

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter Time - Year C

I've been on retreat last week –

- I found the gravesite of Fr. Gabriel Roerig, OSB – the first priest on Andros (1950)
  - a. Built St. Mary's in Behring Point      St. Joseph in Man O War Sound
  - b. Established St. John in Fresh Creek      St. Gabriel in Calabash Bay
  - c. St. Rita's in Stanyard Creek      St. Saviour in Mastic Point
  - d. He was the founding father of Catholicism in family islands  
Source of inspiration for me

Gabriel witnessed to his faith in 3 ways      Actual Preaching  
Hard Work  
Love

In ACTS we hear about the Easter joy of the Apostles

They've seen the risen Christ

Overwhelmed with that Easter joy they can't help but proclaim it

They don't witness alone – there is a double witness here, easy to miss

1. Arrested – they begin to witness to the Sanhedran – preaching to their persecutors  
How can we preach to OUR persecutors (Gabriel's 3 ways)
2. "We are witnesses of these things as is the HS that God has given to those who obey Him"

Apostles AND Holy Spirit BOTH witness - both are necessary!  
Without HS my word is dead

With HS Gabriel converted Andros  
With HS YOU can convert your brother  
With HS we can grow the KOG on Andros

So how to we get the HS to witness with us?  
It says "the HS that God has given to those who obey Him"  
How are we doing on that front?

Because there is nothing wrong with the Good News  
Salvation comes thru forgiveness of sin

Look at Peter – 3x he denied Christ by that charcoal fire  
3x he confirms his love by this charcoal fire on the beach  
And He is forgiven – feed my sheep – lead my church  
Feed them with what I give you now, Peter, FORGIVENESS

Who do we need to forgive?  
Who do we need to ask for forgiveness?

We are not alone – we have the Good News, we've been forgiven –  
If we obey, the HS is with us – let us go forth from here with Easter Joy and spread it