Alleluia! Yes, no matter what the problems, Jesus is risen, and there’s amazing hope for us all.

From time to time, I’ve shared with you the work I’m doing at the seminary for the Archdiocese of Detroit where I have a chance to bring all our insight and experience at Renewal Ministries into the training of priests, future priests and lay leaders. I mentioned how this past summer we had our first summer session for those already ordained and what an impressive group of priests took part in the session! I taught two courses and both seemed to be of help to the priests, from all over the country as well as India and the Sudan. I’ve recently received some unsolicited feedback from them and thought I’d share it with you for your encouragement.

“I am putting in place a seminar for young adults in my parish on this topic [Stages of Spiritual Growth] for later this fall. I did a Theology on Tap on it when I returned from Detroit. It was enthusiastically received and they want more!!!

“I thank you for putting me in contact with this wisdom for my life right now. It may be one of the best courses that I have benefitted from personally in all my academic career.”

Pastor from New Jersey

“I thank you so much. Within the next few weeks I hope to form groups who will read and study this book [The Fulfillment of All Desire, the basis of the Stages of the Spiritual Journey course] and embark on the journey themselves. May the Lord continue to bless and protect you and your family.”

Pastor from Virginia

“Thank you so very much for a wonderful introduction back into the academic world. Both classes were excellent and set me solidly on the right path for the next four years.

continued on pg 2
Dear Sisters and Brothers, continued from page 1

“We never did get a chance to meet concerning your trip to Wichita in the winter. If you happen to be on campus over the next two weeks maybe we could set up a time to meet. Thank you again!” Pastor and diocesan official from Wichita

“Thank you for the wonderful class, it has been helpful in my own spiritual life and we are starting a book study using [The Fulfillment of All Desire]. Thanks also for the great course on New Evangelization—I have already been sharing many new ideas with my Pastor over the phone! God bless!” Associate pastor from Ohio

“I just gave a spiritual conference last night at the seminary on the first two mansions of St. Teresa’s Interior Castle. So, I am already putting to work what I learned in class.” Seminary spiritual director from Minnesota

It may be one of the best courses... in all my academic career.

“Also, this past year we “surveyed” some of our first graduates from the residential Licentiate in Sacred Theology (STL) program and were impressed to find out where they are serving and what they are doing. Below we have reprinted a portion of an article that first appeared in the Mosaic published by Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

Tell your parish priest or any priest you know about this great program. Give him a copy of this newsletter.

Thanks for your support which enables us to strengthen clergy all over the world through this seminary work and the priest retreats that many of our mission teams do all over the world.

Ralph Martin

Equipping Leaders for the New Evangelization

Editor’s Note: Dr. Ralph Martin serves as Director of Graduate Theology Programs in the New Evangelization at Sacred Heart Major Seminary (SHMS). These programs include the Licentiate in Sacred Theology (STL) degree which is offered through the Angelicum University in Rome. This pontifical degree qualifies its recipients to serve in a variety of ways in the Church. Holders of the degree are qualified to teach in Catholic institutions including seminaries, hold leadership positions in evangelization on diocesan and parish levels, and go on to doctoral studies.

Recently the seminary received permission—the first of its kind—to offer an alternative path to the STL. Rather than the traditional two-year full-time residential program, students can take the four-year online/five-week summer session program. They are “in residence” only during the five-week summer session. During the year, they are able to continue their pastoral responsibilities in their home dioceses while they take the online courses.

Following an excerpt from an article originally published by SHMS in the Mosaic. It summarizes the ways some of the first STL graduates are using their expertise in the New Evangelization.

Fr. Tim Hepburn, after working in campus ministry and on the diocesan level in evangelization, is now serving as Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Atlanta as well as a consultant to the Archdiocesan Office of Formation and Discipleship. He is often called upon to give talks on evangelization during priest retreats and convocations. He regularly teaches in the summer sessions for seminarians at the Institute for Priestly Formation held each summer at Creighton University in Omaha, NE.

