

## pope's Address to French Pilgrimage of Poor People ('Fourth World Movement')

Rome, July 6, 2016, zenit.org

Pope Francis' address this morning the participants in the Pilgrimage of the Poor from the French diocese of the Province of Lyon. The group of about 200 French pilgrims included very poor and homeless people supported by the Sappel community. The group is marking the upcoming 100th anniversary of the birth of Father Joseph Wresinski, founder of the ATD Fourth World International Movement, which is dedicated to eradicating persistent poverty worldwide.

In his address, he reminds those present how Jesus became poor like one of them, called on them to maintain courage and hope, and asked for them to pray for the rich and religious who turn their heads away from the poor and suffering:

Dear friends,

I am very pleased to welcome you. Whatever your condition, your history, the burden you carry, it is Jesus who brings us together around Him. If there is something that [special about] Jesus, it is precisely His capacity to accommodate [all conditions and situations]. He greets everyone as they are. In Him, we are brothers, and I would like you to feel how much you are welcomed here; your presence is important to me, and also it is important that you feel at home.

With the leaders who accompany you, you give a beautiful testimony of evangelical fraternity in this walk together in the pilgrimage. Indeed, you have come together, at each other's side. You generously help one another, providing resources and time in order for you to be able to come; and you, by giving their presence here, gift them to us gathered, to me, and to Jesus himself.

Because Jesus wanted to share your condition, He made Himself, out of love, one of you: despised by men, forgotten, one that does not count. When you happen to experience all this, do not forget that Jesus was tried like you. It is 'the proof that you are precious in His sight, and that He is near you. You are in the heart of the Church,' in the words of Father Joseph Wresinski, because Jesus, in His life, has always given priority to people who were like you, who lived similar situations. And the Church, who loves and prefers the ones whom Jesus loved and preferred, cannot stay quiet until She reached all those who experience rejection, exclusion, and do not matter to anyone. In the heart of the Church, you allow us to meet Jesus, because you don't talk about Him as much with words, but with your whole life. And you all witness the importance of small gestures, of the reaching out toward everyone, which helps to build peace, reminding us that we are brothers, and that God is the Father of us all.

I can try to imagine what people thought when they saw Mary, Joseph and Jesus on the streets, fleeing to Egypt. They were poor, they were being persecuted: but there, there was God.

Dear companions, I want to thank you for all you do, faithful to the intuition of Father Joseph Wresinski, who wanted to set off always by a *sharing of life*, and not by abstract theories. Abstract theories lead us to the ideologies, and ideologies lead us to deny that God became flesh, one of us! Because it is the sharing life with the poor that transforms and converts us. And think about this! Not only that, you encounter them – even helping whoever is ashamed and hides – not only do you walk with them, striving to understand their suffering and their frame [of mind]; but you strive to enter into their desperation. In addition, you raised around them a community, thus giving back them a life, an identity, a dignity. And the Year of Mercy is an opportunity to rediscover and live this dimension of solidarity, of fraternity, of help and mutual support.

Beloved brothers, I ask you above all to keep your courage and, while in the midst of your troubles, to keep the joy of hope. That flame that lives in you will not be extinguished. Because we believe in a God who protects all the injustices, that consoles all pains and knows how to reward those who keep trusting in Him. Looking forward to that day of peace and light, your contribution is essential for the Church and for the world: you are witnesses of Christ, you are intercessors before God Who hears us, and in a very special way, your prayers.

You ask me to remember that in the Church of France that Jesus is suffering at the door of our churches, if there are not the poor. If the poor are not [there] ... "The treasures of the Church are the poor," said Roman deacon, St. Lawrence. And finally, I would like to ask you a favor, rather than a favor, I give you a mission: a mission that only you, in your poverty, you will be able to perform. I mean, Jesus, at times, was very strict and strongly reprimanded people who did not welcome the message of the Father. And so, as He said those beautiful words "blessed" be the poor, the hungry, those who weep, those who are hated and persecuted, has said that another, called by him, is scary! He said: "Woe!" And he said to the rich, to the sages, those who laugh now, to those who like to be flattered, that they are hypocrites. I give you the task to pray for them, so that the Lord changes their hearts. I ask you also to pray for the perpetrators of your poverty, that they convert! Pray for the many rich people who dress in purple and fine linen and celebrate with large banquets, without realizing that there are so many like Lazarus, at their door, eager to be fed the leftovers of their canteen. Pray also for the priests, the Levites, who – seeing the man beaten and half dead – keep going, looking the other way, because they do not have compassion. For all these people, and also surely to others that are linked negatively with your poverty, and with so many sorrows, their smile from the heart, you want the best for them and ask Jesus to be converted. And I assure you that if you do this, there will be great joy in the Church, in your heart and even in His beloved France.

