Dear Brothers and Sisters,

You truly are brothers and sisters because of Jesus. What amazing truth is revealed in the following verses from the first chapter of John’s Gospel.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory,
the glory of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth.
From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace.

How amazing is this? The Word has become flesh! The second person of the Trinity – God – has joined himself to human nature forever! And the Son after paying the horrible price for our sins, to ransom us from captivity to the devil and from the sentence of eternal death, rose from the dead, ascended to the Father in his human body and will return again in glory in his human body.

Human nature has now been taken into heaven, into the heart of the Trinity, so that all human beings who so desire – who are willing to believe in Jesus and follow him – can be joined with Jesus in heaven as well.

During this upcoming Christmas season let’s remember to be grateful for the amazing gift of the Word becoming flesh and what it means for all of us – a future full of hope no matter how difficult the sufferings of the present may be. Here at Renewal Ministries we are also extremely grateful for all the blessings of the past year and the opportunities the Lord has given us to serve him and his people, the ongoing work, the new initiatives and the amazing new opportunities to help strengthen leadership circles in the Church. We are also extremely grateful for your friendship and support over the years – you who have been with us faithfully since 1980 and you who are perhaps getting this newsletter for the very first time. Thank you for your prayers, financial giving and friendship, which have not only kept us going but also allowed us to grow and develop and serve in ways we never even dreamed of.

Your brother in Christ,

Ralph Martin

Ralph Martin
Sr. Ann Shields spent six days this past July speaking and ministering at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters’ Retreat in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In February Peter spoke at a parish mission at St. William’s in Round Rock, Texas with (l to r): Fr. Dean Wilhelm, Fr. Jonathan Raia, and Fr. Uche Andeh.

Fr. Jonathan Morris addressed more than 1,200 adults at the first ever U.S. Lift Jesus Higher Rally in the diocese of Toledo, Ohio this past October.

Ralph spoke in Orlando, Florida to 41 bishops and seven archbishops gathered for a special seminar on the New Evangelization. Ralph and Anne were also able to visit informally with many of the bishops—seen here with Bishop Noonan of Orlando, Bishop Higgins of the Military Archdiocese, and Matthew Manion, President of the Catholic Leadership Institute.

Some of the well-known speakers at the Defending the Faith Conference at the Franciscan University of Steubenville (l to r): Brandon Vogt, Teresa Tomeo, Mark Hart, Michael Hernon, Peter Kreeft, Scott and Kimberly Hahn, Ted Sri, Ralph Martin, Jason Stellman, Patrick Madrid.
Some of the priests, deacons and seminarians at the Preaching Seminar held at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in the Philadelphia Archdiocese.

Conception Abbey, the Benedictine Monastery where the annual Clergy Convocation for the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas took place. Ralph gave eight talks to the priests gathered here as well as to 100 seminarians and faculty from the College Seminary run by the Benedictine monks. Archbishop Naumann attended all the talks.

Fr. Peter John Cameron, O.P, Editor of *Magnificat*, Ralph, Bishop Michael Byrnes, auxiliary bishop of Detroit, and Fr. Francis Martin, were the speakers for the annual Preaching Seminar held in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for priests, deacons and seminarians. Deacon Dan Foley, Chairman of our U.S. Board, was the emcee for the event.

Ralph did a mini-parish mission at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Ellicott City, Maryland.
And then there was family . . . Ralph and Anne with thirteen of their fourteen grandchildren.

Ralph and Scott Hahn collaborated on a TV series for EWTN on the New Evangelization which was very warmly received.

The regular *Crossing the Goal* team of Peter Herbeck, Danny Abramowicz, Curtis Martin, and Brian Patrick invited FOCUS missionaries and i.d.916 men Pete Burak and Joey McCoy to tape a series of television shows on a practical vision for evangelization called *Win, Build, Send*.

Renewal Ministries’ U.S. Board of Directors, a trusted and dedicated group of serious disciples, gathered for their yearly meeting in October (l to r): Sharon Doran, Nancy Timmis, Laurie Manhardt, Dcn Larry Oney, Dcn Dan Foley, Tom O’Brien, Ralph Martin, Tim Patton, Ellen Holian-Mykrantz, Robert Van Norden, Fr. Dave Pivonka.

Some of the Renewal Ministries staff who help keep the day to day operations going! (From l to r, top row): Laura Gurta, Gary Seromik, Pete Burak, Cynthia Rutherford. (From l to r, bottom row): Kathleen Kittle, Therese Jones, Julianna Marcarelli, Christina Thomashefski, Paulina Seromik, Joey McCoy. Not present: Peter & Debbie Herbeck, Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, Anilu Seromik.

Ralph and Scott Hahn collaborated on a TV series for EWTN on the New Evangelization which was very warmly received.

And then there was family . . . Ralph and Anne with thirteen of their fourteen grandchildren.
Sr. Ann’s daily radio show *Food for the Journey* continues to nourish and strengthen people with the truth of God’s word.

