Providing Support and Leadership for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal

> Volume 40 Number 2



Southern California Renewal Communities March / April 2012

On Fire or Burned Out?



"Not by might, not by power, but by my Spirit..." (Zc. 4:6)

Every leader longs to be on fire with the Holy Spirit of God, but sadly many of us today are more likely to be burned out and exhausted. Why is this? Surely it's not God's plan to make his leaders so weary that they start making serious mistakes, fall into sin, become ineffective, and so produce little fruit. Were we wrong when we were so sure we heard God calling us into leadership, and were all those faithful people who accepted and affirmed our leadership also wrong? Of course we can be wrong, but this is not usually the answer to my questions. The problem is that leaders often start believing that we are the saviours of the world and that we need to do everything ourselves because no one else can be relied upon to do it properly. We then start trusting in our own strength and ability, and not in God's provision of grace and power through his Holy

Spirit. When we start thinking like this we put ourselves and those we lead at risk of moving away from God's plans and purposes. As St. Paul expresses it in Galatians 3:1-5: "Are you people in Galatia mad? Are you foolish enough to end in outward observances what you began in the Spirit?" To begin to trust in our own strength and ability again quickly leads us to the end of life in the Spirit, and to the start of burn out. How can we avoid this?

MY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD

"Come to me..." (Mt 11:28)

The most important thing for every leader is to be fully submitted to the Lord. This means being faithful in our prayer, in our reading of Scripture, in our sacramental life, and in our acceptance of those the Church places in lawful authority over us. These things are so much more important, if we want to be on

fire with the Spirit, than courses, conferences, programs, techniques, or good ideas. If we are the busiest people in the world but neglect our relationship with the Lord we will certainly fail. This is the simple truth - we all know it - but somehow in the hectic lives we lead we can so easily forget it, with sad consequences. Christian leadership is not about exercising power - it is about having good discernment. It is not about being popular - it is about being faithful to what God asks of us. It is not about having a relevant and dynamic ministry - it is about being a prayerful person. Here are some questions for each of us to consider:

- How would I describe my relationship with the Lord?
- Am I spending good quality time in prayer and in listening to him?
- Do I make time to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, for Adoration, for the Eucharist?

On Fire or Burned Out? continued on page 2

- Am I feeding on the Scriptures and learning God's ways?
- Do I have a wise person to guide me and help me grow spiritually?

Having reminded us of these simple needs, I will now look at some practical things we should do to avoid burn-out through overwork.

GOD'S PRIORITIES

"My thoughts are not your thoughts" (Is. 55:8)

It is essential to know that God has called us, and to have his priorities for the particular work he has called us to carry out. This will help us in a number of ways, in particular it will ensure that we are not dominated by other people's ideas and expectations of what we should be doing. We must be led by God's priorities, not by demand or pressure from others. We also need to recognize and use the gifts God has given us.

Do I have a sense of calling, of purpose, of being part of God's plan.
Do I know the direction in which to go, and do I have the endurance to keep going?
Am I focused on my particular calling, and do I have clear priorities so that I know when to say "yes" to something, and when to say "no"?

• Am I able to use the special gifts God has given me, and do I know in my heart that when God calls me he also equips me for the task to which I am called? What particular gifts have I received?

Knowing God's priorities for my ministry and using my Godgiven gifts will bring me life and will motivate me, because I will see good fruit, and this will encourage not only me but also those I am leading.



GOD'S TIME

"There's a time for everything..." (Ec. 3)

There is always enough time to do those things the Lord is asking us to do. Burn-out occurs when we start trying to do a lot of other things which he is NOT asking us to do, and for which we do not have his anointing or his gifting. Stewardship is a biblical principle which we need to apply to every area of our lives. How am I using the gifts God has given me, the money he gives me, the resources he provides, and above all how am I using my time? There is the same amount of time in a day for all of us, and we are accountable to the Lord for the way we use it. Time is usually lost or wasted in small amounts, but they all add up. So how are we using our time? Here are some questions we need to look at:

Who controls my time – me, God, or other people?
Have I learned to say no to those things which are notpriorities?
Do I give enough time to my relationship with the Lord, with my family and friends, to relaxation and refreshment?

