

Publication of the National Service Committee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal

# PENTECOST *Today*

April/May/June 2012



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## Chairman's Corner

by Fr. Bob Hogan



## A Short-term Focus or a Long-term Vision?

**H**ave you heard of “Linsanity?” Jeremy Lin is an NBA basketball player of Taiwanese descent who got a chance to start his first games, after playing very little in his first two seasons, because the New York Knicks had many injured players. In his first five games he led the team to five straight victories while scoring over 27 points a game. He became instantly famous through sports talk shows, the Asian media, and the internet. Short-term excitement is fun. The media loves it. It gets people’s attention and makes interesting stories. However, it can only take you so far.

The coach for the San Antonio Spurs basketball team seeks to give his team a long-term vision. He calls it the “pounding the rock” approach. A man, who is seeking to crack a large rock, pounds on it with a hammer over and over with seemingly no results, but eventually the rock will crack. Success comes through having a vision that is followed with perseverance. The Spurs won four championships.

The Charismatic Renewal brought a lot of excitement for many people in the Catholic Church. It is easy to fall in love with short-term exciting experiences and never seek a long-term vision. God has a long-term vision. The Charismatic Renewal as a Movement in the Catholic Church is called to be a reminder in the Church of the importance of the role of the Holy Spirit

in every aspect of Catholic life. Let us rejoice in every exciting spiritual manifestation, but also have a vision for sharing what the full role of the Holy Spirit can mean in the Church.

How can we understand better for ourselves, and explain more clearly to others, a vision for Catholic Charismatic Renewal? I would suggest that you make a copy of the National Service Committee’s Vision/Mission Statement ([www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org)). Pray with this statement for a week yourself and have your prayer group/ministry pray and talk about it together. Ask the Lord to give you a greater understanding and commitment to his long-term vision for all of Renewal.

In the next few months you will be hearing more about a document on Baptism in the Holy Spirit that the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services will be publishing. Read, study and share about this important document. You will also be hearing about a five year preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (2017). This long-term preparation will help us to go deeper. I am inviting us to pound the rock together with faith, deepen our long-term vision, and be servants working together for God’s vision for Charismatic Renewal in the whole Church. ♦

*Fr. Bob Hogan, BBD is Chairman of the National Service Committee.*



## Editor's Desk

by Sr. Martha Jean  
McGarry

*“I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me” (Jn 17: 20-21).*

In his article on pages 4–5 **Bishop Sam Jacobs** speaks to us about the Ecclesial Movements Initiative which seeks cooperative efforts with other Catholic organizations and communities. He shares the purpose, progress and hopes for the future of this Initiative.

**Deacon Darrell Wentworth** in the Liaison article, page 13, speaks of such cooperative efforts on a diocesan level.

*Do I need Deliverance?* **Neal Lozano** shares his insights on this ministry and clarifies the need for deliverance. His article on page 6–7 can be most helpful to those in the healing ministry.

The importance of raising up new leaders in our prayer groups and ministries is the focus of *Leaders as Facilitators* by **Renee Marazon**. See her article on pages 8-9.

Ongoing formation in the Renewal is so crucial. This issue gives us much to think about in columns written by **Walter Matthews**, page 14; **Jane Guenther**, page 15; and the announcement of the **Year of Faith** on page 3.

**Msgr. Joseph Malagrec**a invites all to the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference to be held in Philadelphia in June of this year. His article on page 10 gives many of the details as well as the reasons why **you** want to be there. ♦

*Cover photo: Photos.com (Flemish School 16th C.)*



# Porta Fidei

## Year of Faith

**T**hrough his Apostolic Letter, *Porta Fidei*, Benedict XVI announced a **Year of Faith** to begin on October 11, 2012, the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. It will conclude on the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King, on November 24, 2013.

Some key words that stand out in this letter are evangelization, charity, and study. Our Holy Father encourages us during this upcoming Year of Faith to make renewed efforts to study our faith. He especially suggests the use of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in our study. A deeper understanding and appreciation of our faith will produce more fruitful evangelization and a multiplicity of good works for the Kingdom of God. Just as Mary, the apostles, the martyrs and men and women through the ages have given witness of the faith, so each of us is meant to do the same. As we look forward to this year, let us commit ourselves to prepare our hearts and minds for a great renewal in the Church.

**Below are some significant passages to whet your appetite to examine this easy-to-read but challenging Apostolic Letter:**

The “door of faith” (Acts 14:27) is always open for us, ushering us into the life of communion with God and offering entry into his Church. It is possible to cross that threshold when the word of God is proclaimed and the heart allows itself to be shaped by transforming grace. To enter through that door is to set out on a journey that lasts a lifetime. (Section 1.)

(Quoting from his homily at his first Mass as Pope.) “**The Church as a whole and all her Pastors**, like Christ, must set out to lead people out of the desert, towards the place of life, towards friendship with the Son of God, towards the One who gives us life, and life in abundance.” (Section 2.)

...the theme of the General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops that I have convoked for October 2012 is “The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith.” This will be a good opportunity to usher the whole

Church into a time of particular reflection and rediscovery of the faith. (Section 4.)

The renewal of the Church is also achieved through the witness offered by the lives of believers: by their very existence in the world, Christians are called to radiate the word of truth that the Lord Jesus has left us. (Section 6, paragraph 1.)

The Year of Faith, from this perspective, is a summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the one Saviour of the world. In the mystery of his death and resurrection, God has revealed in its fullness the Love that saves and calls us to conversion of life through the forgiveness of sins (cf. *Acts* 5:31). (Section 6, paragraph 2.)