Fr. Pat Collins continues to publish books on evangelization and play a leading role in leading evangelization in the Republic of Ireland. He writes frequently for Catholic publications, both popular and academic, on the new evangelization and is currently running a 26-week certificate course on the new evangelization. He has been asked by Cardinal Brady to be on a task force that is preparing a document on the new evangelization for Ireland. He has given 16 lectures in the Czech Republic which were recorded and later shown on Catholic TV in that country. He is active in Alpha and has produced a six-week course for use in parishes which is being used in the Archdiocese of Dublin.

Fr. Gerard Kelly continues to do extensive preaching, serves in a renewal community in the United Kingdom, and has begun teaching at St. Mary’s Seminary in Oscott, Archdiocese of Birmingham, a seminary that serves a multitude of English dioceses. He has also taught on the new evangelization in Australia.

Fr. Eduardo Montemayor, SOLT continues to carry out significant Hispanic ministry and also serves as the Associate Director of Evangelization for the Archdiocese of Detroit.
Mr. Michael Dopp has launched an evangelization ministry – missionoftheredeemer.com and does parish missions and leadership training in a number of venues both in the US and Canada. He is based in Canada and is a key organizer for an upcoming international conference on evangelization to be held in April of 2015 in Ottawa.

Fr. Stephen Bilson-Ogoe is a D. Min student at the Catholic University of America where he is studying before returning to Africa.

Fr. Gerard Battersby continues to work on his doctorate through the Angelicum in Rome, while also serving here at SHMS as Vice-Rector.

Fr. James Joseph has returned to India where he has been elected Vice-Provincial of his Pallottine Province in Bangalore, named Rector of their minor seminary, where he is supervising 22 seminarians doing their first three years of preparation for the priesthood, and is often called upon to do teaching on evangelization for clergy, religious and laity throughout India.

Fr. Matthew George Charthakuzhiyil just recently successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at the Angelicum and received his STD magna cum laude. He then proceeded to undertake the camino hiking the whole distance to the Shrine of St. James. He then returned to his Syro-Malankara diocese in India where his bishop Cardinal Cleemis, current head of the Indian Bishops’ Conference, is calling on his expertise in the New Evangelization. While still a doctoral student he published articles and presented papers on the New Evangelization.

Fr. Vallikatt Varghese has returned to India and is responsible for coordinating the activities of all the commissions of the Kerala Catholic Bishops’ Council which is the Catholic heartland of India and the source of an amazing number of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Ms. Kerri Lenartowick continues to work on her doctoral dissertation for the Lateran University in Rome and has begun to teach in the theology department of the University of Dallas.

Fr. Jean-Robert Ngandjui has returned to Cameroon and has been teaching theology and holding administrative responsibilities in the Diocesan Higher Institute as well as serving in pastoral assignments.

Fr. Godswill Agbagwa continues to work on a doctorate in moral theology at the Catholic University of America and has presented papers at conferences on moral theology.

Fr. Ed Fride continues as the busy pastor of Christ the King Parish in Ann Arbor and also teaches for the Diocese of Lansing and SHMS a variety of theology courses.+

Please Pray…

in thanksgiving for all those who support Renewal Ministries with their time, talent and treasure.

for the repose of the souls of all those who are remembered by the Renewal Ministries family.

for the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.
IN HIS APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis reminds us of a fundamental truth about the Christian life that is often forgotten or not understood: “In all the baptized, from first to last, the sanctifying power of the Spirit is at work, impelling us to evangelization,” (119). The Holy Father is echoing the teaching of Jesus and the apostles.

In the twenty-fourth chapter of his gospel, St. Luke records the first post-resurrection appearance of Jesus to the apostles. The apostles were troubled, frightened, filled with doubt and struggling to believe that it was Jesus. He reminded them that everything said of him in the “law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled,” (Lk 24:44). He wanted them to know that everything, including his passion and death, were according to plan.

