



RENEWAL MINISTRIES

CATHOLIC RENEWAL & EVANGELIZATION

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JULY 2024



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Dear Friends,

Each day brings a new adventure, a new challenge, a new invitation, doesn't it?

*What will the Lord place in my path today?
How can I be alert to what God is giving me to do?*

*What will the challenge of the day be?
To resist temptation? To love? To forgive?*

*What will the Lord invite me into today?
To take up my cross, deny myself and my selfish inclinations, and follow Him?
To obey, love, pray, and offer my body as a living sacrifice?*

My invitation today is to deny myself and write this newsletter. I love doing it. I love sharing with you what the Lord is doing. But believe it or not, writing is hard for me. I write a lot, but it is still hard work!

When discerning what speaking, traveling, or writing invitations to accept, I ask the Lord for wisdom and guidance, but I also have some general principles that I think He has given me. I do not judge speaking invitations on whether the crowd will be big enough or if they will offer an honorarium (which I greatly appreciate, as my wife and

I are helping a number of our grandchildren to attend Catholic schools). I think the Lord has asked me to speak the precious Word of God as often as possible, regardless of the number of people attending.

I feel that same call regarding invitations to do shorter writing assignments or Zoom interviews with small ministries in various countries. In fact, I recently did some Zoom speaking engagements with groups in Slovenia and Italy. I usually experience the inspiration of the Holy Spirit when I do so, even when I'm tired or it's late at night due to different time zones.

For longer writing assignments that require much time and "blood, sweat, and tears," I usually do not accept an invitation coming from others but will move forward if the call seems to come directly from the Lord. And after I complete a major writing assignment, in my weakness, I usually hope the Lord gives me a lot of time before asking me to undertake another one. While this attitude may not please the Lord, if He does give me another writing assignment sooner than I would like, I certainly will do it.

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Archbishop Thomas Wenski of Miami, Florida, presents Ralph with the New Evangelization Award on behalf of the Neo-Catechumenal Way. Fr. Emanuele de Negrìs, rector of the Redemptoris Mater Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary of Miami, is in the background. ▶



In fact, I just finished one such assignment! It is a memoir about my journey with the Lord all these years, entitled *A Life in the Spirit*. As we go to press with the newsletter, we do not have an exact release date, but pre-orders will start this summer. Watch our website at www.renewalministries.net for news about when pre-order sales and the book itself will become available!

In the meantime, a lot is happening. Pete just returned from Australia, where he gave many talks to a gathering of about six-hundred immigrants from India who are part of the Jesus Youth movement. Debbie Herbeck and the Be Love Revolution team continue an intense schedule of helping high school and middle school students at many area schools. Many of our team members, including Pete and Debbie, are getting ready for our Pine Hills summer camps. Peter is scheduled to spend nearly two weeks in Lithuania in June. Rachel is helping lead a young adult mission trip to Mexico in July. And when you receive this newsletter, Anne and I will likely be in Uganda with Bishop Scott McCaig, CC, spending two weeks leading a retreat for over 650 priests in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

☑ Ralph recently spoke at a Come and See event at St. Ann's Church in Augusta, Michigan.



☑ During his time in Miami, Ralph stayed at a seminary for the Neocatechetical Way. He was grateful to share in times of prayer with the seminarians (pictured above).

Recently, I was in Miami, Florida, to receive a New Evangelization Award from the Archbishop of Miami, Archbishop Wenski, on behalf of the Neocatechumenal Way—they don't want to be called a movement. And what an amazing Way this is!

After making a Cursillo in Spain, founder Kiko Argüello believed that "Christendom"—the Catholic culture that used to be dominant in Western countries—was finished. He believed it could not be resuscitated and decided to rebuild it by forming communities and making missionary disciples.

Argüello saw that human beings today are deeply infected by the world, the flesh, and the devil. He believed we need a lengthy process—a lengthy

neocatechumenate, as called for by Vatican II—to make our way to being "adult Christians."

In 1987, in Rome, he began helping to establish a network of international, missionary-oriented seminaries to form priests who can provide this kind of formation. Today, there are 120 of these *Redemptoris Mater* seminaries throughout the world. More than 2500 priests have already been ordained, with thousands of seminarians in the process of preparation.

The Neocatechumenal Way priests are incardinated in the diocese where their seminary is located, with the understanding that if the local bishop deems it possible, some will be released for missionary work in various parts of the world. There are nine such seminaries in the United States.

