SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY

We will continue working on the Saturday afternoon lesson of the Fraternity Spiritual Exercises. Continue to use Fr. Carron’ School of Community as a help in yours. The School of Community can be found in the website in English.

TRACES

Issue #6 of 2013 contains the Exercises booklet and a number of articles exploring the meaning and fruit of life in the CL Fraternity. And the aspect of mission and the necessity of what the Pope calls “going out”, the fruit of true fraternity – is examined in depth.

To subscribe to Traces click here.

WORTH READING

Encyclical Letter of Pope Francis

Lumen fidei – The Light of Faith (LF) is the first Encyclical signed by Pope Francis. To read a broad summary of the encyclical provided by the Vatican Information Service click here.

Witnessing to Our Faith

By Julián Carrón, la Repubblica, Milan, July 11, 2013

Dear Editor, In Sunday’s editorial, Eugenio Scalfari acutely grasped that the theme of Pope Francis’ encyclical is “the central point of Christian doctrine: what faith is,” and concluded with the question, “What is the answer, most reverend Pope?” (La Repubblica, July 7, 2013).

In rereading the encyclical Lumen fidei, stimulated by these words, I could not help but mentally return to this image with which Jesus describes the mission of His followers in the world: “Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house” (Mt 5:15).

What better response could Pope Benedict and Pope Francis have given to the widespread perception that associates faith with darkness, or rather with “a subjective light, capable perhaps of warming the heart and bringing personal consolation, but not something which could be proposed to others as an objective and shared light which points the way,” thus causing it be regarded as “a leap in the dark, to be taken in the absence of light, driven by blind emotion” (3)?

One cannot respond to an objection of this nature with just a line of reasoning. One does not defeat darkness by talking about light, but by lighting a lamp. Darkness can only be defeated by light. Only the radiant witness of the faith that illuminates the lives of those who embrace it can respond to such an objection.

This is how the Christian faith was born. Those who met Jesus were struck by the light that He shed on the reality in which they were immersed—so much so that one of them, the evangelist Matthew, describes the meaning of Jesus’ presence in history with these words, harkening back to one of Isaiah’s prophecies: “The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light; on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen” (Mt 4:16). For those who want to illuminate, there is no other path but to “shine.” Even Jesus conceived of Himself in this way: “I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in Me might not remain in darkness” (Jn 12:46).

The challenge in which the Christian faith finds itself today is no different than the challenge of yesterday. As T.S. Eliot reminds us, contemporary man seeks frantically “to escape / from the darkness outside and within / by dreaming of systems so perfect that no one will need to be good.” Thus it is difficult to find a more adequate image than that of the lamp: the event of Christ proposes itself, here and now, as a unique and unexpected response to the profound obscurity in which today’s man struggles, powerless.

Faced with the testimony of the two pontiffs that is contained in these pages, each one of us can then judge if, as Nietzsche maintained, the Christian faith diminishes “the full meaning of human existence,” thus preventing man from “boldly setting out in quest of knowledge” (2), impeding his capacity to seek the truth, or rather if “faith enriches life in all its dimensions” (6), making it a truly human, personal, and fascinating adventure, while showing us that “when we draw near to God, our human
lights are not dissolved in the immensity of His light, as a star is engulfed by the dawn, but shine all the more brightly the closer they approach the primordial fire, like a mirror which reflects light” (35).

Of course, the necessary condition for accepting the challenge that their testimony represents is an open reason, which is only fulfilled in love, through an authentic affection for oneself. In fact, only a person who is loved and, therefore, truly loves himself, can be interested in truth, and start with recognition when he intercepts a ray of its light on the road of life.

With their witness, Benedict XVI and Pope Francis remind all of us, who have received the gift of faith, of the task that was entrusted to us in the world—to let the light of Christ shine in our faces. “Faith is passed on...from one person to another, just as one candle is lighted from another” (37). We all understand what kind of responsibility such a task entails, and we will be able to carry it out only if we, first of all, allow ourselves to be constantly illuminated by the light of Christ. Therefore, “the Church never takes faith for granted, but knows that this gift of God needs to be nourished and reinforced so that it can continue to guide her pilgrim way” (6).

