

Winter 2016

PENTECOST *Today*

Publication of the National Service Committee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal

Welcome to The Ark and The Dove

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Chairman's Corner

by Johnny Bertucci

Coming Home

"But he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Matthew 3:11 RSVCE

As we approach our Jubilee, God continues to amaze and astonish. I am happy to announce that on December 18, 2015 the Renewal purchased Providence Villa retreat center, formerly called The Ark and The Dove. This is the site of the "Duquesne Weekend" where nearly 50 years ago the Holy Spirit fell in power on a handful of Duquesne University students.

It is our desire that this historic site, located north of Pittsburgh, become a home of the Renewal worldwide.

More than a retreat center, The Ark and The Dove will be an entity through which we seek unity in the Renewal. We are inspired by Pope Francis' prophetic reference to Isaiah 54:2-3 to "widen the tent."

The usage of the facility includes:

- ◆ Pilgrimage Destination – for those baptized in the Holy Spirit and those seeking this grace.
- ◆ Retreat Center – for spiritual renewal by the Holy Spirit for laity, clergy, and religious.
- ◆ Resource Center – for those seeking understanding and fostering the charisms.
- ◆ Praise and Worship Events – for days of renewal and empowerment.

Towards our goal of unity in diversity, we are assembling a diverse worldwide board. We will engage the various streams, cultures, expressions, and others espousing baptism in the Holy Spirit to more effectively promote the New Evangelization within the Church.

As Pope Francis has commissioned us to remain faithful to our ecumenical roots, it is our objective to engage with other Christian denominations whose spirituality is based on baptism in the Holy Spirit.

All are welcome! Come by to pray and be refreshed, not as a guest, but as a member of the family coming home. ◆

Johnny Bertucci is Chairman of the National Service Committee.



Editor's Desk

by Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner, SSND

Threaded with heart.....

This winter 2016 issue of *Pentecost Today* is **threaded with heart**.

♥ **God's heart** – as in Bishop Sam's article (pp 6-7) in which he writes of God's unmerited love for us and our call to bring the Good News of God's love and mercy to others through life in the Spirit Seminars

♥ **A heart like Jesus, a heart of mercy** (p 5) burning with passion, aflame with love, willing to sacrifice. We must ask Jesus to help us have his heart. (See explanation on p 5 of the heart painting on p 4.)

♥ **Our heart** – as in change of heart (p 3 and p 4)

♥ **Having our hearts widened** (p 9)

♥ **The heart of Charismatic Renewal** (p 15) holds up the ideal that every Christian should be *baptized in the Holy Spirit*

♥ We might say, **one in heart**, as we read Pope Francis' words (p 10) [There must be] *unity, because the blood of today's martyrs makes us one. There is the ecumenism of blood.....*

♥ And of course there is a **joyful heart** as we rejoice at the opportunity to purchase The Ark and The Dove – which Johnny Bertucci introduces on this page and about which Tom Mangan's article (p 11) expands. It is a place for the Holy Spirit to welcome and to work with the hearts of all who visit.

♥ May the **pulse of God's love** be felt as it threads its way through all generations and ecumenically **drawing our spiritual hearts into unity with God's heart**.

PENTECOSTToday

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For Your Information

The mission of *Pentecost Today* is to serve and be a voice for the National Service Committee's mission "to foster the dynamic grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit." We do this by publishing articles that instruct and give practical wisdom, with a particular emphasis on strengthening leaders and leader formation, in a visually appealing and inviting format.

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Year of Mission *in Mercy* 2016

by Fr. Bob Hogan, BBD

The National Leadership Groups of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal have designated 2016 as a Year of Mission in Mercy. We are supporting Pope Francis' Year of Mercy. Pope Francis explains that mission and mercy go together: "In the present day, as the Church is charged with the task of the new evangelization, the theme of mercy needs to be proposed again and again with new enthusiasm and renewed pastoral action" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12). "The Church feels the urgent need to proclaim God's mercy. Her life is authentic and credible only when she becomes a convincing herald of mercy" (MV, 25).

Zeal for Souls:

Charismatic Renewal is a missionary movement. We must continue to be this. We live in a Church that is in need of renewal, and a world that has lost its way. Baptism in the Holy Spirit has brought renewal to millions, but there are many that still need to be rescued and renewed. If we do not care enough, we will be complacent. We need a change of heart that enables us to act. "Jesus asks us also to *forgive* and to *give*. To be instruments of mercy because it was we who first received mercy from God" (MV, 14). Let us have a hunger for souls!

Holy Spirit Seminars:

The greatest tool we have for evangelization in the Renewal is the "Life in the Spirit Seminars." We are encouraged not only to do weekend seminars as a way for people to have an *experience* of the Holy Spirit, but to offer the 7-8 week seminar, which can lead to a "lifestyle" in the Holy Spirit.

If your group is small, you might consider asking another group to work with you. "Great" speakers are not needed as much as someone to tell their story in relationship to the topic of the talk. There are also several DVD series

Focuses for the Year of Mission in Mercy

- ◆ **Renew our zeal for souls**
- ◆ **Promote Life in the Spirit Seminars**
- ◆ **The New Evangelization**
- ◆ **A Culture of Pentecost**

available. A personal invitation to attend a Seminar is always the best. Invite the un-churched and nominal Christian as well as those in the pew each week.

New Evangelization:

St. John Paul II articulated the concept of "The New Evangelization." It is to be new **in its fervor**—a reference to the Holy Spirit; **in its methods**—a reference to modern media; and **in its expressions**—a reference to lay initiative and ecclesial movements. We are both to evangelize the sacramentalized who do not have a living relationship with Jesus, and go out to people who do not know Jesus. Pope Francis encourages us to go "out to the peripheries," "smelling like the sheep," and "acting in mercy, especially to the poor and marginalized."