I have known about the Way for many years and even have had teams of them present in my summer class for Licentiate in Sacred Theology (STL) students at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. Therefore, I was grateful to immerse myself in their life for several days in connection with receiving the award. I turned down the offer of staying in a nice hotel and chose to stay in the seminary, where I participated in daily prayer and a wonderful Saturday evening Mass for some of the local Neocatechumenal communities. The seminarians hailed from eight differ-



ent countries, and I was very inspired by the fervor of their prayer and their joy. I was also very inspired as I heard some of the experiences of the local communities, which they shared in connection with the Mass. The Way is a beautiful incarnation of what Vatican II called for and what St. John Paul II facilitated in his approval of the statutes of the Way.

Another amazingly inspiring aspect of the Way is that hundreds of families have volunteered to be sent anywhere—their destinations are chosen by lot—to plant the Church where it is weak or does not exist.

In this issue, you also will read about how some of our supporters are making use of our booklets to evangelize in the most wonderful of ways. Please consider making use of our booklets yourself by giving them to people or leaving them in places where they may be read.

Grateful for your friendship and support,

Ralph Martin

Ralph

P.S. Peter and I just returned from Gary, Indiana, where we participated in a Mass of Thanksgiving for twenty-five years of priesthood of a member of our board, Bishop Robert McClory, bishop of Gary, Indiana. It was a joyful celebration. 🍷



Testimonials of SIMPLE & POWERFUL TOOLS

We reached out to people who purchased multiple copies of our booklets to learn how they used them to spread God's Word. We hope their responses inspire you! You can view our booklets at www.renewalministries.net/booklets.

A recent convert from Arizona bought one-hundred copies of *What Must I Do to Be Saved?* She shared them with her ladies' sodality and plans to "hand them out to friends and family in hopes that they will also convert." She also includes the booklets in care bags for the homeless.

Before her conversion, she was injured by a surgery and needed three additional surgeries. She had four young children and started thinking about where she would go after she died. A friend told her about the Catholic Church. She said, "I started to understand how to be saved—which is why this booklet is so important."

She also shares Ralph Martin's book *The Fulfillment of All Desire* with others. She explained,

"I was raised Baptist, but I did Jeff Cavins' Bible timeline series. Then, a friend gave me *The Fulfillment of All Desire*. It helped me understand why saints are our friends. I fell in love with St. Theresa of Avila, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, and St. John of the Cross. I don't know if I would have converted without it. People say there is something different about me. My sister-in-law is even converting! All Catholics should read it!"

A woman from North Carolina purchased thirty copies of *Receiving Fire* to give to friends and put on the book rack at her church. She explained,

"I want to share something about the Holy Spirit. I don't think many people at my parish know why they come to church."

Amid cancer treatments, she finds strength in her faith. She said,

"No matter what, we have to hope—our hope is in Him."

She even spoke about Jesus to the woman who put in the port for her cancer treatments.

She added,

"In this day and this time, we've got to open our mouths, share about our Lord and what hope is, and tell others the truth in love."

...

A man from Georgia ordered seventy-five copies of *Unfailing Promises*. He used it to lead a four-week teaching session for his prayer group.

"It's a perfect evangelization tool for parishioners who don't know why they are there. It opens a whole world for those Catholics who come to church every Sunday because they always have. They're trying, but no connection is being made, and they don't know how much more is available to them. This booklet helps it click and makes them hungry for more. It's amazing to watch the lights go on."



STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

BY ANTHONY FEOLA

Associate Director of Discipleship Formation for the Archdiocese of Detroit and a Renewal Ministries' Mission Team Member

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place which he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was to go.”

(Heb 11:1,8)

The biblical story of Abraham begins with his father, Terah, moving his entire family from Ur (modern-day Iraq) to the land of Canaan (Israel). Stopping short of the goal, Terah settles his family in Haran (Turkey). Here God reveals Himself to Abram, saying,

“Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.”

(Gn 11:27-12:3)

Abram immediately obeys without further clarity on the front end of his journey. Leaving behind his earthly inheritance and receiving a new name, Abraham enters a divine covenant with God, obtaining understanding along the way with an abundance of opportunities to trust his heavenly Father. As a result of unwavering obedience, he steps into God’s promises, which not only affects his life but the lives of all who place their faith in God! For this reason, Abraham is rightly called “the father of faith” (Heb 11:8, Rom 4:16).