All of the faithful need to let themselves be transformed by the love “to which they have opened their hearts in faith. By their openness to this offer of primordial love, their lives are enlarged and expanded.” By agreeing to participate in the “we” of the communion of the Church, “the self-awareness of the believer now expands because of the presence of another; it now lives in this other and thus, in love, life takes on a whole new breadth” (21).

The men of our time will be able to take an interest in Christ and faith once more only if they find people on their journey who, because of faith, are able to face the challenges of living; only if they see, through these people, the pertinence of faith to life’s needs, that is, its profound reasonableness. Then they will see that what makes Christians so different is not a story or a good feeling (cf. 24), but a fact that has within it the reasons of humanity. Only the provocation of this luminous and concrete witness is able to touch “the core of our being” (40); it is the only one capable of being at the height of our fundamental needs for truth, beauty, justice, and happiness. Yes, as it was yesterday, today “faith is born of an encounter which takes place in history and lights up our journey through time” (38).
**AVSI-USA: #10for Syria Emergency Campaign**

To date, the conflict in Syria has claimed the lives of over 90,000 people in two years and has caused over a million more to flee, including over 530,000 into Lebanon and 475,000 into Jordan. AVSI has been working with communities in both countries for over a decade, and is now dedicating its energy to provide food, water and basic supplies, and to make sure that each child is able to continue in school, despite being far from home.

Responding to Pope Francis’s appeal, AVSI launched the #10forSyria campaign to raise awareness and collect donations throughout July and August to sustain the outreach efforts in Jordan and Lebanon.

As we enjoy the special events of the summertime including vacation and time with family and friends, we are personally invited by the Pope and even by President Obama to think about the women and children fleeing Syria daily whose summer is destined to be full of suffering and sacrifice. AVSI-USA provides a direct channel for donations to reach the refugees through our AVSI staff who spend time with the people, listen to the mothers, hug the children, play with them, offer a smile and reassurance that they will be cared for.

- Just $10 can provide 2,000 liters of clean water, or an hour of lessons to help a child catch up at a new school.
- A $50 contribution is enough to deliver food kits of 2 kg each of rice, beans and sugar and 2 liters of oil for 5 families.

You can help to spread the word by following us on Facebook, or make a tax-deductible donation through Paypal or by check to AVSI-USA, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 994, Washington DC 20045, with the memo “Syria”. For weekly updates and pictures of the work we are doing thanks to the campaign, visit the AVSI-USA website. Contact kristin.kennaalley@avsi.org with any questions.

**Msgr. Luigi Giussani on Protestant Theology**

October 2, 2013 – New York, NY

A presentation of the latest book published in English by the founder of Communion and Liberation, Msgr. Luigi Giussani, *American Protestant Theology: A Historical Sketch*, by Crossroads Cultural Center and American Bible Society, with Dr. Margaret Harper McCarthy, Assistant Professor of Theological Anthropology, John Paul II Institute at The Catholic University of America, and Dr. Archie Spencer, Associate Professor of Theology, Northwest Baptist Theological Seminary, Canada. For more information click here.

**California Family Vacation**

By Sean Cooke

The California Family Vacation was held in Mammoth Lakes, CA, from July 5-9, with about 90 attendees (children and adults) from California and Arizona. The theme of the vacation was that of this year's Fraternity Exercises, "Who Can Separate us From the Love of Christ?", of which several selections were read each morning to guide us during our time together.

We took two beautiful hikes in the area allowing us to take in the beauty of the region. The first hike was along the Crystal Lake Trail overlooking Lakes Mary and George and allowing great views of the Mammoth Crest. The second took us up to Barrett Lake with has a great open area, giving us a great opportunity to sing together and have our Italians share their Alpini songs. Perhaps the best walking testimony of the hikes was that of Paolo Contu who, with his leg brace and cane, walked with us on the same journey.

Each day there were great witnesses, in our assemblies, testimonies and cultural proposals. Amy Hickl and Leslie Fulton provided testimonies explaining how the events in their lives helped build their faith in Christ. Marcelo Cesena provided his witness through his music, while three of our friends translated and presented a documentary on Antoni Gaudi's Sagrada Familia. The final evening offered poetry readings reflecting on the drama of one's faith, followed by several Irish Folk musical selections performed on the concertino and banjo by Michael Orts and his father.