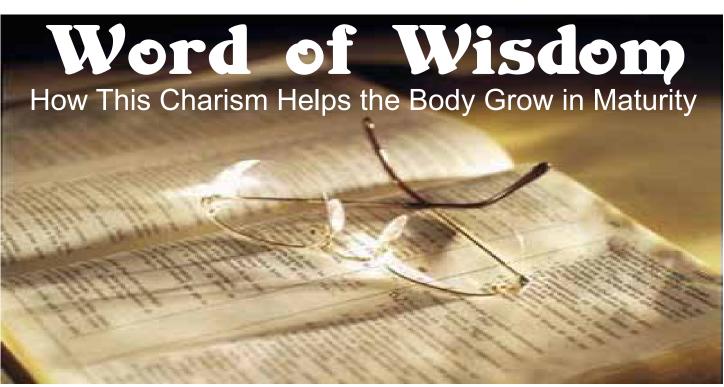
Are there ways
I should be saving time for God's priorities by cutting out those things that are a waste of time?
Who helps me to evaluate the way I use my time?

DELEGATION

"Better two than one by himself..." (Ec. 4:9)

Many of us are reluctant to delegate. We seem to believe we can do everything better ourselves, but the truth is that we can achieve far more as a team than we can on our own. It's better to train 10 people than to do the work of 10 people ourselves, but of course it's harder to do this and it takes longer. But every leader needs to delegate to train others. This does not just avoid burn-out, it also allows others to use their gifts and to grow into their own areas of service and ministry. Here are some excuses people often give for not delegating tasks to others – how many of them apply to you?

- No one can do it as well as I can.
- It takes too long to explain it to someone else.
- I work better on my own.
- I have been let down
- too often in the past.
- No one else is willing to do it and it's my responsibility anyway.
- I like to keep control of everything.
- It must be done properly.
- cannot afford any mistakes.
- I don't have the time to



by Virginia King

harisms are for the Body, for building up the body of Christ. Discerning, developing and using the charisms is essential for the growth and maturing of the Church and for the fulfillment of our mission. Therefore, we must eagerly desire the charisms, as Paul exhorts us in 1 Corinthians 14:1 and pray for them to be manifest in us.

This article focuses on the charism of *word of wisdom*. It is important to make distinctions between natural wisdom, the sanctifying gift of wisdom which is mentioned in Is. 11:2, and the charismatic gift of word of wisdom which is mentioned in 1 Cor. 12:8.

Natural wisdom is a certain understanding that is gained by life experience and by training. We learn natural wisdom from our parents and other mentors and role models. Often the older generation is known as the wisdom generation, because their maturity has given them an abundance of opportunity to gain natural wisdom. For example, in Proverbs 3:1-2, the author exhorts his son to learn from his advice.

The sanctifying gift of wisdom

is an understanding of how God is calling us to live in order to become holy. It is seeing things from God's perspective rather than from our own limited perspective. Whereas natural wisdom is often called "common" sense, the sanctifying gift of wisdom might be called "Godly" sense. And seeing something from God's perspective always involves seeing it through the lens of love. The Holy Spirit gifts us with the ability to understand our lives through the lens of love, which may appear as "foolishness to unbelievers" (1 Cor. 1:20-25).

The **charism of word of wisdom** is a manifestation of the Spirit in a particular time for a particular situation that builds up the body of Christ by providing understanding of how to live or how to respond. This charism may be manifested in a large public gathering or in counseling an individual. It can be a gift of teaching or of healing or of counsel.

My own experience of the word of wisdom has come in apparently casual conversation when I have found myself speaking things that I had never thought about before. The words speak to the person's particular situation with power that is from God. I find that I am learning even as I am speaking. I find myself thinking, "Wow, where did that come from?" at the same time that I am aware that the Holy Spirit is providing the words that the other person needs to hear.

On other occasions, I am not conscious of the inspiration of the Holy Spirit but the person reports back, months or years later, that something I said had a life-changing impact on them. Normally I don't even recall the incident.

The charism of word of wisdom can be a gift for healing when a person engaged in healing prayer ministry is given insight into how to pray for a person. This gift often accompanies a Word of Knowledge – the word of knowledge reveals some facts about the person being prayed for, and the word of wisdom helps us know what to do with those facts, how to act on them. If we receive a word of knowledge about a disturbing incident in a person's past, the word of wisdom will give us understanding

Word of Wisdom continued on page 4

follow up what they are doing.
People expect me to do everything because I'm the leader.
Write your own excuses here – you may have some new ones!

None of these excuses are acceptable, and all of them just add to the pressures on you, the leader. We can avoid stress and burn-out by delegating tasks to those around us who are able to do them. This will allow us to concentrate our efforts on the main things God has given us to do.

