

Alleluia

Dove

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ALLELUIA COMMUNITY
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What is God Saying to Alleluia Community for 2016?

Each year at this time, we start our prayer meeting schedule with a meeting asking the Lord to speak to us regarding His will and direction for the new year. This year as we gathered, the Lord showed up as He has always done and spoke to us many clear words to encourage us in 2016. We are publishing these words for your study and prayer. Keep them with you as you go through this coming year and read them over as a reminder of His care and concern for you. Remember, we are His people and the sheep of His flock. (Those words that are marked with a "*" were not submitted in writing and have been paraphrased. They will be published in their entirety in a later issue.)

My people, don't let this year slip by you.

Don't let any parts slip by unnoticed or unaccounted.

I have prepared you throughout your spiritual life. This is the year to put your preparation into action. Use what I have already given you. Pay attention! Be on the alert! Act as the Spirit leads. Do not judge by the world's thoughts or your own past actions. Whatever comes don't be immobilized. Be led by my spirit. Be ready to act now!

— Gary Garner

The Lord wants us to examine our motives in 2016 (why we do or don't do things).

In our prayer watch, we pray each week that our motives are fully, totally and radically living under the Lordship (obedience to His voice) of

Jesus and to do everything with the motives of promoting the kingdom of God, and doing it for the glory of God.

Selfish or self-centered motives can easily slip into our souls, often without our actually being aware of them.

This is not a time for guilt or discouragement, but to realize more deeply that the purer our motives are, the greater we give glory to God (the principle reason for His giving us our very existence).

Be encouraged — the Lord is pleased with your goodwill, but desires to bring you into a deeper relationship with Him this year — ask and you will receive the desire for living solely for the glory of God — you will not be sorry or disappointed.

Remember, we have already received everything — everything in Jesus and the Holy Spirit, and the

eternal life He promises. Now it is our turn to give everything to Him.

—Rich Kremetz

**We are entering a time of war. There is a battle in our churches. It can only be won by a Christianity that is in unity.*

—John Sterett

**There is a unity of those whose hearts are open to the Holy Spirit. Be ecumenical.*

—Fr. Lou Lindsey

**In Genesis, Abraham was asked to sacrifice his son and God honored his willingness to be obedient by giving him an alternate way. God will do the same for us. If we are willing to sacrifice in obedience, He will give us a way to do it.*

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Be Alert – Be Wise – Be Aware – Be Willing to Sacrifice

(Continued from page 1 - WHAT IS GOD SAYING)

—Cathy Green

Isaiah 40:29 – “He gives power to the faint, and to him who has not might he increases strength.”

My people Alleluia,

My beloved, my chosen ones, my people who have sacrificed so much of your lives, I have seen your sacrifices and I am pleased. I tell you, my people, much more sacrifice is needed from you. In this new year, you will be called on to lay your lives down even more. You must lay your lives down for one another and to all I will send to you. I have given you servant hearts; much more will be required of you. Some will say it is too much, but I will give you grace and strength to continue on. Your strength will come from your prayer lives. As you serve others, you serve me. I will send you many hurting people, my people. Take them in, love them, bring healing to them, sacrifice for them. You will see many miracles. You are strong, Alleluia. You are loved and you are protected.

—Theresa Dominey

**I am your Lord and God. I have prepared a place for you to love one another. I have prepared a place for you to serve others. I have prepared a place for you to pray for one another.*

—Buster Eason

I tell you, my people, banish all fear as a mortal enemy – there is no room for him in your midst. Fear paralyzes; courage mobilizes you. Pray for a double portion of the spirit of Elisha. Seek me with all your strength daily. Pray always as the Scripture tells you. I have given you the tools, but have you used those tools? Do what I have shown you with what you have. Remember: “wasting” time

with one another is really not wasting. It is an investment of time in relationships. Remember the miracles I have performed among you.

—Judy Hartney

Not only love one another, but look for ways to love one another

—Wayne Rose

My people, some of you are neglecting your commitment to fast weekly. Repent. If the body Alleluia fully embraces the fast, I will pour out abundant grace on your prayer meetings and renew your zeal to be my people.

