

Catholic Scripture Study Circle: *Living the Kerygma*

Week 6 (February 26, 2026): **RESCUED – PART 2**

Theme: God's Plan and Unshakable Confidence
Scripture: Isaiah 49:24-25, 26; John 3:16; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 24:13-35
Key Theme: Jesus is the warrior who defeats Sin, Death, and Satan.

NOTES:

- **INTRO:**
 - Three reasons to meet here in the Chapel.
 - **#1:** This is a critical moment for us.
 - We've come this far on our Kerygma journey.
 - It's a moment of grace, possibly intense grace, for us.
 - Jesus is ready to pour out His grace on us.
 - What better place to be for that, than this Chapel.
 - **#2:** The topics for this evening is all about Jesus, our Redeemer!
 - Why not be with Jesus when we are discussing about Him.
 - Maybe, if we open our hearts to Him, He will speak to us.
 - What better place to hear Jesus, than this Chapel.
 - **#3:** Meet here to pray together
 - Learning about the Kerygma is great.
 - But we need prayer to make it grow and come alive for us.
 - Disservice if we go through 9 weeks of the Kerygma, and not have any formal prayer with one another
 - What better place for prayer, than this Chapel.
- **Format for this Evening Prayer is simple:**
 - Two Talks and Two Meditations.
 - Talks – are what we have doing the past few weeks.
 - Meditations – are more reflections. Time of silence...
 - To reflect on the points and questions from the talks
 - To really have a heart-to-heart talk with Our Lord
 - Just to be in the presence of the Redeemer, Jesus
 - We will do all this in the context of Adoration, or Holy Hour.
 - Exposing the Blessed Sacrament; Jesus will be in front of us
 - Then we will close our time with Benediction
- **Opening Prayer:** Spontaneous and Personal (*volunteer*)
- **HOLY HOUR SONGS:**
 - #137 – O Salutaris
 - #139 – Tantum Ergo
 - #615 – Holy God, We Praise They Name

TALK #1:

- Go over the Overview
- Sometimes we see Jesus as this mild, meek, and humble servant or prophet...
- .. and then oops he makes some Pharisees and Romans angry at him and then they put him to death
- Oh but don't worry, there's a happy ending; Jesus rose from the dead – YAH!
- He's alive.. and oh boy watch out Pharisees and Romans, and all those bad people out there... you're going to get it now.

- Is that how we think of Jesus?
- Yes, he's mild, meek, and humble... but he's much much more than that.
- Jesus is a warrior; He is our *goel*; He comes to fight for us to get us back, to save us.
- Jesus has one mission. And he told us that at the very beginning of his public ministry.. in Luke 4:18-19 says this.
- Who are the “captives” and “oppressed”? – that's all of us, the human race.
- And what is oppressing us?... the powers of sin, death, and Satan.
- Priests & Deacons: *Liturgy of the Hours* Luke 1:68-79 (Canticle of Zachariah)
- Many more passages like this pointing to Jesus coming to do battle for us.
- Is Jesus actively doing that? Don't hear this throughout Scripture. Really?
- Let's see what Jesus has done...
 - Changed about 180 gallons of water into wine
 - He walked on water and calmed the storms
 - He fed more than 5000 men, women, and children with just some loaves of bread and fish
 - He cured the sick, made the blind see, the deaf hear, and the lame walk
 - He raised people from the dead, at least three times that were recorded in Scripture
 - And of course, Jesus rose from the dead himself
- Oh yeah, he's active alright!
- Jesus is not a warrior; He is **the** warrior!
- Brothers and sisters, let us take a few minutes to reflect on Jesus, the warrior, and how good God is to come and rescue us!