The Renewal assists the Church in the New Evangelization. We promote with "fervor" the experience of baptism in the Holy Spirit so that Christians may be set on fire for the sharing of the Gospel. Discuss in your prayer groups: Is our group "new" in fervor, methods and expression? Are we engaged in evangelization, or are we self-concerned? Promote a seminar with emphasis on "new people." Plan at least one evangelistic event for non-churched people; organize prayer group "visits" to pray with people; and do some "work of mercy."

Culture of Pentecost:

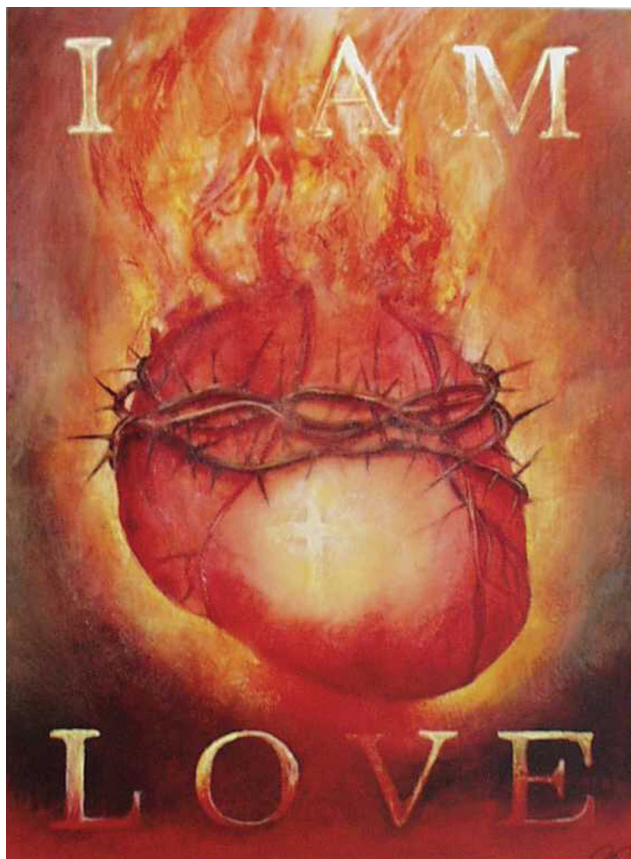
Our mission includes bringing to "life that *culture of Pentecost* that alone can make fruitful the civilization of love and friendly co-existence among peoples" (Pope John Paul II). Pentecost is to be a living, experienced reality within the Church "where the Holy Spirit is known, loved, and frequently invoked; where the whole way of life flows from the active presence of the Spirit and his gifts" (*Baptism in the Holy Spirit*, p 93).

The culture of Pentecost is not to be confined in the Church but it must be spread in our society in our economics, politics, and, our "culture" in the sense of the arts, music and film; transforming a "culture of death" into a "culture of life." We are to live Pentecost (a lifestyle and culture of the Holy Spirit) in our daily lives and in all our involvements! ◆



Fr. Bob Hogan, BBD is a former member and chairman for the National Service Committee for Charismatic Renewal, and a member of the NSC Council.

Renewing **our zeal** for souls



Original painting by Keith Johnson. Photo from Alleluia Community archives. Used with permission.

We need a zeal for the souls of *us and ours* but also for *them and theirs*.

by *Chuck Hornsby*

In 2012 we began a 5-year journey that will take us to a time that celebrates 50 years since the Duquesne weekend that many mark as the beginning of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. This renewal has enriched the Church and has impacted millions of Roman Catholics.

As we celebrated our 45th anniversary Bishop Sam Jacobs exhorted renewal leaders to begin to plan for a great Jubilee celebration in 2017. Many good things have been ini-

tiated since 2012 as conferences have focused on the themes and local renewals have worked to have times of repentance. We have worked to increase our faith and to extend our openness to the charisms. We have focused on unity within the renewal, with the broader Church, and we have returned to striving for the Unity that Jesus called for in John 17 among all who call Jesus Lord. We have begun planning for the jubilee celebration in Pittsburgh in 2017.

As we reflected on the mission and mercy theme for this year we wrote on four areas of focus: 1. Renewing our zeal for souls. 2. Promoting Life in the Spirit Seminars. 3. Promoting the New Evangelization. 4. Promoting a Culture of Pentecost. The purpose of this article is to reflect on renewing our zeal for souls within the context of our 5-year plan.

In our document entitled YEAR OF MISSION IN MERCY 2016 we state,

As we reflect on 50 years of Catholic Charismatic Renewal and celebrate that at our Jubilee in 2017, it is important that we not think of the Jubilee as the end of something but as a milestone along the way. Ours is a missionary movement. It has been so in the past and it must be so in the future. Because of that we want to go into 2017 with a fervor that is forward looking. We live in a Church that is in need of renewal, and we live in a world that has lost its way. Baptism in the Holy Spirit has brought renewal to literally millions of people and it has rescued many from the clutches of the world, the flesh, and the devil. But there are many that still need to be rescued and renewed. The culture of death is thriving and it has many in its grasp.