“**Caritas Christi urget nos**” (2 Cor 5:14): it is the love of Christ that fills our hearts and impels us to evangelize. Today as in the past, he sends us through the highways of the world to proclaim his Gospel to all the peoples of the earth (cf. Mt 28:19). Through his love, Jesus Christ attracts to himself the people of every generation: in

every age he convokes the Church, entrusting her with the proclamation of the Gospel by a mandate that is ever new. Today too, there is a need for stronger ecclesial commitment to new evangelization in order to rediscover the joy of believing and the enthusiasm for communicating the faith. In rediscovering his love day by day, the missionary commitment of believers attains force and vigour that can never fade away. Faith grows when it is lived as an experience of love received and when it is communicated as an experience of grace and joy. It makes us fruitful, because it expands our hearts in hope and enables us to bear life-giving witness: indeed, it opens the hearts and minds of those who listen to respond to the Lord’s invitation to adhere to his word and become his disciples. (Section 7, paragraph 1.)

Saint Luke teaches that knowing the content to be believed is not sufficient unless the heart, the authentic sacred space within the person, is opened by grace that allows the eyes to see below the surface and to understand that what has been proclaimed is the word of God. (Section 10, paragraph 2.)

Confessing with the lips indicates in turn that faith implies public testimony and commitment. A Christian may never think of belief as a private act. Faith is choosing to stand with the Lord so as to live with him. This “standing with him” points towards an understanding of the reasons for believing. Faith, precisely because it is a free act, also demands social responsibility for what one believes. The Church on the day of Pentecost demonstrates with utter clarity this public dimension of believing and proclaiming one’s faith fearlessly to every person. It is the gift of the Holy Spirit that makes us fit for mission and strengthens our witness, making it frank and courageous. (Section 10, paragraph 3.) ♦



## Ecclesial Movements: a cooperative witness

by Bishop Sam Jacobs

The NSC Mission Statement speaks about “Cooperating with other Catholic organizations and movements.” Over the past several years, one of the ways the NSC has been responding to that objective is by being in dialogue with other Ecclesial Movements and New Communities. These include besides the Charismatic Renewal, Neocatechumenal Way, National Cursillo Movement, Focolare Movement, Worldwide Marriage Encounter, Life Teen and Arise International.

The initiative in bringing these groups together was the several gatherings of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities called by John Paul II and Benedict XVI in Rome, the first being in 1998. Being myself involved in the Renewal since 1976, I felt that something on a national scale of this magnitude should be done here in the United States. I was aware that some archdioceses have done something similar, but nothing was envisioned for the whole country.

An invitation was sent out to a number of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities. Those mentioned above responded and began to meet and pray together for God’s direction. We adopted the title: Catholic Ecclesial Movements and New Communities in Conversation.

The Pontifical Council for the Laity has approved the statutes of 122 movements and communities since 1967. Each has its own charism and focus. But to be most effective they cannot stand alone.

The two scripture passages that give direction to mutual interaction between the Ecclesial Movements and New Communities are found in Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians. “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who pro-

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duces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.... One and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes” (1 Cor 12:4-7,11). What is applied to an individual is applicable for movements and communities as a group. Each of the movements and communities has its own specific charism, its own mission and ways of fulfilling that mission. But the Holy Spirit is the One who anoints and empowers each.

The second passage is found in the same chapter. “As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.... Now the body is not a single part, but many.... But as it is, God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as it is, there are many parts, yet one body.... But God has so constructed the body as to give greater honor to a part that is without it, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the parts may have the same concern for one another” (1 Cor 12:12ff).

The Church is the Body of Christ. We are its members, as individuals and as movements and communities. Neither as a member nor as movements and communities do we exist independently. These movements and communities have been raised up, anointed and empowered by the same Spirit to fulfill a particular task in the Body of Christ.

What common purposes do these Ecclesial Movements and New Communities share as members of the Body of Christ? Each is called to lead its adherents into greater holiness and to be witnesses of this call to holiness to others. Each is called to bring others to a personal encounter with Jesus

Christ as Lord and Savior. This is the call to the New Evangelization which the recent Holy Fathers have continually proclaimed. Each is called to strengthen the faith of its adherents through proper catechesis. Each is called to live in communion with others in the Body while at the same time exercising each one's unique mission and charism. The principle of unity in diversity and diversity in unity must be the underlying attitude.

To achieve these common purposes, these Ecclesial Movements and New Communities must avoid the problem that Paul faced in the Corinthian community: division and elitism. His admonishment must be heard and responded to again today.

"I urge you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose. For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers, by Chloe's people, that there are rivalries among you. I mean that each of you is saying, 'I belong to Paul,' or 'I belong to Apollos,' or 'I belong to Cephas,' or 'I belong to Christ.' Is Christ divided?" (1 Cor 1:10-13).

Mutual respect and understanding will counteract any attempt to divide and separate. Owing no debt to anyone except the debt of love will ensure that our own response to God's call does not hinder another to respond differently to the same God who calls.

When the apostles John and James wanted to stop others who were not of their company from exercising the healing ministry, Jesus corrected them for their false zeal, not those who were moving in the Spirit. He reminded them that just because the others were not among his apostles and disciples they were part of him. They were doing the work of God.

Let me return to our present situation in this country in relationship to the mutual cooperation between Ecclesial Movements and New Communities. Obviously, the group of seven is only an initial core group. The first task of this core, besides growing in mutual understanding and relationship, was to work with the Body of Bishops, helping them to understand the reality of these movements and communities in their dioceses and to seek their pastoral wisdom and guidance as how we can serve the Church with the variety of charisms.

We are also praying together to see if God is calling for some national gathering of the Ecclesial Movements and

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New Communities, similar to those called forth in Rome by John Paul II and Benedict XVI. What this may look like is not yet clear. We want to affirm and celebrate what God has affirmed and celebrated. In doing so, we want to be in communion with each other and with our Shepherds for the good of the Church and in promoting the mission of the Church.

