

Serving the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando



THE **CHARISMATIC** NEWS

**SPRING 2022** Vol. 6 Issue 2, May 2022 (special edition)

“Rather, living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ”  
*Ephesians 4:15*

**“We too are called to testify in the Holy Spirit, to become  
paracletes, comforters.” Pope Francis**

*The Spirit changes the heart*, broadens the view of the disciples. He enables them to communicate to everyone the great, limitless works of God, surpassing the cultural confines and religious confines within which they were accustomed to thinking and living. (Article begins on page 2.)

***May the Joy of the Lord be Your Strength!***

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Peace be with you. Jesus Christ is risen; he is risen indeed. I pray you are all well and firmly in the embrace of our Savior Jesus and preparing for Pentecost.

Great news we now have a brand-new designed website. Our Web address has changed to:

[Orlandocharismatic.com](http://Orlandocharismatic.com)

This year's conference is at the Hilton hotel at 6100 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL 32819. Parking is free while attending the conference. Please indicate at check out that you are attending the conference.

Our speakers include Sister Deidre Byrne, Father Martin Scott, and Father Ignatius Okoroji. We have a Youth /young adult Track this year. That dynamic speaker will be Nelson Bautista Ruiz. He has been involved with the youth and speaking at many conferences, retreats, and missions over the years. The track is all day Saturday. Mr. Ruiz will be giving two talks and the youth may stay for the entire conference. The Registration fee for the youth is \$45 which includes the entire weekend. The dates of the conference are September 23 - September 25, 2022. To register for the hotel and conference go to our website at [orlandocharismatic.com](http://orlandocharismatic.com).

Father Bill, who was slated to be a keynote speaker at our conference this year was called back to be with the Lord on February 21, 2022. At the funeral mass there were one thousand people in attendance and approximately fifty priests were present. We have lost a major pillar in the Renewal so please keep him in your prayers. His replacement, as referenced earlier is Father Ignatius who is a very dynamic speaker much like Father Bill.

Please make your reservations for the hotel and register for the conference early. Do not wait till the last minute. The room rate of \$144 per night might not be available at a late date.

Please also pray for the poor people suffering in Ukraine.

I look forward to seeing you at the conference. Remember, pray, pray, pray.

Sincerely,

Vincent Maldonado

Administrator of Operations

**HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS**  
**St Peter's Basilica**  
**Solemnity of Pentecost - Sunday, 23 May 2021**

“When the Paraclete comes, whom I will send to you from the Father...” (Jn 15:26). With these words, Jesus promises to send his disciples the Holy Spirit, the ultimate gift, the gift of gifts. He uses an unusual and mysterious word to describe the Spirit: Paraclete. Today let us reflect on this word, which is not easy to translate, for it has a number of meanings. Essentially, it means two things: Comforter and Advocate.

The Paraclete is the Comforter. All of us, particularly at times of difficulty like those we are presently experiencing due to the pandemic, look for consolation. Often, though, we turn only to earthly comforts, ephemeral comforts that quickly fade. Today, Jesus offers us heavenly comfort, the Holy Spirit, who is “of comforters the best” (Sequence). What is the difference? The comforts of the world are like a pain reliever: they can give momentary relief, but not cure the illness we carry deep within. They can soothe us, but not heal us at the core. They work on the surface, on the level of the senses, but hardly touch our hearts. Only someone who makes us feel loved for who we are can give peace to our hearts. The Holy Spirit, the love of God, does precisely that. He comes down within us; as the Spirit, he acts in our spirit. He comes down “within the heart”, as “the soul’s most welcome guest” (ibid). He is the very love of God, who does not abandon us; for being present to those who are alone is itself a source of comfort.

Dear sister, dear brother, if you feel the darkness of solitude, if you feel that an obstacle within you blocks the way to hope, if your heart has a festering wound, if you can see no way out, then open your heart to the Holy Spirit. Saint Bonaventure tells us that, “where the trials are greater, he brings greater comfort, not like the world, which comforts and flatters us when things go well, but derides and condemns us when they do not” (Homily in the Octave of the Ascension). That is what the world does, that is especially what the hostile spirit, the devil, does. First, he flatters us and makes us feel invincible (for the blandishments of the devil feed our vanity); then he flings us down and makes us feel that we are failures. He toys with us. He does everything to cast us down, whereas the Spirit of the risen Lord wants to raise us up. Look at the apostles: they were alone that morning, alone and bewildered, cowering behind closed doors, living in fear and overwhelmed by their weaknesses, failings and their sins, for they had denied Christ. The years they had spent with Jesus had not changed them: they were no different than they had been. Then, they received the Spirit and everything changed: the problems and failings remained, yet they were no longer afraid of them, nor of any who would be hostile to them. They sensed comfort within and they wanted to overflow with the comfort of God. Before, they were fearful; now their only fear was that of not testifying to the love they had received. Jesus had foretold this: “[The Spirit] will testify on my behalf; you also are to testify” (Jn 15:26-27).