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, “By faith, man completely submits his intellect and his will to God. With his whole being man gives his assent to God the revealer. Sacred Scripture calls this human response to God, the author of revelation, ‘the obedience of faith.’ . . . By faith ‘man freely commits his entire self to God’” (CCC 143, 1814).

I first stepped into this “obedience of faith” as a young man who had fallen away from the Church and then was evangelized by the bold witness of a Spirit-filled, non-Catholic believer. I experienced a powerful baptism in the Holy Spirit that reactivated the baptismal graces I received as a child! Soon afterward, one of the most defining moments of my own faith journey occurred when a missionary vocation began to stir in my heart, and I heard the God of Abraham invite me to go to a missionary training school in Sweden. I had never left my country, nor did I have the money to do so. After prayerfully wrestling through all my excuses, I decided to trust the Holy Spirit to lead me one step at a time, and I freely committed my entire self to God.

First, I sent my application and was accepted to the school. Next, I applied for my first passport and residence study visa and received them both. I worked a summer job but still did not have enough money to live overseas. I prayed, “Lord, this isn’t enough. What do You want me to do?” I sensed Him challenging me to give an offering from my insufficient funds towards someone else’s ministry and to trust Him for provision. Much to my surprise, after I stepped out in faith, a family member gifted me a one-way ticket to Sweden! I had what I needed for that initial directive from God to “go.” I departed America with that one-way ticket, approximately \$1000, a suitcase, a backpack, and faith in God.

On the other side of the Atlantic, the weight of my decision (undoubtedly intensified by jet lag) came crashing down on my mind as I argued with myself:

“Anthony, you only have a thousand dollars! You can’t work here on a student visa! It’s just a matter of time before they deport you back to America! What have you done?”

Fear and doubt gripped my heart. Instead of giving in to fear, I opened my Bible and began to pray. The fight of faith had begun (1 Tm 6:12).

Taking one step of faith after another, I experienced God’s provision one day at a time, sometimes in supernatural ways and sometimes at the very last possible minute. The next two years proved to be a challenging, exciting,

”

After prayerfully wrestling through all my excuses, I decided to trust the Holy Spirit to lead me one step at a time, and I freely committed my entire self to God.

and purifying season that unified me with God's specific plan and will for my life. One small step of obedience opened the door to the vocation of international mission, marriage, family, my eventual homecoming to the Catholic Church, and so many divinely orchestrated opportunities that continue to this day! Most importantly, every step of faith has led to greater purification and deeper union with God Himself.

Why would God call Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, the Apostles, all the saints throughout Church history, and you and me to step into the unknown and trust Him in ways that defy human logic? Why take the risk to believe and obey before knowing all the details? Why would anyone say yes in moments like these?

The deepest longing of every human heart is a "city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb 11:10). None of the heroes of faith received the fullness of what had been promised this side of heaven, but "having seen it from afar" they walked as "strangers and exiles on the earth" (Heb 11:13). They became detached from the logic and fading pleasures of this world because they were "seeking a homeland" (Heb 11:14). They desired "a better country, that is, a heavenly one," and as a result heaven began to spill over into their present (Heb 11:16).

This is why Abraham left Ur and Moses fled Egypt. This is why the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea and encircled the walls of Jericho. This is why Rahab helped the spies and hung the scarlet cord from her window. This is why Gideon led an army of three hundred against thousands. Their faith was the substance that laid hold

The deepest longing of every human heart is a "city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

of and united their heavenly hope of tomorrow into their today.

This is why some endured torture, mocking, scourging, chains, and imprisonment. This is why others were stoned, sawn in two, killed with the sword, and wandered in deserts, mountains, dens, and caves of the earth destitute, afflicted, and ill-treated. They believed they would "rise again to a better life" (Heb 11).

The world has never been, nor will it ever be, worthy of people whose lives are marked by the substance that is "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Heb 11:1). This substance called faith is the "victory that overcomes the world" (1 Jn 5:4). It enables us to obtain the future fulfillment of all our deepest longings: heaven.

