

Providing
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Leadership
for the
Catholic Charismatic
Renewal

Volume 43
Number 2



SCRC
SPIRIT

Southern California Renewal Communities

March / April 2015

The Tragedy of Wasted Tragedies

I smile every time I hear the clever epigram attributed to Winston Churchill: “If you’re going through hell, keep going!” I’m not sure if he meant, “Hang in there!” or “Don’t get bogged down in that horrific location.”

“Going through hell” is a transmogrified description of enduring a really horrendous tragedy—something that most people will experience at least once in their lifetime. It may be a house-destroying earthquake, tornado, flood or fire. It may be a physical or mental affliction like Alzheimer’s, or an untimely death of a child or spouse. Being arrested or jailed is devastating, as is a mortgage foreclosure or financial disaster that could threaten homelessness.

Such a calamity, more than the worrisome every-day annoying “crosses” common to everyone, provides an event that makes it difficult—but extremely meritorious—to sustain one’s belief in Paul’s words of Romans 8:28: “We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (i.e., his providential plan). But all true believers—but not the typical half-hearted Christian—will find that basic truth ultimately confirmed in countless ways, often before their fleeting earthly “vale of tears” fades into eternity. The challenge is to persevere, with God’s grace, in boundless trust in the Lord, whether or not he responds to our frantic pleadings in

by Fr. John Hampsch, CMF
unnerving disasters.

As a corollary of the above-cited biblical passage, Proverbs 16:4 says: “The Lord works out everything for his own ends.” That wide-ranging principle of God’s Providence is repeatedly affirmed in Scripture from various perspectives; for instance, in Proverbs 3:5, Solomon counsels: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways, acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” That doesn’t mean necessarily that he will lift the suffering from us, but he will “straighten our path” by making more direct and less dissipating our trudging efforts toward holiness and our ultimate heavenly reward.

As in the case of the saintly Job (see Chapter 42), it is often only after an incredibly hurtful disaster—or series of disasters—that we are shown the purpose of God’s mysterious plan for us. Sometimes it is only after our death that God provides that insight, but more often in this life, for persons with deeper spiritual perspicacity. Being able to see clearly the “mystery of misery” in this

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Fr. Jeffrey Grob, JCD
Dissertation on Exorcism. Exorcist for the Archdiocese of Chicago, IL



Bishop Kevin Vann
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Labor Day Weekend



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Sylmar, CA

Tragedy continued from cover page

life depends on God's sovereign will—something we pray for often without really being aware of the depth of meaning in our ritualized and mechanical recitation of the Lord's Prayer: "Thy will be done..." Most petition prayers are geared to mean, "My will be done."

All distress can be subjectively ameliorated by cultivating an acute awareness of God's infinite and inestimably tender love for us, even when that divine love is camouflaged by causing or permitting hurtful situations. Unfortunately, there are countless spiritually shallow souls who never react to a tragedy or disaster—physical, financial, social, or whatever—with a prayer for divine support, but only with a pleading for relief (which is acceptable as a petition, but it's often infected with a kind of resentment against God). Some react with even with a blasphemous and bitter insolence against the Creator for having caused or permitted the calamity that so deeply disturbed their pattern of living. They may "give up on God" or quit church attendance because God doesn't arrange his providence to suit their expectations or demands. Rancor against the positive or permissive will of God is less than even elementary spirituality. Moreover, it serves to increase, not decrease one's level of stress in distress. Suffering serves to make such petty souls bitter, not better.

Those who humbly and lovingly acquiesce to the providentially planned disruption in their life will find an inner peace that others find beyond their reach. And they find that their prayer power—more needed at times of cataclysmic disasters than in mere daily discomforts—is vastly enhanced by loving surrender to God's inscrutable but merciful Providence. These persons eventually come to experience, not

just believe, that all things do work together for good—but only for persons fulfilling the two conditions stated by Paul: first, they must truly love God—not just claim they do; and secondly, they must fully acquiesce to his will, when "called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28). The Lord "calls" for their gracious acceptance of his purpose, and they respond to that "call."

Of course those rare persons who truly love God in a deep and personal way are by that very fact already unconditionally open to his will, which they recognize as being the providentially and personally custom-designed plan for them in the mind of God. They embrace it with boundless and unquestioning trust as lovingly planned for them by God, from his beginningless eternity, for their maximum benefit. They know it has been "on film" in the mind of God for all centuries past, and is now being "projected" onto the theatre screen of their life as scheduled by God's supreme wisdom, effected and controlled by his awesome sovereignty, and motivated by his incalculably tender and compassionate love. They embrace Jeremiah's insight in Lamentations 3:33: "Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. For he does not willingly [spitefully] bring affliction to the children of men."