Let us go another step. We too are called to testify in the Holy Spirit, to become paracletes, comforters. The Spirit is asking us to embody the comfort he brings. How can we do this? Not by making great speeches, but by drawing near to others. Not with trite words, but with prayer and closeness. Let us remember that closeness, compassion and tenderness are God’s “trademark”, always. The Paraclete is telling the Church that today is the time for comforting. It is more the time for joyfully proclaiming the Gospel than for combatting paganism. It is the time for bringing the joy of the Risen Lord, not for lamenting the drama of secularization. It is the time for pouring out love upon the world, yet not embracing worldliness. It is more the time for testifying to mercy, than for inculcating rules and regulations. It is the time of the Paraclete! It is the time of freedom of heart, in the Paraclete.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

The Paraclete is also the Advocate. In Jesus' day, advocates did not do what they do today: rather than speaking in the place of defendants, they simply stood next to them and suggested arguments they could use in their own defense. That is what the Paraclete does, for he is "the spirit of truth" (v. 26). He does not take our place, but defends us from the deceits of evil by inspiring thoughts and feelings. He does so discreetly, without forcing us: he proposes but does not impose. The spirit of deceit, the evil one, does the opposite: he tries to force us; he wants to make us think that we must always yield to the allure and the promptings of vice. Let us try to accept three suggestions that are typical of the Paraclete, our Advocate. They are three fundamental antidotes to three temptations that today are so widespread.

The first advice offered by the Holy Spirit is, "*Live in the present*". The present, not the past or the future. The Paraclete affirms the primacy of today, against the temptation to let ourselves be paralyzed by rancor or memories of the past, or by uncertainty or fear about the future. The Spirit reminds us of the grace of the present moment. There is no better time for us: now, here and now, is the one and only time to do good, to make our life a gift. Let us live in the present!

The Spirit also tells us, "*Look to the whole*". The whole, not the part. The Spirit does not mold isolated individuals, but shapes us into a Church in the wide variety of our charisms, into a unity that is never uniformity. The Paraclete affirms the primacy of the whole. There, in the whole, in the community, the Spirit prefers to work and to bring newness. Let us look at the apostles. They were all quite different. They included, for example, Matthew, a tax collector who collaborated with the Romans, and Simon called the zealot, who fought them. They had contrary political ideas, different visions of the world. Yet once they received the Spirit, they learned to give primacy not to their human viewpoints but to the "whole" that is God's plan. Today, if we listen to the Spirit, we will not be concerned with conservatives and progressives, traditionalists and innovators, right and left. When those become our criteria, then the Church has forgotten the Spirit. The Paraclete impels us to unity, to concord, to the harmony of diversity. He makes us see ourselves as parts of the same body, brothers and sisters of one another. Let us look to the whole! The enemy wants diversity to become opposition and so he makes them become ideologies. Say no to ideologies, yes to the whole.

## PUT GOD BEFORE YOURSELF

The third advice of the Spirit is, "*Put God before yourself*". This is the decisive step in the spiritual life, which is not the sum of our own merits and achievements, but a humble openness to God. The Spirit affirms the primacy of grace. Only by emptying ourselves, do we leave room for the Lord; only by giving ourselves to him, do we find ourselves; only by becoming poor in spirit, do we become rich in the Holy Spirit. This is also true of the Church. We save no one, not even ourselves, by our own efforts. If we give priority to our own projects, our structures, our plans for reform, we will be concerned only about effectiveness, efficiency, we will think only in horizontal terms and, as a result, we will bear no fruit. An "-ism" is an ideology that divides and separates. The Church is human, but it is not merely a human organization, it is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Jesus brought the fire of the Spirit to the earth and the Church is reformed by the anointing of grace, the gratuity of the anointing of grace, the power of prayer, the joy of mission and the disarming beauty of poverty. Let us put God in first place!

Holy Spirit, Paraclete Spirit, comfort our hearts. Make us missionaries of your comfort, paracletes of your mercy before the world. Our Advocate, sweet counsellor of the soul, make us witnesses of the "today" of God, prophets of unity for the Church and humanity, and apostles grounded in your grace, which creates and renews all things. Amen.