SUMMARY

On Fire or Burned out...

If we want to be ON FIRE WITH THE SPIRIT we must take good

care of our relationship with the Lord. There is absolutely no substitute for this. Then we must take care to avoid BURN-OUT by making sure we know the priorities the Lord has given us, and giving our time and energy to these. Don't fall into the trap of taking on too many things which are not priorities for you, even though they may all be very good and important. Try to delegate and to ask for help, because this will encourage initiative and growth in others. Never forget that we are not the saviours of the world. There is only one saviour, Jesus Christ, and he invites us to work with him using the gifts and the power he gives us. If we are to avoid burn-out we must never forget that it's: "Not by might,



not by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord".

Reprinted with permission from the Jan./Feb. 1999 issue of the ICCRS Leadership Newsletter (ICCRS -

International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services, based in Vatican City) Charles Whitehead, from Buckinghamshire, England is Past President of ICCRS.

Charles Whitehead will be a speaker at the upcoming 41st Annual SCRC Catholic Renewal Convention, "God of Power and Might!" at the Anaheim Convention Center, Aug. 31-Sept. 2, 2012. www.scrc.org



Word of Wisdom

continued from page 3 of the best way to bring that up in a prayer session. Or whether to bring it up at all. Perhaps it is information that we are to use to intercede for the person, but not to articulate to them.

The charism of word of wisdom can also be a gift for teaching. When preparing to give a teaching for a prayer meeting or other gathering, earnestly seek a word of wisdom, an inspiration that will touch people's hearts and transform their lives. This might be an insight into the nature of God or it might be practical ideas on how we are to respond to a prophetic word or scripture.

There are many ways that the



Holy Spirit uses the charism of word of wisdom to build up the Body of Christ. Any of us may be used by the Holy Spirit at any time to exercise this gift. Be open to receive and use this charism whenever the Holy Spirit chooses to bestow it upon you.

Reprinted from the Oct/



Nov/Dec 2007 issue of Pentecost Today. Virginia King is a

former National Service Committee member and executive director of Western Washington

Catholic Charismatic Renewal located in Seattle, Washington.



Defeating the Enemy: Day by Day Battles

Saturday, April 28

1:00pm-4:30pm



All Are On the Battlefield
Always Ready
On the Battlefield
Training for the Battle
The Rewards of Victory



Register Early to assure a seat! www.scrc.org A love offering will be taken

March, 2012 Calendar

SANTA BARBARA REGION

Wednesday, March 14

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Raymond Roh, OSB at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 207 S. School St., Santa Maria.

Thursday, March 29

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm at Friday, March 2 St. Joseph High School Chapel, 4120 S. Bradley Rd., Santa Maria.

SAN FERNANDO REGION Sunday, March 11

Viva St. Patrick! A Spiritual Preparation for St. Patrick's Day! 2:30-4:00pm with Dominic Berardino at the SCRC Center, 9795 Cabrini Dr., #209, Burbank. FREE ADMISSION! Love offering. To reserve a seat, go to www.scrc.org. See page 5.

Wednesday, March 14

Mass & Healing Service, 6:30pm with Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC at St. Mel Church, 20870 Ventura Bl., Woodland Hills.

Saturday, March 17

Ears to Hear: Recognizing the Enemy, 1:00-4:30pm with Fr. Bill Delaney SJ at the SCRC Center, 9795 Cabrini Dr., #209, Burbank. Love offering. Reserve a seat at www.scrc.org. See page 5.

SAN GABRIEL REGION

Sat. & Sun., March 31-April 1 SCRC Spring Conference, "Light in the Darkness", 10:00am-5:30pm at Santa **Teresita Medical Center, (Madonna** Hall) 819 Buena Vista St., Duarte. One Day: \$21, before March 16. Both Days: \$39, before March 16. Register online at www.scrc.org or see next page for registration form.

SAN PEDRO REGION

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Mike Sears at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 8545 S. Norwalk Blvd., Los Nietos. Tuesday, March 6

Bilingual Healing Mass, 7:00pm with Fr. Pat Crowley, SSCC at St. Dominic Savio Church, 13400 Bellflower Bl., Bellflower.

Thursday, March 8 Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Jesse Galaz at Our Lady of the Rosary, 14815 S. Paramount Blvd., Paramount. (Praise & Worship at 7:00pm)

Friday, March 9

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm at Holy Trinity Church, 209 N. Hanford Ave., San Pedro.

