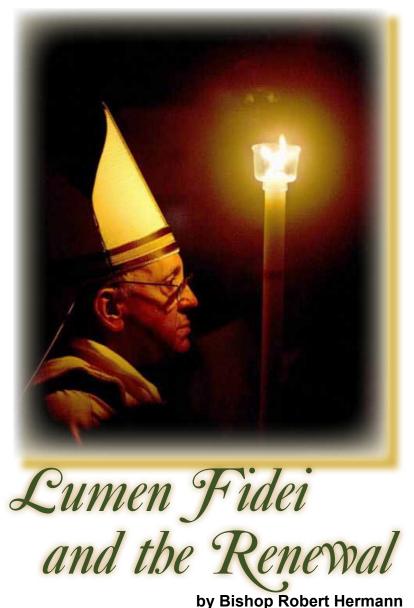
Providing
Support and
Leadership
for the
Catholic Charismatic
Renewal

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Southern California Renewal Communities

March / April 2014



We might say that Lumen Fidei, Pope Francis' first encyclical, is the living fruit of three pontificates. It was Pope John Paul II who first articulated and promoted the New Evangelization. Pope Benedict XVI followed up by giving us very clear teachings about how to live the faith.

Pope Benedict then announced the Year of Faith, with the

encyclical Porta Fidei, which literally means "door of faith." The title comes from Acts 14:17, in which Paul makes a reference to how God had opened "a door of faith" to the Gentiles. The Year of Faith, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, began on October 11, 2012. To deepen our understanding of faith as light, Pope Francis published Lumen Fidei on June 29, 2013, the Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul.

Is it not true that we are living in some very exciting times? It seems to me that Pope Francis is taking the New Evangelization one step further by living it. He translates the scriptures into living, and life-giving, words and actions. To watch him and listen to him is to see Christ before our very eyes, coming alive in the people he addresses!

The purpose of this encyclical is to spell out how faith is light that lights up the hearts of people. In the Gospel of John, Jesus said, "I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness" (Jn. 12:46).

The encyclical tells us that faith is a light that lights up this world, "guiding our journey through time." It is also a "light coming from the future and opening before us vast horizons which guide us beyond our isolated selves towards the breath of communion.

He continues: "It is this light of faith that I would now like to consider, so that it can grow and enlighten the present, becoming a star to brighten the horizon of our journey at a time when mankind is particularly in need of light" (4).

Further on he says, "...when we welcome the word, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, the Holy Spirit transforms us, lights up our way to the future and enables us joyfully to advance along the way on wings of hope" (7).

Lumen Fidei continued on page 3

## The Most Exciting Catholic Event of the Year!





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Fr. Jose Antonio Fortea



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Who in Charismatic Renewal cannot get excited about how this prayerful description of the light of faith, resonates with his or her own experience of baptism in the Holy Spirit?

I believe that people in the Renewal are called to be at the cutting edge of the New Evangelization. I believe that people in the Renewal are called to bring the light of Christ into the darkness that is coming our way from Satan and his kingdom.

I believe we are called to continue to press forward, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to discover power in the charisms we have already received. I believe that the charisms are lights that light up this world, "guiding our journey through time." I believe that the charisms are exposing the works of darkness in our midst.

I believe that one of the first of the greatest gifts people experience with baptism in the Holy Spirit is the gift of contemplation. Contemplation enables us to experience Christ's presence in a deep and lively way.

Contemplation helps us to see ourselves more clearly in the light of faith. The deeper we go in contemplation, the more we recognize our own sinfulness, and the more we are called to live a life of repentance. One of the greatest joys in our lives is to trade in our sins for God's incredible mercy!

Did you ever wonder why Pope Francis radiates such incredible joy? It is very simple. In his morning prayer he allows the Lord to deal with his unredeemed complusions so that he does not have to face them as he goes about the rest of his day. It is in contemplation that he meets the joy of Christ forgiving him. This is the Christ he shares with us. He simply radiates the Christ he met in prayer!

The more you and I deepen the gift of contemplation that we received with baptism in the Holy Spirit, the more the rest of the charisms will come alive within us.

