

February 1, 2015  
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cycle B  
Fr. Larry Richards

Good Morning. Today Jesus deals with demons. He deals with evil. So Jesus, assuming this is about 2000 years ago, it's about Jesus dealing with the demons in our own hearts, those things that are not of God in our own heart. Every one of us here have them and you could announce mine, could you not? "Oh yes Father, we know all your demons." Yes you do! But the reality is we need to give permission to Jesus to cry out in authority over the demons. And that which is not of Him in our heart, "Quiet!" And He moves on. "Quiet, quiet!"

If your heart is not quiet, it's Jesus who will come with authority and speak quiet to your heart and to get rid of all that uncleanness, to get rid of all those demons in your heart, and all of us have them. And what we need to do is give Christ permission because He will not force Himself on us. Today as we come to baptize little Joseph, Lawrence Thomas, little Joseph Thomas. We're going to do an exorcism on this kid, not because we know who his father is, but because of Joseph. The reality is that this little baby who hasn't done anything, we'll still do an exorcism over him so that he can be free of everything to come into the Lordship of Jesus.

There are things in our hearts and our lives that stop us from being free that we are still enslaved in and it's Jesus Himself who wants to say "Quiet, come out," to all those things in our hearts if we give Him permission. He has the authority and the power to do it, if we give him permission. So today, let's not focus on them, let's give them to Jesus and let Him speak to our heart. "Quiet, come out of them," and let Him set us free. You got it? Get it? Going to do it? May each of you know His love today and forever, amen.