

Fueling the Fire of Renewal

Issue 2 2023

# PENTECOST *Today*

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Photo: Leslie Bertucci

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## Chairman's Corner

by Ron Riggins

One of the Renewal's treasures has been its prophetic voice, that is, speaking the words of God to others in the Renewal, the Church and the world. Truly anointed speech is powerful as the inspired message is efficacious in leading to dynamic transformation.

Prophecy has the power to profoundly change lives and advance the kingdom of God. St. Paul tells us to seek this gift more earnestly than the other charismatic gifts. Prophetic words may come through Scripture, the sacraments, visions, tongues, or everyday life.

Prophetic words are spoken under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Although a trained orator may speak inspirationally, their message may reflect personal perspective, so discernment is essential. Criteria often cited to discern the genuineness of prophecy are that the words spoken: are consistent with Scripture; give glory to God; bear good fruit; are encouraging, edifying, exhorting, and consoling; and give peace, and not fear.

In his book *Lord, Renew Your Wonders*, English evangelist Damian Stayne highlights two main types of prophecy: inspirational and revelational. Inspirational prophecy simply expresses a known truth that can genuinely impact others. Revelational prophecy, on the other hand, supernaturally shares a word of God's knowledge, wisdom and heart.

In the face of the rapid secularization, moral decay and distortion of truth that we are experiencing today, it is time for those of us in the Renewal to speak prophetically to proclaim God's truth; restore people's dignity and self-respect; bring correction and warning; reveal sins and motivate repentance; provide an agenda for prayer; preach, teach and evangelize; foster inner healing; and restore faith, give hope and encourage perseverance in the face of battle.

Let's pray for an abundant increase in the gift of prophecy so that we may be effective witnesses to the truth and advance the kingdom of God!

*Come, Holy Spirit!* ♦



## Editor's Desk

by Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner, SSND

Leon Joseph Cardinal Suenens, in the forward to *Charisms and Charismatic Renewal: A Biblical and Theological Study*, by Francis A. Sullivan, S.J., writes: "At the Council we underlined the importance and the perennially up-to-date character of the charismatic aspect of the church. But at that time no one suspected that shortly after the Council, the charismatic renewal was going to prolong, as it were, the effectiveness of the Council, and cause us to experience 'a kind of new Pentecost' (to borrow the expression of John XXIII)." See the articles that offer both historical (p 4) and theological (p 5) perspectives. Archbishop Hebda writes that, "the Renewal faithfully reflected the ecclesiology of the Second Vatican Council's universal call to holiness and mission" (p 6).

In this issue we explore several descriptions of prophecy—ways that we experience God speaking to us. See the *Chairman's Corner* (p 2), *Prophetic Tongue*—describing the experience of interpretation of a prophetic tongue (p 3), and *Prophecy* (pp 14-15), a big picture look at the charism of prophecy today.

We reflect on how the Renewal is blossoming in *The Youth and Their Hearts on Fire* (p 17). We read about having one's heart set on fire by filling one's heart with the right firewood.

Early on, the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ traveled to Japan because Dorothy Stewart (later Mother John Marie), "discerned that the Holy Spirit wanted her to go to Japan to tell the Good News of the New Pentecost" (p 13).

Cardinal Cantalamessa shares a testimony of his powerful experience at the Kansas City 1977 Conference (p 8).

Please notice the NINE-YEAR NOVENA information (pp 9-12). ♦



# PENTECOST Today

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# Prophetic Tongue

by Fausto Franco

**"Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray to be able to interpret".**

**- 1Cor 14:13**

The gift of prophecy is often misunderstood as one that entails a lot of speaking. In my experience, the gift of prophecy requires more contemplation and listening than it does speaking. For the gifts to be put into action as we understand them in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, it requires that our relationship with God be a contemplative one. We need to be able to listen to God and His promptings as He desires to reveal Himself. One of the things that I have personally come to understand with the gift of prophecy is that it teaches one how to experience silence even in the gathered assembly. When God begins to speak through the person, a silence envelops those gathered to hear the message that God is giving.

One way this gift can be manifested occurs when the message delivered is given in a common language known to the people. At other times the prophetic message is delivered in tongues and is interpreted by the same person or by another who has the gift of interpretation of tongues. This gift is different from praying in the Spirit in tongues. The prophetic gift of tongues is God speaking through the person to edify the people. For purposes of this article, I will focus on the prophetic gift of tongues.

In my experience, this gift occurs in the context of a prayer gathering. There is a moment of prayer and worship where those gathered join to praise God. Usually there is an invitation to observe a time of silence, during which God is invited to speak. Even before that invitation for silence takes place, I sense internal promptings of the Lord wanting to speak in a different way to those gathered. When this first started to happen to me I would shut down or try to keep my mouth closed, but this feeling soon overwhelmed me. Internally, I

would struggle with surrendering to God and ask, "Why me?" God in His mercy answered that question by giving me His Word from the Gospel of John: "It was not you who chose me, but I chose you" (Jn 15:16 NAB).

During my moments of struggle or doubt, God has always put that Word before me, whether as the gospel of the day or the communion antiphon. In prayer with the assembly, I pray the words that Eli gave Samuel, "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening" (1Sm 3:9). Amidst all the praise and worship taking place, a silence envelops me in which I am aware of the sounds around me, but they seem very distant. I do not know who has the gift to interpret, but the Lord has taught me and helped me to trust Him and surrender. Usually, as the Lord begins to speak, such a sublime silence descends that I feel as if I can literally hear a pin drop, as if time stands still.

When the Lord starts to speak, my tone and inflection change. I know that I am speaking but do not understand what I am saying. As I sense that what was to be given is finished, I stop and pray that someone interprets the message. The person with the gift to interpret begins and internally I feel a release. If I sense there is more, I continue the message in tongues and wait again for an interpretation. Once I had the experience where the message and interpretation were simultaneous. Afterwards I found out that it was the first time that person had manifested the gift of interpretation. At times when this gift is active in me, it is accompanied by tears and other emotions which I've understood to be part of the message. Once it is delivered, I tend to withdraw to gather myself because my body and senses are so overwhelmed by the presence of God.

God is good. At times individuals have come up to me and said they had an interpretation. I look up at them, smile and tell them, they must speak up. This is to help the people understand; it also helps me. God is at work and this gift will be another sign of God's love and mercy in our times. May

God grant us the trust and surrender to edify His people. ♦



*Fausto Franco is a Pentecost Today USA council member. He is an adjunct professor at Catholic Distance University and a former coordinator for the Hispanic Catholic Charismatic Renewal for the youth and young adults for the USA and Canada.*

# more than half a century of extraordinary grace

## Where Did The Catholic Charismatic Renewal Come From?

by Al Mansfield

HISTORICAL

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) began at the Duquesne Weekend, February 17- 19, 1967. Have you ever wondered, “Where did it come from?” The shortest and the truest answer is—from God! But from a human and historical viewpoint, we can identify what preceded and led up to the beginning of the CCR. We can distinguish some remote and proximate factors.

### Remote Factors

Blessed Elena Guerra, an Italian religious sister (1835-1914), wrote twelve confidential letters to Pope Leo XIII to persuade him to increase devotion to the Holy Spirit in the Church. In 1900 she asked the pope to consecrate the 20th century to the Holy Spirit. Pope Leo did this in St. Peter's Basilica on January 1, 1901, by solemnly chanting the ancient hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus* (Come, Creator Spirit). On the same day, providentially, another very different group was seeking the Holy Spirit in Topeka, Kansas, USA.