When these movements and communities gathered together with Pope John Paul II in 1998 he emphasized that it was a "great common witness" of unity and faith, reflecting the reality of the Church. Would it be any less, if and when we do the same here in our own country? What is this common witness? Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior to whom we commit our lives to work with the Holy Father and the Bishops in union with him for the spread of the Gospel message in the power of the Holy Spirit.

By cooperating with one another and with the hierarchical dimension of the Church, these movements and communities reflect the true nature of the Church. In the words of John Paul II: "The institutional and charismatic aspects are co-essential as it were to the Church's constitution. They contribute, although differently, to the life, renewal and sanctification of God's people. It is from this providential rediscovery of the Church's charismatic dimension that, before and after the Council, a remarkable pattern of growth has been established for ecclesial movements and new communities."

It is when we fail to work with each other and seek our separate agendas that we cause harm both to movements and communities as well as to the witness of the Church. Even though initially each of these movements and communities acted separately from one another, and for valid reasons, today, the call of God is for all the Ecclesial Movements and New Communities to continue to live out their own charism while affirming, supporting and cooperating with each other for the good of the Body of Christ.

*Pray that the core of leaders and others will be open to the move of the Spirit in this present time and that the work of the Spirit through these Ecclesial Movements and New Communities will effectively bring about the renewal that God desires. ♦*



*Bishop Sam Jacobs is a former Chairman of the National Service Committee. He is presently Bishop of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana.*





When the  
Son sets  
you free  
you are  
free  
indeed.

by Neal Lozano

*Wow. Oh my gosh. Wow. Is this how I am supposed to feel, is this normal? You mean it is possible to feel this way?—I am going to tell everyone.*

A woman who experienced deliverance through an Unbound Ministry session spoke these hopeful words spontaneously. To her surprise God had something much greater for her than she could have imagined. With God there is always more!

How do I know if I could benefit from prayer for deliverance? Is there greater freedom for me? While it is not good to expect a specific type of experience, it is always good to seek deeper freedom.

It is quite normal for people to become accustomed to an area of oppression and not realize that God wants them to walk in freedom. For years I knew I needed greater freedom, but I would only allow myself to think about it occasionally because I did not know what to do about it. “Who would understand?” I thought.

You too may have wondered about an area in your life where you need greater freedom. Perhaps you have **habitual negative responses** to people, like defensiveness, judgment or criticism. Perhaps you are **driven** by fear, anger or lack of self-control. Are there irrational fears like fear of spiders, heights, fear

of making a mistake, fear of the future or the past? Is there a **negative emotion** that seems to come and go as it pleases, that hovers over everything like a cloud of sadness, emptiness or a sense of nothingness? Is there a compulsive **sinful habit** like pornography, gossip or lying? Or perhaps you have a general sense of **oppression or heaviness**. Everything is hard for you as if something is reaching out to you from the past, gripping you, but you do not know what it is. Perhaps there is a **shameful event** that you participated in or were victimized through and those memories are with you all the time. You may relate to the person who said, “The people who killed my family are just there before me all the time,” or the person who said to their spouse, after finding freedom from the **power of a shameful event**: “Tonight for the first time in our (20 year) marriage, when we go into the bedroom it will be just me and you.”

If you do not know how to appropriate the freedom Jesus has won for you, you may be defenseless before a myriad of **negative thoughts** like self-criticism, self-accusation, self-rejection or even self-condemnation and self-hatred. All these are areas where evil spirits may be active.

#### How do I know if I need freedom from spiritual bondage?

Some people have great gifts of discerning evil spirits. I do not. I have a gift of understanding the human heart and I know that if the doorway to the enemy is closed, he has to go. We are told in Ephesians 6 to take our stand against the devil’s schemes (tactics).

Unbound Ministry is an approach to deliverance and inner healing which teaches and empowers the person receiving ministry to continue to pursue greater freedom by living as a disciple of Jesus who is drawing them into the heart of the Father.

Deliverance prayer does not mean encounters with evil spirits. It means freedom from the influence of evil spirits that seek to rob us of our true identity. As baptized believers we have already been delivered from the kingdom of darkness and brought into the kingdom of the beloved Son. (See Col 1:13.) Deliverance is about taking hold of what we have already received.

#### What are the tactics of the enemy?

**Tempting us to sin.** In doing so we withdraw from God’s grace.

**Drawing us into bitterness and unforgiveness.** Jesus gave special warnings about the consequence of unforgiveness and St. Paul identified it as one of the devil’s tactics. (See 2 Cor 2:11.)

**Deception.** Jesus tells us the devil is the “Father of lies” (Jn 8:44). When we give in to temptation we are swallowing a lie, like lies about God’s goodness, or

thoughts that justify sin or minimize responsibility for sin. These lies are a doorway for the enemy; they are seeds of agreement with the father of lies. If that agreement is not rooted out by repentance and confession it will grow, leading to deeper deception. If you let the sun go down on your anger, you give the devil a foothold (See Eph 4:26-27). By the next morning you may have made a home for bitterness and resentment. Let them remain and revenge and hatred may be knocking at the door. Our agreement with lies blinds us and holds us in darkness. Pride and self-justification keep us from coming to God for our freedom. Live with these long enough and they become part of the daily scenery of our lives and empower our enemy who is hidden in the darkness. This leads to a fourth tactic of the devil.

**Bondage.** We read in John 8:34, “everyone who sins is a **slave** to sin.” Our enemy wants to rob us of the freedom of the children of God and hold us in chains to his deceptions.

### Caution

As you consider the works of the enemy and areas that may need deliverance, pause and recognize three dangers.

- It is dangerous to focus on yourself and to think all about what is wrong with you. (Especially outside a therapy or a ministry session.) Self-focus is a doorway to darkness.

- Another danger is to start thinking about the devil or a foul-looking spirit that is hiding in the recesses of your heart. This can produce anxiety or fear.

- A third danger is to allow self-pity, helplessness and hopelessness to accompany your thoughts.

