



DRAMATIC MISSIONARY GROWTH



Dramatic missionary growth! That is what Bishop Barres asked the Church on Long Island to pray for during the Holy Season of Lent that has just recently given way to the Glorious Season of Easter. In order for that dramatic missionary growth to take place on Long Island, in our parishes, in our homes, schools, and workplaces, it is necessary for everyone who has been baptized into the death of Christ Jesus to return to the Power of the Word of God, return to the Power of the Sacrament of Penance, and return to the Power of the Catholic Mass. And that return must be made by all of the Baptized: active and inactive Catholics as well! That is why Bishop Barres asked every active Catholic of every age in the Diocese of Rockville Centre to invite one inactive Catholic friend or family member to return with them to the Power during the Holy Season of Lent.

It isn't enough to light fires and bless water, to sing sacred hymns and carry candles. We must light a fire in the world and let the living water of the Spirit that we received in Baptism bless the world with the Real Presence of Jesus Who is risen, truly risen. Then and only then will we experience the dramatic missionary growth that the Church on Long Island has been commissioned to bring about. Then and only then will our parishes, our homes, our schools, and our workplaces become sacred hymns of praise giving glory to God in the highest and Peace to His people on earth.

That is why it is right and just for us to return to the Power of the Word of God in our Bibles that reveals God as the Father Who creates as He did at the dawning of creation, the Son Who liberates and saves as prefigured in the Passover of the Jews from their slavery to Egypt, and the Holy Spirit Who sanctifies and renews the face of the earth. That is why it is right and just to return to the Power of the Sacrament of Penance and allow the Spirit to restore the Light of Christ to souls darkened by sin. That is why it is right and just for us to return to the Power of the Catholic Mass where fuel is added to the fire that must start burning within us if it is ever going to start burning in the world!

The invitation to return to the Power brothers and sisters, cannot be laid to rest now that Lent is over. It is an invitation that we, like Mary Magdalene and the other Mary in the Easter Vigil Gospel, must run to announce to the Lord's disciples who because of an inactive spirit, have buried the fire and the living water that they were given in Baptism. As such their lives have become dark and stagnant, and are no longer sacred hymns but broken records that can't get past the crucifixion. Only the Power that destroyed death can do that, and you are just the one to return them to it! Be not afraid, because Jesus Who is risen goes before you. Go quickly and you will see!

Please Come Home and join us for a

Holy Hour

as we pray for Life, Marriage, & Religious Liberty

Sunday, 30 April 2017

8:00 P.M. in the church

