



Nothing will happen apart from prayer and grace.

On Saturday morning, Vincent Synan, who has been a friend of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal almost from the beginning,



reviewed with us the history of Pentecostalism beginning with the Methodists of New Jersey in 1867, and then the beginning of the Pentecostal Charismatic Movement in 1901, Azusa Street in 1906, Neo-

Pentecostalism with Dennis Bennett in 1960 and the surprise of the Spirit, the beginnings of Catholic Charismatic Renewal in 1967. At the time he asked, “How could you do this, Lord? It upsets our theology.” He was reminded of Isaiah 55: “My ways are not your ways and my thoughts are not your thoughts.”



Sr. Nancy Keller prayed, “Do it again, Lord. We want a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit...and more!” She proposed that the question is

not, “Who is involved in the Charismatic Renewal?” but rather, “Who has been baptized in the Holy Spirit?”

Patti Mansfield urged us do everything we can to get youth involved in charismatic renewal—to get them baptized in the Holy Spirit.

We experienced a burst of Holy Spirit Power as we listened to Pablo Bayona from the Diocese of Brooklyn preach and watched him walk and run across the stage. He exhorted us, telling us that God, “wants to give you an anointing of the Spirit. Open your hearts! Don’t wait to see it. Do it! Let the power flow.” He reminded us that we can’t live next month with today’s glass of water. He urged us to apply that concept to the Holy Spirit. “Be filled again. Go on being filled! Don’t dwell in the past. Live today!”



Caroline Gambale, active in youth ministry and evangelization for fourteen years, spoke of the importance of elders mentoring the young.

Darling Previl spoke of the importance of unity and prayed, “Father, make us one!”

Walter Matthews pleaded with us to make the Holy Spirit known. We must continue to pray, “Come, Holy Spirit, Come, Come.” Pentecost is meant to transform our society. Take the culture



of Pentecost and replace the culture of death. He asked, “How can we build a culture of Pentecost?” We must keep the fire alive in our lives. Go deeper in our prayer and contemplation. Deal

See **Conference** page 13

Proclaim his marvelous deeds

by Patti Gallagher Mansfield

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, I am more convinced than ever that personal testimony is the single most important tool we have in evangelization. Personal testimony was the way the news of baptism in the Spirit spread in the early days, long before websites and emails. One of the witnesses of the outpouring of the Spirit at Duquesne wrote to his friends using carbon copies (imagine!) and he simply said, "I have news too good to keep!" Another proclaimed, "I no longer have to believe in Pentecost. I've seen it!"

Simple words of testimony about the Lord Jesus Christ and baptism in the Spirit, delivered with love, can change the world. Testimonies have already changed the lives of 119 million Catholics in the past 40 years and there are more conversions to come if you are willing to be a witness.

While you may not be called to speak to thousands of people at one time, you *will be* called on a thousand times to bear witness. Your stage may be the grocery store, doctor's office, gas station or kitchen. In the years remaining to each of us, God will give us a thousand opportunities to tell others that Jesus is alive and that his love and mercy are available for the asking.

Pope John Paul II presented us with a wonderful mission as we entered this new millennium. He called on each member of the Body of Christ to get serious about holiness and about evangelization. "Put out into the deep and lower your nets for a catch!" (Lk. 5:4).

I want to challenge you to make a commitment today. Commit yourself to **at least 15 minutes** of personal prayer each day (work toward an hour daily if you are serious about holiness). Seek the face of Jesus. Ask Him to make you holy. Ask the Holy Spirit to use you to witness to God's love. Then commit yourself to giving your personal witness to **at least one other person** in this anniversary year. Just think! If each one of us brought just one other person into the Charismatic Renewal in this 40th anniversary year, there could be over 200 million Catholics baptized in the Holy Spirit!

What is your testimony? Think over your life and how it has changed for the better since you met the Lord Jesus and were baptized in the Spirit. There are usually several areas where you can see a **before** and an **after**. Consider just one aspect of your life, like your temper and notice the change. "**Before** I met Jesus in a personal way, I had a violent temper. **Then** I made a Life in the Spirit Seminar and I was baptized in the Spirit. **After** that I've become a more patient person and my family life is a lot happier." Another example might be your prayer life. "**Before** I was baptized in the Spirit, I only prayed when I needed something. **Then** I surrendered my life unconditionally to Jesus at a charismatic renewal retreat. **After** that I discovered the joy of praising God in all circumstances."