Monday, March 19

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Joshua Lee at St. Linus Church, 13915 Shoemaker Ave., Norwalk.

Monday, March 26 Mass and Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ at St. Cornelius Church, 5500 E. Wardlow, Long Beach.

Friday, March 30

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Joshua Lee at Mary Star of the Sea Church, 877 W. 7th St., San Pedro, 90731.(Praise/Worship 7:00pm)

ORANGE DIOCESE Fri - Sun., March 23-25

LA Religious Education Congress, Anaheim Convention Center. Visit the SCRC Booth in Hall A. (Booth #489).

Monday, March 26

Mass & Healing Service, 7:15pm with Fr. Mike Sears at St. Angela Merici, 585 S. Walnut, Brea.

SAN BERNARDINO DIOCESE Saturday, March 17

Palm Desert Magnificat Prayer Meal, 9:30am-12:30pm at Indian Wells Country Club, 46000 Club Dr., Indian Wells, CA 92210. Guest Speaker: Paulette Renaudin. \$25 per person thru 3/10. After 3/10, \$30. For info., please contact: (760) 772-8768 or visit: www. magnificatpalmdesert.org

SAN DIEGO DIOCESE Saturday, March 10

Healing of Memories, 9:00am-4:00pm with Fr. John Hampsch, CMF at St. Therese of Carmel, 4355 Del Mar Trails, San Diego. Contact: Ginnie (858) 546-0300 vcurran1@san.rr.com

HOLY SPIRIT SEMINAR Sat. & Sun., March 24 & 25

Life in the Spirit Seminar, 8:30am-4:30pm at St. Joseph the Worker Parish Hall, 19855 Sherman Way, Canoga Park.

April, 2012 Cal<u>endar</u>

SANTA BARBARA REGION

Wednesday, April 11

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Bill Adams, CSsR at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 207 S. School St., Santa Maria.

Thursday, April 26

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm at St. Joseph High School Chapel, 4120 S. Bradley Rd., Santa Maria.

SAN FERNANDO REGION Saturday, April 21

"The Joys & Glories of the Life to Come!" 12:30pm-4:30pm with Dominic Berardino at the SCRC Center, 9795 Cabrini Dr., #209, Burbank. \$15. Limited Seating. Register Online at www.scrc.org. See page 5.

Sunday, April 15

Divine Mercy Sunday, 1:00pm with Fr. Mike Sears at St. Mel Church, 20870 Ventura, Woodland Hills. Mass, Chaplet. Wednesday, April 18

Mass & Healing Service, 6:30pm with Fr. Budi Wardhana at St. Mel Church, 20870 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills. Saturday, April 28

"Defeating the Enemy: Day by Day Battles", 1:00-4:30pm with Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ at the SCRC Center, 9795 Cabrini Dr., #209, Burbank. Love offering. Reserve a seat at www. scrc.org or see page 5.

SAN GABRIEL REGION

Sunday, April 1

SCRC Spring Conference, "Light in the Darkness", 10am-5:30pm at Santa Teresita Medical Center, (Madonna Hall) 819 Buena Vista St., Duarte. Friday, April 27

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm at San Gabriel Mission Chapel, 428 S. Mission Dr., San Gabriel. (Praise & Worship 7:15pm)

Saturday, April 28

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Bill Adams, CSsR at St. Louis of France, 13935 Temple, La Puente.

SAN PEDRO REGION Thursday, April 12

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Jesse Galaz at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 14815 S. Paramount Blvd., Paramount. (Praise 7:00pm) Friday, April 13

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Mike Sears at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 8545 S. Norwalk Blvd., Los Nietos.

Friday, April 13

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm at Holy Trinity Church, 209 N. Hanford Ave., San Pedro.

Monday, April 16

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Jerry Thompson at St. Linus Church, 13915 Shoemaker Ave., Norwalk.

Monday, April 23

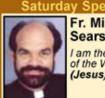
Mass and Healing Service, 7:30pm at St. Cornelius Church, 5500 E. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach.

