

Providing
Support and
Leadership
for the
Catholic Charismatic
Renewal

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SCRC
SPIRIT

Southern California Renewal Communities
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ABIDING IN MARY'S WOMB WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

by Fr. John P. Horn, SJ

The baptism of the Spirit, the release of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, is meant to be an on-going reality in the ordinary events of everyday faith. This transpires through participation in the Trinity's laboring love. We believe that the reality of the Holy Spirit's coming at Pentecost is active and present in everyday events.

St. Francis of Assisi spoke about Mary's presence as *Spouse of the Holy Spirit*, and this title carries a special significance. It is by abiding

in her womb at prayer that the Holy Spirit is able to be received new each morning. By participating in this on-going Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is also released in our hearts for ministry and brings us to fuller maturity in Christ Jesus (Eph.4:11-13).

The Father's desire is that Jesus' own life be conceived in each heart, each day, in the power of the Spirit. As his disciples, you and I learn to actively wait in trust and rest in Mary's womb as did Jesus. It

is there that we receive the Holy Spirit anew (Lk 1:30-35). It is in Mary's womb that we are born again and again from above (Jn 3:3-5). In the ordinariness of life's events, in our Nazareth's, we learn that the Father's desire to give providential care in affection for us is real. This is what Mary and Joseph taught the Child Jesus, as they taught him how to pray the Psalms.

Praying the Psalms as Jesus did to the Father helps place us in a faith-filled

see *Abiding* continued on page 3



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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RENEWAL COMMUNITIES

SCRC Needs Your Help to Spread the Word about the SCRC Catholic Renewal Convention!

Contact SCRC to request Convention brochures for your parish, friends and family members!



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Abiding continued from cover page

disposition. We can imagine and receive the presence and the on-going release of the Holy Spirit in the Church as Mary's womb. With Jesus we can return to Nazareth, to receive refreshment as the wind of the Spirit winnows away any doubt or anxiety acquired during our trials. Returning to Nazareth with the Child Jesus we learn the truth and glory of Psalm 23. Here Jesus entrusts all his human sorrow and fear to the Father:

"The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing that I lack. In green pastures you let me graze, to safe waters you lead me; you restore my strength. You guide me along the right path for the sake of your name. Even when I walk through a dark valley, I fear no harm for you are at my side; your rod and your staff give me courage. You set a table before me as my enemies watch; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Only goodness and love pursue me all the days of my life, I will dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come."

As we pray other Psalms to the Father we begin to understand part of the

mystery of how Jesus "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom" (Lk 2:40). Mary and Joseph taught the Child Jesus how to walk forward in his identity as Son of the Father by praying these Psalms with him. They transmitted what they experienced in faith as the Holy Spirit rested upon them, and led them to always 'look up' to receive all their blessings from above (Jn 3:3-5). The laboring love of the Holy Spirit was always uniting them to the Father's providential care. Through their instruction and the gaze of love that radiated from them, the Child Jesus came to know that the "favor of God was upon him" (Lk 2:40). The same is true for us.

Jesus' Spirit indwells in our hearts through the Sacrament of Baptism. We each come to understand that we have been called from birth, from our mother's womb, and it is there that we are strengthened, concealed, polished, given our name and become a glorious light to the nations, proclaiming Jesus' salvation to the ends of the

earth (Is 49:1-6). It is in Mary's womb that the Holy Spirit refashions us. We become who we are, images of Jesus.

While visiting Nazareth on pilgrimage the beauty of this living mystery was tasted by Blessed Paul VI. He exclaimed; "Nazareth is the kind of school where we begin to discover what Christ's life was like, even to understand the Gospel... Here we can learn who Christ really is."

Pope Francis highlights Our Lady of Guadalupe as "Star of the New Evangelization" (cf. Joy of the Gospel). Her womb is pregnant with images of Jesus. And, she comes to us in ordinariness, as one like us. Let us place ourselves in her gaze and allow her to draw us to abide in her womb where Pentecost is ever present. There, through an active waiting in faith, the Holy Spirit will continually re-conceive each of us and the entire Church to be born again and again in and for mission (Jn 3:3-5).



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HUNGERING AND THIRSTING FOR GOD

by Dr. Tom Curran

"Stir into flame the gift of God that you have..." 2 Tim 1:6.

One of the ways that we can seek a deeper stirring into flame of the gift of the Holy Spirit is through the stance of prayer that is called the prayer of desire. It's the prayer of one who loves, of one whose passion is for God.

I'm not talking about being emotional in prayer. I'm talking about being volitional in prayer. The act of love is an act of the will. You can express passion without being emotional. Think about what you are passionate about. Are you passionate about your garden? Are you passionate about a hobby? Or about a sports team? It doesn't always equate to emotions and yet there is emotion involved.