A physician friend shares this moving testimony. "**Before** I came to the Charismatic Conference in New Orleans, the only time I used the name of Jesus was when my lawn mower wouldn't start. **Then** I followed my wife to the foot of

the stage for an altar call. **After** being prayed over that night, Jesus has become so real for me that I am now studying to become a permanent deacon and I have been on several medical mission trips."

Short, simple, sincere testimonies like that will peak the curiosity of others and get them asking questions. Be ready to "give a reason for the hope that is in you" (cf. I Peter 3:15). Be ready to issue an invitation—a "Come and See." There are Catholic charismatic prayer meetings, Life in the Spirit Seminars, bible studies, conferences and retreats where your family and friends can encounter the living Lord Jesus in the power of his Spirit, that is, if you are willing to put out into the deep of prayer and evangelization.

The Holy Spirit wants to use each one of us in some particular way to renew the face of the earth. "We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus, for good works, which God has prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:10). He is already preparing the hearts of those who will hear your personal testimony. Remember the mercies of the Lord toward you and then proclaim his marvelous deeds!

Adapted from her book, *Proclaim His Marvelous Deeds: How to Give a Personal Testimony* which is available at her website www.ccrno.org. ♦

Patti Gallagher Mansfield has been a witness around the world to the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit. She and her husband, Al, work fulltime with the Charismatic Renewal in New Orleans.



Newsbriefs

"The whole week was a little taste of heaven for me. The prayer ministry was so needed to free us up for our continued ministry."



"This conference was everything and more than I could have expected."

"It was inspiring to experience the unity of leaders from so many countries ... It gave me hope for the future of the renewal."



"My right shoulder has had restricted motion and considerable pain for the past 10 years. ...when participants laid their hands on me I was completely healed! I can now do pushups with no pain and complete motion has been restored."



School of Healing Prayer for Leaders—A Spirit-filled event!

by Bob Canton

"I have never been one to show emotion in public and I have always carried my religion in my head and not my heart.

The Holy Spirit worked on me all week and by Friday morning, I found myself running around, kissing people!"

"This Conference clearly transformed me and changed my life so my overall evaluation is summed up by one word: Alleluia!"

These are some of the excerpts of evaluations from attendees of the School of Healing Prayer for Leaders that was held on April 30–May 5, 2007 in Jacksonville, Florida. The event, which was attended by 425 leaders of the Renewal from 42 countries, was organized by

the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS), the Christian Healing Ministries (CHM) and co-sponsored by the National Service Committee.

The Most Rev. Victor Galeone, the Bishop of St. Augustine, challenged the participants during the opening Mass, "to become more effective instruments of healing." "To do this, you have to have a compassionate heart and an ear to listen to the Lord." Twenty-three priests concelebrated the daily Mass.

The main presenters of the workshop were Francis and Judith MacNutt who founded the Christian Healing Ministries. They, together with three other speakers, namely Barbara Shlemon-Ryan, Don Williams and Mike Evans covered various topics which include *Why Jesus Came, Healing Our*

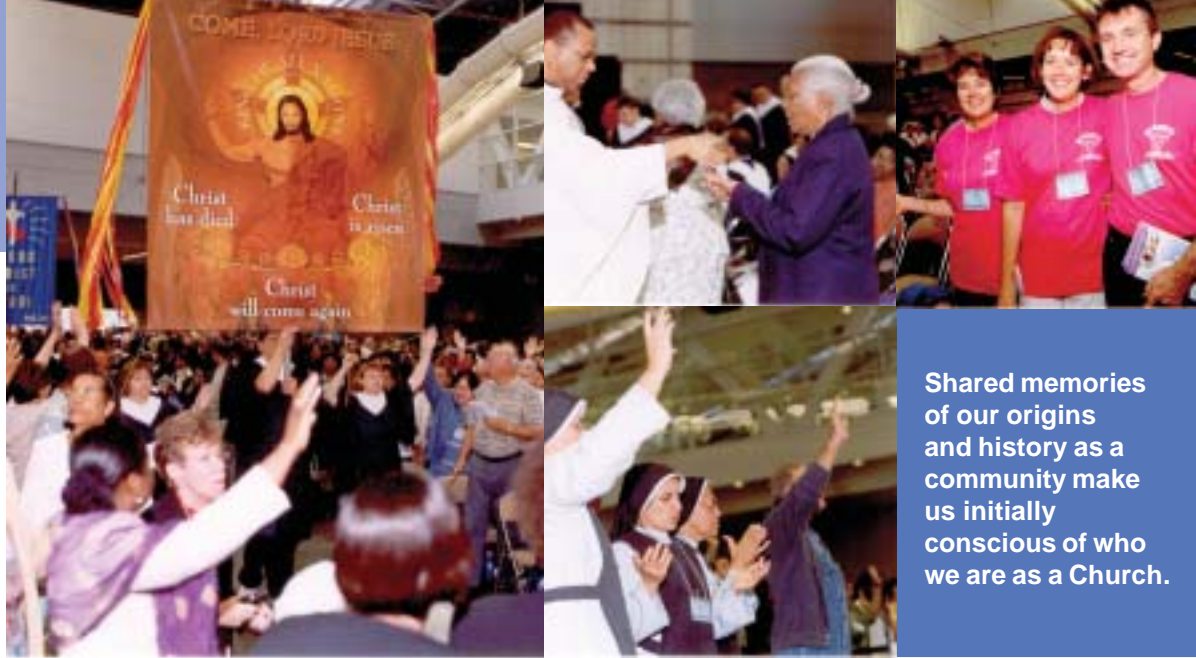
Image of God, Physical Healing, Inner Healing, Generational Healing, Baptism in the Holy Spirit, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Mary, Our Teacher, How To Pray For Deliverance, and Becoming a Healing Person. The MacNutts are pioneers in the charismatic healing ministry in the Catholic Church. They have published a total of eight books.