In Topeka, a number of prayerful intercessors were gathered to study the Scriptures about the Holy Spirit. On January 1, 1901, a woman named Agnes Ozman asked Rev. Charles Parham to pray over her that she would receive the Holy Spirit, and she began to speak in tongues. This event is commonly referred to as the beginning of the modern-day Pentecostal movement, often called “classical Pentecostalism” to distinguish it from later Pentecostal/charismatic movements.

### Proximate Factors

As we move closer toward 1967, we can identify three other factors that contributed to the outbreak of the CCR: neo-Pentecostalism, Cursillo, and Vatican II.

**Neo-Pentecostalism:** In the late 1940s, 1950s, and early 1960s, baptism in the Spirit with charismatic gifts began to break out in some of the established Protestant denominations which had their origins in the Reformation. Typically, those who had this experience remained in their respective churches and held prayer meetings in homes during the week. This was different from the “classical Pentecostal” experience, which led to the formation of separate Pentecostal denominations. Many neo-Pentecostal leaders gave invaluable help and support to the CCR, especially in the early days of the movement.

**Cursillo** is an apostolic movement of retreats focused on the Resurrection of Christ and basics of the Christian life. It

was begun around 1948 in Spain to build effective Christian leaders. Cursillo came to the US in 1957 and influenced many who would become the early leaders in the CCR.

**Vatican II:** Pope Saint John XXIII convened the Second Vatican Council in October 1962. For a year prior to the Council's opening, he had the entire Church pray a special prayer which contained the now famous line: *Renew your wonders in this our day as by a new Pentecost*. Vatican II emphasized the Holy Spirit—mentioned some 258 times in the Council documents. The Council also taught about the role of charisms of the Holy Spirit in the Constitution on the Church, #12. As my wife Patti relates in her book *As By A New Pentecost*, after her experience of the Holy Spirit on the Duquesne Weekend she was concerned to find out if it was truly “Catholic.” She was assured that it was by reading the references in the Council documents.

### A Chance, An Opportunity, A Grace

The CCR was called by Pope Saint Paul VI “a chance for the Church.” Pope Saint John Paul II repeated that phrase in his numerous meetings with members of the CCR. He spoke and wrote extensively on the Holy Spirit and his charisms, urging us to receive “docilely and obediently” the gifts the Spirit gives.

Pope Benedict XVI was likewise supportive and blessed the work of the CCR. He stated: “The entire mission of the Messiah can be summarized in this—to baptize us in the Holy Spirit” (*Angelus Address*, January 13, 2008). A personal high point for me was when my wife Patti was chosen to thank him on behalf of all the ecclesial movements (400,000 present) in St. Peter's Square at the Pentecost Vigil in 2006.

On June 3, 2014, Pope Francis said: “Share with all in the Church the grace of Baptism in the Spirit.”

All we can say after more than half a century of extraordinary grace is, Thanks be to God! ♦



*Al Mansfield has degrees in history and theology, has been involved in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal since 1968, and has served as a leader in the Renewal in the New Orleans area for over 50 years. He is married to the former Patti Gallagher, and in the Jubilee Year 2000 they were awarded the papal medal Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice (For the Church and the Pope) by Saint John Paul II.*

# The Relationship of the Duquesne Retreat to the Second Vatican Council

by Jorge Samaniego

The Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) and the Duquesne Weekend Retreat are both significant events in the history of the Catholic Church, although they are distinct in nature. Vatican II, an ecumenical council convened by Pope Saint John XXIII from 1962 to 1965, aimed at renewing and updating various aspects of the Church's life and mission. The Duquesne Weekend Retreat, on the other hand, took place in February 1967 at The Ark and The Dove Retreat Center near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and is considered a pivotal event that ignited the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR). While there is no direct causality between Vatican II and the retreat, there are connections and parallels that can be drawn between them. Here is an exploration of these two events and their significance.

## Second Vatican Council

A groundbreaking event that sought to address various aspects of the Church's life as she engages the modern world.

### A. Renewal and Openness to the Holy Spirit

Vatican II emphasized the renewal and revitalization of the Church, calling for a deeper openness to the work of the Holy Spirit. This emphasis can be seen in documents such as *Lumen Gentium* (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church), particularly that of Section 12: *The charismatic gifts, whether they be the most outstanding or the more simple and widely diffused, are to be received with thanksgiving and consolation, for they are perfectly suited to and useful for the needs of the Church.*

### B. Call to Holiness and Active Participation

The emergence of CCR encourages active engagement of the laity in the Church and the world. This is in harmony with the Vatican II emphasis on the universal call to holiness and the

active participation of the laity in the life and mission of the Church: *The laity are gathered together in the People of God and make up the Body of Christ under one head. Whoever they are they are called upon, as living members, to expend all their energy for the growth of the Church and its continuous sanctification, since this very energy is a gift of the Creator and a blessing of the Redeemer (Lumen Gentium, Section 33).*

## Duquesne Weekend Retreat

This event was organized by a group of Catholic students and faculty. During the retreat, participants experienced a powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which they described as a "baptism in the Holy Spirit." This encounter marked the beginning of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

### A. Renewed Emphasis on the Holy Spirit

The retreat at The Ark and The Dove placed a renewed emphasis on the role of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. Participants sought to cultivate a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit and openness to the Holy Spirit's transformative power.

This resonates with the renewed focus on the Holy Spirit in the documents of Vatican II. *For the exercise of this apostolate, the Holy Spirit Who sanctifies the people of God through ministry and the sacraments gives the faithful special gifts also (cf. 1 Cor. 12:7), allotting them to everyone according as He wills (1 Cor. 12:11) to build up the whole body in charity (cf. Eph. 4:16), (Paragraph 3, Apostolicam Actuositatem [Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity]).*

### B. Active Participation and Renewal

The Duquesne Weekend Retreat also aligned with the call of Vatican II for active participation and renewal within the

Church. The retreat participants were encouraged to embrace their role as lay Catholics and to actively live out their faith. This emphasis on the active engagement of the laity in the life of the Church mirrored the teachings of Vatican II on the role of the laity. The document *Apostolicam Actuositatem* (Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity) highlights the role of the laity and the recognition of the charismatic gifts within the Church. ♦



Jorge Samaniego is a Board member of Pentecost Today USA and head of the Formation Group of PTUSA. He is Chairperson of the Hawai'i Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Jorge is a Hospital Medicine Physician at a Burn Unit and Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine.

## Prayer Card



**"...because no prophecy ever came by the impulse of man, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God".**



2 Pt 1:21

# A Spiritual Fire Ignited

by Archbishop Bernard Hebda

As a young priest, I was required to gather several times a year with my peers for ongoing priestly formation at The Ark and The Dove Retreat House, then owned by the Diocese of Pittsburgh and operated as the Cardinal Wright Center. We routinely experienced those overnights as graced opportunities for ministerial and personal growth. I remember that the fraternity experienced at those gatherings was particularly rich and that the retreat center's simple and seemingly unremarkable second-floor chapel was surprisingly conducive to prayer.

While I recall a simple plaque at the facility that memorialized The Ark and The Dove, I am pretty sure that the Diocese had us gather at the Cardinal Wright Center because it was convenient and economical, and not because of the significance of the

Duquesne Weekend in the unleashing of the current of grace that we now recognize as Catholic Charismatic Renewal. In hindsight, however, I am confident that the Holy Spirit wanted us to be in that graced place so that he could empower us as he had the Apostles in the Upper Room.