—Richard Valiquette

My children, I am your Father and I have much good in mind for you. Now is the time for black (evil) to be blacker and white (good) to be whiter. Many of you have gray areas in your life that have been there a long time. Now is the time to choose who you will serve. Your light must get brighter that my church may be the place to draw people into my family. When darkness and confusion reign, people need my light and my truth. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you the gray areas and I will give grace to give them up and to shine brighter. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you people to share the light and truth to. Give away what I have given you as the world needs my truth desperately. SHINE, pour out my light into the churches.

—Sherry Young

Draw your lines. As we grow further from the fruits of the Spirit as a culture, the line dividing what is acceptable becomes more and more blurred. We need to visit our statutes and test them and then stick to our guns, said “statutes” being the fruits

of the Spirit.

—Joe Eyrich

Man changes his mind but God doesn't.

Repent for complacency.

Let Your heart be set ablaze.

I have great things for you. My spirit has great things for you.

You hold it back.

Set your mind on things above, on me. Guard your eyes, heart, mind from the culture. It is lying as it lures many away. Stand firm. Stand together. Stand with Me! My Spirit is in you. Let Him fill you, empower you. Sit before me and let me empower you.

Like a solar powered light, cannot shine without sun. You cannot shine without The Son.

—Vanessa Milligan

From the book Divine Intimacy:

“Time passes and does not return. God has assigned to each of us a definite time in which to fulfill His divine plan for our soul; we have only this time and shall have no more. Time ill spent is lost forever. Our life is made up of this uninterrupted, continual flow of time, which never returns.

In eternity, on the contrary, time will be no more; we shall be established forever in the degree of love which we have reached now, in time. If we have attained a high degree of love, we shall be fixed forever in that degree of love and glory”

Time is precious we need to love our brother and sisters more deeply this year. Love will transform the world. Love is what transformed our lives. Be an anonymous saint and surprise brothers and sisters with good works.

—Jeff Pidel

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Most Reverend Raymond W. Lessard Remembered for Encouragement of Ecumenism and Canonical Status of Alleluia Catholic Fellowship

By Jack McAdams

Most Reverend Raymond W. Lessard, twelfth bishop of the Diocese of Savannah, died on January 3, 2016. He is fondly remembered by members of Alleluia Community for his work in ecumenism and especially for his hard work and encouragement in obtaining canonical status with the Vatican for the Alleluia Catholic fellowship before his retirement in 1995.

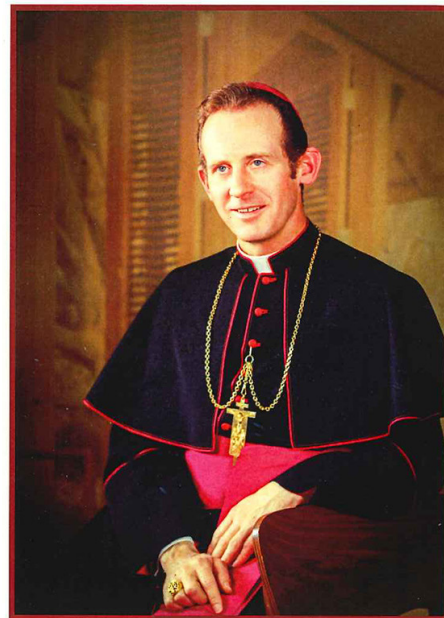
A Mass of Christian Burial was offered at noon on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Savannah Ga., with Bishop Hartmayer as principal celebrant along with Bishop Emeritus Boland, other bishops and dignitaries from the seminary in Boynton Beach, Fl.,

most priests in the Savannah diocese, and many deacons.

Burial followed in the Catholic Cemetery of Savannah in a plot set aside for diocesan bishops and priests. Bishop Hartmayer and Bishop Emeritus Boland were the first to shovel dirt onto Bishop Lessard's grave, followed by most priests and many faithful. May he rest in peace.

Jack McAdams, retired assistant county tax commissioner, is a Full Covenant member of Alleluia Community since 1977. He and his wife Cathy have five children and 4 grandchildren. They attend St. Joseph Catholic Church in Augusta, Georgia.

MOST REVEREND
RAYMOND W. LESSARD, D.D.
Twelfth Bishop of Savannah



Ordained a Priest - 1956
Ordained Bishop of Savannah - 1973
Retired - 1995

What Is God Saying?

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**Pride and arrogance and fear go together. When you experience one of these emotions, rebuke and renounce fear and pride.*

Summary:

Be alert.

Be wise.

Be aware of things around us.

Look to those around us to love.

