

Providing  
Support and  
Leadership  
for the  
Catholic Charismatic  
Renewal

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Number 3



**SCRC**  
**SPIRIT**

Southern California Renewal Communities  
May/June 2019

# Persevere with HOPE and JOY

by Alan Schreck

God has done and is doing great things through the Renewal in the Church and the world, so our first response should always be gratitude: Give glory, praise and thanks to God!

My sense of how the Spirit is moving us today is twofold. First, we need to persevere in doing all that the Church has called us, as Catholics, to do. Pope St. John Paul II taught that with the Second Vatican Council the Church rediscovered her charismatic dimension. The Council clearly states that all the charisms (cf. 1 Cor 12, Eph 4 and Rom 12) "are to be received with thanksgiving and consolation" (Lumen Gentium 12) and that "each of the faithful [have] the right and the duty of exercising them in the Church and in the world...in the freedom of the Holy Spirit..." (AA 3). Priests are exhorted to "discover with faith, recognize with joy, and foster with diligence the many and varied charismatic gifts of the laity, whether these be of a humble or more exalted kind..." (PO 9). Our "marching orders" are

from the Church, including the many pastoral statements of popes, most recently Pope Francis who exhorts the Renewal to spread the grace of "baptism of the Spirit" to all. Our age sorely needs this; we must be absolutely convinced of the importance of this for the Church and the world (and for each of us personally), especially for the work of evangelization. (As Fr. Cantalamessa has said, "No new evangelization without a new Pentecost!")

The second thing I sense is that we must not become discouraged. The Lord is in charge! On Palm Sunday of last year, Pope Francis spoke of the joy of those who praised Jesus coming into Jerusalem...yet this joy and praise made some uneasy. "And so the celebration of the people ends up being stifled. Hope is demolished, dreams are killed, joy is suppressed...and charity grows cold." So he asks: "Where is our heart focused? Does Jesus Christ continue to be a source of joy and praise in our hearts?" Joy and hope are two of the

see *Persevere* continued on page 6



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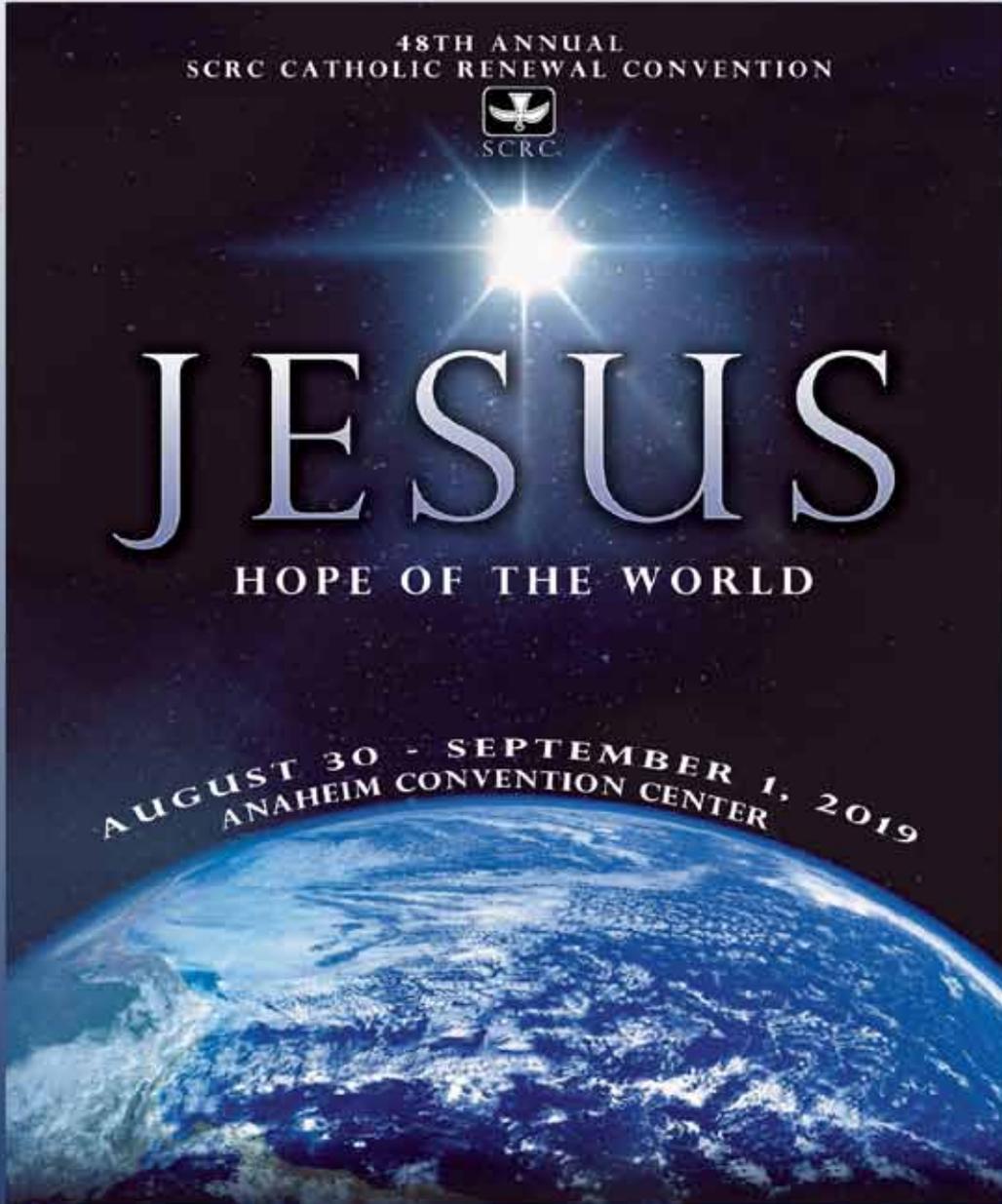
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# JESUS