The singular significance of The Ark and The Dove became clearer to me when I attended the U.S. celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in June of 1992. It was a great grace to gather in Pittsburgh's Civic Arena with 17,000 other Spirit-filled Catholics to reflect on the theme, "Return to the Upper Room." The presence and presentations of the Preacher of the Pontifical Household, Cardinal (then Fr.) Raniero Cantalamessa, and the then Vice President of the Pontifical Council of the Laity, Cardinal (then Bishop) Paul Cordes, made it clear that what had happened in Pittsburgh in 1967 had been welcomed and validated in Rome. Speaker after speaker described how the Duquesne Weekend had ignited a spiritual fire that swept around the globe. I recall being especially moved by Bishop Sam Jacobs' stirring altar call, leading me to pray that I would one day be able to preach with his clarity and conviction.

What particularly struck me as a young priest was that the 1967 outpouring of the Spirit had been a response to the fervent prayers of lay Catholics, and that the movement that grew out of that experience was predominantly lay-led (while always embracing the participation of deacons, priests, and bishops as well as those in consecrated life). In that context, the Renewal faithfully reflected the ecclesiology of the Second Vatican Council and resonated with the Council's universal call to holiness and mission. I believe, moreover, that it provides the theological foundation that undergirds Pope Francis' call for a synodal Church.

Throughout my years as a priest and bishop, I have been blessed to collaborate with women and men who have indeed found their way to the proverbial Upper Room and who have been both emboldened by the Holy Spirit and sustained by the Renewal. I feel particularly privileged to lead the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, which has long benefited from the apostolic zeal of Catholics who have experienced the Renewal as a new Pentecost. Our Catholic Charismatic Renewal Office, the Community of Christ the Redeemer, the People of Praise, NET Ministries, Saint Paul's Outreach and the Companions of Christ have all been steadfast in their support for the local Church. Through their efforts, we are particularly seeing revitalized youth ministry and young adult ministry, as well as a renewal in our seminaries. I relied upon these groups heavily, moreover, to support the work of discernment that was undertaken by our Archdiocesan Synod and have subsequently invited them to support the implementation of that Synod, as set forth in our 2022 pastoral letter, "You Will Be My Witnesses: Gathered and Sent from the Upper Room."

While it is rare that I get back to Pittsburgh, and years since I have had the opportunity to pray in the humble second-floor chapel where the Spirit gave birth to Catholic Charismatic Renewal, I still carry fond memories of The Ark and The Dove in my heart. I give thanks that my ministry has been forever marked by what our loving God chose to do in that hallowed spot. ♦



Archbishop Bernard Hebda has been the Shepherd of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis since 2016. He previously served as Bishop of Gaylord, Michigan and Co-adjutor Archbishop of Newark, New Jersey and had worked at the Vatican as Undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts.

## Intercessions

**May the Jesus 2023 Conference, all of its plans, speakers and organizers be infused with the prophetic word of God.**

**May all listen and hear the prophetic word of God.**

**May all proclaim the prophetic word of God for the upbuilding, encouragement and consolation of the body (1 Cor 14:3).**





Save the Date  
**2024 ADL Convocation**  
at the Oklahoma Pastoral Center  
April 8 - 12

# Association of Diocesan Liaisons Convocation

*by Jane Guenther*

The Association of Diocesan Liaisons (ADL) met in April at the Oklahoma Pastoral Center and had the opportunity to visit the shrine of Blessed Stanley Rother, the first American-born martyr. It was a beautiful outing that demonstrated the power of one person's life and the impact it has had on others.

I would like to extend an invitation to all liaisons to join us for the 2024 ADL Convocation at the Oklahoma Pastoral Center, from April 8 to 12. The Steering Committee has decided to hold the 2024 event at the same venue for two consecutive years, thus allowing the ADL to focus its attention on other issues.

We will continue to hold our quarterly prayer meetings online, followed by a short, informational

business meeting. The upcoming dates are as follows: January 7 and April 11, 2024 (Thursday evening of the Convocation). More details to follow on the upcoming Convocation.

Our primary focus this year is to ensure that all 31 archdioceses in the United States have representation within the ADL. May you and your work be anointed. ♦



*Jane Guenther is the Director of the Catholic Renewal Center, Archdiocese of St. Louis, on the Executive Committee of the USCCB Eucharistic Revival and Chair of the Steering Committee for the Association of Diocesan Liaisons. She is the ADL delegate for CHARIS, Program Advisor for the Renewal Fellows Program and Director for the Seminary Formation Council.*

# JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

by Fr. Raniero Card. Cantalamessa, OFMCap

In July 1977, a lady of Milan offered four tickets, all inclusive, to go to the United States and attend a Charismatic ecumenical rally in Kansas City. One of these tickets was offered to me and as I had to go to the States to improve my English, I accepted. After a week, I was thinking, it will all be over and I shall go to Washington and spend three months there in the Franciscan Capuchin fraternity. At the meeting there were around 40,000 people: half were Catholics and half were many other Christian denominations, especially Pentecostals. (Pentecostals would say, equally rightly, half were Pentecostal and half were every other Christian denomination!).

I remember in particular, one evening, during a time of prayer, Ralph Martin took the microphone and started saying, “You bishops, you pastors, you people, mourn and weep because the Body of my Son is broken.” He kept repeating these words, addressing the different categories of the Church. I began to see people falling on their knees all around me, until this huge crowd seemed one heart and one body, sobbing and repenting because of the divisions in the Body of Christ.

During all this, above the stadium a huge sign proclaimed, “JESUS IS LORD!” It was a prophetic vision. I said to myself, “If one day all the Christians shall be reunited in one body, it will be like this, when we are all on our knees, repenting under the great Lordship of Christ.” Years later I had the opportunity to mention this event in my preaching to the Pontifical Household in the presence of Pope Saint John Paul II.

It was for me the beginning of a new understanding of the Lordship of Christ, from which my book *Life in Christ* (originally *Life in the Lordship of Christ!*) was born. My prayer for you, at the occasion of the JESUS 2023 Conference of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Kansas City, is that the Holy Spirit will lead you to a renewed awareness of the Lordship of Christ. St. Paul says, “No one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ unless he or she is under the influence of the Holy Spirit” (1 Cor 12:3) and in another passage, “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Rom 10:9).

This title is so important because, when you say, “Jesus is Lord,” you are proclaiming the whole paschal mystery. You confess that, “He died for our sins and rose again for our justification” (see Rom 4:25). Secondly, when you say “Jesus is Lord,” you are making a personal decision. Indeed, the decision for your life! It is like saying to the risen Lord, “You are my Lord! I surrender to you. I acknowledge you as my leader, as the meaning and the joy of my life, as the One who has every right upon me, having ransomed me at such a high price.” St. Paul exhorts us, saying, “For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living” (Rom 14: 8-9).

In the life of almost every person there is a moment or an event which divides life into two parts. Married people say, “Before my marriage - after my marriage.” We priests say, “Before my ordination - after my ordination.” In reality, for every person there is only one event which divides life into two parts and it is, “Before knowing Jesus as my personal Lord and after knowing Him in this way.” The life of every human being is divided in the same way human history is divided and that is, “Before Christ – After Christ.”

