

Serving the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando



THE **CHARISMATIC** NEWS

SPRING 2024 Vol. 8 Issue 1, March 2024

“The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me.”

Psalm 28

THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND MY SHIELD IN HIM MY HEART TRUSTS
COME HOLY SPIRIT ... COME
Luke 1:46

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace be with you. We are now experiencing some warmer weather and relief from the cold of early winter. In preparing this newsletter I began to consider our Lenten experience as an opportunity for us, to prepare and fast for the receipt of our Resurrected Jesus. While praying and fasting may seem like a daunting task, start with baby steps. Our journey is short here on earth, let us make it one that leads to a more personal intimate relationship with him and remember that he awaits us in heaven.

Our conference is coming together nicely. Join us for a deeply spiritual and invigorating experience. Let this be an opportunity to continue to grow closer to our God. The word that comes to mind is prepare.

This conference will take place at the Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway in Orlando, Florida. The date is September 20–22, 2024. The theme this year is “The Lord is my strength and my shield in him my heart trusts.” Psalm 28. Our lineup of speakers had included Father Chris Alar, but due to a scheduling conflict he is unable to attend. In his place I am pleased to announce that we are blessed to have Father Ignatius Okoroji, SDV. In addition, we will have Deacon, Ralph Poyo, Sister, Marilyn Minter, Nelson, Bautista, Ruiz, and Mrs. Natalia Gil.

You may register for the conference and make your reservation on the renewal website, Orlandocarismatic.com.

Our whole purpose within the Renewal is to be the light that points us to Jesus to be that bridge that leads us to him.

In addition to the conference, we have planned a 10-day pilgrimage to the shrines of Italy. This will be produced in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey, and the Charismatic Renewal of Orlando. It is a way to walk in the footsteps of those that have come before us. We will be visiting the major basilicas in Italy, including those in Rome and Assisi. We will stop at the Mother Teresa convent and will visit the Basilica of Saint Francis and the chapel, where Saint Francis

prayed. We will also visit the sanctuary of San Giovanni Rotondo, and the crucifix in front of which Saint Pio received the stigmata. Please refer to the flyer for the pilgrimage with the QR code for further information.

Let us remain steadfast in prayer for the end of the war in Ukraine and the Middle East, for the release of the hostages and for those that remain in suffering because of the aftermath of war.

I would ask you to please to consider donating to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal office as our expenses and the cost of production for our annual conference continue to increase. If you wish to contribute you may do so on the renewal website.

Just press the donate button or you could mail a check to CCRC, P.O. Box 215, Windermere, FL 34786.

Be blessed and know that we in the renewal are praying for you and we walk with you in this journey, to grow closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus. Maintain us in prayer as we continue to work towards the goal of bringing more souls to Jesus.

Sincerely,

Vincent Maldonado

Administrator of Operations

Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando

This is the prayer to the Holy Spirit that Pope Francis wants every Catholic to know!

By Courtney Mares

Vatican City, Nov 10, 2021 / 05:17 am

Pope Francis encouraged Christians to call on the Holy Spirit more often when facing difficulties, exhaustion, or discouragement in daily life during his general audience on Wednesday.

“Let us learn to invoke the Holy Spirit often,” Pope Francis said in the Paul VI Hall on Nov. 10.

“We can do this with simple words at various moments during the day.”

The pope recommended that Catholics keep a copy on them of the “beautiful prayer that the Church recites on Pentecost,” which he recited for the pilgrims gathered in the Vatican hall.

“Come, Holy Spirit, come! And from your celestial home, shed a ray of light divine! Come, come, Father of the poor! Come, Source of all our store! Come, within our bosoms shine. You, of comforters the best; You the soul’s most welcome Guest; Sweet refreshment ... Come,” the pope said, reciting the first half of the prayer. {Full text page 4}

Pope Francis added that if Catholics did not have the prayer on hand, they could simply pray “Come, Holy Spirit” — as “the Madonna and the Apostles prayed during the days when Christ ascended into heaven.”

“The key word is this: come. Come. But you need to say it yourself in your own words. Come, because I find myself in difficulty. Come, because I am in the dark. Come, because I don’t know what to do. Come, because I am about to fall. Come. Come. This is ... how to call upon the Spirit,” he said.

Pope Francis also offered advice from St. Augustine of Hippo, the fourth-century Doctor of the Church, for Christians for when one feels discouraged, weak, or marginalized by the world.

“St. Augustine, referring to the Gospel episode of the storm on the lake, suggests how to react in this situation. This is what he says: ‘The faith of Christ in your heart is like Christ in the boat. You hear insults, you wear yourself out, you are upset, and Christ sleeps. Wake Christ up, rouse your faith! Even in tribulation you can do something. Rouse your faith. Christ awakes and speaks to you... Therefore, wake Christ up... Believe what has been said to you, and there will be tremendous calm in your heart,’” the pope said, quoting one of Augustine’s sermons.