**GS East Coast Summer Vacation**

By Carolina Brito

During this year’s East Coast Summer Vacation, 130 high school students and teachers from 12 different states grappled with an unsettling proposal—that Christ reveals himself as “an eruption of something unpredictable and unforeseen” (Giussani). Through our daily life together in New Hampshire’s White Mountains, in Morning Prayer, in hikes through the Franconia Ridge, and in the energetic competition of our games, we were asked to rediscover Christianity as the experience of receiving a gift. By paying attention to what daily events we perceived to be surprising, we shared in this student's experience: discovering “life as an Event really touched me. It changes everything—the way I look at my friends, family, and even at Christianity. It changes the structure of my life, and pushes me towards
openness.” While discovering freedom in letting Another lead our days, we were accompanied by the experiences of people like Albert Einstein, Dorothy Day, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, and Saint Francis whose daily lives were shaped by an embrace of the unexpected Mystery of God. In studying their lives, questions emerged from students such as, “How can we “surrender” to the Mystery in our lives, without fearing the loss of control?” As one student put it, “I’ve been really uneasy about Christ asking me to follow Him and give up everything. Yet on this vacation, everything was given to me.” Christ was doing the heavy lifting for us in these days prying open our cliques and expectations, giving us an openness to new companions, and by embracing our individual “unsettling” questions and desires. As many people discovered in the assembly, it was not our struggle to satisfy our limited expectations that ensured our happiness, but a joyful dependence on being continually surprised by Him. In the weeks following this vacation, we will continue understanding our experiences and opening new questions by working on The Journeying—the School of Community text that we began working on in small groups during the Vacation.

**Colorado Family Vacation**
*By Jonathan Ghaly*

The Colorado region summer vacation, “How Can One Live?” was held at the prestigious Breckenridge Beaver Run Resort from July 3-7. About 60 adults and 20 kids attended, including friends from Nebraska, Kansas, California, and Maryland. 6 people gave moving witnesses, one of them being a former high school student of Fr. Giussani. In addition there was a presentation on a new discovery concerning the Duomo of Milan, and one on Walker Percy. The parents managed to also create events, presentations, and even an assembly for the kids, who ranged in age from infants to teenagers. The long hike was up a path of one of Breckenridge’s ski runs, with many breathtaking views of the Rockies. On the last night, a few teachers invited anyone involved in education to have a conversation over dinner about their experience in education, in which over 20 people participated for hours.

**CLU Summer Vacation**
*By Clara Egan*

We spent 6 days and 5 nights in Estes Park, CO in the YMCA of the Rockies. We were 120 people from all over the US. We had two science presentations—one by Giorgio Ambrogio of the Fermi Lab about his work and need of the Religious Sense for his job; and the other by a group of CLU students who study science/math and spoke about the Michelson-Morley Experiment on the Theory of Special Relativity and the value of studying reality in this way. We had 3 witnesses by Costanza Raimondi, Annie Thompson, and Giacomo Fornasini. We also had a beautiful discussion on the book “The End of the Affair” By Gram Greene, led by Emanuele Colombo and Steven Lewis.

**Northeast Family Vacation**
*By Joan Russo*

The East Coast Vacation was held at Honors Haven Resort in Ellenville, NY from July 3-7. There were 213 people in attendance from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Brazil. We had a presentation on politics from Anujeet Sareen; an introduction to the CL book of the month, “The Power of the Powerless”, by Vaclav Havel from Chris Bacich; and an assembly on education. Witnesses were given by...
Stella Vega, Fr. Michael Kmiotek, and Frank Simmons. A concert was given by Christopher Vath. Titled “Invasion”, it included text, song, and performances for piano, violin, and cello. The long hike was at Lake Minnewaska State Park.

**Florida Family Vacation**  
*By Jose Pedro Redondo*

Fifty-eight adults and children joyfully participated in the CL Family Vacation between June 26-30 in the city of St. Augustine, FL. Bishop Felipe Estevez, as a friend of CL, offered us a remarkably warm and efficient welcome to his diocese. The bishop personally concelebrated a special mass for us at the Cathedral Basilica, which is the oldest parish of a permanent European settlement in what is now the USA (see group photo). During the mass the bishop pleasantly surprised us with a *homily devoted to CL and Giussani*, which he later posted in the diocesan Website. The bishop also instructed his staff at the Mission “Nombre de Dios” (Name of God) to give us a tour of the museum, the site where the first parish mass was celebrated there in 1565, and of the shrine of Our Lady of La Leche, the first shrine dedicated to our Blessed Mother in the US, a particular devotion for those suffering from infertility.