**Deliverance prayer is not your answer—Jesus is.** “When the Son sets you free you are free indeed.” Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God and cast

out demons and healed the sick. Deliverance ministries that have been successful place deliverance in the context of inner healing and living as a disciple of Jesus. It is important to know that we can sin without any help from an evil spirit and we become bound based on our responses to the circumstances of life. Evil spirits need a place to land; they, like flies, are drawn to the manure in our lives. They offer us deceptive ways of thinking about our sin and our past so they can rob us of the gift Jesus has won for us. Therefore, breaking free often involves renouncing the enemy and his lies.

### Unbound Ministry

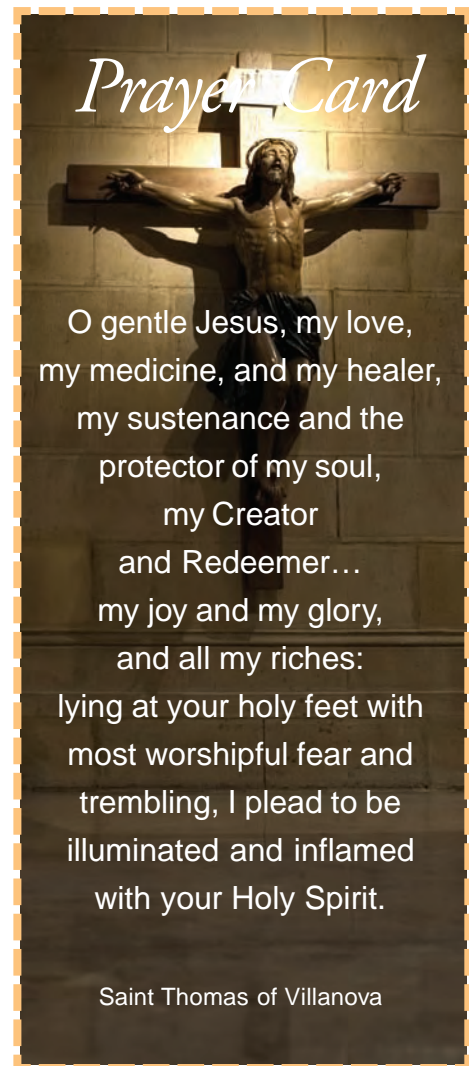
In Unbound Ministry we train people to listen with compassion and without judgment according to five keys. Listening this way uncovers the entryways, without a focus on evil spirits.

🔑 **#1 Repentance and Faith.** Has the person ever had an opportunity to make a personal decision about the Savior? Do they have a personal knowledge of the love of God revealed in Jesus? Are there sins that have been rationalized and justified? The person may have confessed but not had the grace of true contrition.

🔑 **#2 Forgiveness.** Are there people that need to be forgiven or forgiveness that needs to be taken deeper?

🔑 **#3 Renunciation.** We need to renounce the lies and the names of all of our enemies. All that does not belong in the kingdom of God can be renounced in the name and the power of Jesus.

Following compassionate listening, we lead the person to pronounce a commitment to Christ, turn from sin, pronounce forgiveness and renounce their enemies. This is followed by 🔑 **#4 a simple command** and 🔑 **#5 the Father’s blessings.**



Spiritual warfare is real; we can all benefit from greater deliverance, but keep in mind that deliverance is about following Jesus into our true identity as children of the Father. Deliverance is not about evil spirits; deliverance is about being transferred into the kingdom of the Beloved Son. Deliverance is about freedom. ♦

*Neal Lozano is the author of Unbound: A Practical Guide to Deliverance and Resisting the Devil. Neal and his wife, Janet, have almost forty years experience helping people find freedom in Christ. They travel across the United States and around the world presenting the Unbound Conference.*



## Prayer requests

- ◆ For those who will attend the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2012 Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference to be held June 1–3, in Philadelphia, may they be renewed and encouraged as they pray with one heart seeking a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon them and upon the Church in the U.S.
- ◆ That the Lord bless the National Service Committee with special gifts of wisdom and discernment as they gather for their annual retreat meeting to be held in Philadelphia, June 3–5.
- ◆ For the Lord's blessings upon the NSC's Outreach Event in Boston, A Retreat for Leaders, April 13–14.
- ◆ That all the bible studies, retreats or other evangelistic events will be opportunities for renewed grace and growth in the Holy Spirit not only for those attending but also for the people working these events.
- ◆ For the financial needs of the NSC, that they be able to continue to foster the grace of Pentecost in our world.



## New NSC RESOURCES Help with our relationships

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Sr. Mary Anne Schaenzer, SSND**

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## STRENGTH

## Strengthening Leadership



## Leaders as Facilitators: Growing commitment in those you lead!

by Renee Marazon

Jesus himself demonstrates to us that there are several steps leaders must take to facilitate the growth and development of new leaders. To embrace Jesus' philosophy of "leaders as facilitators" we must follow his lead. Jesus, filled with all wisdom, knowledge, discernment, and every spiritual gift, called perhaps the most challenging twelve to go out on mission with him. He focused his ministry on forming them. He fed, loved, encouraged, and served them as well. As facilitator, Jesus raised them up, called them forth, used them to proclaim the Kingdom through the power of his Spirit, and bestowed his special graces, called charisms, on them at Pentecost. We must facilitate the growth and development of those we lead in the very same way. We can begin by studying eight actions that Jesus himself put into practice to show us how to become a "Leader as Facilitator."

### 1. Pray

In Luke 6:12-16 we are taught that Jesus spent a whole night in prayer and then chose his twelve apostles. Again

in Mark 3:13-15 we hear that Jesus "went up the mountain and summoned those whom he wanted and they came to him. He appointed twelve ...that they might be with him." And what a diverse group of individuals came out of Jesus' prayer up on that mountain!