All together, now, under the gaze of our Heavenly Father, I entrust you all to the protection of the Mother of Jesus and St. Joseph, and I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing. And now let us all pray the Our Father.

# St. Gerard Catholic Church



640 Edrie St. NE  
Aiken, SC 29801  
803 649-3203

## The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 10, 2016

**Mission Statement**  
*Called to be a People for Others*

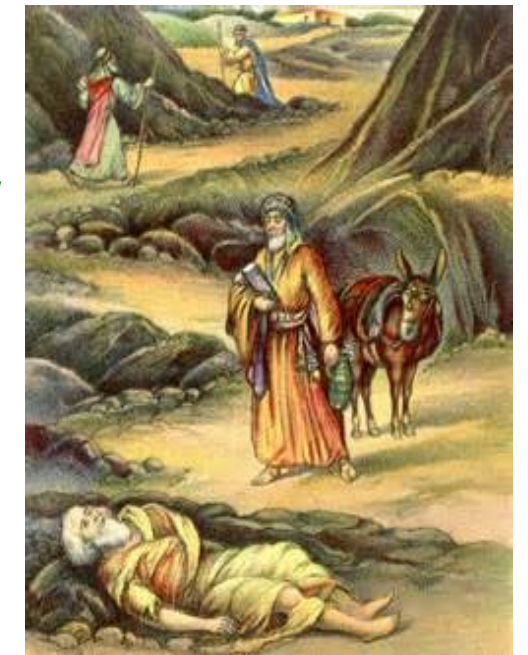
### Vision Statement

*Anchored by faith hope and love in Jesus Christ,  
we strive to be active disciples, serving each  
other and all God's people by welcoming and  
embracing the enriching diversity of our community of faith.*

**Father Emmanuel Andinam: Administrator**

*In answer Jesus said, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of bandits; they stripped him, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be traveling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveler who came on him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him onto his own mount and took him to an inn and looked after him.*

**Luke 10:30-34**



### SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading:

*Deuteronomy 30:10-14*

Responsorial:

*Psalms 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37*

Second Reading:

*Colossians 1:15-20*

Gospel:

*Luke 10:25-37*

Today's Missal

### Lectionary Readings for the week of July 10, 2016

Monday: *Isaiah 1:10-17;*

*Matthew 10:34-11:1*

Tuesday: *Isaiah 7:1-9;*

*Matthew 11:20-24*

Wednesday: *Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16;*

*Matthew 11:25-27*

Thursday: *Isaiah 26:7-9'12'16-19;*

*Matthew 11:28-30*

Friday: *Isaiah 38:1-6,21-22,7-8;*

*Matthew 12:1-8*

Saturday: *Micah 2:1-5;*

*Matthew 12:14-21*

**Mass Times:** Weekdays Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:15 AM,

First Friday Benediction after Mass

Weekend Saturday 4:00 PM, Sunday 7:00 AM and 11:15 AM

**Confessions:** after weekday Masses and by Appointment

**Office Hours:** 9:00 AM till 3:00 PM Tuesday - Thursday

**Bible Study:** Fridays 10:00 AM resuming in the fall, **CCD:** Sundays 10:00 AM during school year,

**RCIA:** Tuesdays 10:00 AM restarting in the fall

**Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages and Funerals:** By Appointment, Contact the office.

**Contact Us:** Phone 803 649-3203, E-Mail stgerardscatholi@atlanticbbn.net

Facebook @stgerardaiken, **Emergency number for Father 803 341-5933**





**Pray for our sick:**

Judy Riley  
Gary Gilbert  
Marge Glouser  
Leonard Saunders  
Shirley Paige  
William and Jackie Cobbs  
Woody Alexander  
Lena Mickens  
Rosa Johnson  
Brenda and Ike Ligons  
Joe Fulmer  
Elaine Smoak

Work is part of God's plan for us. Through our work, we recognize our talents and use them to build the kingdom of God. Through our work as stewards, we live out our discipleship.