The Hoffmans, a local family that recently joined the Fraternity, Patxi a member of the CLU and Fr. Michael Cairnes a just ordained priest gave testimonies of how Christ had used the Charism of CL to bring them closer. It was a blessing to have Fr. Michael often lead us in prayer, and to have a mass concelebrated by Fr. Nick Marziani a reordained priest who converted from the Episcopal Church. For culture, Joep, Patxi and JPII sang and presented the longings contained in the songs of the Beatles, judging them with Giussani’s writings. Also Desa and Joep spoke about *Peguy’s Mystery of Hope*, as part of Giussani’s own journey of faith. For family fun, we saw the movie "Millions" and an "I Love Lucy" episode based in Italy. And of course, there were many games prepared by Elena with the theme of the Fraternity Exercises, skits and a trip to the beach. A nighttime dinner on a boat just for ourselves on the bay, songbook in hand, was also a winner. No one, not even the bishop, escaped the humor of the final frizzi. The bountiful signs made it very difficult to deny the Presence of the You. It was much fun.

**Texas Family Vacation**  
*By Paolo Zaffaroni*

The Texan CL Communities from Houston, Dallas and Austin held our Family Vacation in the beautiful Texas Hill Country from July 5-9. 80 people gathered at the Alto Frio Baptist Camp in Leaky, TX. Among the highlights were two cultural presentations: a beautiful presentation of the life of St. Francis through the painting of Giotto presented by Francesca Patriarchi and the moving witness of Guido Piccarolo, who stayed with us a couple of days, he presented to is his work and his life marked by the encounter with the movement. We had two hikes at the Gardner State Park and we had a day for the games. At the end we held an assembly and almost everyone was anxious to witness the beauty to spend time in communion which helped everyone to discover or rediscover the beauty of the companionship with Christ. One witness was above striking for all of us and it came from the father of a Mexican family newly encountered: I don’t speak much English and I don’t understand more than half of what you are saying but I don’t need it because I can see here the Lord’s face and it’s what makes me happy.

**Southeast Family Vacation**  
*By William DeMars*

47 of us (30 adults and 17 kids) spent July 4-7 at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC with the theme “Where is Our First Love?” We are very grateful to Fr. Paul Lambert from Pensacola, FL for joining us.
We stayed in spacious student apartments all on the same floor, which facilitated conversation, and we enjoyed many mini-hikes walking across the steeply landscaped campus. The daily, intermittent rain presented an intense challenge to our creativity and desire. Plans for the “big hike” on Saturday shifted several times, until we found ourselves wet and happy at the lookout over powerful Linville Falls, which was massively engorged by the constant rain (see photo). We heard powerful witnesses of Christ’s initiative in attracting our attention and changing our lives from Fr. Paul Lambert and Mrs. Pamela DeLoach, who are coincidentally both from the Pensacola/Tallahassee Diocese in Florida. David Kiser, recently graduated in Piano Performance from the University of South Carolina, graced us with a profoundly committed and coherent piano recital in the Rosen Concert Hall on campus. He gave us three encores, a full hour of playing, and another 45 minutes of answering our questions. Mauro Berzovini and Daniel Magree of the Atlanta CL community gave us a very moving dramatic reading of The Miracle of Marcelino by José María Sánchez Silva, accompanied with heartbreakingly beautiful music and art.

Among the people who prepared and led the vacation, we were challenged in May to remember why we want to be together, and what it is that we propose to each other and verify together. The needs of our hearts were exposed and provoked by the process of planning the vacation, in which we changed the venue and dates and decentralized the leadership compared to the previous five years, and for which many details came together at the very last moment.

At this vacation, Christ pursued us and announced his presence through many signs, each of which appeared as a “cardinal in the snow.” He revealed that His love for us came before all of our loves, and comes before them today. We were challenged to search urgently for where our first love is now. We learned that following means that “You don’t fold when you have two kings.”

