

Serving the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando



THE **CHARISMATIC** NEWS

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"I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus."
Philippians 3:14

"My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour".

Luke 1:46

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I hope all are well during this very warm summer season. Remember to stay well hydrated in Jesus.

Our conference is just weeks away beginning September 22-24, 2023. It will take place in the Hilton Orlando at 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, Florida.

The theme is God's Upward Calling, Philippians 3:14. Our speakers include Father Jim Blount, Father Philip Scott, Maria Vadia, and Nelson Ruiz Bautista. As with preparation of any conference, there are always issues which appear and this conference was no exception. We must keep our eyes on Jesus and run the good race. I believe this will be a very powerful conference for all.

The hotel will guarantee the rate of \$149 a night till September 6, 2023. If you haven't made your hotel reservations, please do so. To register for the hotel and the conference you may go to our website which is www.orlandocharismatic.com.

Let this conference be an opportunity to grow closer to our Savior Jesus, and develop a more personal intimate relationship with our God.

Be safe, stay cool and we look forward to seeing you at the conference in September.

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

Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando Conference
presents

GOD'S UPWARD CALLING

*"I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling,
in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14*

Pope Francis at Angelus on feast of the Assumption:

Mary is the “Gate of Heaven”

Pope Francis invites us to “look upwards” because, thanks to Mary’s assumption: “Heaven is open” and we need no longer be afraid.

By Vatican News

In St Luke’s Gospel on this Solemnity of the Assumption, the Evangelist records the words of Our Lady as she prays: “My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour”. Before reciting the Angelus, Pope Francis reflected on the two verbs in that prayer: to rejoice and to magnify.

“My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour”.

To rejoice

“We rejoice when something so beautiful happens that it is not enough to rejoice inside, in the soul, but we want to express happiness with the whole body”, said the Pope. “Mary rejoices because of God... she teaches us to rejoice in God, because He does “great things”.

To magnify

“To magnify means to exalt a reality for its greatness, for its beauty”, continued Pope Francis. “Mary proclaims the greatness of the Lord... she shows us that if we want our life to be happy, God must be placed first, because He alone is great”. The Pope warned of getting lost in the pettiness of life, chasing after things of little importance: “prejudices, grudges, rivalries, envy, and superfluous material goods”. Mary, on the other hand, invites us to “look upward at the ‘great things’ the Lord has accomplished in her”.

The Gate to Heaven

“Mary, who is a human creature, one of us, reaches eternity in body and soul”, said Pope Francis. This is why we invoke her as the “Gate of Heaven”. “There she awaits us, just as a mother waits for her children to come home”. The Pope said we are like pilgrims on our way home to Heaven. Seeing that “in paradise, together with Christ, the New Adam, there is also her, Mary, the new Eve, gives us comfort and hope in our pilgrimage down here”.

Heaven is open

For those who are afflicted with doubts and sadness, “and live with their eyes turned downwards”, the Feast of the Assumption is a call to “look upwards” and see that “Heaven is open”, continued Pope Francis. It is no longer distant, and we need no longer be afraid: “because on the threshold of Heaven there is a Mother waiting for us”. Mary constantly reminds us that we are precious in the eyes of God, and that we are made for the great joys of Heaven. “Every time we take the Rosary in our hands and pray to her”, he said, “we take a step forward towards our life’s great goal”.

The greatness of Heaven

“Let us be attracted by true beauty”, said the Pope, “let us not be drawn in by the petty things in life, but let us choose the greatness of Heaven”. Pope Francis concluded by praying that the Blessed Virgin Mary, Gate of Heaven, may help us daily to fix our gaze with confidence and joy “on the place where our true home lies”.

THE VIRGIN MARY AND THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Charismatic Renewal

The Virgin Mary, whom a certain Catholicism seems to have put to one side, now "returns" through the ecclesial Movements and new Communities. This was a re-discovery also for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, a current of grace which spread widely among more than a hundred and twenty million Roman Catholics.

The Charismatic Renewal generally manifests itself in the Church and in the world through its prayer groups which focus on Jesus as Lord and Savior of believers, on praising God, and on the spontaneous use of charisms of the Holy Spirit, such as the speaking in tongues and the spiritual exhortation expressed in prophesying.

Through these charismatic manifestations God re-awakens, in a secularized and dormant world, a new spirit of adoration of his name, which is capable of carrying out new works of salvation for men and women and of preparing his Bride, the Church, for her final encounter with him.

Mary has an essential role in the Charismatic Renewal. In the past thirty five years, the charismatic experience in the Catholic Church has revealed the profoundly "Marian" soul of the Charismatic Renewal.

Our relationship with Mary is direct and we experience her spiritual maternity during our Charismatic prayer meetings. Hers is an evident presence. The invocations to her are simple, at times, even bare, but not void of theological and spiritual depth.

However, Mary is not simply the object of veneration and invocation on the part of Charismatics. Mary is our model in the following aspects: First of all, she is the prototype of the Church owing to her receptivity to the Holy Spirit who forms Christ in the People of God. This doctrine, highlighted by Vatican II, revealed Mary as the mirror of the Church, in relation to her presence at the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem.