When we speak about the Lordship of Christ we should be careful not to be mistaken. The title Lord is a translation of the Greek Kurios and Latin Dominus, words which in human language always evoke dominion, oppression and submission. The Lordship of Christ is something altogether different. Usually, people in power send their servants to die for them; Jesus died for us! We should always remember what he said at the time of the Last Supper to his disciples, “I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends” (Jn 15:15). ♦



*Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa OFMCap is the Ecclesiastical Assistant of CHARIS. He has been the Preacher of the Papal Household since 1980 and was named Cardinal on November 28, 2020 by Pope Francis. He has been a frequent speaker at international and ecumenical conferences and rallies.*



# HOLY SPIRIT 2033

## NINE-YEAR NOVENA

*Veni, Creator Spiritus.*

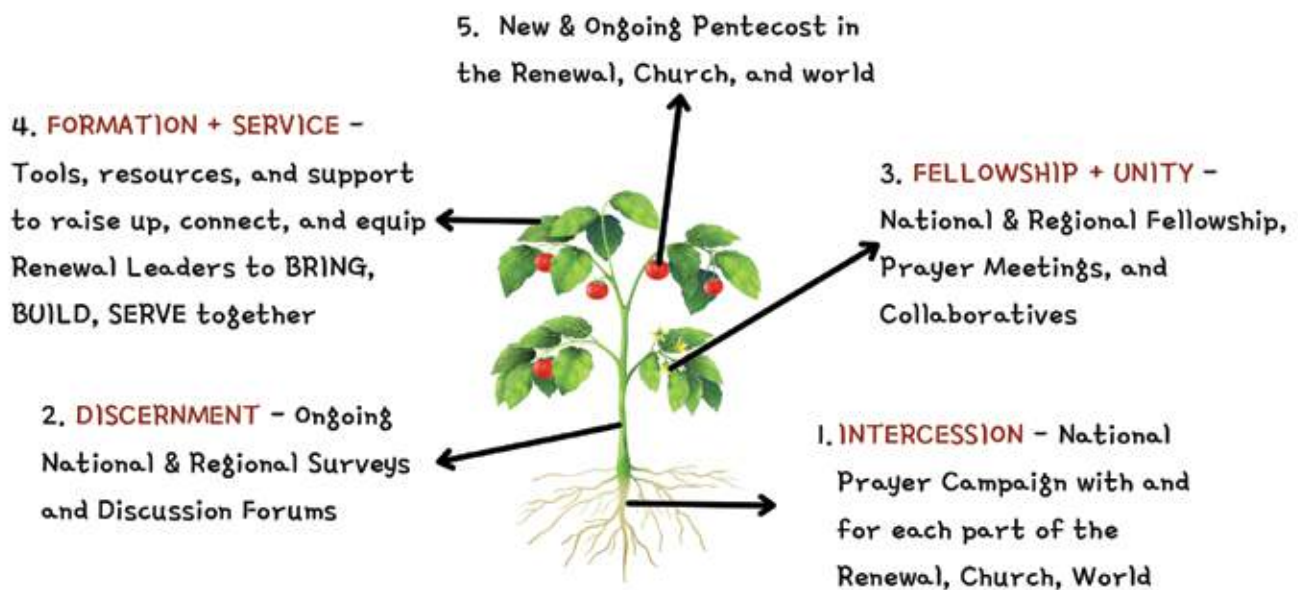
Glory to God in the highest for our expansive mission to BRING baptism in the Holy Spirit to the whole Church, BUILD unity in the Body of Christ, and SERVE the physically and spiritually poor - ultimately, our mission is the work of the Holy Spirit as we surrender, receive, and respond in trust and obedience.

On behalf of the 70+ bishops, priests, deacons, religious, and lay faithful from across the nation who serve the Lord as Board Members, Council Members, and Pastoral and Theological Consultants of the NSC/Pentecost Today USA, I am humbled to share with you an invitation to join us in Holy Spirit 2033, a nine-year novena. **Will you join us in the prayer and work of renewing the grace of Pentecost in the life and mission of the Church as we seek and serve the Lord together through Holy Spirit 2033?**

Launching on Pentecost, May 19, 2024, Holy Spirit 2033 is an invitation to the prayer and action of a nine-year novena crying out for a new & ongoing Pentecost in the Renewal, in the Church, and in the world. In the following pages you will see an overview and a snapshot of each of the three-year phases. Below is an image which conveys how the novena brings the entirety of our mission and work into a posture of prayer - which will be fueled by intercession, fellowship, formation, and holy collaboration. Learn more at [www.PentecostTodayUSA.org/HS2033](http://www.PentecostTodayUSA.org/HS2033).

**"...Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord of hosts." -Zechariah 4:6**

-In the unending Love of our Heavenly Father, Alicia Hartle, Executive Director  
National Service Committee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the U.S. / Pentecost Today USA



**HOLY SPIRIT 2033**  
[PentecostTodayUSA.org](http://PentecostTodayUSA.org)

BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES  
...TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH - ACTS 1:8

# HOLY SPIRIT 2033

## NINE-YEAR NOVENA

### Vision

In preparation for the 2,000th Anniversary of Pentecost, our vision is for Holy Spirit 2033 to be a nine-year novena that will be a catalyst for a new and ongoing Pentecost in the Renewal, in the Church, and in the world. May the Lord fulfill this vision through our prayer and action: Prayer meetings and churches overflowing with Spirit-filled missionary disciples first engaged in charismatic prayer and worship and then going forth into the whole world with hearts on fire proclaiming that Jesus is Lord; calling people to repentance and metanoia through joyful invitation into full communion with the Church; including men and women of all ages, races, languages, and nations.

### Novena Preparation

The prayer and action of Holy Spirit 2033 has been and will be developed through prayerful discernment of Pentecost Today USA Board and Council members, consultants, and partnering ministries. Holy Spirit 2033 will be launched with:

1. **October 21, 2023:** In-person announcement at the Jesus 2023 National Leaders Meeting
2. **November 26, 2023:** Online announcement on the Feast of Christ the King
3. **May 19, 2024:** Launch at Pentecost 2024

### Novena Theme

Holy Spirit 2033 will have three 3-year sub-themes of prayer and action to receive *a new and ongoing Pentecost*, whereby renewal in the Charismatic Renewal ignites Church renewal, which then ignites the FIRE of the love, power, and presence of the Holy Spirit in the world.

1. **2024-2026: In the Renewal** - Including all ministries, groups, and individuals who have already received the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit
2. **2027-2029: In the Church** - Including all who have been baptized and emphasis on Christian unity.
3. **2030-2032: In the World** - Including our neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces.

### Why Now?

The rapid pace of secularization, the shrinking of the Church and the increased intensity and frequency of attacks on our Catholic / Christian faith (the devil is prowling about like a lion looking to devour) are the reasons for a unified effort now to lead to conversion of hearts so that others may encounter the love of God poured into their hearts through baptism in the Holy Spirit. As the Holy Spirit comes upon them, they will be witnesses of Christ's love to the ends of the earth. The harvest is abundant!

### How different from Jesus 2033?

There are other second millennium initiatives focused on Jesus that are domestic and international, including ecumenical efforts and those that do and do not espouse baptism in the Holy Spirit. At the 2019 Pentecost CHARIS Commission, all who have received baptism in the Holy Spirit were commissioned to bring baptism in the Holy Spirit to the whole Church through building unity in the Body of Christ and serving the corporally and spiritually poor. For this reason, baptism in the Holy Spirit and the charismatic gifts are central in the prayer and action of Holy Spirit 2033. Our focus is specifically on the 2,000th Anniversary of Pentecost. This is what makes Holy Spirit 2033 unique.