SAN BERNARDINO REGION Wed. April 25 OR Thurs. April 26

To accommodate various schedules, there is a morning & evening session. (Wed. April 25: 6:30pm-8:30pm) OR Thurs. April 26: 9:00am-11:00am Magnificat - Palm Desert Chapter SPECIAL EVENT! "God is Calling...Does He Have Your Number? with Teaching by Fr. Pat Crowley, SSCC & personal testimony by Dominic Berardino at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 47-225 Washington St., La Quinta, CA. For info., please contact Elizabeth (760) 772-8768 or www.magnificatpalmdesert.org



SCRC Spring Conference



Fr. Mike Sears I am the LIGHT of the World (Jesus)



Fr. Bob Garon You are the LIGHT of the World (Fruit of

the Spirit)



Deacon Steve Greco Connecting to the LIGHT (Holy Spirit & Prayer)

Fr. George Reynolds Bathed in LIGHT (Charisms)



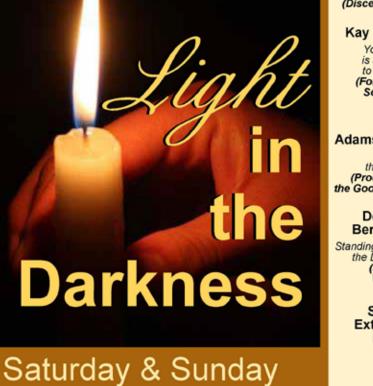
Donna loppini Gathered in LIGHT (Community)



Return completed registration form with payment to: SCRC Spring Conference 9795 Cabrini Drive, Suite 208 Burbank, CA 91504-1740 (818) 771-1361 FAX (818) 771-1379 www.scrc.org spirit@scrc.org

Fr. Mike Sears

Saturday Healing Mass



Sunday Speakers

Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ Finding LIGHT among the Shadows (Discernment)



Kay Murdy

Your Word is a LIGHT to My Path (Formed by Scripture)

Fr. Bill Adams, CSsR Sharing the LIGHT (Proclaiming the Good News)

Dominic Berardino Standing Against the Darkness (Spiritual

Warfare) Special Extended Prayer

Time

Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC Celebrant:

Palm Sunday Mass Celebrant

Santa Teresita Medical Center, 819 Buena Vista St., Duarte, CA 91010 REGISTRATION FORM _____ PRE-REGISTRATION THRU March 16, 2012 Please indicate which day(s)you plan to attend: PRICES AFTER March 16, 2012 and ON-SITE REGISTRATION: □ Saturday ONLY \$21.00 □ Sunday ONLY \$21.00 Saturday ONLY. \$26.00 □ Sunday ONLY \$26.00 □ Sat. & Sun \$49.00 □ Sat. & Sun \$39.00 Name Address if new address, check box, and list former address State Zip City _

Day Telephone (

Check or Money Order (please make checks payable to: SCRC) Credit Card: VISA MasterCard Discover AmericanExpress Only registrations paid with a credit card can be faxed to: (818) 771-1379.

March 31 & April 1, 2012

10:00am - 5:30pm each day

Madonna Hall

Credit Card #

Exp. Date All individuals whose pre-registrations are postmarked by

Conference information online

Signature

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All individuals whose pre-registrations are postmarked by March 16 will receive a packet in the mail, which will include schedule, tickets, detailed directions, parking info. and map of local restaurants. Those who register online have the ability/choice to print their own ticket and receive all their



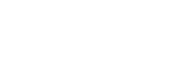


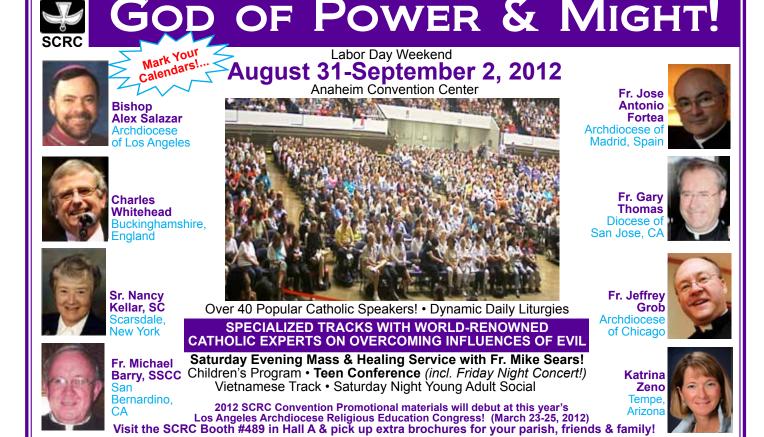




...beginning of St. Patrick's Breastplate ".991/Thi and one and one in Three." emes ent to <u>n</u>oitezovni VB







41st Annual • 2012 SCRC Catholic Renewal Convention