Next Luke tells us that Jesus “opened their minds to understand the scriptures.” What a powerful, dramatic moment that must have been. Then he said, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem,” (Lk 24:46-47).

Why did Jesus die and rise again? So that repentance and forgiveness of sins could be preached to the whole world! This is the heart, the center, the core of the Church’s message and mission. Jesus died on the cross to deal with the sin problem; to make it possible for human beings to be set free from the power of sin and death.

Jesus then told them, “You are witnesses to these things.” He instructed them to tell others what they had seen and heard, but not before receiving the power that would enable them to do it. Jesus continued, “Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high,” (Lk 24:49).

The apostles understood the message of the Gospel because Jesus “opened their minds.” He made it possible for them to grasp the full meaning of his death and resurrection and the core message they were commissioned to preach. Only by the power of the Holy Spirit will the apostles be able to “open the minds” of their listeners to the saving truth of the Gospel:

Evangelization will never be possible without the action of the Holy Spirit… it is he who explains to the people the deep meaning of the teaching of Jesus and of his mystery. It is the Holy Spirit who, today just as at the beginning of the Church, acts in every evangelizer who allows himself to be possessed and led by him… places words on lips… predisposes the soul of the hearer… the most perfect preparation of the evangelizer has no effect without the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit the most convincing dialectic has no power over the heart of man. *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 75

From the day of Pentecost, when the apostles “clothed with power from on high,” they knew that the work of evangelization was a work of the Holy Spirit. They left the upper room “possessed and led” by the Spirit. St. Peter stood up that day, before thousands of his Jewish brothers and sisters, and he did just what Jesus had done for the apostles the day he appeared to them: “he opened their minds to understand the scriptures.”

Peter preached with boldness that day. The fear of being seen in public, of being identified by the religious leaders as a disciple of Jesus was gone. He began by telling his fellow Jews that the signs they were witnessing in the apostles (i.e. speaking in tongues, preaching with boldness and authority) had been foretold by the prophet Joel. Under the power of the Holy Spirit, Peter reminded them what Joel had prophesied, “In the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, your sons and daughters will prophecy and your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams,” (Acts 2:17).

The Spirit inspired Peter to proclaim to his brethren that the “the last days” prophesied by Joel had begun. They were seeing it with their own eyes; the Spirit was being poured out “upon
the name of the Lord shall be saved,” (Acts 2:21). Now was the time to call on the name of the Lord, now was the time to be saved!

Acts tells us that the Holy Spirit backed Peter’s message, those who heard it were “cut to the heart.” It is the special mission of the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to every human heart; it is he who “predisposes the soul of the hearer,” (Evangelii Nuntiandi 75).

Then Peter closed the deal. He was faithful to Jesus’ commission to him. He called all those who were present to repentance: “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit,” (Acts 2:38).

Finally, Acts tells us, “Peter testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, ‘Save yourselves from this crooked generation!’” (Acts 2:40). We’re told that 3,000 were added to their number that day. That’s a lot of baptisms for one day!

We may never have a day quite like Peter’s, but we are called, according to our own vocation and gifting in the Lord, to bear witness to Jesus. Let’s take to heart Pope Francis’ exhortation, to yield to the power of the Holy Spirit who impels us to evangelization. +

Looking for a simple, effective tool for the New Evangelization?

As By a New Pentecost equips you with a simple, effective way to lead people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This dynamic video series also helps you introduce others to the working of the Holy Spirit.

Content you can trust:

This explicitly Catholic video series is presented by leaders in the New Evangelization: God’s Love with David Mangan, Salvation with Dr. Ralph Martin, The New Life with Patti Mansfield, Receiving God’s Gifts with Peter Herbeck, Prayer for the Baptism in the Spirit with Patti Mansfield and David Mangan, Growth with Dr. Ralph Martin, Transformation in Christ with Sr. Ann Shields, SGL.