### What inspired Holy Spirit 2033?

Holy Spirit 2033 is a nine-year novena inspired by the exhortations of Blessed Elena Guerra inviting Pope Leo XIII to call the clergy and lay faithful to a Pentecost Novena and unceasing prayer for a new and ongoing Pentecost. On January 1, 1901, Pope Leo XIII consecrated the 20th century to the Holy Spirit praying, "Veni, Creator Spiritus." Within 24 hours, the graces of Pentecost, baptism in the Holy Spirit and the charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit, were poured out on students in Topeka, Kansas and today have spread to over 600 million believers throughout the world.

### Come Together in Unity

In initiating this novena, we invite all individuals and realities of the Charismatic Renewal to come together in unity for this season of prayer and action in preparation for the beginning of the third millennium that will be Spirit-filled, a season of a New Pentecost.

**HOLY SPIRIT 2033**

PentecostTodayUSA.org

"I HAVE COME TO SET THE WORLD ON FIRE,  
AND I WISH IT WERE ALREADY BURNING!"- LUKE 12:49

# HOLY SPIRIT 2033

## A CALL TO PRAYER + ACTION

### Renewal

2024-2026



Support national and regional intercession, Life in the Spirit series, and Prayer Meetings with and for:

1. PRAYER GROUPS & RENEWAL OFFICES
2. COVENANT COMMUNITIES
3. RENEWAL MINISTRIES

In each 3-year phase, build unity and support through intercession, fellowship, formation, and collaboration with and for those already fueling baptism in the Holy Spirit in the Renewal, Church, and World.

#### FUEL:

- Intercession
- Fellowship
- Formation
- Collaboration



### Church

2027-2029

Support national and regional intercession, Life in the Spirit series, and Prayer Meetings with and for:

1. CLERGY, RELIGIOUS, & SEMINARIES
2. DIOCESES
3. PARISHES



## 17%

of Catholics have received baptism in the Holy Spirit

While 31% of the world's population is Christian and Roman Catholicism is the most prominent denomination, many baptized young people in the United States are joining the "nones" with no religious affiliation.

### World

2030-2032



Support national and regional intercession, Life in the Spirit series, and Prayer Meetings with and for:

1. FAMILIES/YOUTH
2. NEIGHBORHOODS
3. SCHOOLS & WORKPLACES

2033



## 6 of 10

Just over 6 of 10 people in the United States identify as Christian. Imagine each one equipped to live and share LIFE in the SPIRIT.

**"Veni, Creator Spiritus. Ignite a New & Ongoing Pentecost in the Renewal, in the Church, and in the world."**



Here is a snapshot of the Renewal and Church in our nation. Our vision is to fuel a new and ongoing Pentecost in the Renewal, in the Church, and in the World through our mission to:

1. BRING baptism in the Holy Spirit to the whole Church
2. BUILD unity in the Body of Christ
3. SERVE the Poor

HOLY SPIRIT 2033

PentecostTodayUSA.org

VENI, CREATOR SPIRITUS

# HOLY SPIRIT 2033

The nine-year novena will be a time of prayer and action in taking hold of a new and ongoing Pentecost in the Renewal, in the Church, and in the World informed by vision and ideas shared in the National Renewal Survey (below) and the National Leaders Survey and Regional Discussion Forums (see 2023 Issue 1).

## THE JOSHUA PROJECT

### PHASE 01: BRAINSTORM

This chart captures a very broad overview of the top 10 categories of responses to the National Renewal Survey, which is a fruit of The Joshua Project. Responses were received in 2021 and 2022 from clergy, religious, and lay persons from across the nation and around the world.

Survey responses reflected in this chart are from those who have been active in the Renewal for:

- 40% - More than 40 years
- 40% - 10-40 years
- 20% - Less than 10 years

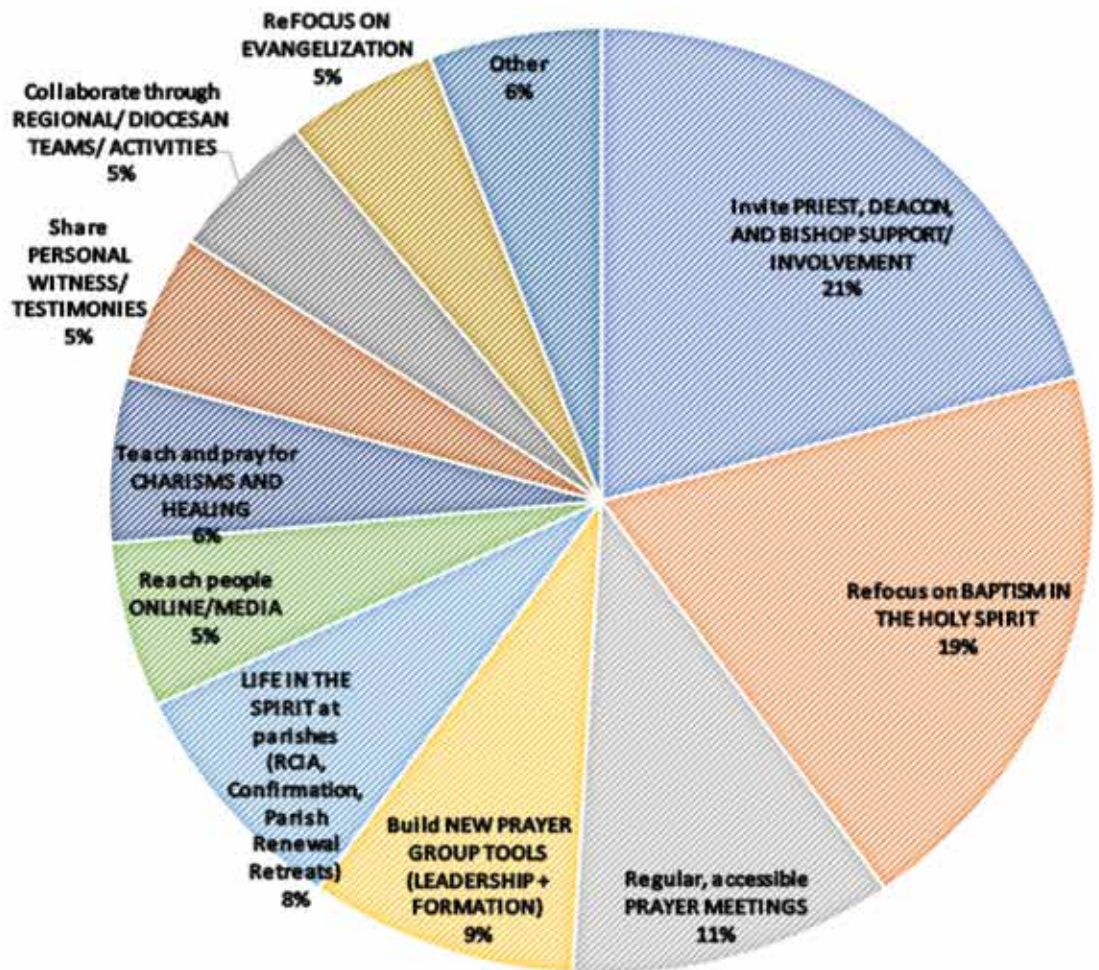
Survey participants reported that they are active in various ministries of the Church and serve in different realities of the Renewal, including members of Prayer Groups, Renewal Centers, Covenant Communities, and Ministries.

Each tool and resource of Holy Spirit 2033 will be discerned and developed in light of the wisdom and prayerful ideas shared in 1) individual survey responses 2) overall survey results as well as 3) feedback from ongoing discussion forums.