In man's way of thinking these twelve would have never been chosen—yet, in prayer, the Holy Spirit led Jesus to choose the twelve with such diverse backgrounds, characters and dispositions: **Peter**—family man and fisherman, **Andrew**—brother of Simon Peter, fisherman, **James**—bold apostle, fisherman, **John**—beloved, bold, fishermen, **Philip**—accountant, **Bartholomew**—devout in faith, **Matthew**—tax collector, **Thomas**—doubter; James the less—younger in age, shorter in stature, **Simon**—unknown zealot, **Jude Thaddeus**—farmer, **Judas Iscariot**—traitor, and **Matthias**—Judas' replacement, gentle venerable old man. What the twelve were to become was miraculous—endowed with charisms that were empowered by the Holy Spirit!

**Facilitators continued page 9**



Imagine the results if we prayed for those who were to be called into leadership and ministries within our prayer groups! Would we call forth those whom the Spirit directs us to call forth or would we choose the smartest, most unencumbered with job and family, most docile, most educated, best career match, easiest personality, most experienced, oldest, or wealthiest? What biases would inform our decisions to facilitate others' growth in their charisms and growth as prayer group leaders? Imagine how prayer group ministers and leaders might emerge should we let go of our biases and instead, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide us as leaders in facilitating others' growth!

### **2. Invite**

Once we have prayed, we must intentionally and personally invite members of our prayer group to operate in their charisms and come alongside us in leadership roles. We must help them discern their charisms, let them know the gifts we see developing in them and encourage them to learn more about their charisms. If we as leaders learn as much as we can about all of the charisms, we will be better prepared to recognize the gifts in those we lead and we will be able to invite them to operate in their charisms. We will be prepared to encourage our people to pray spontaneously, intercede, bring forth prophecy, join the music ministry, share a scripture passage, pray on a prayer team, give a teaching, lead praise or the prayer meeting, or pastor small groups.

### **3. Model**

Every prayer group leader must model operating in their own charisms at gatherings. As leaders, we must have discussion among ourselves about our own charisms, how we have operated and grown in them, and how we might

better call them forth in our people. Jesus modeled every spiritual gift when he was with his apostles. They saw him teach, preach, cast out demons, heal the sick, feed the poor, pray, exhort, encourage, and discern people's hearts. We can be sure that what Jesus modeled was imprinted on the hearts and minds of his apostles who later could recall and do the same.

### **4. Mentor/Coach**

Mentoring and coaching another requires a leader to enter into relationship with the person. Jesus coached and mentored the apostles throughout his ministry, nurturing his relationship with each of them, noticing their gifts, and raising them up in their gifts. Jesus sent them out to cast out demons and when they returned, he coached them further. Prayer group leaders can focus on mentoring those who have their same charisms. Spend time, share audio and video resources, and intentionally guide them in developing their charism for effective ministry. Offer suggestions, provide both positive and negative feedback, be a good listener, ask for their concerns, withhold judgment, respond with understanding, and rejoice with them that their names are written in heaven (Lk 10:20).

### **5. Teach and Direct**

Jesus spent time teaching his disciples how to operate in their charisms. He taught them how to fast and pray, deliver people from evil spirits, feed the hungry, heal the sick, forgive, preach, go out on mission, to teach using parables. Surely Jesus and his apostles even had quiet teaching times together. As prayer group leaders we must intentionally and regularly teach others how to operate in their charisms. Such teachings lay the foundation for facilitating prayer group members who embrace their gifts and freely operate in

them. Most important of all, leaders must provide opportunities for their people to practice operating in the charisms. There is absolutely no point in teaching others about their charisms if we never call them forth.

### **6. Correct**

Jesus frequently corrected his apostles when they strayed from Kingdom realities. We see this when he tells the apostles to let the little children come to him, rebukes Peter, corrects John for complaining about non-followers casting out demons, and corrects Peter to wash his feet, to name but a few incidents. We must let those we mentor and coach know it is okay to receive correction. Correction is a powerful teaching experience, remembered and used to transform how we think about ministry and how we minister in the future.

### **7. Praise and Pray**

We must praise our people when they do operate in their charisms. This may seem awkward at first. However, when prayer group members are just beginning to operate in their gifts, they are so blessed when they receive praise and thanks from leaders for stepping out in faith and courage.

Jesus told his disciples he had to leave so that his Father could send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit. Before Jesus was crucified, he prayed to his Father on behalf of his apostles that they would be safeguarded. "While I was with them, I was keeping them in your name which you have given me; and I guarded them ... Sanctify them in the truth" (Jn 17:12,17). We too must be in continual prayer for those who will come after us—those who will lead, preach, teach, heal, prophesy, exhort, encourage and discern.

**Facilitators** continued on page 12

## The 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference:

*Let us pray with one heart  
together with Mary  
in the Upper Room*

by Msgr. Joseph Malagreca

**O**n June 1–3 of this year, there will be the national Charismatic Conference held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in downtown Philadelphia. The title of this Conference is “Let us pray with one heart together with Mary in the Upper Room.” I invite you to Philadelphia this year! If you are going to any event, this should be the one, because...

### 1. The Upper Room with Mary

Like the great 1992 –25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in Pittsburgh, this Conference is a renewed invitation to an “Upper Room Experience.” Over the years of Charismatic Renewal, the Holy Spirit draws us back to the place of Pentecost. When you see a Conference with an Upper Room theme, it is because the Spirit wants to accomplish a fresh outpouring, a lived effusion, a “new Pentecost.” The featured speakers—Michelle Moran from ICCRS; Fr. James Kelly from Venezuela; Bishop Sam Jacobs from Louisiana; and myself—have been called to enkindle this Pentecostal experience. The discerners of this Conference have placed several great Renewal themes into the Upper Room: prayer, unity, Mary. **You need to be part of this!**