Pope Francis explained: “This is the only thing we can do in terrible moments: wake up Christ who is within us, but sleeps like [he did] in the boat. It is exactly like this.”

“We must rouse Christ in our hearts and only then will we be able to contemplate things with his eyes for He sees beyond the storm. Through that serene gaze, we can see a panorama that is not even conceivable on our own.”

Pope Francis

Holy Spirit, we give you glory and thank you for your gracious presence.
Help us not to grieve you, but to submit to you and allow your power to work in us.!



ST. JOSEPH—Feast March 19th

Prayers to St. Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus, date back almost as far as Our Lord's time! Although he came from King David's noble lineage, St. Joseph lived a life of great humility and devotion to his Holy Family as a carpenter.

Matthew's gospel describes him as a "just man" (1:19).

This is only fitting. Given that Jesus' Mother Mary was born without the stain of Original Sin, God in His providence saw to it that Our Lord's foster-father would also be a man of the utmost integrity and righteousness as well!

Remember that it was Joseph who escorted and no doubt greatly aided Mary on the trying trek to Bethlehem when she was about to give birth and then assisted her in the grotto in Bethlehem when Jesus was born.

Likewise, Joseph was obedient to the Angelic commands to move Mary and the Baby Jesus out of King Herod's harm's way to go to Egypt for a period of time until it was

safe for them to go to Nazareth in Galilee.

As John O'Kane Murray put it so well in his 19th century book *Little Lives of the Great Saints* concerning Jesus' Incarnation "The Divine Redeemer was about to visit this sin-stained world. In the natural order of things, He would require a protector and the Most Holy Mary would need a virtuous companion. But who could be found worthy of those lofty distinctions? There was one. It was Joseph."

St. Joseph is the patron saint of the Universal Church, and people invoke his aid for workers, families, home buyers and sellers, and the grace of a happy death, among other things. St. Thomas Aquinas once noted that St. Joseph is unique among patron saints in that he is able to assist us at anytime for anything.

St. Theresa of Avila echoed this sentiment when she wrote "I know by experience that the glorious St. Joseph assists us generally in all necessities. I never asked him for anything which he did not obtain for me."

The following prayer is among the earliest prayers to St. Joseph, (from around A.D. 50) and also one of the best known:

Oh St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

Oh St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, our Lord; so that having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Oh St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss his fine head for me, and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for us.

Amen

COME HOLY SPIRIT ... COME

1 Come, thou Holy Spirit, come,
and from thy celestial home
shed a ray of light divine;
come, thou Father of the poor,
come, thou source of all our store,
come, within our hearts to shine.

2 Thou of comforters the best,
thou the soul's most welcome guest,
sweet refreshment here below;
in our labour rest most sweet,
grateful coolness in the heat,
solace in the midst of woe.

3 O most blessed Light divine,
shine within these hearts of thine,
and our inmost being fill;
where thou art not, man hath naught,
nothing good in deed or thought,
nothing free from taint of ill.

4 Heal our wounds; our strength renew;
on our dryness pour thy dew;
wash the stains of guilt away;
bend the stubborn heart and will;
melt the frozen, warm the chill;
guide the steps that go astray.

5 On the faithful, who adore
and confess thee, evermore
in thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give them virtue's sure reward,
give them thy salvation, Lord,
give them joys that never end.

The Holy Spirit as Source, Power and Inspiration for Spiritual Practice, Fr. Donald Dorr

Christians today seem to have less need for angels as messengers from a God who is 'out there.' Instead, the Holy Spirit allows us to 'wrestle' almost playfully with that Spirit who prompts us from within with sighs too deep for words; also with the Spirit who touches and 'prompts' people in every culture and in all religions; and through present-day ecological spirituality, we are put in touch with the Spirit present and working in the whole network of creatures of which we humans are an integral part. The Spirit revealed in the Bible is a share in God's life-energy, bringing hope and comfort to the downcast, and challenge to those who oppress people and exploit the Earth. This Spirit can communicate with and prompt us not merely in a rational mode by also using a variety of other 'channels,' such as, dreams, intuitions, unlikely people, myths and symbols from various cultures, universal human values, and the Web of Life and of the Cosmos. And the Spirit works in us, and through us, in a variety of different modes — e.g. empowering, inspiring, nudging, flowing and yielding.

† This article is a revised version of the author's keynote lecture at the British and Irish Association for Practical Theology Conference "Wrestling with Angels? Practical Theology as Spiritual Practice" in Limerick, Ireland, July 12th 2016.

