

Serving the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando



THE **CHARISMATIC** NEWS

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“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

Pope Francis said that Christians are called to proclaim the Gospel to everyone with gentleness and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace be with you. We are beginning to experience warmer weather and a thought comes to my mind. Are we warming up to our Savior Jesus? St. Paul says “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.” Philippians 2:12. In my mind we need to spend each day as if it is our last day and make it count. It is not that we can earn our salvation, but rather it is a grace that we receive from our Lord. Therefore, we must “fight the good fight of the faith,” 1 Timothy 6:12 and win the race which is to be with our Lord and Savior for eternity.

Registrations for our upcoming conference on September 20–22, 2024 are tepid. I know that you are all busy, but we have a major legal responsibility to fill our room block of four hundred rooms at the hotel for the conference over the weekend. Along with that we need you to register for the conference. Our fees have not increased in years despite the increasing rise in expenses. Those of you who have attended our conference over the years know that we always strive to make sure that the conference is the best that you have ever experienced, which is supported by past comments from our attendees. I ask you please to register for the conference at orlandocharismatic.com, and you can also make your hotel reservation on the same site. If you are unable to register for the conference via computer, you may mail in your registration with the attached form and call the hotel to register at (407) 313-4300. Please make sure to indicate you are attending the Catholic Charismatic Renewal conference.

We have a very gifted speakers including Father Ignatius Okoroji, a very spiritual and animated man, Sister Marilyn Minter who is on fire for the Lord and is a very energetic woman, Deacon Ralph Pollo a new speaker, who is the Chairman of the Pentecost Today, you will be pleasantly surprised by his energy and his command of the word of God. We also have Nelson Ruiz Bautista, our MC and Natalia Gil, who will be leading the youth track both of which are young firebrands for Jesus.

Let us come out and make this a great conference experience. I look forward to meeting and seeing you this time around.

Sincerely,

Your brother in Christ,

Vincent Maldonado Administrator Operations Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando.

Pope Francis on Pentecost:

The Holy Spirit's Work in Us Is Powerful

In his homily, Pope Francis explained how the Holy Spirit helps us to overcome sinful passions and then gently plants the seeds of virtue and helps them to grow. The Pope also recommended that people spend time praying in silence in Eucharistic adoration to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Pope Francis participates in Mass on the solemnity of Pentecost, May 19, 2024 (photo: Daniel Ibanez / CNA) Courtney Mares/CNA, Vatican, May 19, 2024

On the Solemnity of Pentecost, Pope Francis said that Christians are called to proclaim the Gospel to everyone with gentleness and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Speaking in St. Peter's Basilica, the Pope explained that the Holy Spirit's "work in us is powerful, as symbolized by the signs of wind and fire," but it is also gentle and "welcoming to all."

"From the 'Upper Room' of this basilica, like the apostles, we too are being sent forth to proclaim the Gospel to all," Pope Francis said in his homily on May 19.

"Thanks to the Spirit, we can and must do this with his own power and gentleness," he added.

Pope Francis underlined that this power is not arrogant, calculating or imposing, but is "born of fidelity to the truth that the Spirit teaches us in our hearts."

"Consequently, we do not give up, but tirelessly proclaim peace to those who desire war, forgiveness to those who seek revenge, welcome and solidarity to those who bar their doors and erect barriers, life to those who choose death, respect to those who love to humiliate, insult and reject, fidelity to those who would sever every bond, thereby confusing freedom with a bleak and empty individualism," he said.

"Nor are we intimidated by hardship, derision or opposition, which, today, as always, are never lacking in the apostolate."

In his homily, Pope Francis explained how the Holy Spirit helps us to overcome sinful passions, like impurity or envy, and then gently plants the seeds of virtue and helps them to grow.

"He lovingly protects these virtues, so that they can grow stronger and so that, after the toil of combatting evil, we may taste the sweetness of mercy and communion with God," he said.

"As a beautiful prayer of the early Church says: ***'Let your gentleness, O Lord, and the fruits of your love, abide with me,'***" he added.

