



COME, LORD JESUS!

*Spiritual Insights
Reports
Formation
Program Updates*



Lent: A Closer Walk with Jesus

As the holy season of Lent approaches, we are called to experience a closer walk with Jesus. The Gospels speak of a time of solitude for Jesus in the desert (Mt. 4: 111; Mk.1:12-13; Lk. 4:113). Driven by the Spirit, Jesus remains there for forty days. Lent is our annual opportunity for each of us to get very serious about our relationship with Christ. It's a special time to have a personal encounter with Jesus as we reflect on his sacrificial love. In the forty days that we are given, we are called into the desert with Jesus through fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. This experience is meant to purify us to improve our spiritual maturity by stripping away all that is unnecessary and becoming more mindful of our ultimate dependence on God in our lives. Let us hold firmly to Jesus' embrace during these forty days. Let us retreat in solitude and bask in his love. How will you grow in faith this Lent? What activities will accomplish for you a closer walk with Jesus that will result in newfound passion and spiritual renewal that will leave a lasting impact on your lives and those around you?

Bring others with you as you walk with Jesus by:

- sponsoring a *Come, Lord Jesus!* Lenten Journey in your church parish. This 7-week program is a wonderful way to invite others to experience *CLJ!*.
- hosting a *Come, Lord Jesus!* Lenten Journey for your family in your home. Gather your loved ones in a spiritual communion that will deepen your love for each other and our Lord!
- sharing Father Bertrand's Spiritual booklets with others. These are available at our *CLJ!* office at a minimum cost.
- writing down your favorite verse when preparing for your *CLJ!* meeting and sharing it! Proclaim the divine Word of God to all around you!
- inviting a friend to your next *CLJ!* meeting. Challenge your group members to do the same. If everyone brings in one new member, our *CLJ!* enrollment doubles. That means twice as many proactive, seekers of truth in our holy Catholic Church!

Marianne Hebert, Outreach Administrator

February
Every Thursday
Memorial Mass
for the enrollees
in the CLJ!
Memorial Burse

February 7
Fifth Sunday in
Ordinary Time

February 14
First Sunday of
Lent

February 21
Second Sunday of
Lent

February 28
Third Sunday of
Lent

LENT



Meditations on the Love of Jesus

by Father Conley Bertrand

Crucified

Jesus, when I look upon you on the cross, hanging there in an agony of continuous pain because you love us sinners enough to want to die for us, I am made to realize how great your love for us must be. I don't believe that you could have chosen a more impressive way to demonstrate how much you care for us and how much we mean to you. In this open-armed posture of embracing the whole world of sinners like me - you remain eternally fixed. At this point of self-giving you remain. With arms stretched out as far and as wide as they could reach, you are ever saying to me, "I love you - more than myself." Your gaze never leaves me.

Fully Human

If Calvary marked the height of your love, the rest of your life was a building up toward it. Your very birth was a sign of the boundless love that moved you to become one of us. Your love was such that it wanted to share our very weakness in the flesh as a brother, and associate intimately with each of us. Then you would know from experience exactly what it is to be human. As your inspired word tells us, "Our High Priest is not one who cannot feel sympathy for our weaknesses. On the contrary we have a High Priest who was tempted in every way that we are but did not sin" (Heb 4:15). You experienced joy (Lk 10:21) and sadness (Matt 26:38); you felt accepted (Lk 4:2) and rejected (Lk 4:28-30); you felt love (Mk 10:21) and got angry (Mk 10, 14); you knew success (Lk 10:17-19) and failure (Matt 23:37-38); you spoke tenderly (Matt 11:28-30) and harshly (Matt 23:13-36); you confronted (Jn 18:23) and fled (Jn 6:15). These are just a few of the feelings that you experienced. How great your love for us must be that you would choose to become part of such a world of ours with such divergent and sometimes mixed up currents of emotions.

When I go to prayer in the midst of this mixture of feelings that flow through my being, I can simply present myself to you and let myself be loved. I feel that you totally understand what I am going through. As your word says, "Since he himself is weak in many ways, he is able to be gentle with those who are ignorant and make mistakes" (Heb 5:2).