The prayer of desire, the prayer of one who loves, is prayer that says, "Father, I love you. Jesus, I love you. Spirit, I love you." Now, saying that, speaking in a personal way in love to the persons of God, is a striking thing. When you take up this stance, the prayer of the one who loves, you are

going to learn several things. You will realize how little you love God. In fact, what comes to be revealed when you say to someone, "I love you," is in fact how much better I need to love you, how much more my love could be. When I say to my wife, "Kari, I love you," what automatically rebounds in my face is the ways in which I am not loving her, the ways in which my love for her isn't as deep as it could be, or should be. And what begins to grow in me is a hunger, a thirst, a desire to love her better. If we take up the stance of the prayer of desire, it's going to stir up within us the realization that we don't love God well enough and a desire to love God more.

Take a moment to pray Psalm 63. "Oh, God, you are my God—for you I long, for you my soul is thirsting, like a dry weary land without water." When you pray that, you will realize, "No, it doesn't." Again, we can pray Psalm 42, "As the deer yearns for running streams so my soul is yearning for you, my God." When we pray it, we will go on to pray, "God, you know, I'm not there yet, but I want to be.

Make it real in me, God. I want to experience the fact that I am like a dry parched land without water. I actually want to experience within me this yearning for you." As we take up the stance of the one who loves, we will come to know and experience this hunger and thirst for God.

We are going to experience something even more profound and important than this revelation of our hunger and thirst to love God. We will learn the truth that even more than we hunger and thirst for God, God thirsts for us. Even more than you thirst to encounter God, He thirsts to encounter you. He thirsts to love you.

The Catechism talks about John 4, where Jesus asks the woman at the well for water. She says to Him, "Who are you to ask me for water?" And Jesus says, "If you only knew who was asking you for water, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The Catechism says that Jesus' asking her for water is a sign of God's desire to encounter every human being (cf. CCC 2560). It's a sign of God's desire to encounter you. Watch out. God has His eyes set on you and He hungers to be able to love you. Would you like to know that? Take up the prayer of the one who loves.

There is a difference between our thirst and God's thirst. Our thirst is a thirst to receive. We are that dry land. His thirst is to empty, to pour



May 2018 Calendar

SANTA BARBARA REGION

Monday, May 14

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC at St. Rose of Lima Church, 1305 Royal Ave., Simi Valley.

SAN FERNANDO REGION

Wednesday, May 16

Mass & Healing Service, 6:30pm with Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC at St. Catherine of Siena, 18115 Sherman Way, Reseda.

Thursday, May 17

Mass & Healing of Memories Service, 6:30pm with Fr. Bob Garon at Our Lady of Grace, 5011 White Oak Ave., Encino.

SAN GABRIEL REGION

Saturday, May 26

**"Healing the Family Tree:
Praying for Our Loved Ones**

Living & Deceased", 9:30am-3:00pm with Fr. Mike Barry, SSCC and Dominic Berardino at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Hall, 435 Berkeley Ave., Claremont. \$25 before May 18. Register online at src.org or page 7 for registration form.

Friday, May 18

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Tony Diaz, CMF at San Gabriel Mission (Old Mission Church), 428 S. Mission, San Gabriel. (Praise 7:00pm).

SAN PEDRO REGION

Monday, May 21

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

ORANGE DIOCESE

Friday, May 4

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Stephen Lesniewski at Mission Hospital Conference Center, Rms. A,B&C. 26726 Crown Valley Pkwy., Mission Viejo.

Monday, May 21

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

HOLY SPIRIT SEMINAR

Saturday, May 26

Be Empowered with the Spirit 9:00am-6:00pm (Registration begins 8:30am) at Incarnation Church Auditorium, 1001 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale. For information, (818) 421-1354 heartofjesus@att.net

June 2018 Calendar

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS REGION

Friday, June 22

Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Patrick Crowley, SSCC at St. Jerome Church, 5550 Thornburn St., Los Angeles.

SAN FERNANDO REGION

Wednesday, June 13

Mass & Healing Service, 6:30pm with Fr. Jerry Thompson at St. Catherine of Siena, 18115 Sherman Way, Reseda.

SAN GABRIEL REGION

Friday, June 22

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Bill Adams, CSsR, and Dcn. Steve Greco conducting Healing Service at San Gabriel Mission (Old Mission Church), 428 S. Mission, San Gabriel. (Praise 7:00pm).

SAN PEDRO REGION

Monday, June 18

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm at St. Linus, 13915 Shoemaker Ave., Norwalk.

Friday, June 22

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm

with Fr. Joshua Lee at Mary Star of the Sea, 877 W. 7th St., San Pedro. (Praise 7:00pm)

Monday, June 25

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Jerry Thompson at St. Cornelius, 5500 E. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach.