The teachings were interspersed with praise and worship sessions, testimonies on healing during the prayer sessions, and commentaries by ICCRS representatives Allan Panozza, the outgoing president, Oreste Pesare, ICCRS director, Jim Murphy, outgoing Council member representing English-speaking North and Central America and Caribbean, and Bob Canton, a newly elected Council member.

In Rome, for their annual April meeting, Archbishop

Stanislaw Rylko, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, addressed the ICCRS Council members saying, "I would like to congratulate you and thank you for the seminar that you have initiated in the USA on healing. The teachings of the Congregation of Doctrine and Faith reminded us that healing is in the life of the Church right from the beginning of the Church and that healing always accompanied the pronouncement of the Gospel. When the Lord announced the good news, there were always healing that followed, so these two things are organically linked."

ICCRS representatives also announced during the workshop that their Doctrinal Commission will publish a handbook entitled *Guidelines on Prayer for Healing*, a thorough and compelling paper on the gift of healing, sometime in the summer of 2007. ♦



Shared memories of our origins and history as a community make us initially conscious of who we are as a Church.

Photos: Gary Yon, 2002 Conference

Part One of Two

Charisms and Community Building

by Donald L Gelpi, S.J.

In order to understand how the charisms of the Spirit build community, one needs to have some understanding of the nature of communities and how they work. All genuine human communities have analogous social dynamics.

Genuine communities can spring from faith, but they need not. They can express legitimate, natural human longings for a truly just society. Communities of faith can collaborate with groups that promote the common good for purely natural motives, because the gospel also seeks the common good and because Christians who promote the common good need all the help they can get.

Shared self-understanding creates communities. Very small communities reach an initial sense of who they are as a community through immediately shared experiences. Think of communities of friends to which you have belonged. Nuclear families also become initially aware of themselves as communities by living together on a day-to-day basis.

Communities of friends or nuclear families belong however, to larger communities, which do not and cannot grow by the direct sharing of experiences. Think of the local parish. One shares a common faith with those with whom one worships on Sundays and to that extent a common identity, but parishioners normally have little or no knowledge

of the intimate details of the lives of most of the other families with whom they worship. Or think of a centuries-old, worldwide community like the universal Church, most of whose believers will never even see one another. How can community create a shared sense of identity and of purpose?

A community like the Church reaches an initial shared awareness of its identity as a community through the ministry of teachers who in an ongoing way remind its members of the events which originally created it as a community and of the history which links it to those events. Since worship of the triune God also creates the Church, such teaching takes place most frequently at the Eucharist. There every Sunday we recall together Jesus' life, ministry, death, resurrection and mission of the Pentecostal Spirit. These events create us as a community and give us our identity.

So does history, which links us to those events. Reaching a sound insight into Church history requires more than Sunday worship. It requires reading, study and religious education. The historical retrieval of the Church's roots through Christian worship and education happens in an ongoing way, generation after generation. In other words, shared memories of our origins and history as a community make us initially conscious of who we are as a Church because our history makes us the Church we have chosen to become.

Communities embody everything they ought as a community when they mobilize the gifts of all members.



Conference from page 9

Are you ready for the explosion that I have prepared for you?



In order for communities to understand fully their character and purpose as a community, however, they need to do more than reach an ongoing consensus about their origins and history. They also need to reach a consensus as a community about where they are headed ultimately and proximately. In other words, the need to clarify their shared hopes.