**SPOTLIGHT**

**Mid Atlantic Summer Vacation**  
By Amy Sappenoff

Nearly 200 people, including all children, gathered in Claysburg, Pennsylvania July 3-7 for the CL-DC Family vacation. This was the first family vacation to be hosted by the local community in several years. In years past, a relatively small number of families, totaling 30-40 people would attend the Northeast Family Vacation. For us planning the vacation, the sheer number of people was already a sign of the beauty to come. The question of whether or not to attend the vacation had been judged very carefully in each of the DC schools of community at the urging of Steve Brown, Responsible for the DC community.

Thursday morning, July 4th, began with a brief reflection on the first part of the Saturday morning lesson taken from the Fraternity Exercises while teenagers gathered in a separate room for Morning Prayer and a short conversation with Fr. Jose Cortes. Children were helped with Morning Prayer by a group of mothers from the DC community, framing their prayer time around practices taken from Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The introduction was immediately followed by a short hike up the ski slopes, bringing everyone to the top of the mountain. At the summit we ate lunch together, sang songs, and played soccer before returning to the resort. In the afternoon, there were
several hours of free time followed by a 4th of July themed scavenger hunt. All participants were split into four teams, comprised of kids, single adults, parents, etc. Each team ran around the resort to complete 10 tasks somehow related to American history or civics.

After mass and dinner there was a presentation on folk music by several members of the CLU from DC who came for the night to perform. While they were performing several parents assisted in creating a bonfire and making s'mores for the children. After the singing had concluded, there were a few fireworks to commemorate July 4th.

Friday morning, everyone gathered for Morning Prayer and a continuation of the lesson on Saturday morning from the Fraternity Exercises. Right after, the group disembarked from Blue Knob to go to Shawnee State Park for a four-mile hike around the lake, stopping for lunch together. After hiking, the community enjoyed swimming at the lake for several hours before a storm drove us all out of the water and back to Blue Knob. The afternoon was left free for adults to work on the text of the Exercises and for children to play. The evening was devoted to witnesses. Steve had asked three friends to comment on the question of “What is Christianity and what does it mean for your life?” The witnesses were given by Luis Rubalcaba, Illaria Bernucci, and Mark Danner. Each commented on how Christianity has allowed their freedom to explode in front of the demands of life and how by following the authority provided in the movement and in the Church their life has become greater than what they had imagined for themselves.

Saturday morning, after Morning Prayer and the lesson, all the vacation participants were again split into teams to play games. Fr. Roberto briefly outlined a set of nebulous rules to games that set all the children and adults alike running and chasing after balls, playing tug of war and steal the bacon. The afternoon was left free, though adults were encouraged to attend a brief presentation on A Reason Open to God, a book edited by Steve Brown comprised of addresses given by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI on the meaning of the university and by Ombretta Salvucci on her work in a lab at NIH. The presentation looked at the relationship between faith and reason from the two perspectives outlined by the presenters.

After dinner there was a presentation on the North American martyrs prepared by one of the schools of community comprised mostly of young adults who had recently graduated from college. They sketched an outline of the historical context of the Jesuits and the exploration of the New World before sharing some of the writings of four of the martyrs. The presentation was immediately followed by a party for the final evening. Tom Tobin served as MC and led the community in singing, a parody song for the 50th birthday of one of our friends, skits performed by the children (a big hit) and skits. The evening finished with cupcakes celebrating the many birthdays celebrated over the course of the vacation.

During the final assembly, Fr. Antonio Lopez helped us to look deeper and identify the “singularity of this place”, as one friend had said. What was articulated in the assembly was the fact that vacation helped to show the contemporaneity of the Christian event, as everyone, from the youngest children to the grandparents present engaged in the days together seeking to live more truly the life of the Church. It was remarkable to see the promise of Christ fulfilled in the lives of our friends at every
step in life’s path. Some commented on how even the children present were a help in seeing this. The other aspect highlighted in the assembly was the fact that the intensity of the days together perpetuated a desire to live the same intensity at home, after the vacation was over. The hope lies in the fact that this friendship is a place that generates the good and brings a newness into our life. Fr. Antonio helped us to understand recognizing the fruitfulness awakens the need to turn to the One who generates this life and to welcome Him, that the greatest things is to welcome an Other regardless of how we “feel” about it, to embrace the Fact as it happens. Living like this marks a path that is constantly one of beginnings and in this way a novelty emerges.