Along the way, in the here and now of our earthly pilgrimage,

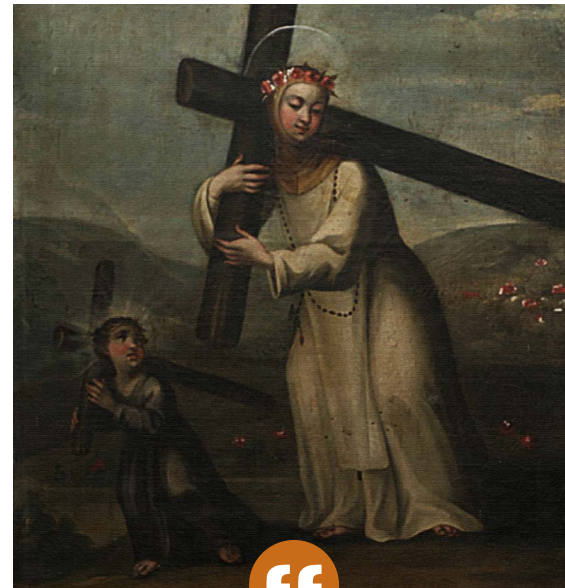
faith draws the future into the present, so that it is no longer simply a "not yet." The fact that this future exists changes the present; the present is touched by the future reality, and thus the things of the future spill over into those of the present and those of the present into those of the future. (Pope Benedict XVI, *Spe Salvi* 7)

Let us heed the advice in Hebrews to "lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" (Heb 12:1-2). We do this because He is the "Alpha and the Omega . . . who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty" (Rv 1:8). Jesus is heaven spilling over into our lives today. Even so, come Lord Jesus! (Rv 22:20)



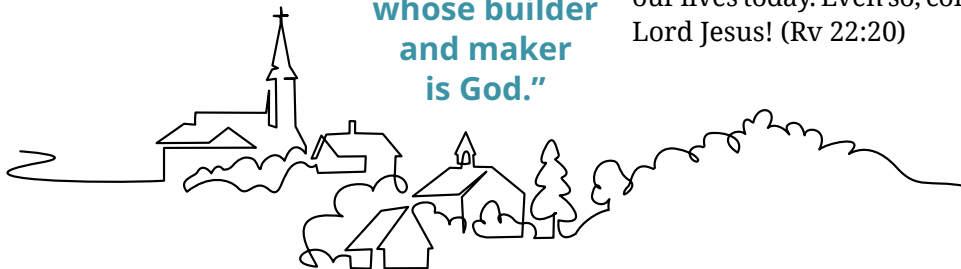
PLEASE PRAY

- For those around the world who strive to bring the light of Christ into the darkness. May the Lord bless, protect, guide, and strengthen them.
- For those living in countries ravaged by war or its after-effects. May the Lord bring healing and peace, as well as material provisions.
- For the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.



Know that the greatest service that man can offer to God is to help convert souls.

// St. Rose of Lima





SPREADING THE GOSPEL IN RWANDA



BY NANCY GREENHAW
Co-Country Coordinator for Rwanda

Nancy and Lloyd Greenhaw minister in the United States, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, and several other countries in Africa. They conduct missions, conferences, and retreats for adults and youth. They also are involved in prison ministry and work with the homeless.

Nancy and Lloyd live in Texas and have two daughters, fourteen grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren.

Our mission in Rwanda began in the Gikongoro Diocese with a beautiful celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Lloyd spoke about the promises of the Jubilee and applying those promises to our lives. He concluded by inviting the people to stand, raise their right hands, and rededicate their lives to Jesus. All did so, and there was much rejoicing!

The next day, we traveled about four hours to Ruhengeri for a retreat with priests and religious. Our interpreter spent six years in America to get her doctorate. She is a genocide survivor and has been through years of therapy and counseling. She also translated for us last year, when she discovered a new level of freedom through the

Five Keys, which are repentance and faith, forgiveness, renunciation, taking authority, and the Father's blessing. I prayed with her, and the next week, she taught five-hundred people the Five Keys! She will be an excellent teacher!

As we went through the retreat, it became clear that by the power of the Five Keys, God is at work in this group of priests and religious. Everyone committed to becoming part of a Catholic Charismatic Group focused on evangelization with the Five Keys. At the end, all the participants wanted the baptism of the Holy Spirit, especially the gift of tongues—and it looked like almost everyone received it. It was a powerful time!



The Holy Spirit moved powerfully during our retreat for priests and religious in Ruhengeri.



We then celebrated Rwanda's fiftieth anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal with a huge outdoor healing Mass attended by about fifteen-thousand people. Lloyd gave a powerful talk that challenged people to forgive, repent, and renounce their sins. He also led them in a prayer to invite Jesus into their hearts. It is always amazing to see the power of the Gospel setting people free. There was much rejoicing!