ORANGE DIOCESE

Friday, June 15

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC at Mission Hospital Conference Center, Rms. A,B&C. 26726 Crown Valley Pkwy., Mission Viejo.

Monday, June 25

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

CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

Oct 23 - Nov. 2, 2018

Discover the Shrines of Italy with Fr. Charles Lueras, CRIC (Pilgrimage includes Rome, Assisi, Abbey of Santissima Trinita, Madonna del Rosario Sanctuary, San Giovanni Rotondo, Tomb of Padre Pio, Papal

You can be an instrument to help connect others with the ultimate force in the universe!

Coming in July...

Prayer Ministry Training

Saturday, July 14

See back page and

More Details in

Next Issue and Online



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out, to give. Why? Because God loves us! St. Thomas Aquinas says that to love someone is to have a heart open to receive to oneself the beloved. When you love someone, you are welcoming the beloved into your heart. That loved one impresses himself/herself into your heart. And the experience of doing this is delight.

The word delight – “delexio” – is the same root as the word to describe the delight that’s involved in a woman breastfeeding her baby. When a woman is breastfeeding her baby, that is called delight. Now where’s the delight that’s involved in a nursing baby? It’s both the delight of the mother giving and the delight of the baby receiving. You are God’s delight. And God intends for you to delight in Him.

Isaiah 62:3-5 says, “You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the Lord, you shall be a royal diadem held by your God. No more shall men call you forsaken or your land desolate, but you shall be called ‘my delight’ and your land ‘espoused.’ For the Lord delights in you and makes your land espoused. As a young man marries a virgin your builder shall marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.” It is God’s intention for us that we would know this reality, that we would encounter it, that we would experience it. The path to doing that is taking up the stance in prayer of the one who loves, the prayer of desire. When we do, the Holy Spirit will make it real.

I encourage and even challenge you to take up this stance in prayer for the next two weeks. Every day spend at least 10 minutes praying with Psalm 63 or Psalm 42. By the



**Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts
of your faithful
and kindle in them
the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit
and they shall
be created.
And You shall renew
the face of the earth.**

**O, God,
who by the light
of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts
of the faithful,
grant that by the
same Holy Spirit
we may be truly wise
and ever enjoy
His consolations,
through Christ Our
Lord,
Amen.**

end of those two weeks, you will see that, in fact, the Holy Spirit will make your desire real. You will perceive a tangible change in your relationship with God.

Remember the reaction of the disciples on the road to Emmaus? When Jesus spoke to them, when he pours out His love for them, their hearts were burning. We can encounter this burning in our hearts, this burning of God’s love. This is what God intends.

Do you want to be further aided in your own stirring of love? Gaze on the crucifix, or, watch a movie like the “Passion of the Christ.” Then you will get an insight into God’s passion for us. We will come to know that we are His passion. And as we are in the presence of that passion that he has for us it will stir that passion in us. That passionate commitment for God—God will become our passion.

Now, what is so incredible about being Catholic is that we don’t simply have to experience this by looking at the crucifix, but we can come into the very presence of Christ’s passion, and death, and resurrection at Mass. Here we find in fact the prayer of desire most perfectly displayed and manifest. “Take this, all of you and eat it. This is my body given for you. This is the cup of my blood shed for you.” That is passion!

I challenge you—if you take the stance of the prayer of desire, of the one who loves, you will know what it is to have the gift of God, the Holy Spirit, stirred into a flame within you.



One Day Conference

Healing the Family Tree

Praying For Our Loved Ones Living & Deceased



Dominic Berardino
President, SCRC
Burbank, CA



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

- Healing the Harmful Effects of Ancestral Sin
- Why is it Important to Pray for the Deceased?
- Breaking Bondages Over Generations
- Helping Future Generations Experience Freedom and Transformation
- 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 5/18/18. You may download a genogram at www.scrcc.org. Bring your completed genogram to the Conference.

**Saturday,
May 26, 2018**
9:30am - 3:00pm

**Our Lady of the
Assumption Parish Hall**
435 N. Berkeley Ave.
Claremont, CA



EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

BEFORE May 18th:

\$25.00

AFTER May 18th

and ON-SITE REGISTRATION: \$30.00

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

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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.

_____ Exp. Date _____

_____ Credit Card # _____
All individuals whose registrations are received by May 18th will receive a packet in the mail, which will include schedule, ticket(s), genogram, detailed directions, parking location, and map of local restaurants.

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

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Saturday, July 14

10:00am-4:00pm

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Director, Brain Fitness Center
LA & Orange Counties



Deacon Milt Rosenberg
Dir. of Psychological Services
St. John Seminary
Camarillo, CA



Maria Velasquez,
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- Mass celebrated by Msgr. Alex Aclan (more details in next SCRC SPIRIT Newsletter / Online)

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1 Peter 1:2

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