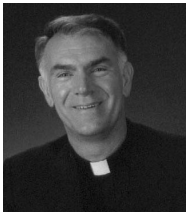




Light of the World News

January, 2012

Bringing the Light of Christ into the world through a comprehensive Parish Evangelization Process



My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

We recently celebrated the feast of St. Francis de Sales, and on that day I was given a beautiful prayer he composed. I want to

share it with you because it describes so well one of the most important virtues in our life as we endeavor to be faithful to Our Lord in all things, namely the virtue of complete Trust in God:

Do not look forward to the changes and chances of this life with fear;

rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God, to whom you belong, will in His love enable you to profit by them.

He has guided you thus far in life;

do you but hold fast to His dear hand,

and He will lead you safely through all trials.

Whenever you cannot stand, He will carry you lovingly in His arms.

Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow.

The same eternal Father who takes care of you today will take care of you tomorrow, and every day of your life.

Either He will shield you from suffering, or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it.

So be at peace.

Isn't that a wonderful prayer? For me, it summarizes God's Call to each of us as we go through life, to Trust in Him on deeper and deeper levels, with more and more total abandonment of our life into His hands, until one day we let go completely and go to meet Him face to face.

God bless you with a holy Lent, and a glorious Easter Resurrection in the Lord.

Sincerely, in Our Lord and Our Lady,

Msgr. Dan Hermes

Testimony from Blessed Sacrament, Lincoln NE

The Spirit was moving with a gale force in Lincoln this weekend!!! We had 22 new retreatants attend our parish LOTW retreat and three past retreatants re-experience it.

If witnessing God's guidance and blessing before and throughout the weekend wasn't proof enough of His love and might, there was NO doubt by the time we scheduled the Growth In Christ follow ups. Even with such a large group, it took only five minutes: "Which night doesn't work for you?" ... Everyone could attend on Friday night. "Who can't make 7:00 pm?" ... Everyone could come at 7:00 pm. We didn't even have to get to the question of a location. By that time one of the retreatants, who had attended the retreat with her husband, stood to ask if they could host at their house - knowing that they were opening their home to 23 people! She said they have an older home and had knocked out a wall when they remodeled, making a large living/dinning room area that would more than accommodate them all. Done!

Father and our team just laughed and laughed afterwards in amazement at how the Spirit showed us! You see, at the team meeting before the Disciples and Apostles and The Importance and Nature of Community talks we were voicing our concerns: "This group is too large to form one community" ... "But how do we separate them?" ... "Where would we meet if we leave them as one group?" ... "Where are we going to come up with another two External Coordinators if we try to divide them?" We determined, "Let's not concern ourselves with the details; we'll figure that all out as it occurs and before they meet for the first time; let's just begin with finding a night and time; we'll trust the Spirit to do the rest." And did the Spirit move? ... uuuhhh, yeah!!!

What a tremendous gift LOTW has been to our parish. We have seen the hand of God working at Blessed Sacrament through touched hearts and can't wait to see what additional growth He has in store for us in the months and years ahead!

In His Name,

Sharon Wojasek

Save the Dates: June 22 (evening) & June 23 (all day):
LOTWEM CONFERENCE 2012
- More information on page 2 -