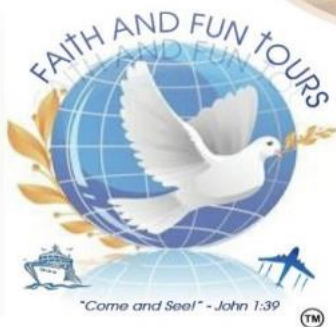
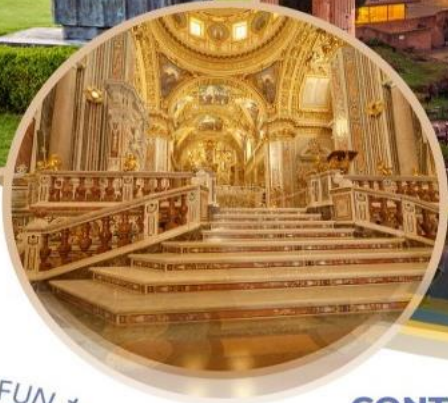
<https://www.tandfonline.com>

Donal Dorr is an Irish, Roman Catholic, priest member of St Patrick's Missionary Society.

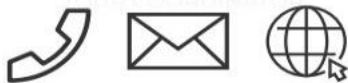
SHRINES OF ITALY

10-DAY PILGRIMAGE

WITH FR. IGNATIUS OKOROJI SDV AND
VINCE MALDONADO



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THE LORD

**IS MY
STRENGTH
AND MY
SHIELD**

**IN HIM MY HEART
TRUSTS**

PSALM 28:7A



September 20-22, 2024

Hilton Orlando

OrlandoCharismatic.com

Speakers

Father Ignatius Okoroji, SDV

Sister Marilyn Minter

Deacon Ralph Poyo

Nelson Bautista Ruiz , Youth Track



2024 CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Father Ignatius Mary Okoroji, SDV

Is an ordained priest in the Congregation of the Society of Divine Vocations and is currently the Retreat Director of his religious community in New Jersey. He has earned a master's degree in Theology and Ministry of the Word, and a master's degree in Organizational Leadership with an emphasis on leadership in diversity and conflict resolution.

Fr. Ignatius is the Founder of *Communitas Mater Domini (CMD)* and is the Author of one of his best selling books, *God's Foot Is On The World: Millennium Reign Of Christ The King Begins...*

He holds Healing Masses every month and there have been testimonies of healings and conversions. Testimonies have been shared of reconciled marriages and children born to childless couples.

Father Ignatius has a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Immaculate Conception and in everything gives all credit to God.

BIO SISTER MARILYN MARIE MINTER, CSSF

Sister Marilyn Marie Minter has been a member of the Felician Community for 49 years. Sister Marilyn received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Felician College. She holds a Masters Degree in Church Music and Liturgy from the ensselaer Program at St. Joseph College in Indiana, and she is a certified spiritual director. Sister Marilyn traveled throughout the country, conducting Parish Missions and College retreats, and attending youth and young adult gatherings.

For more than a decade, Sister Marilyn responded to an inner call of evangelization with and among the poor that led her to various mission immersion experiences in Africa, Mexico, Kamchatka in Russia, and Haiti. After the earthquake in Haiti on 01/12/2010, the Felician Sisters responded to the cries and needs of the people by sending Sisters to Port-au-Prince; Sister Marilyn was one of these Sisters.

Responding to the needs of God's poorest people, the Felician Sisters opened a new mission in Jacmel, Haiti, in October of 2012.

<https://felician.edu/news/sister-marilyn-minter-interviewed-on-radiofelician-for-ifg/>



DEACON RALPH POYO

The Lord moved Ralph and his young family to Raleigh, NC. Where he took on the youth ministry position at Our Lady of Lourdes. Seven years later, he became the Director of Faith Formation at St. Luke the Evangelist in North Raleigh, the position he held until his recent move to Steubenville, Ohio. At St. Luke's, Ralph was responsible for all catechetical programs within the parish, including RCIA, sacramental prep, and private pastoral counseling. In his six years there, Ralph led the building of two (middle and high school) youth ministry programs. In addition, Ralph eliminated the CCD religious education program and established an "all generations" catechetical program, manned by a 200-person crew of volunteers from the parish. With this new format, he was able to continue ministering to the same number of children and youth, and expand his outreach to about 240 adults – the heads of all of the participating households – each month. The program was so successful after its first year, that Ralph needed to establish five additional adult education classes to respond to the hunger generated by the parish-wide awakening of faith. <https://nem.training/>



Nelson Bautista Ruiz

Nelson Ruiz was the coordinator for the youth in the CCR Hispanic community for many years and continues to lead the prayer group in Blessed Sacrament. In all of these years of ministry he has helped lead many young souls to Christ!



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