friday at noon.

All Mass Intentions have been moved to the weekend Masses.

Saturday, January 27-

4:00P.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: Parishioners of St. Ann, Sis Naquin (DA), Rai & Thaddeus Pellegrin, Mary Ward (B), Cody James Naquin (B), Camille Boquet (DA), Dennis & Beatrice Eschete, Laurelle Wolf, Vin & Joyce LeBlanc, Bill Sheffield, Mable Falgout, Don Babin, Eric, Joel & Frank Rogers, Eldred & Maybelle Ellender, Wilbert & Elsie Hebert, Linda Ann Hebert, Salome H. Matherne, Matthew S. Matherne, Peter W. Hebert, Samuel Dominic Hebert, Jacob LeCompte Sr., Kenneth, Paul & Josie Domangue, Ramona & Alton Malcom, Larry & Troy Foret, Carla Lyons, Nikie Hebert, Nicole Staffley, Johnny Adam Switch, Celeste, May, Rosevelt LeCompte Jr. & Sr., Paul Chauvin, Mercedeze & Lloyd Duplantis, Miriam, C.J. & Lanny Naquin, Russell Portier Sr., Raymond McGehee, Katie Savoie, Holy Souls, Special Intentions, Wilbert Dupre Sr., Jerry & Mathew Arceneaux, Charley Redmond.

Sunday, January 28-

8:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: Parishioners of St. Ann, Rhea P. Voisin (DA), Mary Eve & Vayne Bascle, Lionel Bascle Fly., Arthe' Breaux Fly., Arthur Lee Fabre, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fabre, Mr. & Mrs. Irby Petit, Aubrey Lee Boquet, Lawrence & Eula Mazerac, Cindy R. Broussard, Joyce & Vin LeBlanc, Eddie Voisin Jr. (B), Herbert Danos, Eula Mae Rodrigue, Paul Rodrigue & Roland Rodrigue, Rita & Gilbert Bergeron Fly., Ella Mae Guidry, Jesse Fanguy Sr., Veronica Trahan, Ann Hebert, Terry Lirette, Wilma, Eugene & John Dusenbery, Sterling Authement (DA), Norman "Judge" Falgout Jr.

10:00A.M. - All Donors and Benefactors of St. Ann Church & in Memory of: Parishioners of St. Ann, Joyce, Debbie, Celina & Herbert Belanger, Rosie & Richard Lafont, Sterling Sr., Mary & Sterling Authement Jr., Geraldine Dupre, Sharon Bascle (B), Lacey Price.

MEMORIALS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 21st

Sanctuary Light -Edna, Macon, Roland Bascle, Remy & Bessie Reulet, Mark & Billy Pellegrin by Family;

CLEANING LIST: January 21st- Leslie Baio, Tim Maronge, Mona Maronge, Darlene Ledet, Kellie Brunet

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

January 13 & 14, 2018 Collection: Envelopes: \$3,684.00 + Loose: \$523.00 = \$4,207.00

Maintenance Collection: \$383.00 + \$163.00 (This week) = \$546.00 January Total

The **Second Collection** on the weekend of January 28th will be for the **Church in Latin America**. This collection supports pastoral programs throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Projects include the work of evangelization, formation of laity, religious and seminarians, as well as youth ministry and catechesis, and building construction only in case of emergency.

Thank you for your generosity!

CCD NEWS: CCD Classes are as scheduled on Monday & Tuesday, January 22nd & 23rd.

*** The 4th Grade CCD Class is in charge of the 10am Mass on Sunday, January 28th.

YOUTH NEWS:

* **We still have spots open for Steubenville on the Bayou** June 15-17, 2018! Check with Mrs. Lisa for paperwork and registration fees.

** **We had a great Jr. High Faith Experience Day!** Many thanks to Father Alex, our chaperones, and our parents who allowed their kiddos to attend! We also had a successful follow-up meeting with the kids, and they planned another follow up for Monday, January 29th from 6:30-7:30 at St. Ann. All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are welcome to attend!

