

# “Give Me Back Again The Joy of Salvation”



St. Joseph Parish Mission  
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Fr. James Northrop ([www.thegraceofpentecost.com](http://www.thegraceofpentecost.com))

# “People Need The Lord”

Everyday they pass me by, I  
can see it in their eyes. Empty  
people filled with care,

Headed who knows where?

On they go through private  
pain,

Living fear to fear.

Laughter hides their silent  
cries,

Only Jesus hears.

People need the Lord,  
people need the Lord.

At the end of broken dreams,  
He's the open door.

People need the Lord,  
people need the Lord.

When will we realize, people  
need the Lord?

We are called to take His  
light

To a world where wrong  
seems right.

What could be too great a  
cost

For sharing Life with one  
who's lost?

Through His love our hearts  
can feel

All the grief they bear. They  
must hear the Words of Life

Only we can share.

People need the Lord,  
people need the Lord

At the end of broken dreams,  
He's the open door.

People need the Lord,  
people need the Lord.

When will we realize that we  
must give our lives,

For people need the Lord.

People need the Lord.

# The Plan

God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. He calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church. To accomplish this, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son as Redeemer and Savior. In his Son and through him, he invites men to become, in the Holy Spirit, his adopted children and thus heirs of his blessed life.

Catholic Church. (2000). Catechism of the Catholic Church (2nd Ed., p. 7). Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference.

# The Plan

- God loves us and wants us to truly be happy sharing everlasting life with Him.
- We have to recognize the reality of sin which robs us of joy and happiness.
- God has provided the remedy for reconciliation in Jesus Christ. (John 3:16)
- He wants us to be close to Him in the Eucharist.

# The Importance of Faith

Fr. Cantalamessa

At the beginning of the Church, Baptism was administered to adults who converted from paganism and who, made on the occasion of Baptism, an act of faith and a free and mature choice. Today it is substituted instead by intermediary parents or godparents. In this situation, rarely, or never, does the baptized person ever reach the stage of proclaiming in the Holy Spirit “Jesus is Lord”. And until one reaches this point, everything else in the Christian life remains out of focus and immature. Miracles no longer happen and we experience what Jesus did in Nazareth: “Jesus could not perform many miracles because of their lack of faith” (Mt. 13.58). The Baptism in the Spirit effectiveness in reactivating baptism consists in this: finally man contributes his part – namely, he makes a choice of faith, prepared in repentance that allows the work of God to set itself free and to emanate all its strength. It is as if the plug is pulled and the light is switched on. The gift of God is finally “untied” and the Spirit is allowed to flow like a fragrance in the Christian life.

# The Promise

Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord God: Not for your sake do I act, house of Israel, but for the sake of my holy name, which you desecrated among the nations to which you came. But I will show the holiness of my great name, desecrated among the nations, in whose midst you desecrated it. Then the nations shall know that I am the Lord—oracle of the Lord God—when through you I show my holiness before their very eyes. I will take you away from among the nations, gather you from all the lands, and bring you back to your own soil. I will sprinkle clean water over you to make you clean; from all your impurities and from all your idols I will cleanse you. I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you so that you walk in my statutes, observe my ordinances, and keep them.

**Ezekiel 36:22–27 (NABRE)**

# My Own Testimony

- God is good.
- Suffering and the reality of the Cross. (Aunt Lynn)
- The Role of the Holy Spirit in our lives. (College Life in The Spirit)
- Reconciliation with God and with others.

# Just Ask!

- We have to be born again.
- Salvation is God's Free Gift (Ephesians 2) Avoid Pelagianism.
- Allow yourself to be overwhelmed by the goodness of God. (Psalm 116)
- Keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ. (The Eucharist and the importance of Worship.)

# Next Presentation

- “Resisting Happiness” What robs us of joy?

# Questions

- Comments/Questions about what was just shared.