Our ultimate hopes set our final goal as a community. As a Church, of course, we all hope ultimately for final resurrection with our risen Lord and for endless life with him in God. Our proximate hopes tell us how to reach that ultimate goal. We the Church will share risen life with Christ to the extent that we as a community dedicate our lives to proclaiming, living and creating the cause for which Jesus lived and died. He called that cause the kingdom, or reign, of God.

Shared memories and shared hopes together make communities aware of their shared identity and purpose; but, if communities did no more than clarify their histories and reach a consensus about ultimate and proximate goals, they would qualify as debating societies but not as real communities. Communities embody everything they ought as a community when they mobilize the gifts of all members in the attempt to make some of their shared, proximate goals realities.

As teachers retrieve the Church history, the Church will need discerners to help it distinguish between sound and unsound teaching. Healing and miracles accompany and confirm proclaiming the gospel. The presence of tongues in a community offers a vivid reminder of its Pentecostal origins and that Pentecost unfolds as an ongoing event in the Church. The action charisms, like pastoral leadership, care of the poor, or administration, mobilize the gifts of the whole community to live together the gospel.

In these reflections, I have been trying to suggest an important way in which the sharing of the charisms builds the Church as a community: namely, by creating the shared faith consciousness that creates the Church. ♦

Donald L. Gelpi, S.J.
The Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley

with the sin in our lives. We must intercede. Nothing will happen apart from prayer and grace. We are in a spiritual battle. We intercede in the name of Jesus. We are called to live holy lives. He quoted the preface of the Mass that reminds us that in every age God raises up men and women who are holy. Holiness is both a gift, because the Holy Spirit lives in us, and a task. We must witness. We must move beyond our fear. “The Holy Spirit is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. We want other people to get what we have—Jesus! We must also experience a renewal of our mind. We must think with the Church.

Walter left us with three challenges. We are challenged to build the culture of Pentecost, of the Church. This will cost us. We must have concrete pastoral initiatives, e.g. Bishop Sam Jacobs urged us to prepare for the Jubilee celebration of 2017. What is the Lord asking of me? Those with resources must ask, “How are we raising up the next generation? How are we mentoring them? Are we willing to support people? He closed with the words of Joshua: “Be bold, be strong, for the Lord, our God is with you.”

There was much rejoicing over the journey of 40 years as well as great challenges presented, as we have not yet arrived at the end of our journey. We must press on in the power and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. At the end of the conference we were asked, through the gift of prophecy, “Are you ready for the explosion that I have prepared for you? Are you ready for the great explosion?” ♦

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**From the
Executive
Director**

.....
by Walter Matthews

Zeal for souls

As I write, we are a week away from the 2007 National Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference where we will gather to celebrate what the Lord has done among us for 40 years and to earnestly seek a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit: *PourOut Your Spirit Anew*. Based on the amount of spiritual warfare going on it should be a great conference.

Even as we have been immersed in the planning of the Conference, the NSC has not stood still: we held four Regional Leaders' Gatherings this year (in Houston, Sioux Falls, Nashville and Greensburg). The number of leaders who gathered varied from the low 30s to over 100 in Houston. The positive response was encouraging as we seek to continue to strengthen the Renewal.

We also co-sponsored with the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services the Francis and Judith McNutt School of Healing Prayer for Leaders. Over 400 attended from over 30 countries. (See Bob Canton's report on page 11.)

In late April Aggie Neck (along with Charles Whitehead and Peter Herbeck) were presenters at the Annual Liaison Theological Symposium and Conference. I was able to attend along with Judith Hughes of the NSC. The thrust of Herbeck's paper and presentation was the need to make clearer in the Renewal that the grace of Pentecost is not for ourselves but for others.

When seen from the context of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the Second Vatican Council and since, along with clear teaching of Popes Paul VI, John Paul II and now Benedict XVI, the Renewal, along with the Church, is called to be in mission.

The Church and the Renewal within it ought to be about a zeal for souls. This was what sustained the early Pentecostals formed from the Azusa Street outpouring in 1906. When divisions and other issues threatened to extinguish the fire of Pentecost lit in those days, it was the "zeal for souls" that kept them going forward.

As we go forward from this 40th anniversary celebration, the NSC will be seeking to stir up in the Renewal and in its own services a renewed missionary zeal. In Herbeck's words, "The Spirit is urging us, compelling us, empowering us through the baptism in the Spirit to live the mission of the Church."