Annual *Come, Lord Jesus!* Conference
Saturday, March 5, 2016
Ramada Lafayette Conference Center (formerly Holiday Inn Lafayette)
2032 NE Evangeline Thruway, Lafayette, LA

The Importance of the Transfiguration of Christ for the Spiritual Life **By Dr. Cory Hayes**

Cory Hayes, originally from Crowley, LA, is a professor of Philosophy and Theology at St. Joseph Seminary College in Covington, LA (also known as St. Ben's). He has a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from St. Joseph Seminary College (Class of '97), a Masters of Arts in Theology from Notre Dame Seminary School of Theology in New Orleans, and a Ph.D. in Systematic theology from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa. He also pursued studies at the Gregorian and Angelicum Universities in Rome, Italy while in formation for the priesthood for the Diocese of Lafayette LA.



Before returning to St. Ben's as a professor and a member of the formation staff, Cory was a teacher at Archbishop Rummel High School in Metairie, LA for 6 years and a professor of Theology at Our Lady of Holy Cross College in New Orleans for 2 years. He and his wife, Jennifer, have been married for 14 years and they have 7 children (Samantha, Abigail, Bennett, Aidan, Magdalene, Augustine, and Caeli) whom they home school. His research and teaching interests include: Byzantine and Eastern Christian theology, Catholic-Orthodox ecumenical dialogue, and the relation between Catholic theology, philosophy, and empirical science.

Cory will give 3 talks:

1. **The Light of Revelation:** The first conference focuses on the biblical event of the Transfiguration, its place in salvation history and its relation to other biblical theophanies (manifestations of God).
2. **The Light of Deification:** The second conference focuses on what the Transfiguration reveals about the life of grace. Specifically, we will look at the insights of the Fathers of the Church concerning the Transfiguration and the sacraments, the Liturgy, and contemplative prayer.
3. **The Light of the Resurrection and the Kingdom:** the final conference focuses on what the Transfiguration tells us about the consummation of all things in Christ, the resurrection, and the vision of God.

Father Bertrand heard Cory speak after a Priestly Holy Hour a few months ago and was very impressed with his presentation. So we look forward to having him for our annual conference!

Registration Form for the Conference is on the next page.

2016 Conference Registration Form

Deadline: February 24, 2016 (Wednesday)

(Absolutely NO food orders after the deadline!)

Ramada Lafayette Conference Center (formerly Holiday Inn Lafayette)

2032 NE Evangeline Thruway, Lafayette LA

Date of the Conference-Saturday, March 5, 2016 8:30 AM—2:00 PM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

_____ I am a member of a *Come, Lord Jesus!* or Light from Light Group

_____ I am not a member.

Optional

Lunch is offered as a service to all at a cost of \$ 15.00 (includes tax and gratuity)

(Lunch orders must be turned in by the office to the hotel by Feb 24, so no orders can be taken after the deadline date.) Please note: **No outside food will be allowed in the hotel.** There is a small Café that can serve menu food or buffet for lunch.

Please circle your preference:

- No Lunch
- Ham and Cheese Po-boy
- Chicken Wrap
- Traditional Club Sandwich
- Chef Salad (No chips included)

Deadline to register is **Wednesday February 24, 2016**

Late registration subject to space availability. **Cost at the door is \$20.00.**

_____ Registration (with no lunch) \$15.00 (transferable, but not refundable)

_____ Registration (with lunch) \$30.00 (transferable, but not refundable)

Make **check** payable to: *Come, Lord Jesus!*

Mail to: *Come, Lord Jesus!*
1804 W. University
Lafayette, LA 70506

For More Info: 337-233-6277
email: comelordjesusprogram@gmail.com

Adding to our Numbers:

NEW MEMBERS:

