

Serving the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando



THE **CHARISMATIC** NEWS

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*"I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us."* Romans 8:18

## God grant me Wisdom, Prudence & Proper Perspective

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Peace be with you. Christmas is on its way, and we are anxiously awaiting the celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus. This is my favorite time of the year. Our conference in September of this year went well however we did not meet our contractual room block at the hotel and therefore we were assessed a penalty of over \$5800. Clearly this hurt our budget. So next year, please come out and stay at the hotel so we can avoid this costly penalty.

Our conference next year is on September 22- 24, 2023 in the Hilton Orlando at 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL. The theme this year is God's upward calling, Philippians 3:14. The speakers include Father Jim Blount, Father, Philip Scott, and Maria Vadia. Another powerful lineup for next year.

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando (CCRC) is planning a pilgrimage to Israel on March 20-30, 2023. If you have not been to the Holy Land, this is an awesome opportunity to walk where Jesus walked. Please go to the website on the attached flyer for further details. The renewal is also sponsoring a one-day Life in the Spirit seminar on February 18, 2023, at Holy Family Catholic church in the Family Life Center. Father Martin Nguyen will be one of the keynote speakers. Shortly there will be information on the seminar on our website, [orlandocharismatic.com](http://orlandocharismatic.com)

I would be remiss in my responsibilities for the renewal if I did not appeal to you for a contribution to help us mitigate costs. We are a separate 501(c)(3) corporation with many expenses. I proceed in faith for your consideration. Have a blessed Christmas.

Sincerely,  
Vincent Maldonado  
Administrator of Operations  
Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando.

**11 Day Holy Land Healing Retreat**

# **The Holy Land**

**March 20 - 30, 2023**

“Blessed is the man  
who trusts in the  
LORD, and whose  
hope is the LORD.”

— JEREMIAH 17:7

**Pope Francis on the humble but strong virtue of hope.**

Vatican Radio, March 17, 2016

Christian hope is a humble and strong virtue that supports us, so that we do not drown under the many difficulties we face in life. That was Pope Francis’ message at the morning Mass at the Casa Santa Marta. The Pope said that hope in the Lord never disappoints us; it’s a font of joy and peace in our hearts.

Jesus speaks with the doctors of the law, and affirmed that Abraham “rejoiced in hope” to see His day. Pope Francis preached his homily on this passage from the day’s Gospel, to show how hope is fundamental in the life of the Christian. Abraham, he said, “had his temptations along the path of hope,” but he believed and obeyed the Lord, and so set out on the journey to the promised land.

There is, then, the Pope said, something like a “thread of hope” that joins “the whole story of salvation” and is a “font of joy.”

Today the Church speaks to us of the joy of hope. In the first prayer of the Mass we asked for the grace of God to keep us in the hope of the Church, because it does not ‘fail.’ And Paul, speaking of our father Abraham, tells us: ‘He believed against all hope.’ When there is no human hope, there is that hope that carries us forward, humble, simple—but it gives a joy, at times a great joy, at times only of peace, but the security that hope does not disappoint: hope doesn’t disappoint.

This “joy of Abraham,” this hope, he continued, “grows throughout history.” “At times,” he admitted, “it is hidden, it is not seen; at times, it is clearly manifested.” Pope Francis cited the example of the pregnant Elizabeth, who rejoiced at the visit of her cousin Mary. It is “the joy of the presence of God,” he said, “that journeys with His people. And where there is joy, there is peace. This is the virtue of hope: from joy to peace. This hope, he repeated, “never disappoints,” not even in “moments of slavery,” when the people of God were in a foreign land.

This “thread of hope” begins with Abraham, who spoke with God, and ends with Jesus. Pope Francis dwelt on the characteristics of this hope. If, in fact, one can say that he has faith and charity, it is more difficult to speak about hope:

We are able to say this [about faith and charity] easily, but when we are asked, ‘Do you have hope? Do you have the joy of hope?’ ‘But, father, I don’t understand, can you explain?’ Hope, that humble virtue, that virtue which flows under the water of life, but that bears us up so we don’t drown in so many difficulties, so we do not lose that desire to find God, to find that wonderful face which we will all see one day: hope.

Hope doesn’t disappoint: it is silent, humble, and strong.

Today, the Pope said, “would be a good day to think about this: the same God who called Abraham and made him go out of his own land without knowing where he was going, is the same God who goes to the Cross, to fulfil the promise He made.”

It is the same God who, in the fullness of time, ensures that the promise would become a reality for all of us. And what unites that first moment to this last moment is the thread of hope. And that which unites my Christian life to our Christian life, from one moment to another, in order to always go forward — sinners, but going forward — is hope. And what gives us peace in bad moments, in the darkest moments of life, is hope. Hope doesn’t disappoint: it’s always there: silent, humble, but strong.

# CALL TO DO WHAT JESUS DID

Bart Schuchts

We are living in a unique time in history, rife with scandal, political divide, uncertainty... Many are troubled, afraid, angry, and unsure what is next; yet we have a hope that goes beyond circumstances. God is equipping and empowering his people for such a time as this.