Pope Francis' call to mercy perfectly coincides with the call to mission. For us to go out with a missionary zeal requires us to move beyond our comfort zones. If we do not care enough we will be complacent. We must have a change of heart before we will muster a change of action. "Jesus asks us also to forgive and to give, to be instruments of mercy because it was we who first received mercy from God" (MV 14). We must have a hunger for souls. We must remember that the lost are lost, the blind

are blind, and the confused are confused. It is here that mercy and mission meet. In 2016 may Jesus fill our hearts with mercy so that we will go out proclaiming the love of the Father, the Lordship of Jesus, and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

So what do we mean by renewing our zeal for souls. **First of all it is a matter of the heart.** A deceased friend of mine, Keith Johnson, was an extraordinary Christian artist. One of his paintings is a rendering of the Sacred Heart shaped like a human heart (see illustration p 4). It, of course, is aflame with fire and surrounded by a crown of thorns. At the top of the painting are the words, "I Am." At the bottom of the painting is the word "Love." I know of a priest who uses the image for retreats and says this painting sums up the whole of the Old Testament (I Am) and the whole of the New Testament (Love). I Am Love.

So renewing a zeal for souls begins with a need to have a heart like Jesus, a heart burning with passion, aflame with love, willing to sacrifice. It must be a heart that moves us beyond our selfishness, our complacency, and our self interest. It must have a broad view looking to impact lives on a broad scope. We need a zeal for the souls of *us and ours* but also for *them and theirs*. I don't think we come by this kind of heart easily. Grace is needed. We must ask in order to receive.

Secondly, if we are to have a zeal for souls we must put on the mind of Christ. Each person is an expression of the image of God. Sin and the fall have marred the images but have not robbed individual people of their dignity. We each are made in the likeness and image of God and are beautiful in our uniqueness and meant to live with God forever. Each soul is precious to him and the devil is trying to drag as many as possible into hell. Those individuals who are odious to us, who cause us trouble, who sin in unimaginable depravity are not our enemies. They are victims of the wiles of Satan and the lure of sin. We must fight for them, not against them, if we are to be part of their rescue. This begins in the mind with a profound respect for each human being.

**We must remember
that the lost are lost,
the blind are blind,
and the confused
are confused.**

**It is here that mercy
and mission meet.**

Finally, a zeal for souls requires a change. We must pray differently, see differently and act differently. I find that I often pray in a very parochial way with little concern for much of anything beyond my immediate scope of responsibility. If I am not careful and intentional I will go through my day not even seeing others around me much less look to impact their eternal destination. We must open our eyes as well as our hearts and our minds. We must really see and hear hearts yearning for more and be aware of hearts trapped and looking for rescue. Then we must reach out. Our feeble attempts must be bolstered by increased intercession. But attempt we must, for the person before us is precious to God.

Our zeal for souls may show itself in various ways. In traditional terms it will give us grace to practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. For some it will take the form of a more passionate and committed intercession. For others it will propel a more intentional approach to evangelization. For others a heart of mercy will be stimulated to care for the poor and disenfranchised and to bring healing for those wounded by life's suffering. For others, a zeal for souls will drive efforts for social change in areas like racism and abortion.

I spend a bit of time in airports as I travel to speak at conferences. Sometimes I practice by noticing each person and saying to myself, "that one is made in the likeness and image of God. Oh look, that one is made in the likeness and image of God, Oh, there goes another one..."

We must ask Jesus to help us to have his heart, to have his mind, to have his passion, to have his eyes to see the blind stumbling and his ears to hear the lost crying out, and finally to have his motivation to sacrifice, to serve, and especially to love. ♦



Chuck Hornsby has served on the NSC and is currently on the Steering Committee for the Association of Diocesan Liaisons. He is a pastoral leader in the Alleluia community, is married to Peggy and has 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

When was the last time we invited someone to experience the grace of this “New Pentecost”?



struction, for community, for prayer and the breaking of the bread.” Peter’s message and their subsequent response became the core of the initial Life in the Spirit Seminar (LIS).

In the very beginning of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, the leaders took what they experienced and what they read from the Acts to formulate the core teachings of this insightful seminar. Even though it has gone through many developments, adaptations, and titles, the basic teaching of LIS remains the same: God’s unmerited love; the reality of sin; the promised Savior, Jesus; the coming of the Holy Spirit to sanctify, empower and mission us to proclaim the Father’s saving plan to others; and a way to live and grow in the life of the Spirit, fulfilling the biblical plan of God, “to be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

Over the years LIS was intended to be and has remained an effective tool for evangelization. Unfortunately, it is not used today as much as it should be. Many prayer groups seldom offer it or do so occasionally. As a result, we see, in the English-speaking Renewal, prayer groups becoming more like prayer clubs for the good of its members rather than evangelizing communities.

The question we need to ask as we approach the Golden Jubilee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal is this: should prayer groups wait for people to come or should they go to them? Should they become pro-active by inviting individuals through the use of social media which is so commonplace today?

I will let Pope Francis give us both the answer and the motivation. “Spread-

LIFE in the SPIRIT

by Bishop Sam Jacobs

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, we recognize with thanksgiving one of the many early

fruits that God has graciously provided. The initial members, who experienced this New Pentecost, found that those with whom they shared this experience were like the crowd to whom Peter preached his first proclamation.

He proclaimed the unconditional love of the Father by sending his own divine Son as the promised Messiah, the fulfillment of the prophets in the power of the Holy Spirit.

When he emphatically stated that the Jesus whom they crucified was Lord and Messiah, they asked what they should do. He responded that they, like the disciples, needed to repent, accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, and to ask for the anointing gift of the Holy Spirit. This they did. They were baptized and were filled with the anointing power of the Holy Spirit.

Then the Acts of the Apostles states: “they came together for apostolic in-

Basic Teaching of the Life in the Spirit Seminars

- ♥ God’s unmerited love
- ♥ the reality of sin
- ♥ the promised Savior, Jesus
- ♥ the coming of the Holy Spirit to sanctify, empower and mission us to proclaim the Father’s saving plan to others
- ♥ a way to live and grow in the life of the Spirit.

ing the Gospel means that we are the first to proclaim and live the reconciliation, forgiveness, peace, unity, and love that the Holy Spirit gives us.... Just as the Son of God went out of himself, in a sense, and became man for our sake

We are called to expand the tools we use to reach out to others.

and just as he gave his total self, embracing the cross for our sake, we are called to go out of our comfort zone to bring the Good News of God's love and mercy to others... we are called to be radical revolutionaries, not in the world's understanding, but in God's. In this day and age, unless Christians are revolutionaries, they are not Christians. They must be revolutionaries through grace."