HOPE OF THE WORLD

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RENEWAL COMMUNITIES

# PRAISE AND SONG TRANSFORM US INTO THE IMAGE OF GOD

by Gianfranco Pesare



"As Moses came down from Mount Sinai...he did not know that the skin of his face had become radiant while he conversed with the LORD" (Ex 34:29).

This is what happens when we are in God's presence, when we listen to his voice, to his Word. The book of Genesis says that "God created man in his image" (Gen 1:27). Not a static image as if it were a painting, but a dynamic one which increases and decreases the likeness to God according to how man exposes himself to God's presence.

Pope Benedict XVI affirms that "faithfulness to prayer gradually transforms us into the divine likeness." Prayer helps us to carry out God's plan for us: become his image, be transfigured, be transformed in Christ. "All of us, gazing with unveiled face on the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, as from the Lord who is the Spirit" (2 Cor 3:18).

The protagonist of prayer is the Holy Spirit who comes to help us because "we do not know how to pray as we ought" (Rom 8:26) and guides our prayer. Without the Holy Spirit we can't do anything. Prayer that transforms belongs to those who are docile to the work of the Holy Spirit.

The type of prayer that has characterized the Catholic Renewal since its origins is the prayer of praise. It was, in fact, the first fruit of the Holy Spirit in the early Christian Church: at Pentecost "they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...speaking of the mighty acts of God" (Acts 2:1-13). In the centurion's house, "While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word... for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God" (Acts 10: 44-46).

Mary, the mother of the Lord, filled with the Holy Spirit sang, "My soul magnifies the Lord." Praise is more of a

consequence of the work of the Holy Spirit rather than the work of the human mind. When we praise God, we are responding to our priestly vocation received at baptism to form a "a spiritual house and a holy priesthood" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 784). The duty of the priest was to "offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God" (1 Pt. 2:5) that is "a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name" (Heb 13:15). Every day in the liturgy the celebrant repeats: "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For, although you have no need of our praise, yet **our thanksgiving** is itself your gift, since our praises add nothing to your greatness, but **profit us for salvation**, through Christ our Lord. Amen!" (Common Preface IV Praise, the gift of God).