Sacrifice in obedience to God.

Have faith in God's love for you.

Be supportive for each other.

Look for ways to go the extra mile.

Be a mystery saint.

Remember, there is nothing in your life that God hasn't allowed for your greater good. It may not look or feel very good at the time, but He has your greater good in mind.

Quenching Spiritual Thirst

By Karen Murrell

Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst.

—John 4:14

Every morning, I feel thirsty and need a glass of something to drink. For me it's usually orange juice. Those gulps quench the dryness, wake me up and get me going. You know where this is going. It's just like prayer. What a simple, yet profound thought. I think it came from "Other" than me, and has been helpful enough for my morning prayer motivation that I wanted to share it.

Without those morning sips, I'm not very awake, pretty grumpy; my body is always feeling needy. Nothing else really satisfies like that first drink and, in hot weather, cool fresh

Brita water is the most satisfying for me. And so for life, the hotter life becomes, the more need for cool refreshing prayer.

Kevin was in the hospital for five days in November. That morning drink was essential for me, physically. As so many of you who have been through this know, the tasks of daily life weren't shared during those days; they only went forward through me. But getting in the spiritual morning drink, even though many times more essential, was harder. I guess we can become rather numb during difficult times. Numbness can get us through and keep us functioning. So, still spiritually thirsty, I just used the gift of

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January Sports Update

By Coach Dennis McBride

January has been good to the Angels! The Varsity girls are 2-0 with victories over Nathanael Greene Academy on Friday, January 8th and over Covenant Christian Academy at the Angels' well-attended homecoming on the 9th. The Varsity boys are 3-1 in January and started off with a victory over Greater Gwinnett at home on January 2nd. On January 8th and 9th, they also played Nathanael Greene Academy and Covenant Christian, posting overwhelming victories in each. On the 11th, the boys played The Augusta Eagles and lost a close contest at home.

The JV teams and Middle School teams have also been in action. This year the Varsity girls are coached by

Mary Cummings and assisted by Rosie Phillips. Amy Parris and Dennis Killips are heading up the JV girls program and laying a foundation for the future.

Paul Balducci, one of our longest serving coaches, is back at the helm of the JV boys program and has them playing well. The middle school program consists of B girls and boys teams coached by Colleen Hall and Susie McBride for the girls and Ben Shrewsbury and Dan Kremetz for the boys. There are also A team girls and boys coached by Alana Germann for the girls and Frank Densmore at the helm of the A-boys. The schedule of games can be found under the Athletics tab on the school website at



MS Boys against Faith Covenant

www.alleluiaschool.org.

The middle school teams compete in the local private school league, and the A-team tournament will be held the final week of January. Our high school teams are members of the GICAA and will take part in region and state tournaments beginning the second week of February.

Spiritual Thirst

(Continued from page 3 - THIRST)

tongues. How satisfying to be able to go about immediate tasks, still drinking in Jesus through his Holy Spirit. So, tongues can be a little like cool Brita water on hot days.

Kevin is almost totally better now, thank God. During that difficult time, I was keenly aware of the wonderful examples of caregiving that we have here in Alleluia, and how beautiful and life-giving they have been and are. There are so many other aspects of caregiving needed besides physical, of course. I found that the emotional and spiritual need was almost as challenging. So, keeping my spiritual water bottle filled was vital.

We learned a lot during Kevin's illness about the need for hydration. He had a bout with diverticulitis. You'll

see him with a water bottle daily, now. Dryness can set off that condition. We have a humidifier in our room now, also. The Mayo Clinic website suggests 3 liters of fluid daily for men and 2.2 for women, although there are many other factors involved for individuals. It says water makes up about 60% of our body weight. We can think of our own individual spiritual water bottles and nightly humidifiers. I guess, for me, that would be Scripture, spiritual meditation and contemplation, visits to church, a spiritual home environment and prayers in the car.

Drinking spiritual fluids in the morning and throughout the day: that's the point. Stay hydrated, my friends.



JV Girls against Faith Covenant

Karen Murrell is an Alleluia Community Handmaid, one of 21 women who provide overall insight to the Community government from a womanly perspective, and a Community Elder's wife. She is a retired teacher. Karen and her husband, Kevin, were two of the original signers of the Alleluia Covenant in 1973. They have five children and 18 grandchildren and attend the Catholic Church of the Most Holy Trinity in Augusta, Georgia.