The call of Jesus to the Apostles was radical: "Go and be my witnesses to the whole world in the power of the Holy Spirit." This radical call was emphasized by Pope Paul VI when he wrote: "to be a Christian is to be an evangelizer."

Pope St John Paul II gave us a new lens to achieve this missionary call flowing from our Baptism and Confirmation. He used three terms: new in its fervor, new in its methods and new in its expressions. What did he mean? While the core message of the plan of God remains the same, we are called to proclaim it with the fresh new zeal and power of the Holy Spirit.

It is to be new in its methods. We are called to expand the tools we use to reach out to others. Think about the creative ways that this can be done. The presence of modern media could enable us to reach many more effectively. Some will work and some will not.

Don't be discouraged. If nothing else, a seed may have been planted for a future harvest.

Of course, the more effective tool is personal invitation. This was the process that was effectively used in the early years of this renewal. It is the relational aspect of the new expressions that the pope spoke of. People relate to people who in their invitation show personal love and care.

Wasn't this the process manifested in the scriptures? Andrew reached out to his brother, Simon, with a simple invitation: "Come and see." The Samaritan woman, evangelized by Jesus at Jacob's well, went back to the village and simply said: "Come and see."

When was the last time we invited someone to experience the grace of this "New Pentecost"? Andrew and the Samaritan woman invited someone to come to Jesus who had a life-changing message to make a difference in their lives. What would have happened if they did not reach out to another? What happens, when we, who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit, do not share with others the marvels God has done in our lives?

We have the experience of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. We have the revealed Word of God. "For all those who have called upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. So then, in what way will those who have not believed in him call upon him? Or in what way will those who have not heard of him believe in him? And in what way will they hear of him without preaching? And truly, in what way will they preach, unless they have been sent, just as it has been written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who evangelize peace, of those who evangelize what is good!" (Rom 10:13-15).

Prayer Card



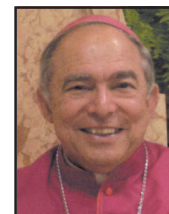
Heavenly Father, as we are reminded of all that we experienced during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, and look forward to new opportunities during this Year of Mercy, we consider all the blessings you have provided. We meditate on your plans and will for the new year and are filled with hope that we will draw ever closer to you and strive to share your love with all of your children.

Help us to share your love and blessings with family, friends and particularly with those who are suffering from sickness, pain, hunger and loneliness. Help us to be aware of their needs and to share your love for them that they may come to know you, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit and your compassion for them.



We have the prophetic exhortations of recent popes. Pope Francis said to the charismatic community of the world: "Bring this grace of the Holy Spirit to the Church."

We have these challenging questions. If not you, who? If not now, when? If not the core message of the plan of God, what? If not in the power of the Holy Spirit, how? If not in the daily places where you come into contact with people by divine appointment, where? ♦



Bishop Sam Jacobs is Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. He was recently re-elected to the National Service Committee.

Please pray with the National Service Committee for the following intentions:

- ◆ For Dave VanVickle, our Young Adult Coordinator, that the Holy Spirit would guide him in his pastoral efforts to put new wine into fresh wine skins.
- ◆ For The Ark and The Dove, home of baptism in the Holy Spirit, that this “upper room” of the New Pentecost would be a means of great grace to Christians everywhere.
- ◆ For resolution of the fears and division within our communities; that all of God’s people will strive to see the goodness in those who are “different” and take steps to make our communities places of peace and love for one another.
- ◆ For those who are working to preserve the right to life for the unborn and the elderly and all those who are deemed burdens to the community.



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The National Service Committee publishes *Pentecost Today* through the support of your generous financial gifts. A gift of \$25 allows us to provide an introductory subscription to new Life in the Spirit Seminars attendees.

Could you help us fill this need today? Please visit our website www.nsc-chariscenter.org.



Tom Mangan and Charles Simpson

Dr. Alveda King



It was our intent to not only address the ecumenical issue, but to also manifest it.

2015 National Leaders' and Ministries' Conference

by Tom Mangan and Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner, SSND

Spiritual ecumenism was a distinctive aspect of the 2015 National Leaders' and Ministries' Conference, held November 13-15, in Herndon, Virginia. The theme – *In the Spirit, through the Cross, one Body* – was visibly demonstrated in that some of the key speakers weren't Roman Catholic. It was our intent to not only address the ecumenical issue, but to also manifest it.

Pope Francis has used the term *spiritual ecumenism*, referring to the ecumenism of prayer, on several occasions. He emphasized, as he spoke to the 2015 Renewal of the Spirit Conference in Rome, that charismatics “have a special grace to pray and work for Christian unity, because the current of grace goes through all the Christian Churches.” This fresh way of thinking was foundational to this conference.

We were welcomed by Bishop Paul Loverde of the Diocese of Arlington. He reminded us that every initiative must be anchored in the Spirit. He exhorted us, quoting St. Catherine of Sienna, “Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire!” The Bishop encouraged us to live and share our faith with vigor, especially with those within our churches who are asleep to the move of the Spirit. He called us to activate our faith, to reach out in love and to share our faith stories with others.