Ralph did two webinars this past year, one for the United States Conference of Bishops on the New Evangelization and one for Johnnette Benkovic’s *Women of Grace* on “Getting Unstuck on the Spiritual Journey.” A link to the Bishops’ webinar can be found on our home page: [www.renewalministries.net](http://www.renewalministries.net).

Now in its second full year, i.d.916 monthly Disciples’ Night in Ann Arbor is drawing more than 120 young adults. Auxiliary Bishop Michael Byrnes from the Archdiocese of Detroit spoke to the group in October about practical ways to grow as intentional disciples.

The i.d.916 Fall Summit hosted seventy young adults who explored the theme of Knowing God’s Will at the DeSales Retreat Center in Brooklyn, Michigan.

More than 500 youth attended the first Lift Jesus Higher youth rally in Toledo, Ohio that included talks, testimonies, praise and worship and Eucharistic Adoration. The i.d.916 team from Ann Arbor performed a drama depicting the battle facing many young people today.
Renewal Ministries’ country coordinators gathered in October for their annual meeting. (l to r, bottom row): Jim Murphy, Dcn Steve & Lucia Thomashesfski, Nancy & Lloyd Greenhaw, Don Turbitt, Dr. Bohumir Ziveck, Peter Herbeck. (l to r, top row): Dcn Zoltán Kunszabó, John Kazanjian, Tom Edwards, Emmanuel Tamakloe, Peter Thompson, Gerardo Hernandez.

More than 350 people gathered in a tent erected at Holy Family Church in Marondera, Tanzania for a five day conference on defending the Faith and spiritual freedom.

This July, the first FIRE rally in Mwanza, Tanzania was held along the hilly shores of Lake Victoria, where more than 1,000 people heard a proclamation of the gospel and received healing prayer.

In Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, the Greenhaws ministered for three days to 782 high school girls at Notre Dame Secondary School, teaching them about getting and staying free and knowing and defending our Catholic faith.
Nancy Greenhaw taught the five keys of healing and deliverance in Rwanda this September.

In January a team of young adults traveled down to Mexico City to participate in a mission trip, serving families who work and live in the garbage dump.

Den Steve and Lucia Thomashefski ministered to a Gypsy community in Budapest, Hungary and the Szent Pal Community in Oradea, Romania late this summer.

Please Pray…

+ in thanksgiving for all those who have helped Renewal Ministries complete a fruitful year of evangelization, empowerment, equipping and strengthening of the Church.
+ that during this season of Advent and Christmas many who are away from the Church will turn their hearts to the Lord and find their way home.
+ that those who are suffering throughout the world for the sake of the gospel will know Christ’s peace and protection.
+ for the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.

In the Church of Padé on the first day of the City Mission in Serbia, country coordinator Dcn Zoli spoke about the life-changing power of God and prayed for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
On the Road

December 2013
*Toronto, Ontario
Renewal Ministries’ Canadian Board Meeting
_Sunday, December 1_
Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, Peter Herbeck and Board Members
Pinckney, MI, St. Mary’s Advent by Candlelight
_Monday, December 2_
Debbie Herbeck
Contact: 734-878-3161

Ontario, Canada
Association of Hebrew Catholics
_Monday, December 2_
Peter Herbeck
Contact: mark.neugebauer@rogers.com

New Boston, MI
St. Stephen’s Evening of Reflection
_Thursday, December 5_
Ralph Martin
Contact: Toneil3@ford.com

Zurich, Ontario, Canada
St. Boniface and St. Peter Parishes
_December 7-10_
Peter and Debbie Herbeck
Contact: gkeep@dol.ca
*Covington, KY, Diocesan Priests’ Study Day
_Tuesday, December 10_
Ralph Martin

January 2014
Mission to Mexico City Young Adult Trip
_January 2-8_
Jim Murphy, Debbie Herbeck and Team
Contact: Kathleen at 734-662-1730 ext 132 or kkittle@renewalministries.net

Centennial, Colorado, St. Thomas More Parish Talk on New Evangelization
_Monday, January 6_
Ralph Martin
Contact: www.stthomasmore.org or rsvp@augustineinstitute.org

*Denver, Colorado
St. Augustine Institute Intensive Course on the New Evangelization
_January 6-7_
Ralph Martin

Ann Arbor, MI
Heart to Heart Women’s Apostolate
_Tuesday, January 21_
Peter Herbeck
Contact: www.hearttoheartcwa.com or 734-930-7497

*Events not open to the public

Let the just rejoice,
_for their Justifier is born.

Let the sick and infirm rejoice,
_For their Savior is born.

Let the captives rejoice,
_For their Redeemer is born.

Let slaves rejoice,
_for their Master is born.

Let free men rejoice,
_For their Liberator is born.

Let all Christians rejoice,
_For Jesus Christ is born.

– St. Augustine of Hippo

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Bishop M. Pearse Lacey, Ret. Auxiliary, Toronto
Chairman of the Board
Msgr. Gregory Smith, Vancouver

Renewal Ministries is a Catholic ministry committed to renewal and evangelization in the Church. It seeks to proclaim Jesus Christ through its TV and radio outreaches, as well as through books, tapes, conferences, retreats and other international evangelistic events.

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Design
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