### 2. A Multi-cultural experience

Since the birth of the Charismatic Renewal in 1967, the Renewal has spread throughout the Church and is an integral part of Catholic life in every country. In this great country of the United States, where the Catholic Church is so alive in her immigrants, the Charismatic Renewal is very vibrant in every immigrant Catholic group. This Conference is presented by a number of those groups: the Haitian, Filipino and Hispanic National Service Committees, as well as the Association of Diocesan Liaisons, the National



Service Committee and the Catholic Fraternity of Covenant Communities. I entreat you to not just stay within your own community for Renewal. Come to an experience where you can be part of the great Catholic Church, the universal family of Jesus made up of brothers and sisters of all races and cultures. These combined efforts—Providence, RI in 1991; Pittsburgh, PA in 1992; Rutgers University, NJ in 1996; Pittsburgh, PA in 1997 and 2002; Meadowlands, NJ in 2007—have always borne the great fruits of **unity** and **Catholic vision**. **You need to be part of this!**

### 3. Unity

In the Acts of the Apostles, in Chapter 1, verses 13–14, we read: “and when they reached the city, they went to the Upper Room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. With one heart, all these joined constantly in prayer, together with some women, including Mary the Mother of Jesus.” These verses are the inspiration for the Conference theme. Luke makes these verses the opening to the Pentecost narrative. The Pentecost story is closed by similar verses, Acts 2:42, “They remained faithful to the teaching of the Apostles, to the communion, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.” The great sources of unity in the Catholic Church

## Seeking the Lord Together

In January members of the NSC met with about thirty other leaders in the Gathering of National Leadership Groups: Catholic Charismatic Renewal to seek the Lord together as we celebrate the Renewal's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and make plans for a 5 year Journey to our Jubilee in 2017. Our time together was spent in prayer, sharing by each group about what we have done in the last year in response to what the Lord said in the Gathering in 2011, discussing baptism in the Holy Spirit in light of the forthcoming ICCRS document on it, and discussing the journey to the Jubilee. As an introduction to the discussion on baptism in the Holy Spirit we watched a video done by a French Community (in English). It is available by contacting [netforgod@chemin-neuf.org](mailto:netforgod@chemin-neuf.org).

In March thirty charismatic leaders, including ten Catholics, met at Regent University for the Charismatic Leaders' Fellowship, which brings together leaders in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, the Renewal among the historic Protestant churches (Lutheran, Methodist, etc.), Pentecostals, and non-denominational charismatics for prayer and conversation about topics of mutual interest. This year Dr. Mark Rutland, President of Oral Roberts University, addressed us on "The Road Ahead for the Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements" and Fr. Peter Hocken, a theologian who has long been involved in the Renewal both here in the U.S. and abroad, spoke on the "Spiritual Unity in the Body of Christ."

The timing and location of the CLF meeting allowed the participants to attend a coming together of Pentecostal leaders (including what they call next generation leaders), and scholars from the Society of Pentecostal Studies, in Converge 21. It was sponsored by Empowered 21 whose Vision Statement is "That every person on Earth would have an authentic encounter with Jesus Christ through the Power and Presence of the Holy Spirit... by Pentecost 2033." For more information, visit [www.empowered21.com](http://www.empowered21.com).

Throughout these meetings/events the Lord is saying that he is continuing to pour out his Spirit, if we but seek him. Whatever our differences with Pentecostals (and there are many) their vision is a challenge to us in the Renewal, and in light of our religious liberty challenges in the U.S., our need to work together has never been greater. ♦

and, of course, in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, are: **Pope and Apostles; Mary; prayer; Communion; the Holy Spirit.** In this Conference, all of these sources of unity will be experienced. The **Apostles** will be present, not only in the presence of **Bishop Sam Jacobs**, but also in **Archbishop Charles Chaput**, who has graciously agreed to celebrate the opening Mass. **Mary** will be present—we have already made plans to underline Our Lady's essential role in the Conference and in our Renewal. **Prayer**—for are we not charismatics who will give a very important role to the place of prayer in this Conference? **Communion**—the Conference will begin with Mass, end with Mass, and include the celebration of Mass in all the Saturday sessions, and have opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration. And the **Holy Spirit**—for we go to the Upper Room for this new Pentecost. **You need to be part of this!**

### 4. The 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The occasion of this Conference is to celebrate 45 years of Charismatic Renewal. Like every anniversary, we look back and look forward. In looking back, we join together to thank Jesus for this great outpouring of his Spirit in our lifetime. **You need to be part of this!**

### 5. Preparing the next five years

And looking forward, we wish to begin a **five-year period of preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**. At the close of the 2007 National Conference in the Meadowlands, Bishop Jacobs challenged the Renewal to begin to prepare the Jubilee. The national bodies which are preparing this Conference, in consultation with ICCRS, are discerning a spiritual plan to bring us to our Great Jubilee. This plan will be launched at the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference. **You need to be part of this!**

Spirit of God, come  
renew the Renewal! Come and stir  
up within us the desire to evangelize  
in power! Draw us to the Upper  
Room where together with Mary  
we can be bathed in your  
Pentecostal Fire! ♦

*Ordained a Roman Catholic priest for the Diocese of Brooklyn in 1976, Msgr. Joseph Malagrecia is presently the pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Brooklyn, NY. He is the Coordinator of the Charismatic Renewal for Hispanic and Haitian Prayer Groups in the Brooklyn Diocese.*



*Msgr. Malagrecia is also the chairperson of the Planning Committee for the upcoming 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference for the Renewal, to be held in Philadelphia.*



**Facilitators** from page 9

### 8. Step Aside and Trust

After only three years of mentoring, Jesus stepped aside—going to the Cross, trusting that the Holy Spirit would complete the work in his apostles. We too must step aside, trusting in the work of the Spirit, so that others can step up.