Arnaudville, LA: Maxine Lalonde
Baton Rouge, LA: Lori Heroman
Crowley, LA: Kathy Comeaux
De Ridder, LA: Mary Condeluci, Judy Scallon
Kaplan, LA: Clarissa Harrington
Kinder, LA: Marie Fawcett
Lafayette, LA: Yvonne Bienvenue, Deborah Boudreaux, Lee Boudreaux
Morse, LA: Charlene Schexnayder, Marylen Schexnider, Deanna Wild
New Iberia, LA: Philip "Pete" Aucoin
Opelousas, LA: Linda Leger, Beverly Bernard
Slidell, LA: Suzanne Taylor
Ville Platte, LA: Jeanne Pitre

RETURNING MEMBERS:

Fritch, TX: Linda Brockman

NEW GROUPS:

Borger, TX

Leader: Ana L. Mendieta
Cynthis E. Delgado, Carmen Edith Salas DeGtz, Lucia Marquez, Rosa Maria Arras, Olivia Celeya, Benigna Lopez, Estela Canez, Alicia Salinas, Seferino Jimenez, Johana Castro, Consuelo Hipolito, Gregoria Ramos, Maria Dominguez

Four Corners, LA

Leader: Calvin Drexter
Paula Drexter, Janice Morgan, Lue Pearl Washington, Jeanice Dauphine

Jeanerette, LA

Leader: Lenette M. Hawk-Hill
Deborah Harris, Frank Harris, Sandra Hawk, Deidra Bowie, Edie Harison, Isaac Bowie, Elnora Rideaux, Mae Willow Jean-Batiste, Lou Ann Berry, Audrey M. Jean Louis

Morse/Lyons Point, LA

Leader: Randy Spell
Virginia Ashley, Shelton Leleux, Phyllis Broussard, Shelley Istre, Camille Gautreaux

Metarie/Kenner, LA

Leader: Karen Clampitt
Mark Juengling, Marena Garcia, Vera Pittman, Virginia Boyce, Renée Haase

December 2015 Gift Bags Received

Abbeville	Eunice	Pierre Part
Amelia	Franklin	Pine Prairie
Arnaudville	Fritch, TX	Prairie Ronde
Basile	Grand Prairie	Pride
Baton Rouge	Henderson	Ragley
Bayou Vista	Houma	Richard
Bell City	Kaplan	Rynela
Berwick	Kenner	Schriever
Borger, TX	Kinder	Scott
Breaux Bridge	Krotz Springs	Slidell
Broussard	Lafayette	Sulphur
Carencro	Lake Charles	Thibodaux
Catahoula	Lufkin, TX	Ville Platte
Cecilia	Maurice	Washington
Chackbay	Mermentau	
Crowley	Metairie	
Dalhart, TX	Milton	
Delcambre	Morgan City	
DeRidder	Morse	
Duralde	New Iberia	
Duson	New Orleans	
Elton	Opelousas	
Erath	Parks	
Estherwood	Patterson	

NEW FRONTIERS:

CLJ! EXTENDS TO PERU

Called to the missionary life, Andy Ringle will be bringing *Come, Lord Jesus!* to Peru!

Andy is serving through Family Missions Company. Your generous gift bag contributions are making it possible to provide missionaries with *CLJ!* materials needed to bring the Gospel message of Jesus around the world. Thank you for your offerings which are making it possible to enlarge our horizons for the glory of God!



**DEC. 16, 2015- JAN.18, 2016
Memorial Burse Donations**

Sidney Ortego
Dorothy Frank
Joseph Dubois

Paul Vella, Sr.
Rose Vella, Sr.

*Eternal rest grant unto
them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine
upon them. May the
souls of the faithful
departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in
peace. Amen.*



Condolences February 2016

To member Patsy Ortego of Ville Platte, LA on the death of her husband, Sidney Ortego.

To member Anita Williams of Metairie, LA on the death of her sister, Dorothy Frank.

To members Beverly and Paul Vella, Jr. of Mogan City, LA on the death of his father, Paul Vella, Sr.

To member Mary Guidry of Lafayette, LA on the death of her mother, Margaret Boudreaux.

Please Note:

**Our office will be closed on
Tuesday February 9, 2016 (Mardi Gras).
We will be open on Monday February 8th
and Wednesday February 10th**

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Come, Lord Jesus!
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Lafayette, LA 70506-2544