The word "charism" comes from a Greek word meaning "favor." The charisms help us to experience Christ's favors. When we pray with troubled people, Christ releases his gifts in them.



Three additional charisms that God is using in a special way to bring the light of faith into today's dark world are discernment of spirits, inner healing and deliverance.

The first charism that I believe God is bringing alive more and more is the gift of discernment of spirits. So many of our prayerful laity and religious are discovering this gift in their own lives through their contemplative prayer and the use of the gift in ministering to others. What a gift these prayerful discerners are to the Church! The gift of discernment helps us to diagnose, for example, the entry point of evil spirits. Sometimes it is trauma; sometimes it is sin, and sometimes it is exposing one's self to the occult.

The second charism is that of inner healing. People, who have been in unknown bondage for many, many years, are often set free within hours or even within minutes. When they experience Christ entering a

past hurt, deep within them, they experience him setting them free! This is very real and very tangible. Often evil spirits are expelled through inner healing. The light of faith in the faces of those prayed with tells the rest of the story.

A third charism that sets people free is the gift of deliverance. When we received the Sacrament of Baptism, we were taken from the kingdom of Satan and brought into the kingdom of Jesus Christ. Satan is always trying to win us back, but through the exercise of our baptismal vows, we have the power to command him to leave us.

A growing number of priests are excited about discovering in their confessional practice, as did the Cure of Ars, this power of delivering people from evil spirits. Sometimes a priest will invite a penitent to bring the issue outside of the confessional, where with more time the individual can be set free from evil spirits that have plagued him or her in the bondage of mortal sin for many, many years. Needless to say, this brings profound joy to both penitent and confessor!

Yes, the light of faith is coming alive, more and more, in our midst, as we discover the power of the charisms that are driving back the darkness of Satan. Pope Francis is a model for all of us. He is better at this than most of us because he has been at it longer. All of us are called to radiate the light of faith that shines so brightly on the face of Pope Francis. We have no excuse. We have the same Holy Spirit!





Bishop Robert Hermann has served the Archdiocese of St. Louis as teacher, preacher and pastor. He has been active in the Renewal for more than 40 years.

# YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED

by Fr. John H Hampsch, CMF

Recent medical research has shown, statistically, that post-operative hospital patients who experience frequent or prolonged visits from concerned family members or friends (even in compassionate silence) will recuperate far more rapidly than patients with few or no visitors during their convalescence. This remarkable observation would almost seem to authenticate the aphorism, "Suffering is hurtful; suffering alone is anguish."

Jesus, in his Gethsemane anguish, "sorrowing to the point of death" (Matt. 26:38), sought the consoling presence of his slumberous apostles in the most epochal moment in salvation history, but instead had to endure his anguish in solitude, except for a fleeting visit from a heaven-sent angel of consolation. His plaintive question to his closest friends reflected his human need and divine yearning for companionship: "Could you not watch one hour with me?" He pleaded for his apostles' supportive presence, but received in turn only the betrayal by Judas, a triple denial by Peter, and abandonment at Calvary by all of them, except John. The wounded Heart of Jesus still yearns for our loving presence—even a wordless presence, in a silent but sublime contemplative love.

Theologians enumerate nine forms of divine presence by which God relates to us, his human creatures; and in all of them he seeks from us a correlative loving presence, whether as a branch in the vine—"Remain in me and I will remain in you" (John 15:4)—or as



a Holy Communion recipient, who "remains in me and I in him" (6:56). This is not a one-sided presence—a mere "union," like a parent holding a sleeping newborn baby—but rather a reciprocal "communion," like a parent and child in a mutual warm and loving embrace.

Our "mutual presence" with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist in its primary form is experienced liturgically in Mass after the consecration, and, even more intimately, sacramentally in a devout Communion. Communion within the Mass is, as Pope Pius XII said, "the diamond in its setting, a precious golden ring."