Meditation #1: Claim by God

- Spontaneous prayer
- What does it mean to be claimed by God?
- Fruit of this meditation is for an increase in trust and confidence in God.
- Have you ever lost a luggage in the past on one of your travels?
- Story about losing my luggage coming back from a business trip years ago.
- Brothers and sisters, that is how the Father must feel- anxious to claim us back to Him.
- He is so rejoiced when we turned back to him and reunited in his love.
- Isaiah 43:1 “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.”
- 1 Corinthians 6 – we are not our own; that we belong to the Lord.. because we have been bought, claimed, redeemed with a price – the life of Jesus.
- And Jesus would do it all over again in a heartbeat... but thanks be to God that He doesn't need to do that again.
- Why?... because you matter to God. And He so loves you very very much.
- There's a place for you in the Father's house.
- A place with your name on it, just your name.
- But God doesn't wait for you. He sends his Son to bring you there.
- So trust in the Lord, even if we don't understand it.
- Be confident that He knows and wants the very best for you...
- ... because He loves you enough to die for you.
- We'll have a few minutes of reflection on this theme.

TALK #2:

- We talked about Jesus as the Redeemer, the Savior, the warrior.
- If warrior, what's He doing to fight for us, to save.
- Most people see Jesus in Scripture like this.

- Born, taught, preached, healed, worked some miracles, prayed a lot, organized a group of followers
- Then He rubbed some people the wrong way
- Captured, beaten, scourged, nailed to the Cross, and died
- Oh, and yes Jesus rose from the dead after being in the tomb for 3 days
- Is this all there is to Christianity? What's the deal?
- No wonder a lot of us especially our youth aren't excited about the Faith
- Let's look at the Cross... this Cross. Does that look like a warrior to you?
- How is it that the God, who is all powerful, who created the universe that is 96+ billion light years across..
- ...get nailed to a cross, by some human creatures that He created, on the third rock of the milky way?
- There's only one possible way that God can be nailed to the Cross.
- He has to want it to happen. Jesus got on to that cross by choice.
 - John 10:18 – no one takes my life from me. I give it freely.
- Question is WHY? What was Jesus doing on the Cross?
 - Beaten constantly, scourge, crown of thorns, made to carry cross, nailed
 - Humiliating, excruciatingly pain, disheartening
- Three explanations –
 - Jesus is showing us the love of the Father
 - Jesus is making atonement for us
 - Jesus is going to war to rescue us... our goel!
- For our Kerygma journey, not going to focus on the first two; third one!
- Mentioned here because they are all connected
 - Early Church Fathers taught and preached about these
 - So much more to each of these; but it will take several sessions
- Showing the love of the Father
 - Not going to leave us in our state of sin and death
 - Want to give us eternal life in and with Him
 - Willing to give up His Son's life
 - No greater love than for one to lay down his life for his friends
- Making atonement for us... specifically, for our sins
 - Not one or two, but ALL sins from Adam/Eve to end of the world
 - Jesus takes on our sins, and died for it.. so we don't have to die
 - Every time we sin, it's a piece in Christ's passion and death
- Jesus is going to war to rescue us – this may be a foreign understanding
- Since the fall of Adam and Eve, Satan has a tight grip on the human race – you and me included – through the powers of sin and death
- We can't stop sinning. Every time we sin it takes us further away from God
- When we die in this state of sin, apart from God, the Devil claims us
- God is all good so He can't go into the realm of sin and death to free us
 - Technically He can.. God can do anything.
 - But it's against his total good nature to exist with sin and death
 - So how can God rescue us?
 - He devises a brilliant plan. He needs a body, a human body, to get into the realm of sin and death
 - Enter Jesus... said last week: Jesus comes in disguise – flesh and blood
 - For Him to rescue us, he willing to die with his body to go into the realm of death...
 - .. from there, the underworld, Jesus showed his glory and destroy death and bring Adam and Eve, and all of us out of the eternal clutches of the Satan
- Apostle's Creed

- Satan didn't know that that was God on the Cross
- Otherwise, he never would have gone through with this.
- Brothers and sisters, we have a powerful, generous, and most of all loving God who would rescue us.
- Do we earn it? No.
- Do we deserve it? No.
- Does God have to do this? Absolutely not.
- But why? .. Because you matter to Him, and He loves you so much!
- Praise be God!
- Let's spend a few minutes reflect on the Cross and what Jesus has done for us.

- **Meditation #2 – RESCUED**