2012 First Semester Retreats

- 1/20/12 Blessed Sacrament Parish, Lincoln NE
- 1/20/12 Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Lincoln NE
- 2/10/12 Christ the King, Kansas City KS
- 2/17/12 Immaculate Conception, Arnold MO
- 2/17/12 St. Patrick, Wadsworth, IL
- 2/24/12 Our Lady of the Pillar, Creve Coeur MO
- 2/24/12 St. Mary, Aberdeen SD
- 2/24/12 St. Joseph Parish, Lincoln NE
- 2/24/12 St. Joseph Parish, Auburn NE
- 2/25/12 St. Patrick Parish, Yorkville IL
- 3/02/12 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Crystal Lake IL
- 3/02/12 Manly Freshwater Parish, NSW, AUS
- 3/09/12 St. Charles Borromeo, Hampshire IL
- 3/09/12 St. Joseph, Aurora IL
- 3/09/12 St. Matthew, Topeka KS
- 3/09/12 St. Patrick, Kansas City KC
- 3/09/12 St. Patrick, Dothan AL
- 3/09/12 St. Thomas the Apostle, Crystal Lake IL
- 3/09/12 St. Mary & St. Joseph, Freeport, IL
- 3/10/12 Incarnation, Collierville TN
- 3/10/12 Sacred Heart, Aberdeen SD
- 3/10/12 St. Columbkille, Dubuque IA
- 3/17/12 Our Lady of Good Counsel, Aurora IL
- 3/23/12 St. Rita of Cascia, Aurora IL
- 3/30/12 St. Edward, Shelton WA
- 3/31/12 Our Lady of Gaudalupe, Topeka KS
- 4/20/12 Mother Teresa, Topeka KS
- 4/28/12 St. Mary & St. Mary, Barnegat Township NJ
- 5/20/12 St. Finbar, Burbank CA

Please pray for these teams and retreatants and look to the website for additional postings of retreats.

New LOTWEM Parishes

Five parishes will hold their first retreat this semester. They include the combined parishes of St. Mary, Barnegat and St. Mary of the Pines, Manahawkin, NJ, St. Columba Parish, Dothan, AL, the combined parishes of St. Mary and St. Joseph, Freeport, IL, Christ the King, Kansas City KS, and the Australian Parish of Manly Freshwater. Additionally, Information Sessions are planned for St. Peter Parish in Rockford (the Cathedral for the Rockford Diocese) and for the Iowa Cluster Parish of Christ Our Hope(St. John Nepomucene, Ft. Atkinson; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lawler; Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Little Turkey; Holy Trinity, Protivin; St. Luke, St. Lucas; St. Mary, Waucoma).

LOTWEM CONFERENCE 2012

LOTWEM’s biennial conference will be held on the evening of Friday June 22 and all day June 23 at Holy Cross Church in Batavia, IL (the same location as in 2010). This year’s conference will include (among other things) praise and worship; presentations and discussions regarding Small Faith Communities and Outreach, the sharing by Msg. Hermes of how the LOTW Process can completely transform a parish, Mass, fellowship and much more. Your attendance will enrich your spirit, facilitate the renewal of your parish and help other parishes learn from your experiences.

By mid-February, we will send out a conference brochure, post details on the website and begin taking registrations. We know the Holy Spirit will be in attendance; we hope you can make it as well!



From the Directors: Mike & Lori Pacer



As promised, we have renewed our efforts to make our website more helpful. There are many suggested Small Faith Community materials; upcoming retreats are posted; reflections on the Sunday readings are posted weekly; a promotional overview regarding the LOTW Process can be downloaded and given to friends; Outreach aids will be added shortly. Please send us pictures, prayers, testimonies and suggested SFC materials to post so our site continues to improve!

Are you discouraged in your efforts to serve our Lord – in leading your parish LOTW Process, service in parish activities, your prayer life, work relationships, in your own home? Don’t be discouraged! *Our Lord loves you so much!* This fact will be so beautifully emphasized during this upcoming Lent and Holy Week! *Never*, not even in your personal “Garden of Gethsemane” will you *ever* be abandoned! And, so many people are praying for you – friends, family, parishioners, and even “strangers” including many LOTWEM “prayer warriors.” And, we are praying for you as well, every day. God loves you! You are awesome!

We continue to make slow, steady process toward raising our budget goal. Do you wish others to receive the blessings you have received from LOTW? Is our Lord calling you to include LOTWEM as part of your personal plan of charitable giving? If so, please contact one of us by email (our emails are listed below). Remember, donations are our *only* source of revenue. . . . And, *please pray for us!*

Your servants in Christ,

Mike & Lori

For information regarding Light of the World Evangelization Ministries, please visit our website: lotwem.org or contact Mike Pacer mpacer@lotwem.org or Lori Pacer lpacer@lotwem.org.

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