The keynote speaker Friday evening was **Charles Simpson**, an internationally-known author, teacher, speaker, and Southern Baptist pastor serving in ministry since 1955. He is recognized as one of the most influential voices of the wider charismatic renewal since mid-1960. Pastor Simpson reminded us that we are exhorted in the New Testament “to put on the mind of Christ.” The mind is the steering wheel of our

Photos: Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner

*Listening to
Dr. King*



lives and we can ask Christ to help us to think like him. Paul writes, "Have this mind among yourselves which is yours in Christ Jesus..." (Phil 2:5). If we have his mind we will see things as he sees, love as he loves, and act as he acts. Our behavior would change and our hearts would widen, too. The mind of man met the mind of God *on the Cross*. It was there that Jesus humbled himself in order to accomplish our redemption and bring us to the Father. Pastor Simpson reminded us that Christian unity is on Christ's mind and it should be on ours as well.

Dr. Alveda King, niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and a dynamic evangelist in her own right, opened Saturday morning's session. She is in a unique position of Christian unity, with Pentecostal roots yet working for Priests for Life, a Catholic pro-life organization. She showed us how the pro-life movement is simply a continuation of the fight for Civil Rights for those who have no voice. She passionately explained how the Pro-life movement is a place where Christians can experience solidarity.

On Sunday morning, **Sue and Charles Whitehead**, from England (an ecumenical couple – Anglican and Catholic, respectively, and married for 50 years) spoke of the Body of Christ as being broken but not torn apart.

In a lively and complementary conversational exchange, the Whiteheads very passionately explained that this brokenness needs to be submitted to the healer, Jesus. He desperately wants us "to be one that the world may believe."

They made it quite clear that the more divided we are, the weaker we are. As Christians, we carry the light of Christ together with *all* Christians. The Holy Spirit is present in *each* body of Christians.

In their ecumenical ministry, the Whiteheads work tirelessly with other Christians across denominational lines and from that place they called us to be more understanding and compassionate with our fellow Christians. They taught us that because of, and not in spite of, such diversity we can experience a significant unity that will light up the world!

Sue offered a couple of insights for consideration: that problems between Catholics and Protestants are often a matter of language or semantics, and if a Protestant states a belief that isn't shared, it is simply a personal statement of belief and *not* anti-Catholic.

This powerful conference was outstanding from start to finish. There were informative workshops e.g. **Fr. John Crossin** of the USCCB Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs spoke on "Understanding Ecumenism." There was lively praise and worship at the general sessions and even an outbreak of "Praise Dancing" led by the young adults. Could this be a much-needed movement of the Holy Spirit, infusing a younger generation in our Christian body?

There was a healing and empowering session with a time of adoration under the leadership of **Caroline Gambale-Dirkes** that was overwhelmingly

anointed and powerful. The presence of the Holy Spirit was palpable. Souls were healed, hearts were changed and the Father was genuinely glorified. Truly, this was the capstone of this wonderful gathering in Herndon, Virginia. ♦

Tom Mangan is a member of the National Service Committee, Mary Anne Schaenzer, SSND is editor of Pentecost Today.

You can hear these timely Conference Messages

Keynote Speakers:

Charles Simpson

Dr. Alveda King

Caroline Gambale-Dirkes

Witness by **Matt Bourgeois**

Charles & Sue Whitehead

Workshops:

Dan Dirkes, Praise & Worship

Fr. John Crossin, Understanding Ecumenism

Dr. Alveda King, Catholics & Evangelicals Working Together

Matt Lozano, Freedom in Christ

Charles & Sue Whitehead,

Living Unity in Marriage

Marianne Skrobiak, Healing Wounded Hearts

Charles Simpson, Ministry Empowered by Charisms

Angelus Virata, Discerning God's Will

Maurice Blumberg, Fostering Spiritual Renewal in the Parish

Chuck Hornsby, How Do We Win the Battle?

Tom Mangan, Baptism in the Holy Spirit to the Whole Church

Jim Beckman, Spirit-filled Evangelization

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“Pope Francis on Grace, Holy Spirit and Unity”

from his message to the charismatic renewal gathered in St. Peter's Square
July 7, 2015

A current of grace

Charismatic Renewal is a current of grace, a renewing breath of the Spirit for all the members of the Church, laymen, Religious, priests and Bishops. It is a challenge for us all. One does not form part of the Renewal, rather, the Renewal becomes a part of us provided that we accept the grace it offers us.

Unity in diversity

Last year... I spoke also of unity in diversity. I gave the example of an orchestra. In *Evangelii gaudium* I spoke of the sphere and of the polyhedron. It is not enough to speak of unity, it is not any sort of unity. It is not uniformity. Said thus it can be understood as the unity of a sphere where every point is equidistant from the center and there are no differences between one point and another. The model is the polyhedron, which reflects the confluence of all the parts that maintain their originality in it and these are the charisms, in unity but in their own diversity – unity in diversity.

Work of the Holy Spirit

The distinction is important because we are speaking of the work of the Holy Spirit, not ours. Unity in the diversity of expressions of reality, as many as the Holy Spirit wills to arouse.

To share with all this current of grace

This current of grace leads us forward in a path of the Church that in Italy has borne much fruit, I thank you. I encourage you to go forward. In particular, I ask you for your important contribution to be committed to share with all in the Church the Baptism you have received. You have lived this experience; share it in the Church.

Create bonds of trust and cooperation with the Bishops

I ask you to take the initiative to create bonds of trust and cooperation with the Bishops, who have the pastoral responsibility to guide the Body of Christ, including Charismatic Renewal.

The search for unity of the Body of Christ

There is another strong sign of the Spirit in Charismatic Renewal: the search for unity of the body of Christ. You, Charismatics, have a special grace to pray and work for Christian unity because the current of grace goes through all the Christian Churches. Christian unity is the work of the Holy Spirit and we must pray together – spiritual ecumenism, the ecumenism of prayer.