Obviously, such theological considerations (ultimately spiritual insights) are not easily recognized or accepted when one is writhing emotionally in the anguish of a tragedy like an unexpected death in the family, or a severe pain-racking affliction, or a family-shattering divorce, or the frantic and unnerving insecurity of being suddenly unemployed and debt-ridden with a family to support while facing the fearsome and worrisome threat of ever-mounting medical bills.



Even tolerating such hurt is difficult; embracing it lovingly is heroic.

Stating this obvious fact, the author of Hebrews says, (12:11), "No discipline seems pleasant at the time"; but he hastens to add that "later on, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace." However, he qualifies these beautiful effects of undergoing hurtful situations: these blessings from tribulation are enjoyed only by those who allow themselves "to be trained" by such adversities. Only those who are heroically submissive to God-sent or God-permitted trials can benefit from them. Those who complain of their hardships will never know the peace that flows from full righteousness, and of course, their resistance to God's loving providence is a resistance to God's desire to "train" them for a much higher level of holiness with its resultant reward. That's the tragic tragedy of "wasted suffering."



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 SCRC Catholic Renewal Convention in Anaheim over Labor Day Weekend, September 4-6, 2015. For more information, please go to: www.scr.org

Saturday, April 18 1:30pm-4:30pm



scrc.org

Listening to the Lord

Tuning the Ear of the Heart

Topics:

- Seeking the Presence of God
 - The Attention of the Heart
 - The Freedom to Hear
 - Recognizing the Lord
- Walking in What We Hear

Saturday, April 18
1:30pm-4:30pm



Fr. Bill
Delaney, SJ

SCRC Center
9795 Cabrini Drive, Ste. 209
Burbank, CA

A love offering will be taken.