The best way to encourage commitment in those we lead is to grow them to lead! Grow prophets to prophesy, pastors to pastor, teachers to teach, discerners to discern, and helpers to help. Grow those with wisdom to speak their wisdom, those with knowledge to share their knowledge, intercessors to intercede, those with word of knowledge to proclaim their word, those with faith to help those who have weak faith, and assist those with the charism of healing to grow in the exercise of this gift through which Jesus heals. Leaders as

facilitators will raise up diverse ministers of all ages, walks in life, character traits, and dispositions. Jesus showed us how to lead others into ministry. Are we ready to pray, invite, model, mentor, teach, correct, praise, and step aside to grow our people who will grow our ministries? If so, then we will be like Jesus, leaders who are facilitators! ♦

*Renee Marazon is a Catholic author, consultant, workshop and retreat presenter. She serves as Coordinator of the Diocese of Toledo Ministry to Catholic Charismatic Renewal Healing Ministry and Outreach to Parishes Ministry. She presently serves on the NSC Council.*



## NSC OUTREACH EVENTS

To foster the dynamic grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit the NSC serves the Renewal by offering:

### Events for leaders:

- Teaching & Ministry Days
- Retreats

### Events for Renewal participants:

- Praise & Teaching Rallies "Jesus Lives! Pour Out Your Spirit Anew!"
- Teaching & Ministry Days
- Men's Retreats "Men of His Kingdom."

"The National Service Team speakers were wonderful and yet so down to earth, the praise was so uplifting and it is always such a blessing to be with brothers and sisters who have been freed by the power of the Holy Spirit."

For more information:  
[www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org)

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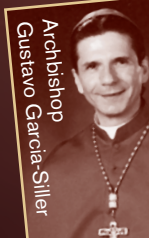
Nancy Kellar, S.C.



Walter Matthews



Archbishop  
Gustavo Garcia-Siller



## A time for collaboration not competition

by Deacon Darrell Wentworth  
Diocese of Richmond, VA

I have the privilege of being a member of many Catholic charismatic organizations; thus giving me an opportunity to see how the Holy Spirit weaves the various charisms in the church together. I serve my bishop in two ways: first, as his Liaison for Charismatic Renewal. Bishop Francis DiLorenzo agreed to change my title to his Liaison “for” so that it expresses more accurately the goal of renewing the charisms within every baptized Catholic. My goal is to establish a Charismatic group in every diocesan entity collaborating, not competing, with its pastoral structure to enliven the charisms in its members. As a deacon I try to model *Apostolicam Actuositatem* 24 (Apostolate of the Laity), where Pope Paul VI encouraged the hierarchy to empower the laity.

Second, I serve him as liaison to Pentecostal and Charismatic traditions, working to promote unity among all those who have experienced baptism in the Spirit. The Renewal develops relationships among Christian traditions and works on joint service projects. Together we have built two medical clinics out of cargo containers and donated one to the Archdiocese of San Salvador and the other to an Assembly of God missionary compound in Haiti.

I also have the privilege of being a member of New Creation Community. New Creation ministers by providing the major systems for renewal. They own and manage the Renewal Center; coordinate Theophostic ministers; help The Spiritual Direction Academy train new directors; and provide formation for new charismatic groups. Other covenant communities in our diocese also collaborate together for renewal. The Missioners of Christ evangelize youth and young adults through programs, retreats and missionary activities inside our diocese and in Honduras.

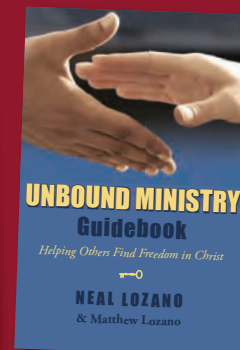
Since New Creation is a member of the Catholic Fraternity, I also experience how the global Renewal collaborates at the heart of the Church. In 2010 Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko, president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, brought ICCRS and the Catholic Fraternity into the Council. Each organization’s bylaws require them to work together renewing the Church. This models for Liaisons the need to encourage Covenant Communities and prayer groups to also

collaborate in renewal efforts. Cardinal Paul Cordes expressed that goal well when he encouraged charismatics to focus on our primary charism: we are “at the heart of the Church”; called to renew the charisms already present in the Church by promoting “baptism in the Holy Spirit” and working for the reunification of the Church through grass roots ecumenical endeavors.

I am confident that as we intentionally collaborate, not compete, with each other we will enliven the Renewal, our parishes, our dioceses and the Church in the Americas. ♦

For more information on the Diocesan Liaison ministry go to [www.NADL.net](http://www.NADL.net).

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**From the  
Executive  
Director**

.....



by Walter Matthews

## Ongoing Formation

**M**y first encounter with leaders of other movements was in 1987. What struck me then and continues to strike me in these days of working with Bishop Sam Jacobs in the initiative he writes about elsewhere in this issue, is the opportunity for solid formation provided in most of the other movements.

In the early years of the Renewal, there was a formation that was given that most of us took advantage of: Conferences (National and Regional) pastored by the National Service Committee and given by gifted teachers from the NSC and others; *New Covenant* Magazine was *the* Renewal publication which provided solid teaching as well as inspiration; a multiplication of audio-cassettes (remember them?) were available; and “every” new book was devoured by “everyone.”

In recent years, the consistent and solid formation of Renewal participants has been lacking for many. The result is that when I learned what kind of training someone in the Neocatechumenal Way must receive before he is sent out in mission, I must admit to envy and sadness. Those who will present a Cursillo Weekend must spend months in preparing and sharing talks with the team, and receiving criticism, before they can give them. Imagine if we prepared Life in the Spirit Seminars in the same way! We might achieve what Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa challenged us to do several years ago: have “more effective Life in the Spirit Seminars.”

The need for ongoing formation, especially of leaders, has been a consistent theme of many of the Papal encouragements we have received over the last thirty years! In *Christifideles Laici*, Pope John Paul II wrote of “*the call to growth and a continual process of maturation, of always bearing much fruit.*” (57) Formation as Christians, as Catholics, and in life in the Spirit is always important, but is even more so in these troubled times when our consciences and religious liberty are being assaulted.