The Service Committee, in collaboration with the Association of Diocesan Liaisons, has launched a Youth Ministry Committee to "foster openness to the work of the Holy Spirit among youth ministers" some of whom are already ministering in the power of the Spirit while others may need the release of the Holy Spirit in their lives and ministries.

The Service Committee will also be launching two new outreach initiatives later this year and next as it seeks to respond to the Lord's call to evangelize, to reach out, to build the culture of Pentecost in our Church and society.

As the Lord encouraged Joshua as he was called to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land, "Be bold, be strong" (cf. Joshua 1:6, 9). ♦

Friends of the NSC

The \$40 for the 40th Anniversary Campaign to prayer groups seeking from each prayer group in the country a gift of \$40 for this 40th Anniversary year has enjoyed modest success. To date we have raised over \$6,000 from a limited phone call and mailing effort. About 100 groups and individual leaders have responded. But, obviously we could do much better and must do better if we are to close the NSC's 2007 budget gap of close to \$40,000 without reducing staff or services.

As of this writing, we do not know what the financial results of the 2007 National Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference held in late June will be. We hope and pray that the Lord will exceed our projected net income of \$20,000. But, it always involves trust.

Our direct-mail fund raising, aside from the \$40 for 40 campaign, is on target... but the gap remains.

We ask your prayer and your financial support.

If your prayer group has not yet sent in a donation for the \$40 for 40 campaign please prayerfully consider doing so.

If you are one of the over 4,000 recipients of *Pentecost Today* who are not active donors, please consider a donation. You may visit our website at www.nsc-chariscenter.org to make an online contribution, or send a gift using the envelope in the last issue or simply mail to the address found on page 15.

If you are one of our active donors—Friends of the NSC—thank you for your support. Your summertime support will be greatly appreciated. ♦

Executive Director

Walter Matthews

Editorial Board

Fr. John Gordon

Fr. Bob Hogan, S.M.

Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner, SSND

Editor

Sr. Martha Jean McGarry

Production Manager

Jean Beers

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Please mail to:

NSC-Chariscenter USA

PO Box 628

Locust Grove, VA 22508-0628

Tel. (540) 972-0225

www.nsc-chariscenter.org

National Service Committee members:

Aggie Neck (Chairman)

Josephine Cachia

Caroline Gambale

Fr. John Gordon

Fr. Bob Hogan, S.M.

Chuck Hornsby

Judith Hughes

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**What we have seen
and heard**

.....
by Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner



Make room for something new!

Once again we hear the words, "Behold, I am doing a new thing. Do you not perceive it?"

After 40 years of charismatic renewal in the Catholic Church what is the new thing that God is doing?

One group among whom the Holy Spirit is moving is youth and young adults. We were encouraged to see the young people who attended the November 2006 Leaders' Conference in Albuquerque. We were encouraged by the number of youth who attended the June 2007 National Conference in New Jersey. In fact, the tent overflowed. Do we need to heed more closely the words from Isaiah 54:2 "to enlarge the space of your tent"?

We heard that witness is important and that youth might respond better to testimony than to teaching. We are called to reach out beyond ourselves, beyond the people who go to the prayer meeting with us. We are called to allow the gifts of the Spirit to operate in our daily lives. We are called to offer our gifts to the church at large.

We are called to travel light—both physically and spiritually. What baggage are we carrying that we really don't need? What is really important to us? What are we ready to let go of if necessary?

We are called to enter into and live with a new sense of hope. We are called to offer hope to our youth.

We are hearing that the Holy Spirit is moving among people of all cultures. It is love of the Holy Spirit that unites us. We are called to unity, not to separation.

We hear that over 100 million Catholics have been baptized in the Holy Spirit.

We hear emphasis on the importance of the number 40 in Biblical terms—40 days of flood, Moses' 40 years in the desert, Jesus' 40 days in the desert, etc.

Now charismatic renewal is 40 years in the Spirit and we celebrated it with this most recent National Conference with the title, "Pour Out Your Spirit Anew." We can ask ourselves what that will mean. Can we expect that the Lord will do more of that with which we are already familiar? But we hear the words, "Behold, I am doing a new thing." Every day is new. Every circumstance has newness. Are we open to how the Spirit wants to work in this particular situation in which we find ourselves? Do we expect a certain routine to our ministering? Do we think that we need to have a memorized set of words for every occasion? Or do we ask to be open to the new experience, the new situation, the new need? Do we bring the heart of Christ into that setting? Do we pray, "Show me how you want to use me."

Let us ask God to show us how to see the new work of the Spirit in our day and to refresh us for the work of the Kingdom. Come, Holy Spirit! ♦

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