Reserve online at: scrc.org
(818) 771-1361 spirit@scrc.org



SUNDAY, April 26 2:00pm-4:00pm



scrc.org

Power in Praise

Advanced workshop
for growth in prayer tongues

SUNDAY, April 26

2:00pm-4:00pm

\$10 per person

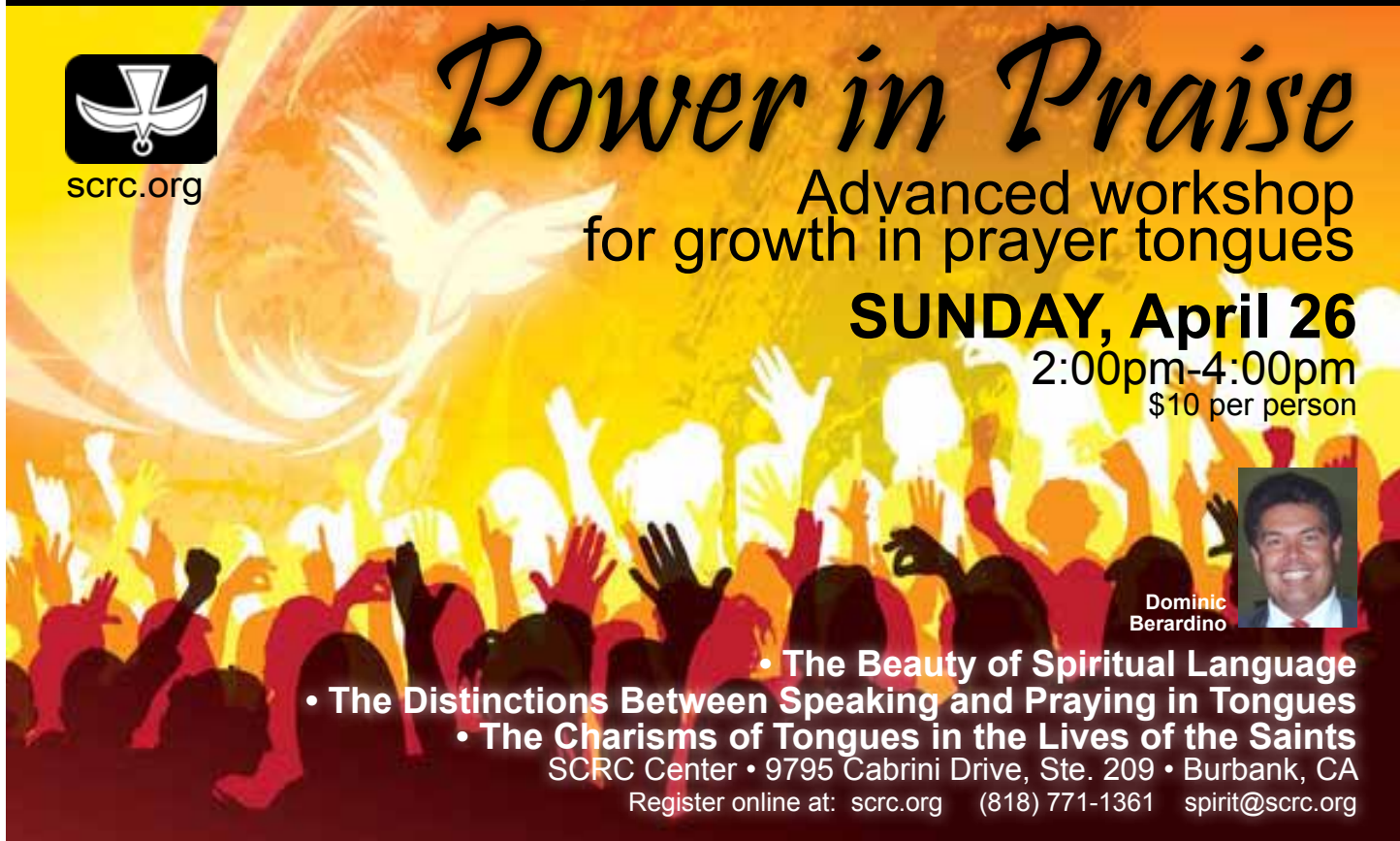


Dominic
Berardino

- The Beauty of Spiritual Language
- The Distinctions Between Speaking and Praying in Tongues
- The Charisms of Tongues in the Lives of the Saints

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Register online at: scrc.org (818) 771-1361 spirit@scrc.org



"...showing mercy down to the thousandth generation of those who love Me and keep My commandments." Exodus 20:6

† Praying *Divine Mercy* † On Our Families



An SCRC One Day Conference

Healing the Family Tree



Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ
Past. Coord., SCRC
Burbank, CA



Dominic Berardino
President, SCRC
Burbank, CA



Fr. Michael Barry, SSCC
Mary's Mercy Center
San Bernardino, CA

- Healing the Harmful Effects of Ancestral Sin
- How to Pray for the Deceased
- Breaking Bondages Over Generations
- Mass for Healing the Family Tree

Conference Special Features

PRAYER WALL

A prayer wall will be constructed with pictures of your living & deceased family members and friends to be prominently placed near the altar during the Eucharist being offered for them. Bring copies or reproductions of family portraits, and/or funeral mass cards (please do not bring originals in case they are lost or damaged.)

MASS FOR GENERATIONAL HEALING

A Special Mass will be offered for all your living & deceased loved ones. Your genogram will be placed on the altar.

GENOGRAM

Preparing your own personal genogram will help you pray more specifically for your family members/immediate ancestry. A blank genogram will be mailed to all who pre-register before 3/30/15. You may download a genogram at www.scr.org. Bring your completed genogram to the Conference.

Eve of the Feast of Divine Mercy

Saturday,
April 11, 2015
10:00am - 4:30pm

Holy Family-GLENDALE
Grade School Auditorium
400 S. Louise (at Lomita)
Glendale, CA (enter from Lomita)

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
BEFORE March 30th: \$25.00

AFTER March 30th
and ON-SITE REGISTRATION: \$35.00



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

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

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Day Telephone () _____ Email: _____

Check or Money Order (please make checks payable to: SCRC)

Credit Card: VISA MasterCard Discover American Express

Only registrations paid with a credit card can be faxed to: (818) 771-1379.

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_____ Signature

All individuals whose registrations are received by March 30 will receive a packet in the mail, which will include schedule, ticket(s), genogram, detailed directions, parking location, and map of local restaurants.

Spiritually enriching Books, CDs/DVDs and gifts will be available for purchase throughout the day.

March, 2015 Calendar

SANTA BARBARA REGION

Wednesday, March 11

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

Thursday, March 19

Mass & Healing Service, 6:30pm with Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC at Our Lady of Grace Church, 5011 White Oak Ave., Encino.

Thursday, March 19

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

SAN GABRIEL REGION

Wednesday, March 25

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Deacon Steve Greco at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church, 1879 N. Lake Ave., Altadena.

Sat. & Sun., March 28 & 29

SCRC Spring Conference, "Walking With Jesus: The Joy of the Gospel", 10:00am-5:30pm at Santa Teresita, (Madonna Hall)



Happy Easter!
April 5

SAN FERNANDO REGION

Saturday, April 11

"Praying Divine Mercy On Our Families: Healing the Family Tree", 10:00am-4:30pm with Fr. Mike Barry, SSCC & Dominic Berardino at Holy Family-Glendale. Grade School Auditorium, 400 S. Louise (at Lomita) Glendale. \$25, before March 30. \$35, thereafter. Register online at www.scrc.org or page 5 for registration form.

Thursday, April 16

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

Saturday, April 18

"Listening to the Lord-Tuning the Ear of the Heart" 1:30pm-4:30pm with Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ at the SCRC Center, 9795 Cabrini Dr., #209, Burbank. Love offering.