Visit [PentecostTodayUSA.org](https://PentecostTodayUSA.org) to see further survey results and to prayerfully share your own ideas via the National Renewal Survey.

## NATIONAL RENEWAL SURVEY

National Renewal Survey - Top 10 Responses  
How is the Holy Spirit inviting us to BRING baptism in the Holy Spirit to the whole Church?  
(% of all survey response answers)



#JOSHUAPROJECT

PENTECOSTTODAYUSA.ORG

"HAVE I NOT COMMANDED YOU? BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS. DO NOT BE AFRAID. DO NOT BE DISCOURAGED. FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL BE WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO." -JOSHUA 1:9

## CHARISMATIC MISSION TO JAPAN, 1972

by Sister Therese Socchia, DLJC



Mother John Marie with the Japanese delegates in Rome.

In 1972, the year that the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ was founded, Dorothy Stewart (later Mother John Marie), discerned that the Holy Spirit wanted her to go to Japan to tell the Good News of the New Pentecost. Without hesitation, she took a leap of faith and booked two 21-day excursion fare tickets to Tokyo for herself and a companion. Step by step, the Lord opened the doors to confirm this mission.

Father Ralph Tichenor invited her to speak to his large prayer group in Los Angeles and ask for their help. She spoke with passion but forgot to ask. However, the Lord had already formed Dorothy in trusting that He would take care of her business as long as she took care of His. At the end of her talk, the Lord moved them to give them a donation that amounted to \$1,424.00—the exact amount needed for their mission. She had no idea how this mission would unfold except having that total confidence that the Holy Spirit would lead and guide.

The driver taking them to the airport said, “I know a priest in Tokyo and here is his phone number,” as he handed it to her on a piece of paper. In flight to Tokyo, the Lord gave Dorothy a vision of a hard dry ground with seeds scattered on it, but they were being blown by the wind. He then spoke to her heart saying, “Remain at the hotel in prayer and fasting for three days.”

One day on a walk, they climbed up to a Shinto shrine where they encountered a young man. Dorothy showed him her crucifix and asked if he knew who that man was. He did not. That young man needed to encounter the living Jesus. Later reflecting on this experience she said, “It is the Holy Spirit who reveals the reality of Jesus.”

On the third day, the Spirit prompted her to “Call the priest.” That phone call opened the doors for numerous opportunities for them to proclaim the Good News and the grace of the New Pentecost to youth at Sophia University, to priests, religious and lay people. They worked tirelessly for the next 16 days as they gave talks, prayed for baptism in the Holy Spirit and began prayer groups. Before returning to the US, they attended the first ever Charismatic prayer meeting in Tokyo.

Fast-forward 15 years to 1987. Now Mother John Marie, in her full habit, was at the International Leaders’ Conference in Rome where she encountered a delegation of Japanese in the hotel elevator. “I visited your country a few years ago,” she said as they greeted each other. Father Michael Urano, OFM, a young Franciscan priest among them, opened his eyes wide as saucers and asked, “Are you Dorothy Stewart?” She answered excitedly, “Yes!” This divine appointment brought so much encouragement to him and to all. Here was the next generation of young Japanese leaders in the Charismatic Renewal. They had only heard the story of two American women who came and brought them the news of the New Pentecost and baptism in the Holy Spirit. Father Urano later wrote in an article in his newsletter that meeting Mother was the highlight of his time in Rome. His vocation to the priesthood grew out of the Charismatic Renewal in Tokyo. We do not always see results



of our missionary labors, but every once in a while, the Lord allows it. Allow Him to use you. You will see His wonders at work in you. ♦

*Sister Therese Socchia, DLJC is a founding member of the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ and currently works as the Community’s historian.*

# PROPHECY

## How do we strengthen the prophetic dimension of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal?

by Ralph Martin

In many ways the Charismatic Renewal movement has been remarkably well received in the Catholic Church.

From the very first episcopal statement by the bishop of Lansing, MI to the repeated affirmations by four of our popes, the Church on the highest levels has discerned in this renewal “the finger of God” bringing help to a church in need of “more of God.” The fact that more than 160 million Catholics have experienced the touch of God through the Renewal is certainly an indicator that on the grass roots level of the Church there has been wide receptivity as well.

On the other hand, even though episcopal and papal support has been strong, and great numbers of individuals have been touched by the Lord in significant ways, there is a perception that those statements of approbation and those multitudes of individual blessings—as wonderful as they are—have not yet changed the culture of the Church into a “culture of Pentecost”—to use the memorable phrase of John Paul II. The culture of the ordinary structures of the Church that for most Catholics are their only contact with the Church apart from whatever private fidelity and witness they are able to maintain in their daily lives, are still too often characterized by ambiguous or uninspired preaching and teaching, worship that is often correctly characterized as “lukewarm”, and leadership that seeks to just keep the “ship afloat” and “not rock the boat.” Good people, touched by the Spirit, often experience their relationship with the Lord being relegated to the private sphere and not able to influence significantly the ordinary culture of the Church structures in which they participate.

But I believe that there is more the Lord wants to do, and that those of us touched by the Renewal can continue to make an important contribution if we are willing to go on with God ourselves. I remember back in the early seventies when I first met Kathryn Kuhlman, the great healing evangelist. She told me she was following with great interest what was happening “among the Catholics” and she gave me a

book of hers with the inscription: “There’s more. There’s so much more.”

When I think of the “prophetic element” of the Renewal I think not simply of specific “prophesies” or certain “signs and wonders,” but I think of the “breaking in of God” which makes real his presence, not only by specific prophecy but also, and as importantly, by “anointed” preaching and teaching, words of wisdom and knowledge, loving service, tender mercies, wise counsel, obedience to inspirations, the presence of holiness, the reality of God made present, containing within it the call to deeper conversion, to worship, to adoration, to proclamation, to self-denial.

I think a key to strengthening the prophetic dimension of the Renewal—the making God present dimension—is to broaden and deepen our understanding of the culture of Pentecost. When we think of fostering the “culture of Pentecost” within the church we may think first of all of spreading the acceptance of baptism in the Spirit and the charismatic gifts, joyful singing and testimony, and these indeed are

important dimensions of the culture of Pentecost. But I would submit that we would do well to understand the culture of Pentecost as being both contemplative and charismatic.

Too often the “contemplatives” write off the “charismatics” as superficial, noisy, and not serious about the spiritual life in all its depth, arrogantly fixated on reproducing self-gratifying, “entry level” experiences. But “charismatics” sometimes write off “contemplatives” as too inward looking, too undynamic, too morose, too closed and fearful of the “breaking in” of God, etc. Unfortunately, there can be elements of truth in both characterizations! John Paul II used to say that we need “both lungs” of the church—East and West—to breathe properly. I think the same can be said of the culture of Pentecost: we need both the contemplative and charismatic dimensions

the reality of God made present

specific “prophesies”

signs and wonders

“anointed” preaching and teaching

words of wisdom and knowledge

loving service

tender mercies

**wise  
counsel**

**obedience to  
inspirations**

**the presence  
of holiness**

of Pentecost to be embraced, to strengthen the prophetic dimension of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. We need to embrace both the sanctifying work of the Spirit and the “empowering” work of the Spirit. Holiness and evangelization need to be deeply linked together. They are deeply linked in the work of the one Spirit. The more we are rooted in God, transformed in Christ, attentive to the Spirit in a habitual way—the more we are holy—the more power our prophetic witness will have in all its dimensions.