At the end of Mass, our friend Father Fernando took Jesus through the crowd. He has a healing gift and a highly developed gift of words of knowledge. There was praise and worship and dancing before the Lord before the Mass started. It is always amazing to see the huge wooden chalices filled to the brim with hosts. It took about twenty priests and at least ten sisters about an hour to distribute communion to the thousands of people. All the priests were escorted beneath blue and white umbrellas. Then Fr. Fernando and all the priests took Jesus through the crowds in the monstrance, which took about another hour.

We led a lay leaders' retreat for over five-hundred people from nine dioceses. The sessions were a powerful tool toward healing from the Rwandan genocide.



While in the Gikongoro Diocese, we celebrated a beautiful Mass in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Rwanda.

Later, we led a lay leaders' retreat attended by people from nine different Rwandan dioceses. Charismatic Renewal members from the area opened their homes to people attending the retreat. Retreat organizers fed participants breakfast and lunch, and then host families fed them dinner and gave them a place to sleep. Nobody had to get a hotel or search for food!

Each day of the retreat included Mass and teachings that ran over projected times due to the people's hunger for God. We were amazed at the number of participants! Over three-hundred people registered, but over five-hundred people showed up. All had heard about the power of the Five Keys and had many questions about the Five Keys and a host of things related to increasing confusion in the world and the Church.

Lloyd taught them that the Church exists to evangelize. He discussed the four last things and explained that heaven and hell are real. He quoted St. John Paul II about the ministry of Jesus, who used healing and deliverance to bring people to the faith that leads to salvation. He told them that for the last number of years, the Church has focused on God's love, which is good, but has left out the vital reality that all die and come before judgment. He encouraged them to preach the whole Gospel!

I discussed repentance. Many people don't know that things they accept from their culture are sins. People were so engaged, they insisted on writing down every quote and Scripture verse. We had great times of ministry at the end of the talks on renunciation, where the participants eagerly got into kicking out things that have troubled them for years. When I led all the participants in a prayer of forgiveness, there were many tears, breakthroughs, and freedom. We also held sessions on the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

These sessions have become a powerful tool to combat the horror of the Rwandan genocide. Their faith has impacted us as well, as they share about how God has freed them from unbelievable trauma.



EVENTS

JULY 2024 View complete event list at renewalministries.net/events.

Boyer, MI
Focus Sumer Projects*
July 1-3
Pete Burak

Clinton Township, MI
National Apostolate of Maronites' Annual Convention
July 4-7
Peter Herbeck
Details: namnews.org/?nam2024

Indianapolis, IN
Various Activities at the National Eucharistic Congress
July 16-21
Pete Burak & Peter Herbeck

Fremont, NE
Retreat for Priests*
July 21-25
Peter Herbeck

Detroit, MI
Courses for Priests at Sacred Heart Major Seminary*
July 25-August 10
Ralph Martin

Albuquerque, NM
Southwest Catholic Charismatic Conference
July 26-28
Peter Herbeck
Details: abqccc.org/swccc-2024

* Not open to the public.

MISSIONS



Uganda
June 25-July 9
Ralph Martin, Bishop Scott McCaig, & Team

Mexico
July 8-14
Butch Murphy, Rachel Herbeck, and Team

Tanzania
July 9-25
Tom & Jean Marie Edwards, and Team

Cameroon
July 15-29
Peter Newburn & Team



THE CHOICES WE FACE

The Choices We Face is the longest-running Catholic television program in the world! Each episode explores an important topic concerning the faith. Watch these and other episodes on our website at:

www.renewalministries.net/the-choices-we-face

JULY GUESTS & TOPICS:

The Shield of Faith (07/07/24)
// Ralph Martin

Ralph Martin speaks at the 2023 Lift Jesus Higher Rally about using the shield of faith to face the challenges of our day.

Power From On High (07/14/24)
// Patti Mansfield

Patti Mansfield talks about how to experience a personal Pentecost and be clothed with power from on high.

Graced Moments (07/21/24)
// Steve Lee

Steve Lee speaks about his journey from working with the Legionaries of Christ, to Wall Street, to founding Veritas Catholic Network.

Theology of Home (07/28/24)
// Debbie Herbeck & Noelle Mering

Debbie Herbeck and Noelle Mering discuss the purpose and meaning of home and how Christian women can impact culture.

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