But the Holy Eucharist, by God's beneficence, also provides occasions for a grace-laden "mutual presence" even in its various secondary forms, such as Benediction of the Blessed

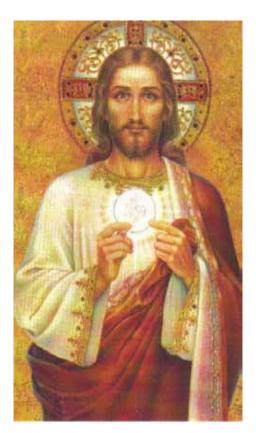
Sacrament, Eucharistic processions, 40-Hour Devotions, home-delivered Communion for the housebound or the institutionally confined, Holy Viaticum for the dying, Eucharistic Congresses, Exposition in a Perpetual Adoration Program, brief visits to Jesus (tabernacled or monstrance-exposed), and finally, the custom of a "Holy Hour" of Eucharistic adoration, based on the "one-hour-with-me" plaint of Jesus (Mark 14:37).

Perhaps that plea is to atone for the religious negligence of the countless throngs of almost churchless "nominal Catholics" who hardly ever seek to be present to him or to encourage his presence with them. The oft-quoted facetious quip states that nominal Catholics come to church mainly to be baptized,

Presence continued on next page

married and buried—"hatched, matched and dispatched".

The secondary form of Eucharistic devotion is, in at least one of its expressions, is happily available to us, more than we might realize. It's the grace-fostering custom of "making a visit to the Blessed Sacrament." Jesus' loving Eucharistic presence is probably not too distant from you at this very moment—possibly within easy walking distance—in the tabernacle of a neighboring Catholic church or chapel. If a special visit is not feasible for you, why not spend a few moments before and/or after Sunday Mass or along with your (hopefully) regular confession, or as a stop-off en route to or from work, or as a brief detour on your grocery shopping trek? Jesus would be delighted, as only God can be delighted with even a momentary



visit by you—or, better, with a private "holy hour" of prayerful silence—to feed his love-hungry Heart.

In a relaxed Eucharistic tête-à-tête, you will feel free to convey your love, and also your needs, to your very best Friend, who listens with loving compassion. In response to the heart-warmed moments of your fleeting presence, his divine thrill of love will echo through the reaches of heaven itself, reverberating there among the delighted angels and saints. Plan your next visit now—and plan to make your visits not sporadic but frequent. You will be glorifying God enormously, and enriching your soul eternally. Be sure of that!



Used with permission by Fr. John Hampsch, CMF. Please visit Fr. Hampsch's website at: www.catholicbooks.net Fr. John will be one of the speakers once again at the 2014 SCRC Spring Conference in April and at the SCRC Catholic Renewal Convention in Anaheim over Labor Day Weekend, August 29-31, 2014.



# Responding to the Spirit III: The Gifts of the Spirit

#### Topics:

- The Spirit of Pentecost
- Receiving Power
- The Variety of Gifts
- The Call to Service
- Letting God be God



Free Admission! A love offering will be taken.
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www.scrc.org



Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ

#### March, 2014 Calendar

#### SANTA BARBARA REGION

Saturday, March 1

Healing of Memories, 10:00am-2:00pm with Fr. Pat Crowley, SSCC at St. Mark University Parish, 6550 Picasso Rd., Goleta (Isla Vista).

Wednesday, March 12

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

#### SAN FERNANDO REGION

Thursday, March 20

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Bob Garon at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 19855 Sherman Way, Canoga Park.

Saturday, March 22

"Responding to the Spirit III: The Gifts of the Spirit" 1:30pm-4:30pm with Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ at the SCRC Center, 9795 Cabrini Dr., #209,

#### Burbank. Love offering. SAN GABRIEL REGION

Friday, March 7

Mass & Healing Service, 8:00pm with Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ at Holy Family Church, 1527 Fremont St., So. Pasadena.