In order to be complete, praise needs song which is the  
see *Praise and Song* continued on page 6

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



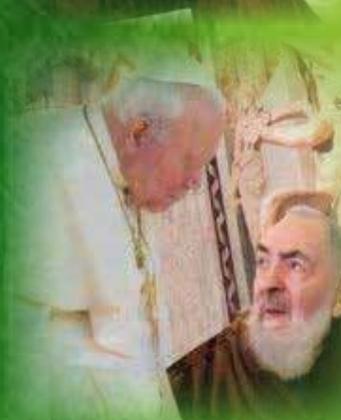
RENEWAL COMMUNITIES

SCRC

# ST. PADRE PIO

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Born May 25, 1887



- St. Padre Pio - Miracle Worker & Mystic
- Veneration of St. Padre Pio Relic Glove
- Extraordinary Happenings in the Life of St. Padre Pio

Day includes Mass - Blessing & Healing Prayer with St. Padre Pio's Relic Glove

# SATURDAY, MAY 25

10:00AM-4:00PM

Mass & Presentations with Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ      Dominic Berardino

### St. Denis Parish Hall • 2151 S. Diamond Blvd., Diamond Bar, CA

#### REGISTRATION FORM

DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION THRU May 20, 2019 \$20.00

Online Registration Available! [scrc.org](http://scrc.org)

PRICES AFTER May 20, 2019 and ON-SITE REGISTRATION \$25.00

  
 Return completed registration form with payment to: SCRC  
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All individuals whose pre-registrations are received before May 20, 2019 will be sent a schedule, nametag, detailed directions. Bring sack lunch or visit local restaurants.

# May 2019 Calendar

## SAN FERNANDO REGION

**Thursday, May 16**

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

**Thursday, May 16**

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Bill Adams, CSsR at St. Joseph the Worker, 19855 Sherman Way, Canoga Park (Praise & Worship, 7:00pm).

## SAN GABRIEL REGION

**Friday, May 24**

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

**Saturday, May 25**

**"St. Padre Pio: A Birthday Celebration", 10:00am-4:00pm with Dominic Berardino and Fr. Bill Delaney, SJ at St. Denis Parish Hall, 2151 S. Diamond Bar Blvd., Diamond Bar.**

**Topics:**

**St. Padre Pio-Miracle Worker & Mystic • Extraordinary Happenings in the Life of St. Padre Pio • Day includes: Veneration of St. Padre Pio Relic Glove • Mass with Blessing & Healing Prayer with St. Padre Pio's Glove Relic. \$20 before May 20. Register online at [scrc.org](http://scrc.org) or see opposite page for registration form.**

## SAN PEDRO REGION

**Monday, May 20**

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm

with Fr. Steephen Viblanc at St. Linus, 13915 Shoemaker, Norwalk.

## ORANGE DIOCESE

**Saturday, May 4**

Orange County Magnificat Breakfast, 9:30am-12:30pm with Guest Speaker: Joan Jacoby at the Embassy Suites Anaheim-South, 11767 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove. \$33 at the door. For questions, call Anne (714) 420-5482.

**Friday, May 10**

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

**Monday, May 20**

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

# June 2019 Calendar

## OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS REGION

**Friday, June 21**

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

## SAN FERNANDO REGION

**Saturday, June 8**

**HOLY SPIRIT SEMINAR**

A Call to a New Life in the Spirit (A Life Changing Seminar), 9:00am-6:00pm, Incarnation School Auditorium, 1001 N. Brand Bl., Glendale. Onsite registration starts: 8:30am. Contact: (818) 421-1354 [hojprayergroup@gmail.com](mailto:hojprayergroup@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, June 18**

Bilingual Mass & Healing Service, 7:00pm with Fr. Joshua Lee at St. Mary Church, 1600 E. Ave. R-4, Palmdale.

**Thursday, June 20**

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. Raul (Boyet) Gatbonton at St. Joseph the Worker, 19855 Sherman Way, Canoga Park (Praise & Worship at 7:00pm).