**W**hen the Holy Spirit fell upon Mary and the

disciples at Pentecost, he gave them “power to witness” that was rooted in a profound revelation/encounter with the risen Lord and the glory of the Father that let them see, believe, understand with overwhelming conviction that “Jesus is Lord!” Knowing God in a profound, deeply rooted, ongoing way is essential to being witnesses to him in an ongoing way.

The disciples after Pentecost were not only no longer afraid to witness, but they were no longer afraid to live a life of complete consecration, heroic self-denial, single-hearted devotion, continual prayer. The Holy Spirit brought the disciples after Pentecost into an intimate experience of union with the risen Lord himself, enabling them to share in the fervor of Jesus’ love for his Father, and Jesus’ love for the human race. And Pentecost wasn’t the end of the relationship; it was a new phase that was supposed to continually deepen until Peter was ready to be crucified, and Paul beheaded, and Thomas travel to India, and Mary assumed into heaven!

**the call to  
deeper  
conversion**

**the call to  
worship**

**the call to  
adoration**

**the call to  
proclamation**

**the call to  
self-denial**

We see this union of holiness and the power of prophetic witness clearly revealed in the lives of the saints. Holiness and evangelization go together. Contemplation and charismatic witness go together.

**Bernard of Clairvaux** lived a life of deep intimacy with the Lord and yet traveled all over Europe, preaching, praying and healing, wrote hundreds of letters to men and women of every rank, and exhorted one of his monks who had become Pope not to get too involved in administration and forget to pray, all the while working on writing a commentary on *The Song of Songs* that is among the greatest the church has seen.

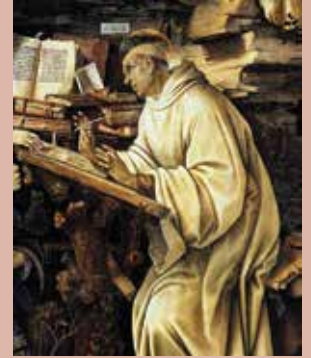


Photo: [nga.hu](http://www.nga.hu)



**Catherine of Siena** underwent a profound and rapid purification by the Lord enabling her at the age of 21 to begin a life of contemplative action that impacted both the church and society in significant ways. As a consecrated lay-woman she traveled widely, negotiated peace treaties, exhorted the Pope to overcome his fear and return to

Photo: [nga.hu](http://www.nga.hu)

Rome, prayed for many remarkable healings, tended the sick, cast out devils, and wrote some of the deepest words of advice about the spiritual life that the church has ever seen, in her book *The Dialogue*.

**Therese of Lisieux** never left her convent until her death at the age of 24 but already in her lifetime saw the contemplative/missionary fire grow in her heart and knew that her mission as she approached death was just beginning: out of her intimate union with the burning heart of Christ she would join her intercession to his and participate in the salvation of many souls.



Photo: Public Domain

How do we strengthen the prophetic dimension of the Renewal? We need more of God, much more of God; and the Lord has sent us saints and doctors such as Therese, Bernard and Catherine, to teach, heal and instruct us on our journey to God. ♦

Reprinted with permission, with minor edits, from *Pentecost Today*, April, May, June 2007, pp 4-5.



Ralph Martin continues to serve as President of Renewal Ministries ([www.renewalministries.net](http://www.renewalministries.net)) as well as Director of Graduate Theology Programs in the New Evangelization at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in the Archdiocese of Detroit. His book, *Fulfillment of All Desire: A Guidebook for the Journey to God*, based on the wisdom of the Saints, draws together the teaching of seven different doctors of the church in the hopes of making their profound wisdom more readily accessible.



## Breaking Bread Homeless Ministries

was founded in 1997 as an outreach of The Catholic Charismatic Center located in Houston, Texas. The ministry follows the example set forth by Saint Teresa of Calcutta, to love the unwanted, the uncared for, the rejected, the alcoholics, the crippled, the blind, the sick, the dying – people who have nothing, and have nobody: to see them through the eyes of Jesus; to be His hands and feet in a hurting world. After twenty years of ministering to the poor on a one-on-one basis the experiences were put into a book titled: “News From The Streets...Stories of Love and Hope with the Homeless”. Here is an excerpt from the book. Please read and be inspired to serve the poor in your corner of the world!

## Breaking Bread Homeless Ministries

*News From The Streets...*

# And God Showed Up!

*by Mary Martha Primerano*

Only three of us today, but three plus God makes a majority. Sometimes when the outreach team is very small, we are stretched to ask God for some type of encouragement for the day. After spending time in ministry with the group from the motel next door, we headed up the feeder road and saw a man sleeping under some cardboard boxes close to the I-45 and Scott Street intersection. After supplying him with groceries, clothing, and toiletries, Walt asked the man if he would like his feet washed. The man said yes, and Walt could see that he needed a pair of size twelve shoes. Walt knew we didn't have a size twelve in our supply, though, so he quickly prayed, “Lord, we need a size twelve shoe for this man.”

While the foot washing was taking place, a very unusual thing happened. A complete stranger stopped his car and asked us what we were doing and if there was something he could do to help. Walt looked up and asked, “Do you have a size twelve shoe?” You'll never believe it, but the gentleman said, “Yes, I'm wearing it.” With that, he promptly removed his shoes from his feet and gave them to the homeless man, who at this point began to weep like a baby. We reminded our new friend how much God loves him and how God provides for all of our needs. God can make a way when there seems to be no way. ♦



*Walter and Mary Martha Primerano have been serving the poor and needy in Houston, Texas for the past 25 years. Walter, an architect by profession, is founder of Breaking Bread Homeless Ministries. They are members of The Catholic Charismatic Center, also located in Houston. Mary Martha serves as a commentator, and is part of a team teaching a Discipleship Class.*



# The Youth and Their Hearts ON FIRE

by Kevin Ventura Cruz



This past May 28th, the Church celebrated the great feast of Pentecost, remembering the brothers and sisters who gathered in the Upper Room, awaiting the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

For us in the Renewal, it is of great joy because it is the feast of the Holy Spirit, Hallelujah! And in our journey through this current of grace, we transform our prayer groups into that Upper Room, crying out for a new outpouring, a new Pentecost.

**Every day must be a new Pentecost, a new opportunity to feel the presence of God in our lives.**

We have reached the moment where this current of grace, the Renewal, is everywhere and present in all ages, especially among young people.

I am currently a member of the Secretaría Juvenil Nacional [SJN, the National Youth Secretariat], a team of young leaders whose work focused on youth is linked to the Comité Nacional de Servicio Hispano [CNSH] of the United States and Canada [Hispanic Renewal]. Our mission is to promote the action of the Holy Spirit, and with the mission of the Renewal, to be able to work so that everyone can experience and be witnesses of baptism in the Holy Spirit.

At this moment, at the national level, the SJN are working on a pastoral plan called Corazón en Fuego [Heart on Fire], that with its series of retreats, the youth participants become more able to hear and discern their call to service and to follow God. The first retreat, the Kerygma, the proclamation of the good news, is done via the Life in the Spirit Seminar. Second, Kénosis, whose function is to invite young people to get rid of what stagnates them in their relationship or service with God. The third, Kairós or God's time, calls the youth to enter God's perfect time and leave the chronos, the world's time, to take advantage of God's wonders in His time. Finally, Diakonia, or, the sending. As titled, the youth who have participated, one step at a time, have been filling their hearts with the necessary firewood to be able to have their hearts on fire, burning with the power of the Holy Spirit.