**Pastoral Council:**

Wayman Johnson,  
Chairman  
Payson Borst  
Jacqueline Brown  
Fredrick Cadek  
Nancy Durden  
Marge Glauser  
Joan Hesik  
Janet Menefee  
Gregory Wright

**Finance Council:**

Robert Erikson,  
Chairman  
Leon Gagnon and  
Anna Marie Key,  
Auditors  
Lisa Solenberger,  
Secretary  
Art Wagner

**Mass Intentions**

4:00 PM Mass said for The Kingmans 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary from Golf Buddies, 7:00 AM Mass & 9:00 AM Mass are all said for your own personal intentions

**Weekend Offering**

July 2-3, 2016

Collection \$2,522.00  
Needed \$2,612.00  
Under \$90.00



The Gathering Hymn 598 H  
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say  
The Offertory Hymn is 601 H  
The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
The Communion Hymn is CHOIR 604 BB  
Christ, Be Our Light  
Our Song of Praise is 606 H  
The Church's One Foundation



**Lay Ministers**

**Saturday July 16**

4:00 PM Vigil Mass

Lector: Joan Hesik  
E E Ministers: Barbara Dixon

**Sunday July 17**

7:00 AM Mass

Denise Gelinas  
Roger Gelinas

**Sunday July 17**

9:00 AM Mass

Wayman Johnson  
Janet Menefee

**Saturday July 23**

4:00 PM Vigil Mass

Lector: David Didmamoff  
E E Ministers: Joe Dennis/Elleen Heim

**Sunday July 24**

7:00 AM Mass

Mary Key L'Esperance  
Gerard L'Esperance

**Sunday July 24**

11:15 AM Mass

Sheila Wagner  
Jacqueline Brown

Refreshments July 10  
Matt Fitzpatrick/?

Refreshments July 17  
Janet Menefee/Joan Lacombe

Refreshments July 24  
Jackie Brown/Jeanette Coleman



**Attendance July 2-3 125**

Sheila Wagner will take blood pressure on Sunday, July 17, after Mass.

The Legion of Mary is off for the next few weeks. Please continue to say the Rosary.



We are the Hands of Christ

Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Tuesdays at the 8:15 Mass

Please try to conduct any business with the office prior to July 12. I will be out of the office July 13-25. Mike

We are still in the planning stage for the bazaar this fall. Ideas welcome and requested. Contact office or Wayman.

Due to some changes in availability the 9:00 AM Mass will be going back to 11:15 as of 24 July. The 7:00 AM remains in tact. If you are scheduled for a ministry at 9:00 only the time will change as of July 24. Thank You

Emergency Assistance Caseworker, Receptionist, and Voicemail Person  
Food Pantry Helper on Monday during the summer  
If interested please contact Deondra Roper, Volunteer Coordinator at 803.857.6053



Our Lady of The Valley

Parish Council meeting this month on Tuesday July 12 at 6:30 PM.

**Volunteer Corner: Thanks to all those that help with the Thrift Store**

ACTS is partnering with the Augusta/Aiken Warrior Project (AWP) to provide available assistance to local Warriors of all service branches, regardless of era of service or wounded status. Please ask any veterans (especially post-9/11 veterans) to contact ACTS at ph#803.642.5919 They served us now let's help ACTS serve them.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreats bring spiritual healing and strengthening of faith to individuals who have had or participated in an abortion. Join us on the journey to healing, peace and reconciliation. July 22-24, 2016 in Charleston, SC For information and registration call Christy 803 554 6088 or Kathy 803 546 6010

ACTS has a position opening that supports our Women's Enrichment Program, 'Coffee with JoJo'. If you have questions or need more information, please call Carla at ACTS, 649-3800.