## God of All Consolation

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, a gentle Father and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows, so that we can offer others, in their sorrows, the consolation that we have received from God ourselves. Indeed, as the sufferings of Christ overflow to us, so, through Christ, does our consolation overflow.” (2Corinthians 1:3-5)

This faith proclamation of St. Paul sings the praises of our Triune God: of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior; of God our Father, who is Supremely Gentle in his plans for us; and of the Holy Spirit, our God of All Consolation, The Comforter, the Companion of Our Soul -made present to us in all our sorrows.

It can be argued that the most profound and deepest intimacy known is not found in love, but in shared suffering. So it is that our Suffering Christ loves us from the Cross.

In the heart wrenching moment when Jesus was leaving this Earth, as his disciples were feeling lost in sorrow, he promised that he would ask the Father to send us the Paraclete: the One-Called-Alongside; the Comforter; the Strengthener; the Helper; the Encourager. This Promised One, this Gift of Peace, this Spirit of Jesus and his Gentle Father, is given that we will never be orphaned in our need; that in all our sorrows will he be made known.

St. Paul, in this letter to the Corinthians, was not concerned with delivering them from suffering; only in leading them into the Transcendent Truth –that we are not alone in our suffering, rather, the tender, gentle Love of God overflows from our suffering, and he meets us there in the Intimacy of His Cross.

The Good News Revealed is that not only are we not helpless victims of suffering, but because of knowing the Saving Love of God in our deepest pain, we become Conquerors of Death, Overcomers in adversity -Witnesses of his Saving Grace- able to shine his Light into the hearts of others darkened by suffering. The Spirit’s Gift of Faith is not just for our personal consolation. After raising us up, he then sends us forth to share his Hope.

For those of us who have seen God’s miraculous healings, we are tempted to expect that we, or our loved ones, be spared from all suffering. Yet, Paul was not ashamed of his sufferings or that of his beloved Corinthians. He knew that, unless the muscles of an athlete were torn by hard training, they could not grow stronger. He knew that with-out trial, character cannot take root. And he knew The Secret, that God is intimately involved in our pain, even more than in our joy -because that is where we need him the most, because our God is a Gentle Father.

St. Paul lived life to the full. He expected a lot from God. He was fearless –undaunted by the impossible. His uncompromised faith left a legacy to the Church that is still unfolding two millennia later. Yet, Paul was familiar with trial, failure, rejection, persecution and suffering. Three times he asked God to deliver him from a thorn in his flesh and God refused him, telling him he was strongest when he was weak. (2Cor 12/8)

St. Paul was larger than life because he lived as if he were nothing without God. He accomplished the impossible because he knew all things were possible with Christ. He was unfazed by failure because he knew all things work out for the good for those who love God. He believed that God was Faithful, that his promises were true. Paul had Faith in God’s Love.

Faith is everything. It defines our eternity. It is our vocation. It is the key to eternal life. It is the only thing required of us. It gives order to our chaos. It is what makes us pleasing to God. It is Faith that allows us to love. It is Faith that opens us to Truth. And, it is for Faith that we suffer -because without suffering, there can be no Faith.

Continued on the bottom of page 6.

Charismatic Catholic Renewal  
Conference  
presents

# Glory Revealed

*I consider the suffering of the present, nothing compared with the glory to be revealed to us Rms 8:18*

**Hilton Orlando  
Sept 23-25, 2022  
Click Button  
Below**

**Speakers :**  
Sr. Deirdre Byrne  
Fr. Martin Scott  
Fr. Ignatius Mary Okoroji

**YOUTH MINISTRY**  
Nelson Bautista Ruiz  
Natalia Gil

<https://www.orlandocharismatic.com/convention>

**Music Ministry :  
Missionary Families  
of  
Christ**

**See [www.OrlandoCharismatic.com](http://www.OrlandoCharismatic.com) for complete Conference information and Registration.**

Peace be with you all,

My name is Nelson Bautista Ruiz, married for 34 years, The Lord has blessed me with three beautiful daughters and eight grandchildren. I Have been serving My Lord since March 31, 1995. Before The Lord called me, I was fully devoted to martial arts training and competing. But ever since I responded to God's call, I have been serving Him. I began visiting people at their homes where they had Spiritual needs. That is where I was able to see God's Love, mercy, and power. Then I moved to Florida in 2005 because The Lord asked us to. Since living in Florida, I have been active in the Orlando Diocese with the Spanish Charismatic Renewal as leader in the adult & youth community. As well as coordinator of Youth Ministry( Guardianes de Cristo) for 4 years. My Parish is Blessed Sacrament in Clermont, where I serve as the coordinator of adult Charismatic prayer group.