The NSC continues to work to provide formation in a number of ways:

- Conferences like the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference and the Leaders’ and Ministries’ Conference;
- *Pentecost Today* and a newly launched e-Newsletter;
- 17 NSC Leaflets, 3 Booklets of reprints from *Pentecost Today*, *There’s Always More* (a growth Seminar for post-Life in the Spirit); and now
- online formation (see Jane Guenther’s Column on page 15).

**The opportunities are there but each of us must take advantage of them for our own lives, and those in our families and in our communities.**

In his Lenten message, Pope Benedict XVI reflected on Hebs 10:24: “Let us be concerned for each other, to stir as response in love and good works.” He challenged us: “There is always the temptation to become lukewarm, to quench the Spirit, to refuse to invest the talents we have received, for our own good and for the good of others (cf. Mt 25:25ff.)”

I may at times envy the systematic formation of other movements, but I rejoice that in the formation available within the Renewal we can be men and women of holiness, who are called into mission, empowered by the fire of the Holy Spirit. The times demand it, and the Church needs us. Let us not hold back. ♦

## Friends of the NSC

In the continuing economic malaise the National Service Committee is very grateful to our donors for your generosity in 2011. Although our Expenses for the year exceeded our Income by \$15,300 this was significantly better than the budgeted deficit of \$69,189. We were able to adopt such a negative budget because of the past generosity of our donors allowing us to enter 2011 with a surplus.

It is important to remember our history is one of trusting the Lord. With the exception of 2001 our Actual has exceeded Budget 11 of the last 12 years. In addition, in those 12 years we have ended in the black 7 of the 10 years we have adopted a negative budget. We were helped significantly by our donors as our Fund Raising Income was \$16,302 above projection. Thank you.

In hope again our 2012 budget adopted is in the red. We believe that in order to continue to do the work the Lord has called it to do we need the current staffing of our office which serves also as a National Office for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, we need to continue to publish *Pentecost Today* and print/distribute 7500 copies, and we need to meet in person to hear the Lord together. We believe we have trimmed the budget the best we can. The issue is one of raising the funds necessary to meet or exceed the discerned expenses. To that end,

- ◆ If Donors would increase their donations 5% we would cover the 2011 deficit;
- ◆ If every recipient of *Pentecost Today* who is not an active donor would send a \$10 donation we would significantly reduce the projected deficit in 2012;
- ◆ If every prayer group would send a Memorial gift to remember and honor deceased members or leaders in this 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year we would reduce the projected deficit in 2012;
- ◆ If every donor would encourage one other Renewal member to become a donor we would not only cover the deficit but have the funds for the **MORE** the Lord wants us to do as we journey to our Jubilee in 2017.

Again *thank you* for your 2011 generosity; we count on you in 2012. Please continue to pray with us the Memorare to St. Joseph found in the January/February/March issue.



# PENTECOST *Today*

Volume 37 Number 2

## Executive Director

Walter Matthews

## Editorial Board

Jane Guenther

Fr. Bob Hogan, BBD

Tammie Stevens

## Editor

Sr. Martha Jean McGarry, IHM

## Production Manager

Jean Beers

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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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National Service Committee  
Chariscenter USA

PO Box 628

Locust Grove, VA 22508-0628

Tel. (540) 972-0225

[www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org)

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## What we have seen and heard

.....

by Jane Guenther



## New! Online Formation

"See I am doing something new" (Is 43:19a). This scriptural word from the Prophet Isaiah allows me to reflect on the promises of the season of Lent, where I seek my sins to be wiped away and new life and freedom to be experienced. In that same chapter it goes on to say, "The people I formed for myself..." (Is 43:21a). We are born in the image and likeness of God so that we could freely praise him; we are indeed formed by God. The effects of the world challenge the likeness of God that we are able to present to one another. So it is necessary for us to look for ways to more fully be formed to reflect his likeness to one another.

It is true that Jesus came to teach, to heal and deliver. In order for this formation, this teaching, to be accomplished in this day of modern technology, I would like to introduce you to a new endeavor of the National Service Committee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, that of **Online Formation**. We are launching a first of what is planned to be an ongoing opportunity to spread what some have called the best-kept secret—"the treasure of the Holy Spirit."

The first offering of online formation will be in the format of teaching modules formulated by Fr. Bob Hogan, BBD Director of the Catholic Center for Charismatic Renewal in San Antonio, Texas. As you navigate our website [www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org) you will see on the left hand column Online Formation. If you click on that you will be led to three modules that are available at present as online formation for yourself or your prayer group.

They are in the areas of Praise and Worship, Scripture and the Holy Spirit, and Prayer Group Formation.

**Praise and Worship** will consist of four sections: Praise and Worship, Praise and Worship in Prayer Meetings, Praise and Worship Leading, Praise and Worship Starters.

**In the area of Scripture and the Holy Spirit** there will be two sections: The Role of the Holy Spirit in Scripture, and Biblical Spirituality and the Holy Spirit.

**The final module on Prayer Group Formation** will offer four sections: Discipleship and Christian Leadership, Attitudes of Christian Leadership, Prayer Groups that manifest the Holy Spirit, and Developing Teamwork in Prayer Groups. The material is presented and then a series of questions follow that will help you more fully embrace the material. We will be adding the content to these modules over the next several months. Please continue to visit these modules as we build and add to this exciting resource.

In the Book of Revelation, we read: "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door..." (Rev 3:20). We are asking that you utilize the giftedness of those teachers in our midst who help to form us more fully in our faith and open us to the Holy Spirit by opening the doorway of online formation to spread the Gospel truth and witness to the presence of the Holy Spirit. As we persevere in keeping the likeness of God we will be more apt to enter into praising God—good practice for our eternal life. ♦

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45<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

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heart together with Mary  
in the Upper Room*



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