"A wedding is a day, a marriage is a lifetime!" Catholic Engaged Encounter invites you to attend an in-parish weekend, (Sat. all day and Sunday till about 3pm - no overnight accommodations provided) - which is a highly effective marriage prep program designed to meet the needs of today's engaged couples. This program will be held at St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church in Clemson, SC, Saturday, July 23 and Sunday, July 24. For more information or to register: www.cce-sc.org

In Harms' Way: Please remember in your prayers our Nation and loved ones of our parishioners currently serving in harms' way: James Ligon, Robert McHugh and James Rossini. Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Hospital Visits: If you or a loved one is in Aiken Regional Hospital (ARMC) please let St Gerards know. Remember - ARMC does not inform us of Catholic patients, even if you register as a Catholic; it is up to the patient or family to do so. You can: ask the ARMC Chaplain to call the Catholic church, ask your nurse to inform the Catholic church ( name & room number), call-St.Gerard at 649-3203 and leave a message or email St Gerard at: stgerardscatholi@atlanticbnn.net.

Childcare Worker Position Opening The individual selected will provide care and supervision for children in a daycare-type environment. Lead games and activities for multiple children, keeping them engaged. Change diapers and/or clean children up after activities. The opening is a part time position and is available immediately. It is the 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month (except Nov-Dec will be only the 2nd Thurs); 5:45 pm-8:15 pm (2.5 hrs per day). Location is Hope Center in Graniteville SC. Skills and abilities required: experience with children; a positive, friendly demeanor and ability to stand, kneel, bend, stoop and lift up to 30 lbs. This position supports a program that is an affiliation of ACTS, Christ Central, FamCo, and HUGS, LLC. Beginning pay \$8.00/hr. Submit resume to carla@actsofaiken.org. Additional application guidance will be provided.

**Ministry at the End of Life**

The office of Continuing Education is offering a series of workshops on ministry at the end of life. Ministry to those near the end of life, those grieving, or those caring for the terminally ill is one of the most challenging things we are called to do as servants of Christ. These workshops will introduce us to the complex issues surrounding death including ethical issues, personal issues and ministerial issues. We will use presentations, role playing, case studies, and other learning experiences. Some readings will be suggested before attending the workshop.

This is the first in a series of full day workshops on end of life care. This is a suggested prerequisite for attending subsequent workshops. The workshops are open to Priests, Religious, Deacons and Laity who serve those at the end of life and their caregivers. The workshops will run from 8:30am-3:30pm (lunch provided). Aiken Deanery, Thursday July 28, St. Mary Help of Christians Aiken The workshop is limited to 30 participants; please register as soon as possible. To register for classes or more information contact Msgr. Ed Lofton or Helena Moniz office@ssttheresachurch.com The cost is \$45.00. per person. Make checks payable to the Diocese of Charleston. Mail checks to Helena Moniz St. Theresa Church 11001 Dorchester Rd Summerville SC 29485

**Think what if!**

Someone in our community or in your family is waiting for a donor. You take holidays- the Blood Bank doesn't. Will you Choose 2 Give? Knights of Columbus, and Sheppard Community Blood Center will host a blood drive At the New Saint Mary Help of Christian Church On Fairfield Street. Saturday, July 30th from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm and Sunday, July 31st from 7:45 am -2:00 pm Every Blood Donor is a Hero Each donor will receive a free T-Shirt and Free Lipid Profile after your 3rd donation in A calendar year. Bring a picture ID, Driver's license or donor card! Donors should drink plenty of water prior to donating. Thank you

Show your thanks for all your blessings by giving back. ACTS is in desperate need of volunteers to serve in our Resale Store and Client Room assisting clients with their clothing vouchers. Shifts are available Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Commit to as few or as many hours and/or days as fit your schedule. Just e-mail usatvolunteer@actsofaiken.org, or call 803.649.3800.

ACTS is partnering with the Augusta/Aiken Warrior Project (AWP) to provide available assistance to local Warriors of all service branches, regardless of era of service or wounded status. Please ask any veterans (especially post-9/11 veterans) to contact ACTS at ph#803.642.5919 They served us now let's help ACTS serve them.