

Keynote Speaker

Mike Patin—the “Engagin’ Cajun” - uses energy, humor and stories to remind people of God’s presence among us while inviting others (and himself) to take the “next step” in our journey with God. Mike has worked in ministry settings since 1984, first as a high school teacher and coach, then in diocesan ministry for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Since 2003, he has worked full time as a speaker and “faith horticulturist.”

Mike has been privileged to speak to groups ranging from 10 to 23,000 in over 130 dioceses in the U.S. and Canada. He has spoken at parish missions, conferences, rallies, retreats, leadership institutes, and in-services.



Institute 1: “Kerygmatic Witnesses: Saints Proclaiming Jesus in the Acts of the Apostles”

Following Jesus’ Ascension into heaven and the outpouring of Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the earliest Christians courageously proclaimed the Good News “in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts reveals women, men, and even entire households responded in faith, were baptized, and lived lives transformed by grace.

In this three session Biblical Institute we will examine the major sermons of St. Peter, St. Stephen, and St. Paul in Acts to discover the content and form of their proclamation of the Gospel. An emphasis will be placed upon how we can adopt (and when necessary, adapt) their content and form to allow us to be successful evangelists in our world, inviting people into more intimate union with Christ and more complete communion with His Church.

Deacon Kurt Lucas entered into full communion with the Catholic Church nearly 25 years ago. Since that time he has been teaching middle school, high school and adult students. He married his wife Cathy, in 1992 and they have nine children. He was ordained to



Institute 2: Advanced Strategies in Religious Education

Looking for new ideas and approaches to catechesis? The practical strategies presented in this workshop will help confident or experienced religious educators go further in their ministry to young people. Come learn new ideas and tactics that get beyond a simple education about Jesus and lead your students into an encounter with Christ.

Jared Dees is the creator of TheReligionTeacher.com, which provides practical resources and teaching strategies for religious educators, and the author of many books including his newest title, *Christ in the Classroom: Lesson Planning for the Heart and Mind*.



Instituto 3: Pastoral Familiar

La Realidad de la familia Hispana en USA: Luces y sombras. Fortalezas y retos.

La nueva evangelización de la familia, según los Documentos de la Iglesia

Modelos de pastoral familiar y proyectos actuales de trabajo con las familias, como referencia para el trabajo Diocesano.



José A. Grau, Ma, inició su carrera profesional en el área de Psicología, Educación y Teología, hace más de treinta años. Realizó sus estudios profesionales en la Universidad Católica del Perú y en otras universidades

Actualmente junto con su esposa, han creado un proyecto orientado a la pastoral con familias hispanas, denominado Ágape: Instituto de liderazgo y bienestar familiar.