Unity first of all in prayer

This current of grace goes across all the Christian Confessions, all of us who believe in Christ – unity first of all in prayer. Work for Christian unity begins with prayer. Pray together.

Ecumenism of blood

[There must be] unity, because the blood of today's martyrs makes us one. There is the ecumenism of blood. We know that when those who hate Jesus Christ kill a Christian, before killing him, they do not ask him: "Are you Lutheran, are you Orthodox, are you Evangelical, are you Baptist, are you Methodist?" You are Christian! They sever the head!... It is the ecumenism of blood. If the enemy unites us in death, who are we to be divided in life?

Unity in working together for the poor and the needy

Unity in working together for the poor and the needy, who are also in need of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. ...they also have the Spirit within that pushes them, so that someone outside will open wide the door.

Unity in the diversity of the Spirit

Unity in the diversity of the Spirit, not any unity – the sphere and the polyhedron – remember this well, the common experience of Baptism in the Holy Spirit and the fraternal and direct bond with the diocesan Bishop, because the whole is greater than the part.

Organize seminars

Organize seminars of life in the Spirit for brothers that live on the street, also for brothers marginalized by so many sufferings of life.

An invitation

Pope Francis concluded by again inviting all to Saint Peter's Square to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of this current of grace on Pentecost of 2017– an opportunity for the Church. ♦



Photo Tammie Stevens: View of the gazebo and The Dove



The Upper Room of the New Pentecost

by Tom Mangan

What today is referred to as the “Duquesne Weekend” occurred nearly fifty years ago. The Father searched the landscape for people he could fill with his Spirit and he picked some university students whose only recommendation was that they were hungry for God, ordinary Catholics who just wanted their faith to be strengthened. In some ways it could be said that they weren’t sure what they wanted, but they were postured Godward and that seemed to be enough.

Over 150 million Catholics have been baptized in the Holy Spirit over the last forty plus years as the result of a little flame that was lit in an unknown place called “The Ark and The Dove.” Obscure students with no spiritual credentials to speak of were chosen to set an explosion that would ignite the Church with “a new Pentecost!” Within a few short months, like a wildfire, it spread quickly to other parts of the country and then to the rest of the world.

Many people think the “Duquesne Weekend” happened at Duquesne University, but that would be too obvious. So just like the participants of this re-

treat, God painted outside the lines and took them to a small retreat place in the wooded wilderness of the North Hills of Pittsburgh called “The Ark and The Dove.” From this anonymous corner, the Lord launched “a Pentecostal grace for the whole Church.” Few people know of its existence and groups who have used this facility through the years have had no idea of its historic significance to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

With the spread of this “new current of grace” The Ark and The Dove was lost from the narrative and it simply became known as the “Duquesne Weekend.” From 1967 the place changed ownership and names a couple of times, but it remained a retreat center. Earlier this year the National Service Committee learned that it was going to be sold and the idea of preserving it as a pilgrimage site was brought up for discussion. Since it is, in fact, the birthplace of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, the talks were serious and acted upon with earnest. Thus, in June the NSC undertook efforts to purchase the property. Over the following months with much prayer, many conference calls and con-

stant reliance on the Holy Spirit, “The Ark and The Dove” now belongs to the Renewal!

“I cannot but rejoice over the decision of the National Service Committee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the United States to buy The Ark and The Dove Retreat House where the Renewal had its first visible manifestation back in 1967. How we would be happy if we could purchase the Jerusalem Cenacle where the first Pentecost took place! Let us at least purchase the humble place where the “new Pentecost” in the Catholic Church began. I encourage all brothers and sisters of Renewal worldwide to contribute generously to this project which will help in keeping the flame burning till it reaches the whole Church.”

Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFMcap

stant reliance on the Holy Spirit, “The Ark and The Dove” now belongs to the Renewal!

From the beginning, the process of this decision was to take one step at a time, to order our steps with the Holy Spirit and not presume on him. Where he led the NSC followed; when he stopped, we stopped. In August an offer was tendered with a deadline set for October 20 and on that day the money for the purchase was offered in the form of a loan by an anonymous donor to secure the property. **The NSC closed on the deal on December 18, 2015.**

Because the NSC believes that this “holy ground” belongs to the Renewal at large and not just to them, they will be partnering with other Renewal groups to form a separate non-profit entity, The Ark and The Dove, Inc., to operate the facility. The expectation is that charismatics from all over the world will come to The Ark and The Dove to visit, pray, retreat, study and honor the great move of the Holy Spirit that occurred there nearly a half of a century ago. ♦

To read the complete article go to: www.thearkandthedoveworldwide.org.

Reaching Young Adults



by Dave VanVickle

Studies of young adults in the United States address the sky rocketing use of social media. It seems my generation is, quite literally, constantly communicating. An endless supply of knowledge is at their fingertips within a few short keystrokes on a smartphone, and new songs, videos and games are being streamed directly to their location any moment they feel the need. This is why it can be surprising to hear what the article confirmed – that despite the incredible access they have, young adults are for the large part bored, anxious, lonely, broken, meaningless and without direction.

I am sure that most people reading these studies come away discouraged and worried. They see a lack. Reading these words might conjure up an image of something being broken without hope. Yet those of us who have experienced new life in the power of the Holy Spirit walk away with the opposite frame of mind. When I read words like loneliness, anxiety, and boredom I do not see an image of something

broken but an image of an empty receptacle, maybe an empty glass, waiting desperately to be filled. I see only potential for the Lord to break through.

This is why the National Service Committee and the Renewal at large is turning its focus to respond to this emptiness that seems to permeate young adults today. As we all know when God sees an emptiness he aches to fill it. Imagine a new Pentecost happening in the Young Adult community. Imagine gifts of healing, prophecy, discernment, tongues, words of wisdom and knowledge with the power to heal, renew and bind up, falling on the next generation.

