

“Duc in Altum” (Luke 5:4)

QVD 2005 Opening Talk

Fr. Raymond LaVoie

Diocese of Harrisburg, PA

- 1) Being Found by Christ
 - a. St. Peter was in the real Presence of our Lord
 - b. This weekend *you* will be in Christ’s presence, as you meet your Lord in the Holy Eucharist
 - c. You are called to have just as real and powerful encounter with Jesus as St. Peter did
- 2) Listening to Christ
 - a. The Father is speaking to us, calling us
 - b. How do we listen? Are we listening?
 - c. How can we find the voice of God in a noisy world with our noisy hearts?
- 3) Cast out into the Deep
 - a. The success with Christ
 - i. The fishermen had been fishing all night and caught nothing.
 - ii. Jesus tells them to *cast out into the deep*.
 - iii. They were skeptical, but they did it.
 - iv. They netted a huge catch of fish – they had great results when they did what our Lord commanded of them.
 - b. Jesus is calling you to do the same this week: ***DUC IN ALTUM***
 - c. *What does that mean for us?*
 - i. We are called by Christ to do great things
 - ii. What is he calling us to do?
 - iii. What is our vocation? (from the Latin *vocare*: to call forth)
- 4) Called to a life of heroic deeds
 - a. St. Peter was a skilled fisherman
 - b. Alone, he had limited success.
 - c. With Christ, his greatest expectation was surpassed.
 - d. *What does that mean for us?*
 - i. Without Christ, we live half a life at best
 - ii. With Christ, we become the men we were created to be. This bring us happiness.
 - iii. Life with Christ is never boring
- 5) This weekend we need to follow St. Peter’s example...
 - a. **Be submissive** (*stop fighting Jesus*): “At your command Lord...”
 - b. **Recognize Christ’s divinity and presence**: “...he (St. Peter) fell to his knees...”
 - c. **Recognize our weakness**: “I am a sinful man...”
 - d. **Trust**: “Do not be afraid.”
 - e. **Follow**: “They left everything and followed him.”
- 6) *Duc in Altum*: Cast out into the Deep – the Adventure of Following Christ