The Pope told the crowd gathered in St. Peter's Square that listening to the word of God helps to "silence the chatter" and provides space for one to hear the consoling voice of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit repeats in us "transformative words of love," he added, that help us to realize the eternal love of God. The Pope recommended that people spend time praying in silence in Eucharistic adoration to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Pope Francis also prayed for the Holy Spirit to bring communion between Christians, harmony in families, and an end to the wars in Ukraine and Holy Land.

At the end of his Pentecost homily, Pope Francis prayed: ***"Come, Creator Spirit, enlighten our minds, fill our hearts with your grace, guide our steps, grant your peace to our world."***

Reduced To Love (John 13:34)

I recently read a reflection on the “New Commandment” which Jesus bequeathed upon us –those final Words which gives focus to everything he stood for: ‘I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another.’

The unnamed author concluded his reflection with a simple five-word prayer which is still stirring my heart: “Jesus, reduce me to love!” An entire book begs to be written to release the power –the profundity- of this little prayer. 2 COR 6:6 reads: We prove we are God's servants by our purity, knowledge, patience and kindness; by a spirit of holiness, by a love free from affectation. Affectation is a behavior which is assumed, or put on, as opposed to unpretentious. Love wrapped in affectation is an act, by design, to impress others. If we love as Jesus loves, then we are reduced of our need for appearances; we are stripped of Self's hidden motives, its desire for reciprocation, its need for appreciation.

This is all impossible -to love as Jesus loves- unless we first have received his Love, the very Love his is commanding us to give away. To love as Jesus loves is to love with the Love we receive from Jesus. It is as if our love is stripped of our face and cloaked with the touch of Jesus -devoid of an earthly source, free of Self's stain. By the Grace of his Spirit, our Love, truly given, becomes Pure-Gift.

How else is it possible to love the Loathsome, to love when no love is felt, indeed, to love when we desire to hurt? It is possible only because Jesus is Ever Present –ever giving us His Love that we may give it away. This is the Will of God – to be so surrendered to His Spirit, that we are Reduced to Love.

In surrendering her Self to God, to his Holy Spirit, Blessed Mary became the Mother of God. Her yes put Flesh onto her God. She gave us Jesus, the Greatest Love the world has ever known. Her selflessness became Love, it became Jesus, who is Love –the Glory of Humanity Revealed. Her Love, Jesus, allowed us to see for the very first time, to find the meaning of Life, to find the Way to Love Eternal.

“Behold your Mother.” Christ spoke from the Cross. In giving birth to The One, she has given Life to all. From my sinfulness I cry, oh Lord: Make me like her. Remove from me everything that blocks the flow of your Love into my heart. I too want to be a Vessel Of Love. Jesus, reduce me to Love!

By Richard Swiderski, Blog “Thoughts on Life”

Richard and his wife Katy are Catholic Charismatic prayer group leaders in Ocala, Fl. Also Word Gifts Ministry.

Jesus reduce me to love!



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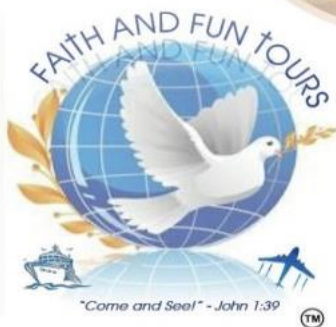
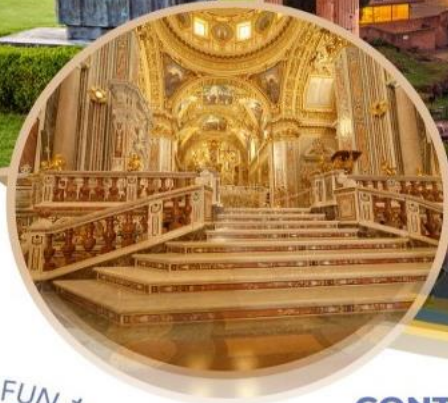
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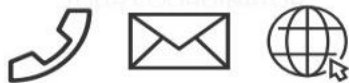
SHRINES OF ITALY

10-DAY PILGRIMAGE

WITH FR. IGNATIUS OKOROJI SDV AND
VINCE MALDONADO



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presents

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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