In light of the time we are living in, perhaps these three lessons could be of benefit to pass along:

1. Proper perspective.
2. Jesus' mission.
3. Holy Spirit is teacher.

## 1. Proper perspective:

While our human emotion can struggle to grasp the uncertainty around us, a higher ground is available to stand upon. At many of the events where I speak - with John Paul II Healing Center as well as Church On Fire - I start with this simple analogy on perspective:

Have you ever been in the back of a crowded elevator? Imagine being a little child sandwiched in the back. What do you see? Elbows and butts. Imagine if your tall father is in the elevator with you. He picks you up. You now see over the top of people's heads. If the elevator door opens on the edge of a cliff, on a beautiful clear day, you now see the far reaching panoramic view. In the Father's arms, our perspective changes from seeing elbows and butts, to seeing over the top of people's heads, to seeing as far as the eye can see.

The Father wants to lift us up beyond the "elbows and butts" to see what he sees. God is always with us (Heb 13:5), even in the "back of a crowded elevator" sandwiched in behind today's "elbows and butts".

He is inviting us to see him, be with him, and represent him to a world desperate to be uplifted by a good, loving and powerful Father.

## 2. Jesus' mission:

"Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father" (Jn 14:12).

Jesus has empowered and equipped us to do the works that he does... Wow. Think about that for a second. What did Jesus do? What would happen if we actually took Jesus up on this offer? What might the Church look like?

Through our Catholic faith, we have been equipped and empowered through Baptism and Confirmation to live into Christ's mission: "It is evident from its celebration that the effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost"(CCC 1302).

Pentecost equipped us to live into Christ's mission. Yet how many Catholics even realize we have been equipped through Confirmation? It's as if we have been given a deposit of millions of dollars into our account, yet don't know the account number. Jesus has empowered and equipped us to participate with him in what he is doing; therefore it is important that we understand what Jesus has given to us.

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3. The Holy Spirit is our teacher. “But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything” (Jn 14:26).

The Holy Spirit is our teacher and he is the One who will reveal what the Father is doing. It’s important that we rely upon the Holy Spirit to empower and equip us to fulfill Christ’s mission on the earth today

This is the “secret sauce” of ministry: invite and rely upon the Holy Spirit.

In summary:

1. Perspective: It’s crucial that we allow the Father to lift us up and show us what he sees.
2. Mission: We are called to do the things that Jesus did.
3. Holy Spirit: We are to rely upon the Holy Spirit as our teacher.



Enjoy the journey.  
“Remember, I am with you always”  
Jesus (Mt 28:20).

Bart Schuchts has been instrumental in the growth of the John Paul II Healing Center in Tallahassee, Florida. He is a regular speaker at conferences and retreats.

[www.churchonfire.live](http://www.churchonfire.live)

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## OUR CONFERENCE IS

**SEPTEMBER 22-24th**

**IN THE HILTON ORLANDO**

**OUR THEME IS**

**"I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus."**

Philippians. 3:14

**SPEAKERS**

*Father Jim Blount, Father Philip Scott, and Maria Vadia!*

**A "DON'T MISS" LINE UP!**

With more information coming.

**START OFF 2023 WITH A BLAST OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

**THE LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR!**

**IS BACK!**

**for  
ONE DAY**

**FEBRUARY 18th, 2023**

**Holy Family Catholic church in the  
Family Life Center**

**Father Martin Nguyen  
will be one of the keynote speakers.**

**The Life in the Spirit Seminar is a way to learn more about our relationship with the Holy Spirit. It is a way for us to draw closer to God and the love He calls us to.**

**“The Life in the Spirit Seminar is a Catholic, **scripturally-based process of seven teaching sessions**, each building upon the previous session. It includes speakers, scripture, music, prayer, and small group discussion ”.**

**See [www.OrlandoCharismatic.com](http://www.OrlandoCharismatic.com) for complete Conference & Life in the Spirit Seminar information and Conference Registration.**

## Ask, Seek, Knock

*“I tell you, Ask and you will receive; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened to you.” (Luke 11:9)*

My Lord Jesus, I am Asking you.

I am admitting my utter dependence on you.

I am standing before you empty.

You alone are my Hope.

My Lord Jesus, I am Seeking you.

I am desperate for your Perfect Will in my life.

You have only Good things for me.

My Soul is ready.

My Lord Jesus, I am Knocking on the Door of your Heart.

I am tugging on your Cloak of Mercy.

Your eyes behold my every need.

How can I be afraid?

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.



Join Fr Ignatius Okoroji SDV and Vince Maldonado

# 11 Day Healing Retreat \_\_\_\_\_ **The Holy Land**

**March 20 - 30, 2023**



Round-Trip Air From Newark, NJ (+\$400 from Orlando, FL)

Per Person  
**\$3,799<sup>00</sup>**

Contact Deacon Tim or Angie Kennedy

(732) 423-7013    [dctim@faithandfuntours.com](mailto:dctim@faithandfuntours.com)

(732) 407-3069    [angie@faithandfuntours.com](mailto:angie@faithandfuntours.com)

<https://app.nativitypilgrimage.com/trip/?trip=72341>



Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando

P.O. Box 215

Windermere, FL 34786-0215

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## **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**

### **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)