What our world needs is a massive missionary effort to bring Jesus Christ, not just to foreign lands, but to our neighbors, to the streets and to the workplace. I can think of no better way to ignite this campaign than making the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit known to my generation. We are desperate to be filled and ready to go out. Come Holy Spirit! ♦

Dave VanVickle is the Coordinator for Young Adult Ministry for the NSC as well as the Director of Evangelization of St. Bonaventure Catholic Church. He resides in Pittsburgh, PA with his wife Amber and their 4 children.

The YEAR of MISSION in MERCY

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by the NSC/NSC Council Intercessory Prayer Working Group

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by Sr. Lucy Lukasiewicz

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Holiness: an Intimate Relationship

by Jim Archer

"(Like Jesus) we must be for the poor, the rejected, the prisoner, the sick, the dying, the lonely and the disabled."

Ecumenism: Hungering and Working for Unity in the Body of Christ

by Chuck Hornsby

"We can and should be working with other Christians in projects for the common good."

Healing Prayer

by Chuck Hornsby

"Our part is to be open to receive healing and to exercise the gifts and charisms of the Holy Spirit as instruments of healing for others."

Evangelizing the Family: a Multigenerational Approach

by Caroline Gambale-Dirkes

"The Renewal...has been challenged to find new ways to reach the next generations of young adults."

For a complete list of resources go to www.nsc-chariscenter.org.

To order call 800-338-2445.



The Association of Diocesan Liaisons' 2016 Convocation

by Chuck Hornsby, Savannah

The Association of Diocesan Liaisons (ADL) will hold our annual convocation in Augusta Georgia this spring hosted by the Alleluia Community. The convocation is scheduled to be held from April 11th through the 16th of 2016.

Charles Whitehead, accompanied by his wife Sue, will join us as the primary presenter as we explore the theme *Mission in Mercy*. Charles and Sue are longtime leaders in the Charismatic Renewal in England and are very active in the work of promoting Christian unity. Charles is past president of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS) and has been instrumental in England in broadening acceptance of charismatic renewal.

The Alleluia Community is an ecumenical community formed in 1973 and currently has about 750 members,

many of which live in a residential area known as Faith Village. Convocation participants will be housed in community member homes. The community environment will provide a unique opportunity for liaisons to experience covenant community.

The theme *Mission in Mercy* allows us to examine how to respond to the initiative by Pope Francis in calling for a year of mercy and how to stimulate charismatic renewal in fulfilling its call to be an integral part of the new evangelization. This theme is very important as we approach 50 years of Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Our jubilee is a milestone meant to celebrate the accomplishments of the past but even more importantly to impel us forward into a more passionate and intentional evangelism. The culture of death that Saint John Paul the Great spoke of continues to distort truth and bring confusion in and out-

side the Church. From its inception the charismatic renewal has had a strong missionary impulse, but the times demand more mercy and more mission. Charles will lead us in reflecting on how we can practically respond to the challenges that face us.

As Bishop Hartmayer's liaison to the Charismatic Renewal from the Diocese of Savannah, as a member of the ADL Steering Committee, and as a representative of the leadership of the Alleluia Community, I want to personally invite all liaisons, associate liaisons and their spouses and traveling companions to come to this year's convocation. I think we will have a wonderful gathering. I think it will be fruitful, relational, enjoyable, and edifying. Charles and Sue have practical wisdom rooted in experience and delivered with clarity and humor. Bishop Hartmayer will celebrate mass with us. The community will provide a unique brand of southern hospitality. So, as we say in these parts, "Y'all come!!!!" ♦

For information on the Diocesan Liaison ministry go to www.associationofdiocesanliaisons.org.

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for the Year of Mission in Mercy and the New Evangelization

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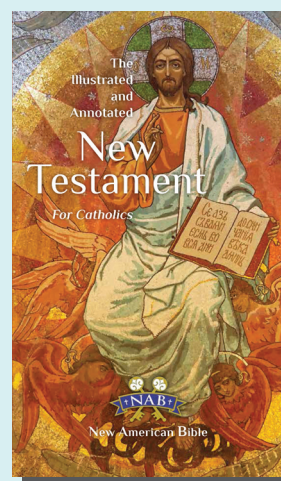
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To order go to www.nsc-chariscenter.org, click on bible graphic shown.

From the Executive Director

.....



by Walter Matthews

Empowering Young Adults

Empowering youth and young adults is one of the ways the NSC accomplishes our Mission “to foster the dynamic grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit.” In recent years this took the form of reaching out to youth ministers first, and then later to young adults and more recently to young adults and college students in our National Leaders’ and Ministries’ Conferences. Each year we are learning to “pass on” what we have learned to those “who will be able to teach others also” (2 Tm 2:2).

At the same time, we began to look for young leaders in the Renewal, or those, having been formed in the Renewal, who were serving in other ministry capacities in the Church. We began to call them forth into service on the national level by inviting them to serve on the NSC Council. One such person was Caroline Gambale (now Dirkes).

In 2006 the NSC invited Caroline to join the NSC Council. At that point, she had been baptized in the Spirit since 1989, graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville, had been active in youth ministry for 14 years holding parish and diocesan positions, and had been the Eastern Regional Director of LIFE TEEN for a time. She made such an impression at her first NSC/NSC Council Meeting that at the next NSC election she was elected to her first term on the Service Committee. It seems like yesterday but in January, Caroline ended her third term (nine years) on the Service Committee.

