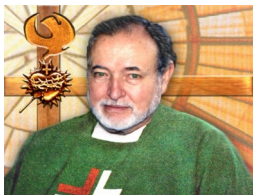


The importance of the Kerygma in the New Evangelization

Pope Francis' visit to the United States.

Antonio Ramirez de Leon, Ph.D.

Recently I have been invited several times to Salt Lake City, Brenham, Texas, and the Parish of St. Anthony de Padua in San Antonio to give, along with the Breathe's team (particularly Patricia), Evangelization Retreats. The retreat is the initial proclamation of the Kerygma, the gospel of the Kingdom and salvation in Jesus. The content of the kerygma, although it is owned by the entire Christian Church, was re-discovered by Father Alfonso Navarro Castellanos MsSp (RIP) more or less in 1973. From the retreat of ini-



P. Alfonso Navarro Castellanos MsSp

tiation's experience which was conducted under the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Father Navarro intuit, through the Holy Spirit, this proclamation was not new in the Church, but rather, was central to the mission of the Church under the title of Church and not a

movement. This model presentation of kerygma is today implemented in hundreds of parishes around the world. The kerygma is the foundation of Christian life and of all diocesan and the parish's pastoral, and is also known as Fundamental Evangelization.

In 1974 Pope Paul VI presented a document called *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, where the Pope clearly stated that the essential mission of the Church is evangelization, "**The Church exists to evangelize**" the document says. Father Navarro was right, and upstream say that the whole Church should experience the kerygma to give it again to be known under the title of evangelization. A few years later, Pope John Paul II wrote a document called *Catechesis Tradendae* which was returning to emphasize the importance of the Kerygma because as the document says: "The majority of Catholics have not made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ ... and are true catechumens" . In simple terms, most Catholics have not had a personal encounter with the Risen Jesus, central objec-

tive of the kerygma.

Returning to the phrase "new evangelization" of Pope John Paul II, and taking the results of the Synod on the New

announced a Jubilee Year (very special) dedicated to Mercy, which is the most important external virtue, as St. Thomas Aquinas said. It seems that the



Evangelization formed by Pope Benedict VI, Pope Francis today again challenged us, in simple language, and direct, the importance of the kerygma and the encounter with Christ, or re-encounter with Christ. Just read the introduction to his exhortation (call and momentum) *The joy of the gospel*.

Moreover, Pope Francis is proclaiming the kerygma in many ways, by word and example, especially proclaiming God's unconditional love and salvation in Jesus Christ. As you know already, the Pope

Holy Spirit has chosen Pope Francis as a messenger, ie a prophet announces what God wants and asks us. And as the Pope Francis says and repeats,

The heart of the mission of the Church is the evangelization, which the kerygma is paramount center and permanent.

All Christian formation is based on the deepening of the kerygma, says the document on the new evangelization. All training is based on the proclamation of a **God who loves you.**

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New Evangelization

Ongoing Formation for Adults

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“En Busqueda de Dios”

Wednesdays

TIME: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Salon B of the Knights of Columbus in the banquet hall

Holy Trinity Catholic Church. San Antonio, TX

Presentation by Dr. Antonio Ramirez of Leon

Very soon

Thursday from 7: 00-8: 30 pm

At Holy Trinity Catholic Church

“In the Footsteps of Pope Francis”

Dr. Antonio Ramirez de Leon

During this time we have continued to work in different places:

In the parish of St Anthony of Padua San Antonio Texas they were given 2 Retreats of Evangelization and continue working with them on other projects.

St Mary Parish , Brenham Texas, we continue our retreats with Father Ernesto Elizondo.

St Peter & St Paul Parish Salt Lake City, Utah continue to work with great fruit which recently went for a youth retreat

**We now are selling the DVD and CD of the presentation by Dr. Antonio Ramirez:
"Pornography: Addiction, Causes and Treatment"**

**For those who live outside the city of San Antonio and want our services now have available
Video Counseling Therapy! For more information visit our website.**

Interested in a New Evangelization Retreat - Kerygma, Contact us.

Support our work - Visit our Website