I have also worked with Fr. Ignatius Mary from Communitatis Mater Domini, based in New Jersey. There is so much that The Lord has done for me from saving my marriage to physical healings for myself and many family members. I always say serving God is my full time Job, my other job is just part time. God bless you! Romans 8:28



# BE HOLY SPIRIT FILLED!

Hello brothers and sisters in Christ my name is Natalia Gil and I am a 28-year-old wife and mother of two. On my days off I love to watch movies, read, and spend time with family. But my all-time favorite thing to do is to serve the Lord through ministry. For the past 10 years I have been a team leader in the Catholic charismatic renewal of Orlando in the Hispanic community specifically working with the youth around Central Florida. It has been 10 Years that my life was transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit and since then I have been passionate about sharing the good news to those around me. My healing journey started when I was 16 years old battling depression, anxiety and difficulty finding my identity and purpose in life. The loneliness was overwhelming and at times contemplated suicide until Jesus Christ, reaching His loving hands out towards me, revealed His love to me through the Eucharist. As I received His infinite love and mercy, my heart was made new and the dark clouds that hovered over me began to disappear. That is when I realized that Christ is King, and He is my savior. My only mission is to do His will and be at His disposal, which is why I have accepted His call to become the Chairman of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando. In these next few years, we will focus on lifting up the youth of Central Florida through the power of the Holy Spirit. So, I want to extend the invitation to all of those young people who also desire to be healed by His love to the annual Charismatic Conference on September 23rd-25th. In this conference we will have a Youth Track that consist of music, praise and two talks. As we begin this new chapter in the renewal, I want you all to know that I am your sister and friend and here to walk with you as we embark this new journey.



“You are not the tomorrow, you are not the ‘meantime’, you are the Now of God”.

Pope Francis, World Youth Day 2019

Our Lord Jesus Bless You, Natalia Gil

---

Continued from page 4.

## God of All Consolation

Suffering cracks open our ego -exposing the truth within ourselves: that ultimately we are powerless; that our self sufficiency is an illusion. It is suffering that opens our eyes to our need for God, to our dependence on him for our breath. True Faith is born out of desperation. For me, I did not trust in God’s Provisional Love until I suffered enough to exhaust all other options for Hope. Even now, I am most prone to Sin when things are going my way -when I am lured into Forgetfulness and let go the Hand of God who is saving me.

Contrary to the Unbeliever’s cry, suffering is congruent with our Gentle Father’s heart. In his Mercy, he shepherds our suffering, gently allowing us to be brought to our knees –to a posture where we in turn allow ourselves to be found by him. It is the Desperate Heart which is open to Grace. It is the Broken Heart that searches for God. It is the Redeemed Heart which truly exults in the God of All Consolation, and, it is this Transformed Heart which offers authentic witness to his Love.

Richard Swiderski,

**Click on to Richard's Blog: <http://godstuffrichard.blogspot.com/>**

Richard has been on the Word Gifts team for the CCRC conference and a Prayer Group Leader along with his wife Katie for many years.



Do you have a  
Small, Medium, or Large

**BUSINESS**

?



Would you like to reach almost 3000  
new clients in Central Florida and the  
surrounding  
areas?



We are considering including advertising in our  
quarterly newsletters and were wondering if any of you  
would be interested in  
advertising your business with us. Our rates, when  
finalized, will be VERY rea-  
sonable.

If interested, please email our  
Editor at :



Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando

P.O. Box 215

Windermere, FL 34786-0215

**Return Service Requested**



**Non Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Orlando, Florida  
Permit No. 235**

## **TO CONTACT US**

### **ADMINISTRATOR OF OPERATIONS**

Vince Maldonado

Phone 407-610-1012

E-mail [orlandocrc@aol.com](mailto:orlandocrc@aol.com)

### **NEWSLETTER, DATABASE**

Philip Turgati

E-mail [orlandocharismatic@yahoo.com](mailto:orlandocharismatic@yahoo.com)

### **COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON**

Natalia Gil

E-mail [Natagil1015@icloud.com](mailto:Natagil1015@icloud.com)

### **MEMBER AT LARGE**

Charles Delatorre

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Charlie Hargraves

E-mail [skytraveler102@gmail.com](mailto:skytraveler102@gmail.com)

### **SECRETARY:**

Debbie Malambri

E-mail [Debbieccrc@aol.com](mailto:Debbieccrc@aol.com)

Address: Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando

P.O. Box 215

Windermere, FL 34786-0215

**WEBSITE** [www.orlandocharismatic.com](http://www.orlandocharismatic.com)