Secondly, Mary is the model of an everlasting Pentecost in the Church. The experience of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit over Mary in Jerusalem was neither the first nor the only one. St. Luke presents the Annunciation as a proto-Pentecost of Mary. Actually, the terms he uses for the two events are identical: at the Annunciation he says: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you" (Lk 1:35), and at Pentecost: "the Holy Spirit will come upon you" (Acts 1:8). The similarity then is not a superficial one. Vatican II also underlined this in *Lumen Gentium* (59) and *Ad Gentes* (4).

Undoubtedly, the Mother of the Lord lived many other Pentecostal experiences during her earthly life, like that related to us by Luke, when she was in the house of her cousin Elizabeth, where a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit was manifested in such obviously charismatic expressions (Lk 1:39).

Mary is the object, par excellence, of God's favor (Lk 1:28), the first to experience the action of the Spirit (Lk 1:35), the model of all those who long to be "baptized in the Spirit and in fire", as promised by Jesus (Lk 3:16; Acts 2:3).

Mary is the prototype of a continual and never-ending Pentecost in the Church in view of the interiorizing of Christ and of the missionary announcement of the Church to the very ends of the earth (Acts 1:8).

Thirdly, Mary is also the model of charismatic life. Actually, the early Christian community is presented as a charismatic community. It was through the expansion of those gifts, which the letters of Paul call charisms (see 1 Cor 12: 4-11; Eph 4: 11-12), that the coming of the Holy Spirit, the foundation of the Church and the spread of the Gospel were manifested.

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In all the narratives linked to the descent of the Holy Spirit over Mary, we see, first of all, an extraordinary outburst of praise and adoration of God, as in the Magnificat (Lk 1:46-56), and the glorification of God in unknown languages, as in the Pentecost of Jerusalem (Acts 2: 4-13).

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord

But another charismatic gift is at the basis of Mary's experience of the Spirit: that of prophecy. All the experiences narrated by St. Luke in his Gospel and in the Acts attach a close relationship between the coming of the Spirit and, for example, the prophetic charism exercised in the song of the Magnificat.

But Mary is not the only one. This charism blossoms forth also in the midst of the people of God, as in Elizabeth who prophesies: "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled" (Lk 1: 43-44); in John the Baptist, who rejoices in Elizabeth's womb and which is, according to a mystical tradition of the Church, the first charismatic and prophetic impetus; in Zachariah, with the canticle of the Benedictus, parallel to the Magnificat.

While the Catholic Charismatic Renewal recuperates some aspects of the Virgin Mary as the pneumatic and charismatic model, as prophetess and speaker of tongues, what is important in all this is that Mary is for the Church the most authentic model of Christian life and of its evangelizing mission. It is her "best part" which no one can take from her; on the contrary, we must highlight it again.

<http://christusimperat.org/>

<http://www.catholicfraternity.net/images/RelazioneFiuggi%2003.pdf>

2011-2013



"Let us ask the Virgin Mary to obtain a renewed Pentecost for the Church again today, a Pentecost that will spread in everyone the joy of living and witnessing to the Gospel." - Pope Benedict XVI, May 11, 2008

Conference 2023

Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando Conference

presents

GOD'S UPWARD CALLING

*"I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling,
in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14*

Hilton Orlando Destination Parkway
Sept. 22-24, 2023

Speakers:

Fr. Jim Blount

Fr. Philip Scott

Maria Vadia

Nelson Bautista Ruiz Youth Track

Music Ministry:
Missionary Families
of Christ

www.orlandocharismatic.com

See
www.OrlandoCharismatic.com
for complete Conference information
and
Registration.

2023 SPEAKERS BIO

Fr. Philip Scott, F.J.



Is the Founder of Family of Jesus the Healer, a community of priests, brothers and sisters who are praying to be healed and formed into a family by the Divine Family (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). They pray to live out in a prophetic manner their baptismal calling to follow Jesus Christ and be His instruments of healing for families; both the individual domestic family, and also the broader family of the Church and society.

Fr. Jim Blount



For rich treasures of the faith, promoting the love of God, the peace of Our Lady, and living in God's Divine Will. Fr. Blount keeps listeners captivated with his unique style, powerful stories, and deep love of each of the Persons of the Holy Trinity and the Blessed Mother. Fr. Blount's enlightening conversations cover a range of topics important for spiritual growth, including sharing about devotions, people, and resources that may be unknown to many.

About Maria Vadia

Evangelist & Founder



Born in Havana, Maria Vadia was 10 years old when she and her family fled to Miami to escape the Communist regime in her native country. She attended Catholic schools and was a Sunday Catholic with no personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Later married to a wealthy man, she was gripped with materialism; yet in the midst of everything that the world had to offer, she felt an emptiness deep within her heart.

Maria's life was radically changed when she was baptized in the Holy Spirit in 1987. She consecrated her life to Jesus and to the preaching of the Gospel. In spite of great adversity, the Lord has been with her like a mighty warrior (Jeremiah 20:11).

Nelson Bautista Ruiz - Youth Track -

**Nelson Bautista Ruiz,
Youth Minister for the
Diocese of Orlando**





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