I remember her first NSC meeting. It was held at a Retreat Center in New Jersey after the 40th Anniversary Conference. Caroline brought her enthusiasm for the Lord and the Renewal, and her insights, to the Committee in many ways. However, there were times she could not attend because of her pregnancies, or a newborn child. Sometimes she brought a baby with her to meetings or to conferences! One member kept reminding us that if we wanted to reach out to young adults, especially young marrieds, we had to accept their challenges as ours. We all grew.

Caroline is fond of saying that we must do the ridiculous in order to see the miraculous. I know that I have grown in my faith and trust through her encouragement, exhortation and witness.

Since Caroline’s election, the Committee has elected other “younger” leaders: Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, Tammie Stevens, and more recently Casey Sprehe. In addition, we have been reaching out to even more young adults and those who minister to them to join the NSC Council. Last year, the Committee elected two new members with extensive experience ministering to youth and young adults (Jim Beckman and Bill Marcotte).

The NSC’s Young Adult Coordinator, Dave VanVickle was also baptized in the Holy Spirit at a young age, is a graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville, and was working in the Church in ministry, not specifically in the Renewal.

I believe we are seeing a generation emerging who will lead this Renewal into the post-Jubilee next fifty years. I believe Caroline opened the doors to the present moment and for that I and the NSC are grateful. ♦

Friends of the NSC

In the fall we received gifts honoring the following:

Bishop John Doerfler, Epiphany Cathedral Prayer Group and Parish Members (Nokomis, FL), Angelina Fabris, Stephanie Grady, Fr. Edward Hauf, OMI, Elsie Jacobs, Light of Christ Prayer Group (Southgate, MI), and the Loveland Family.

Also honored were: Fr. Richard McAlear, Charles Myers, Chuck Myers, Aggie Neck, Sr. Ann Shields, St. Margaret Mary Charismatic Prayer Group (Omaha, NE), Msgr. Michael Steber and Larry Ziemianski.

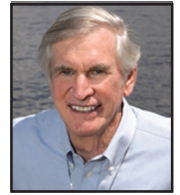
Gifts were also given to remember: Fred Armelin, Duane R. Bashore, Eddie Blankenstein, John Borrows, Helen Borrows, Linda Bunnell, Josephine Ciupenski, Paul Charron, Medley Christopher, and the deceased members of Epiphany Cathedral Parish (Nokomis, FL).

Costante Fabris, Raymond Firsching, Greg Jackovich, Parents of Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kintz, Catherine Kruel, Jose Marques, Tony McKenna, Joseph Mistretta, Claude Mollet, and Deacon Gerald O’Connor.

Joan O’Neil, Sr. Claire Peers, Mary Lois Pudvah, Jack Reinhard, Robert E. Ribic, Sr, Donald Rowan, Maria & Raymundo Samuray & Deceased Children, James Wilke, Richard Wilson, Ann Julia Wibbelmann, and Henry Joseph Wibbelmann.

As we begin the Year of Mission in Mercy we are excited by the new doors the Lord has opened (The Ark and The Dove, the hiring of the Young Adult Coordinator) as well as the proximity of the Renewal’s Jubilee. We thank all our donors for your support in 2015 and we ask for your continued support this year.

For those receiving the required minimum distributions from your IRAs we have recently learned that Congress made the ability to make a charitable donation directly (thus avoiding taxes on the distribution) permanent. Please think of us.



The essential baptism of the Holy Spirit

I feel honored to be asked to write about the Charismatic Renewal as it affects the overall Catholic Church. I can be honest and say that in the past forty years, we have already seen some hopeful changes that have touched the overall church. At the same time there have been many possible opportunities for changes that didn't take place.

The heart of Charismatic Renewal holds up the ideal that every Christian should be "baptized in the Holy Spirit," and also that the individual gifts (charisms) of the Spirit should be restored to common usage. Of course, the charism that I am most associated with is healing prayer, and I think that every sick person should know some Christians he or she can turn to for prayer when they are sick.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is necessary for growth and change, both on the personal and the group level. On the personal level, the Holy Spirit plays an important role in communicating God's will and direction for many personal decisions. On a broader, societal

For until we experience being baptized in the Holy Spirit, we are in the same situation as the apostles were who were still waiting for the arrival of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

level, the Holy Spirit may incite us to make changes that involve a departure from traditional ways of thinking and that are difficult to do.

The power of the Spirit is also a prerequisite for empowering us to perform the particular works of Jesus – such as healing and casting out demons. Jesus frees us from evil and sickness through the power of the Holy Spirit, and this power is available to us once we ask. I define baptism of the Holy Spirit as an *event* in a person's life by which he or she becomes more continually aware of the *presence*, the *person*, and the *power* of the Risen Christ. To fully live the Christian calling, the baptism of the Holy Spirit is essential, not optional. For until we experience being baptized in the Holy Spirit, we are in the same situation as the apostles were

who were still waiting for the arrival of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The Holy Spirit brings to us the charismatic gifts that allow us to continue the work of Jesus in advancing the kingdom of God.

What the Charismatic Renewal is meant to bring to the Church is a restoration to its ordinary life the possibility of the sick receiving prayer to be healed physically, spiritually and emotionally. We pray that the ultimate outcome of this movement will be a renewed belief that ordinary Christians can pray for the sick to be healed and freed from oppression. May God release and expand an understanding of the extraordinary help that the Holy Spirit can bring us with the power to accomplish his will. ♦

Francis was one of the first Roman Catholic priests to be involved in Charismatic Renewal. He graduated from Harvard University with honors and then earned an M.F.A. from Catholic University of America and a Ph.D. in Theology at the Aquinas Institute. He and his wife, Judith, founded Christian Healing Ministries in 1980. Francis' entire ministry has been dedicated to bringing healing prayer back to its rightful place among Christians.

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