#### SAN PEDRO REGION

Thursday, March 13

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Jesse Galaz at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 14815 S. Paramount Blvd., Paramount. (*Praise/Worship at 7pm*) **Monday, March 17** 

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

Monday, March 24

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

ORANGE DIOCESE

Fri. - Sun., March 14-16

Los Angeles Archdiocese Religious Education Congress, Anaheim Convention Center. Stop by the SCRC Booth in Hall A (Booth #582). We will have SCRC Convention brochures available for you to take home and pass out to your parish, family & friends! Drop by & say hello! Monday, March 24

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

#### SAN BERNARDINO DIOCESE Saturday, March 29

Palm Desert Magnificat Prayer Meal, 9:30am-12:30pm at Indian Wells Country Club, 46000 Club Dr., Indian Wells, CA 92210. Guest Speaker: Rosario Rodriguez. \$28 per person For info., please contact Angela: (760) 771-5588 or visit: www.magnificatpalmdesert.org

#### April, 2014 Calendar

#### SANTA BARBARA REGION

Wednesday, April 2

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

#### SAN FERNANDO REGION

Tuesday, April 22

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Michael Ohanate at St. Mary Church, 1600 E. Ave., R-4, Palmdale. Celia (661) 618-3990.

Thursday, April 24

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 19855 Sherman Way, Canoga Park.

Sunday, April 27

Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration and Mass, 1:00pm with Fr. George Reynolds at Our Lady of Grace Church, 5011 White Oak Ave., Encino.

#### SAN GABRIEL REGION

Saturday, April 5

Baptism in the Holy Spirit & Receiving the Gifts with Fr. Bill Adams, CSsR. Mass included. Begins promptly at 9:00am at St. Luke the Evangelist, 5605 Cloverly Ave., Temple City, CA.

#### Friday, April 11

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Pat Crowley, SSCC at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church, 1879 N. Lake Ave., Altadena.

Sat. & Sun., April 12 & 13

SCRC Spring Conference, "Power in Christian Living", 10:00am-5:30pm at Santa Teresita, (Madonna Hall) 819 Buena Vista St., Duarte. One Day: \$22. Both Days: \$40, before March 31. Register online at www.scrc.org or see next page for registration form. Friday, April 25

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Bill Adams, CSsR at San Gabriel Mission Chapel, 428 S. Mission Dr., San Gabriel. (*Praise & Worship 7:15pm*)

#### SAN PEDRO REGION

Thursday, April 10

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

Monday, April 21

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

Friday, April 25

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

Monday, April 28

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

#### ORANGE DIOCESE

Monday, April 28

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

#### SAN DIEGO DIOCESE

Wednesday, April 30

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Lawrence Agi at St. James Church, 625 S. Nardo Ave., Solano Beach. (Music & Witness begins at 6:30pm)

#### CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGÉ

September 27 - October 7, 2014
In the Footsteps of St. Paul Pilgrimage with Deacon Steve & Mary Anne Greco. Prayerfully journey to Greece, Turkey & Island Cruise. For more information email: tour@spiritfilledhearts.org





### SCRC Spring Conference

#### Saturday Speakers



Fr. George Reynolds Friends & Enemies: How Do We Love Them?



Deacon Steve Greco The Spirit Empowers (Dcn. Steve will also conduct the Healing Service following Mass)



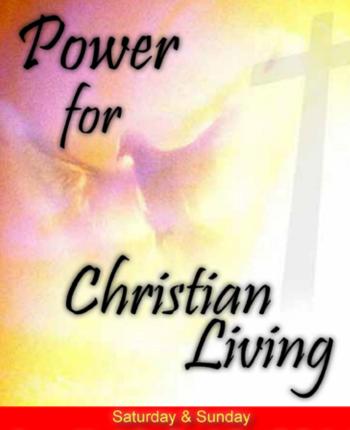
Fr. John Hampsch, Turning Trials Into Triumphs



Elizabeth Kim, PhD Healing Our Inner Weakness



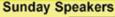
Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ Celebrant for Saturday Mass. Dcn. Steve Greco will conduct the Healing Service following Mass.



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Dominic Berardino Being Open to God's Plan



Kay Murdy Faith in the Darkness



Fr. Bill Adams, CSsR Living from God's Word



Fr. Michael Barry,





Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC Celebrant for Palm Sunday Procession & Mass



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"I am the resurrection and the life" 31:15

#### **JAINETAM GETAG**