There is a beautiful song that says, "We come before you, Lord, with sincere hearts, full of praise and adoration," and these young people with whom I have been able to share time, whether they are from the Archdiocese of Boston, where I serve, or from other states, have witnessed the transforming power of the presence of God, because where the Spirit of God is, there is freedom and it is the freedom of God that these young people have found. Hallelujah!

Working with young people, I have shared that the Lord is preparing a new army and those soldiers are the new generation, the present of the Church, the youth.

In Jesus' name we pray and hope that it may be the Lord himself who guides all our praise and worship in hopes of helping our brothers and sisters to head toward a new Pentecost.

Every day must be a new Pentecost, a new opportunity to feel the presence of God in our lives. The Lord in His infinite mercy invites us to invoke Him! Pentecost is a celebration that takes place once a year in the Church but why not celebrate it every day of our lives?

The culture of Pentecost awaits all of us, so let us therefore fully immerse ourselves to find life in the Spirit. But, what is it to have life in the Spirit? It is being able to live according to the will of God, living according to what is pleasing to God, inspired and guided by the divine nature of the Father, separated from life according to the desires and pleasures of the flesh.

Come Holy Spirit we say, as we prostrate ourselves before His presence, to always do His will! ♦



*Kevin Ventura Cruz participates actively in the Renewal at his local parish and the Archdiocese of Boston. Kevin also serves as the Youth Representative for Region 1 [New England] within the CNSH [Hispanic Renewal] in the US and Canada.*



## From the Executive Director

by Alicia Hartle

**H**e told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” (Lk 10:2).

In the summer of 2021, I was blessed to meet John and Therese Boucher. We spoke about the early development of the Life in the Spirit Seminar, Therese’s involvement with theological symposiums, and John’s work in developing parish evangelization tools. Their faith and humility in conversation and prayer were extraordinary.

At one point during our visit, John shared a story about going fishing with his son. He shared that they were suddenly surrounded by a school of fish. He and his son stopped using bait on their fishing hooks, laughing together as they brought in a great catch of fish.

As John shared his story, a time of great and joyful harvest like this father and son fishing experience came to mind.

### The Harvest

In 2016, I served a prayer group which supported the Life in the Spirit series at different parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. The attendance at each series grew exponentially, from 100 to 150 to 300 to over 600 as people responded to the simple invitation, “**Do you want to live in the power and love of the Holy Spirit?**”

By the end of the year, I was contacting covenant communities and prayer group leaders from three different dioceses, asking them to be small group leaders and to serve as prayer teams for the Life in the Spirit series. The response to the need was met with many driving a

great distance each week. Several of these individuals shared with me their joy in the fulfillment of the harvest for which they had been praying for decades. Glory to God in the highest!

### The Fruits

Each Life in the Spirit series was a glorious journey of many receiving the love of the Father, embracing Jesus as Lord and Savior, and receiving prayer for baptism in the Holy Spirit.

I witnessed people return to the sacraments, come into full communion with the Church, receive restoration in their marriage, family, and relationship with the Lord, receive the fruits and charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit, and often receive a new ministry or renewal of their vocation.

### The Thirst

In the last of the Life in the Spirit series, a man in my small group asked a question that pierced my heart. The man was in his 60’s and had been quiet during the first weeks of small group discussions. With great emotion, he told us he came from a devout and faithful Catholic family, but that his family never spoke about faith or prayed out loud together. Then with tears in his eyes he asked, “**Why have I never heard that I can have a relationship with the Holy Spirit? Why have I never heard about the charismatic gifts before now?**”

Through witnessing the hunger and thirst of this man, the Lord awakened a cry in my heart: “**Send me, Lord! Send me.**” That cry to the Lord echoed throughout the following day as I wept and prayed for all the baptized who had not yet received an invitation to live in the power and love of the Holy Spirit. Glory to God for how the Lord pierces our hearts and moves us. Come, Lord Jesus!

### Holy Spirit 2033

As we prepare for Holy Spirit 2033, I continue to sense the Lord inviting

the Bride of Christ to rise up and run to meet Him. May we respond as one Body in Christ to Jesus’ words: “Look, I am coming soon” (Rev 22:7). May all who have received the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit rise up to receive even MORE deeply and to share the gift even MORE widely.

The harvest is plentiful! May we step out in prayer and expectant faith to joyfully gather the harvest. May the Lord pierce our hearts with the cry of the poor and those who hunger and thirst for MORE of the Holy Spirit in the Renewal, in the Church, and in the world. May the Lord send us as fishers of men and workers into his harvest field! *Veni, Creator Spiritus.*

**Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,** “*Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?*” *And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”* (Is 6:8) ♦

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# Announcing the Holy Spirit 2033 Novena

by Ron Riggins

**Vision** – *By 2033, parishes will be overflowing with Spirit-filled disciples engaged in charismatic worship who then go forth with hearts on fire proclaiming “Jesus is Lord” and calling others to embrace the full role of the Holy Spirit in their lives.*

One main purpose of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal ... and indeed of Pentecost Today USA ... is to invite others into a new and ongoing Pentecost in the Renewal, the Church and the world.

Anticipating 2033’s celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit 2,000 years ago, we are commencing a nine-year period of preparation with hopes of fulfilling the above vision. We were inspired to prepare the **Holy Spirit 2033 Novena** to unite our prayer with the call to invite others into this current of grace by reinvigorating the Renewal in unity to renew the Body of Christ in a rapidly secularized world.

Through praying this Novena, we seek to activate each year’s prayer intentions with specific actions fostering baptism in the Holy Spirit, building

Christian unity and inspiring service to the poor. The Novena features three 3-year themes to fan into flame a new evangelization by inviting those baptized in the Holy Spirit to join together as a swelling *force majeure*, empowered by a Spirit-filled presence, and commissioned to be witnesses exercising the spiritual gifts.

The Novena will be announced at the Jesus 2023 conference in Kansas City, through a social media campaign on the Feast of Christ the King and in this magazine. The Novena prayers will be distributed in booklet form, through our website and social media, and in this magazine.

We will begin to pray the Novena on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024. We invite you to join us in this daily prayer to activate our ministry, invite others to be overshadowed by the Holy Spirit, and use the charisms to build the Kingdom.

*Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth. ♦*



## LEGACY OF FIRE - Rev. Ray Zeugner

Reverend Father Raymond Zeugner, formerly of Norway and Florence, died Sunday, March 5, 2023 in Winter Haven,

Florida at the age of 87. Fr. Ray began serving as the Diocesan Liaison for the Charismatic Renewal for the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan on April 8, 1982. In Florida, he also enjoyed serving other Catholic Communities in the New Haven area while continuing his ministry to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Fr. Ray understood that his faith and the ministerial priesthood were precious gifts from God. His ministry seemed to be characterized by a prophecy received by his dear friend, Sister Frances DeMott, IBVM,

which she shared with Fr. Ray on the 25th anniversary of his ordination on June 3, 1992: “My beloved son, what a joy it is for me to see you honored this day. This is only an inkling of the joy I will have when I will no longer be able to resist calling you to Myself. O, for the day when I can say, ‘Come my beloved and receive the reward I have prepared for you.’”

Reverend Father Raymond Zeugner left a Legacy of Fire Bequest Gift to fuel the mission and work of the NSC/Pentecost Today USA. We honor Father Raymond Zeugner and magnify the Lord for how his life, work and gift have and will bring baptism in the Holy Spirit. ♦

OUR MISSION: BRING baptism in the Holy Spirit to the whole Church, BUILD unity in the body of Christ, and SERVE the poor.



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