819 Buena Vista St., Duarte. **One Day: \$22. Both Days: \$40, before March 16. Register online at www.scrc.org or see opposite page for registration form.**

SAN PEDRO REGION

Saturday, March 14

San Gabriel Valley Chapter Magnificat Prayer Meal, 10:00am-1:00pm at Via Verde Country Club, 1400 Avenida Entrada, San Dimas. Guest Speaker: Fr. Michael Barry, SSCC. \$25/person before Mar. 7. \$29, thereafter For info., please contact Clara: (626) 963-5532.

Monday, March 16

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. JohnPaul Gonzalez at St. Linus, 13915 Shoemaker, Norwalk.

Monday, March 23

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Joe Parathanal at St. Cornelius Church, 5500 E. Wardlow, Long Beach.

ORANGE DIOCESE

Fri. - Sun., March 13-15

Los Angeles Archdiocese Religious Education Congress,

Anaheim Convention Center. Stop by the SCRC Booth in Hall A (Booth #680). We will have SCRC Convention brochures available for you to take home and pass out to your parish, family & friends! Drop by & say hello!

Saturday, March 14

Orange County Magnificat Prayer Breakfast, 9:30am-12:30pm with Fr. Piotr Prusakiewicz CSMA at Embassy Suites, Anaheim-South, 11767 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove. \$28. Contact Dely: (714) 670-7332 www.magnificat-orangecounty.org

Monday, March 23

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

SAN BERNARDINO DIOCESE

Saturday, March 21

Palm Desert Magnificat Prayer Meal, 9:30am-12:30pm at Indian Wells Country Club, 46000 Club Dr., Indian Wells, CA 92210. Guest Speaker: Fr. Rafael Partida. \$28/person before 3/14. \$30, thereafter. Contact Virginia: (760) 844-2126 or visit: www.magnificatpalmdesert.org

April, 2015 Calendar

SUNDAY, April 26

"Power in Praise" Advanced workshop for growth in prayer tongues, 2:00pm-4:00pm with Dominic Berardino at the SCRC Center, 9795 Cabrini Dr., #209, Burbank. \$10/person. See page 4

SAN PEDRO REGION

Monday, April 20

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

Monday, April 27

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

ORANGE DIOCESE

Monday, April 27

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

FINANCIAL UPDATE!

A Great Big 'THANK YOU' to everyone who generously responded to SCRC's year-end financial appeal. The \$60,000 budget deficit has been reduced to \$25,000. We were greatly encouraged by those of you who sent in additional donations or increased your regular gift-giving amounts. God's work moves forward thanks to your generous hearts!

"...whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will reap generously as well."

2 Cor:9:6

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, MAY 23

**Pentecost Vigil LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR & MASS
St. Catherine of Siena - Reseda**



SCRC Spring Conference

Saturday Speakers



Fr. Ramon Valera
Living As A Disciple



Fr. George Reynolds
Joy in the Midst of Difficulties



Dominic Berardino
Entering the Presence of God



Elizabeth Kim, PhD
Making It Through The Dry Times



Fr. Michael Barry, SSCC
Celebrant: Mass & Healing Service

Sunday Speakers



Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ
Hearing The Call of the Lord



Kay Murdy
Everyday Holiness



Fr. Bill Adams, CSSR
Growing In Charisms



Deacon Steve Greco
Sharing The Good News



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

Walking with Jesus

The *Joy* of the **GOSPEL**

Saturday & Sunday
March 28 & 29, 2015
 10:00am - 5:30pm each day

Santa Teresita - Madonna Hall, 819 Buena Vista St., Duarte, CA 91010

<p>PRE-REGISTRATION THRU Mar. 16, 2015 Please indicate which day(s) you plan to attend:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Saturday ONLY \$22.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sunday ONLY \$22.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sat. & Sun \$40.00</p>	<p>REGISTRATION FORM</p> <p>Online Registration Available! www.scrc.org</p>	<p>PRICES AFTER March 16, 2015 and ON-SITE REGISTRATION:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Saturday ONLY \$27.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sunday ONLY \$27.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sat. & Sun \$50.00</p>
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 9795 Cabrini Drive, Suite 208
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 (818) 771-1361 FAX (818) 771-1379
www.scrc.org spirit@scrc.org

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Address _____

if new address, check box, and list former address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ email _____

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.

_____ Exp. Date _____

Credit Card # _____

_____ Signature _____

All individuals whose pre-registrations are postmarked by March 16, 2015 will be sent a schedule, tickets, detailed directions, parking info. and map of local restaurants.



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"I am the resurrection and the life"
John 11:25

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Labor Day Weekend
September 4-6, 2015
Anaheim Convention Center
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Arena Photo from 2012 SCRC Convention

										
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