*** **PARENTING CLASSES** offered at St. Ann during Tuesday night CCD Classes January 23rd from 6-7:15pm. Babysitting will be provided.

******WE NEED BABYSITTERS!!!** Can you help?? We are offering babysitting for many of our youth activities. High school teens and adults are needed. If you can help, call or text Lisa Lapeyrouse at 985-852-2007, and we will put you on a team.

"WHY WE WORSHIP"

The "Why We Believe" and "Why We Confess" video series is still available online at htdiocese.org/whyweworship. Just visit the site and register to receive the password to view these videos.

While you're there, watch the informative videos with Fr. Brice Higginbotham, Strategic Planning updates with Fr. Mark Toups, "Q & A" with Fr. Josh Rodrigue, interviews with our Parish Priests, and other good resources.

Coming soon "*Why We Worship / Rediscover The Mass. Look for it during Lent- 2018.*"

ST. ANN CONTRIBUTIONS TAX STATEMENTS

Tax statements are available for your tax preparation upon request from Mrs. Penne at the St. Ann's Administration Office. Call Mrs. Penne at 594-3548.

CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES & CENTS INVITES YOU TO CALL:

Catholic Charities of Houma-Thibodaux for a free Credit counseling Appointment today 985-876-0490. Review your Credit Report, Dispute Credit Issues & Negotiate Debt Payments.

LOUISIANA CONTRACTORS ACCREDITATION INSTITUTE

A partnership between Louisiana Economic Development, Louisiana Community & Technical College System and the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors offers small and emerging construction businesses critical information about construction management and how to prepare for the Business Law parts of the contractors state licensing exam.

\$200 per participant - 6 weeks from February 19, 2018 to March 28, 2018 - Monday & Wednesday nights 6pm until 8pm - 2 hour sessions twice a week. Last day to register January 26, 2018;

For more information, FAQs, or assistance, visit *OpportunityLouisiana.com/LCAI* or email *LCAI@fletcher.edu*

~~~~~ **GRANT THEM ETERNAL REST** ~~~~~

*Remember those who have passed on into the Kingdom of Our Father.*

*~ Mr. Charley Redmond ~*

*We pray that their families may find comfort and consolation through faith.*

| <b>MASSES</b>                     | <b>MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST</b> | <b>COMMENTATOR/LECTOR</b> | <b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>          | <b>USHERS</b>             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b><u>January 20 &amp; 21</u></b> |                                   |                           |                               |                           |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>                   | Brian, Marianne,                  |                           |                               |                           |
| <b>4:00P.M.</b>                   | Yvonne, Dave                      | Connie N, Hayes           | Grace A, Rebecca              | Steve B, Dave, Ollie      |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>                     | Patsy, Dana,                      |                           |                               |                           |
| <b>8:00A.M.</b>                   | Tim, Mona                         | Doug, Nick                | Lucas, Caleb                  | Doug, Numa, Claude        |
| <b>10:00A.M.</b>                  | Leslie, Paula, David, Melissa     | Youth                     | Luke, Henry, David, Kirkland  | Lanny, Youth              |
| <b><u>January 27 &amp; 28</u></b> |                                   |                           |                               |                           |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>                   | Randolph, Kathie,                 |                           |                               |                           |
| <b>4:00P.M.</b>                   | Steve, Sue                        | Elia, Cheryl              | Hunter, Trenton               | Steve H, Jan              |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>                     | Doug, Bert,                       |                           |                               |                           |
| <b>8:00A.M.</b>                   | Monique, Carol                    | Christine, Claude         | Lee, Volunteer                | Butch, Leroy, Walton      |
| <b>10:00A.M.</b>                  | Cindy D, Ashley, Lisa, Mindy      | 4th Grade CCD             | Kailey, Hailey, Donte', Mason | Kenneth, Joseph, 4thGrade |