In concluding the vacation, Steve described how his desire for us to be together on the vacation coincided with the hope that all of us present could be protagonists in these days. The hope was fulfilled in seeing the many people who contributed music, singing, organization, games, the cultural presentations, preparation of the hikes, caring for the children, the witnesses, and to openness of all who attended. Leaving from Blue Knob, it was impressive to hear the gratitude felt by each of our friends for the time spent together.

A Testimony
By Maura Kate Costello

Before coming to this year’s CL Northeast Family Vacation, I was dominated by uneasiness, hesitation and discomfort rather than the sense of wide-eyed expectation we hold so dear. I have struggled with my community in New York for a long time now because I have had a hard time finding my place in it, where I fit, especially after graduating from college. I often dreaded community days and had a battle with myself each time they were held to determine whether or not I would go. This battle bled into the decision I had to make about the vacation and I was mostly decided on not going. I wasn’t looking forward to five days of awkwardly bouncing between groups, waiting for one to take me in.

In spite of all this struggling, a few months ago I finally acknowledged two judgments I had kept trying to ignore:

1. What could I sincerely expect to grow—thinking particularly here of relationships within the community—that I never gave time and space?

2. Why was I so sure that Christ would not fulfill His promise when He has never failed in this before? What reason did I have to not risk on my history of His ever-recurring victories?

Also, At the Fraternity Exercises (I attended the one in Virginia), I knew there were a handful of fellow New Yorkers that would be there with me, and I made it a point to have lunch with one of them exactly to begin to allow for that time and space. During our discussion, Naomi enthusiastically encouraged me to reconsider my decision about the vacation, by which I was surprised, because: why would she really care if I attended or not? Regardless of her intention, I took it as a provocation that sought to pry open a little further the crack that had made its way into the crust over my heart. I was stuck; that judgment I had finally acknowledged was pushing me to continue to be true. I decided to go on the vacation.

My attitude was interesting and kind of new for me. I was still
uneasy, maybe even more so because none of the few friends I had made this year would be there. However, as much as that uneasiness threatened to close me in on myself, that judgment I had made propped me open. It was a little bit straining to fight the uneasiness in favor of simplicity and openness, but I really wanted to give it a shot; I wanted to see if Christ really did have the victory.

I arrived on the vacation and spent the first two days or so with my eyes open, but still wounded by this uneasiness. At a certain point, one night I remember letting down the last little wall I had kept up to defend myself against the discomfort by acknowledging my total incapacity to address this problem. “Please, Jesus, please come! Don’t leave me alone here, I want to see you win. Please, come!” What Carron told us in the Exercises is so true... our need is not necessary for the Event to occur, but to acknowledge it. Finally tapping into this need, being totally vulnerable in front of Him, my eyes were given new lenses.

My roommate was a young Italian woman from my community I’ve seen around but never got to know well. That night, I was surprised by the beautiful conversation we had that so quickly became personal—the telling of our stories and current struggles. I started to see His victory—He gave me Silvia and I was no longer alone!

The next morning, I thought, “This uneasiness is still not going away- let me try to live it with someone who could maybe help me see, and free me from this complaint. Fr. Rich is my friend, let me talk to him today on the hike.” I planned accordingly, and even lurked in his vicinity for a while, but the conversation never occurred. Instead, Jesus took matters into His own hands and began answering, in the flesh, the questions I would have asked Fr. Rich. I had beautiful conversations with several people in my community—Tim, Molly, etc.—I became aware of what was happening around me and how exceptional and beautiful it was that such a large group of families should be spending time in this way. The next day I continued a conversation with Angelo that started a few days before and found in him, too, a new companion. I really couldn’t believe what was happening!

The value of this experience is yes, in part, the friendships newly formed, but much more-so it is the victory of Christ over my reason. It is always reasonable to bet on Him. I am really grateful for these friendships that I know now will carry into next year, but what is more valuable, is the deeper certainty that He really wins. Christ answers in the flesh our secret questions, but He waits for us to see our need in truth, to humbly embrace it, in order to prepare us to acknowledge Him when He comes.