



## “FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN”

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**JULY 31, 2016**

**M**aybe because the brutal killing took place in a church and during mass, or perhaps because the victim was a fellow priest, but Fr. Jacques Hamel's murder this week in Normandy, France hit home pretty hard for me. It doesn't frighten me.

It doesn't anger me. It just brings to the forefront the reality that life is short and that all Christians who live their faith openly are a target of twisted, evil minds. Our best defense against this evil is to be ready to meet our Lord whenever he calls us home. Evil only ultimately defeats us if we play on its team.

In honor of Fr. Hamel, this week, let's pray during mass with particular fervor and devotion. It was in the mass where Fr. Hamel died. We can unite our hearts to his as we worship Jesus for whom Fr. Hamel lived and died.

God bless,

**Father Jonathan**