## SAN GABRIEL REGION

**Saturday, June 1**

**"The Life of the World to Come", 10:00am-4:00pm with Fr. George Reynolds and Dominic Berardino at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 344 W. Workman St., Covina.**

**Topics:**

**What Happen When We Die? • Are Heaven and Hell Real Places? • Who Experiences Purgatory? • Examining Near-Death Experiences, Death-Bed Visions and After-Death Visitations. Mass included. \$20 before May 28. Register online at [scrc.org](http://scrc.org) or see inside back cover for registration form.**

**Friday, June 28**

Mass & Healing Service, 7:30pm with Fr. John Molyneux, and Dcn. Steve Greco will assist at San Gabriel Mission (Old Mission Church), 428 S. Mission, San Gabriel. (Praise 7:00pm).

**SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD**



**FALL AFRESH ON US!**

## SAN PEDRO REGION

**Monday, June 17**

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

**Monday, June 24**

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

## ORANGE DIOCESE

**Friday, June 14**

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

**Monday, June 24**

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

see **Praise and Song** from page 3

key that opens the secret doors of our heart and allows the Holy Spirit to work in us. This has been my experience. For many years I've been praying with my guitar and my Bible which together with the power of song help me to experience God's healing, forgiveness, prophecy and contemplation. This is the secret of a good worship leader. Singing God's Word is fundamental in our spiritual battle because it makes the devil flee. As St. Ambrose said, "He who sings the Psalms with art takes away the devil's weapon." An inspired song has the power to lift up the congregation "on eagle's wings" and reach the heavens giving a general interior deliverance. "In this way they participate in the purpose of the liturgical words and actions: the glory of God and the sanctification of the faithful" (CCC 1157).

*"Nothing raises the soul," says St. John Chrysostom, "and frees it from earthly affections and bodily ties, to fill it with love for true wisdom, causing in it a dislike for all things of present life, as a harmonious melody and the rhythm of a Divine canticle."*

It is true: Praise and Song help us to become holy, in the image of God.



Gianfranco Pesare is a worship leader, songwriter. He led the Pentecost Vigil at the Circus Maximus in Rome in June 2017 with Pope Francis on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.



**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.**



see **Persevere** from cover page

most important fruits of this Renewal. Let us not lose them! Ask the Holy Spirit to stir them up. I'm a Church historian, but (even with prophetic words) I am convinced that no one knows God's greater plan for the Renewal...none of us clearly sees how the present fits into the "big picture" or how the future will unfold. Our task is to be faithful to what the Lord has given each of us to do in the present— with perseverance, and with his gifts of hope and joy. Thanks be to God!



Alan Schreck is a professor of theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville, specializing in Catholic doctrine, Church history, and the teachings of Vatican II and is the author of several books. He and his wife, Nancy, have raised five children and reside in Steubenville. Reprinted from the Spring 2018 issue of *Pentecost Today*. [nsc-chariscenter.org](http://nsc-chariscenter.org)



# The Life of the World to Come

## Saturday, June 1, 2019

10:00am-4:00pm

- **What Happens When We Die?**
  - Are Heaven and Hell Real Places?
- **Who Experiences Purgatory?**
  - Examining Near-Death Experiences
- **Death-Bed Visions and After-Death Visitations**  
**Mass Included.**



**Fr. George Reynolds**  
Assoc. Pastor,  
St. Cornelius,  
Long Beach, CA



**Dominic Berardino**  
President,  
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**Sacred Heart Parish Hall • 344 W. Workman St. • Covina, CA**

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### REGISTRATION BEFORE May 28:

(includes catered chicken lunch) ..\$20.00  
(after May 28 or at the door: \$25)

**Register Online: [scrc.org](http://scrc.org)**

Luncheon guaranteed for those registered by 05/28/19. If you plan to register at the door, please call or email for lunch count. (Registration is the same price, with or without lunch).



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

\_\_\_\_\_(Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Registration(s) including Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20 per person \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Enclosed

(after May 28 or at the door: \$25)

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1 Peter 1:2

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