Easy to use: You simply play a video, lead a short discussion and enjoy a time of fellowship. The seven sessions can be presented weekly or during a weekend retreat. An instructional outline, poster and invitations are available to help you conduct a successful seminar.

Effective: As By A New Pentecost draws on the pastoral wisdom of contemporary renewal movements that are effectively leading people to a deeper conversion to faith in Jesus Christ.

Flexible: You can use As By A New Pentecost in parish, home, or catechetical settings.
Our mission activities began in Bamenda with radio interviews and a pro-life teaching. In the evening, we conducted a crusade in the cathedral with approximately 2,000 people present. After I spoke on “The Holy Spirit and Power,” Fr. Ernest processed the Blessed Sacrament and we began ministering. The evening was marked by a profound movement of the Spirit through deliverance, healings and revival.

On the second morning in Bamenda, we made several presentations to about 70 prayer group leaders from surrounding parishes. Jean visited a group of HIV-positive men and women and spoke to them about God’s love and forgiveness. That evening, we conducted a second crusade at Bayella Parish a few miles away. Jean gave a testimony which touched the hearts of many. I spoke on “Yielding to the Spirit.” This was followed by adoration, prayer ministry, healing and deliverance. Once again several thousand people were present.

Early the next morning we departed for the Diocese of Buea in Southwest Cameroon. It was an arduous seven hour trip. That evening we conducted an evangelization rally in a very large church with approximately 2,000 people present. After four talks and a testimony, we began adoration and prayer ministry which continued past 4:00 a.m.!

The following day, we drove approximately two hours to Kumba. After interviews at the local radio station and a meeting with the local priests, we conducted another evangelistic crusade. Once again, the big church was packed. We followed the same format of four talks and prayer ministry which continued all night.

Team:
Celso Derretti
Salina Kolumbani
John Mathe
Estelatus Mtama
Fr. Earl Muller, SJ
Peter Newburn
Jean Marie Thompson

Mission to Cameroon and Tanzania

By Tom Edwards

Tanzania
For the past 14 years, Renewal Ministries has conducted mission outreaches to this East African country. This time we had planned a priest retreat, workshops, and outdoor rallies in the Diocese of Bukoba in northern Tanzania.

Delayed and cancelled flights caused us to arrive three days late. As a result, we missed our portion of the retreat for priests. Our Tanzanian brothers were able to fill-in for us. The retreat was attended by 55 priests and featured a great talk by Auxiliary Bishop Method Kilaini, who has been involved in the Charismatic Renewal for many years.

We did arrive in time to present two workshops and conduct a rally each day. The workshop on healing and deliverance was attended by about 600 each day. The pro-life workshop was attended by 60 people each day.

The afternoon rallies began at 2:00 p.m. each day and continued until sundown. Each afternoon about 3,000 people gathered on a large grassy field on the shores of Lake Victoria. The people came from far and wide with great and expectant faith. Each day was marked with many professions of faith, as well as an abundance of those who testified of blessings received.

Cameroon
Next we traveled to the country of Cameroon on the western side of the African continent. The trip from Tanzania to Cameroon took 22 hours, required two flights and a seven-hour drive over rough and treacherous roads with six people and our luggage crammed into a four-passenger pick-up truck. It was the rainy season and at times we were negotiating mountainous roads high above the clouds.

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Many people traveled long distances to attend the rallies in Bukoba, Tanzania. Several hundred camped on the shore of Lake Victoria.

Jean Thompson shared her testimony in the Diocese of Cameroon.

TESTIMONY

By Jean Thompson

THE PEOPLE in the pro-life workshops were attentive and hungry. Both men and women asked very thoughtful, specific questions about Natural Family Planning, contraceptives, and abortion.

At the end, one nurse admitted that she and her doctor husband performed abortions. Now they could see it was a child infused with a soul by God. They are no longer performing abortions! Both men and women were seeking to go to confession. Some of the men in the group told us they would now be pro-life warriors as the battle for life escalates in Tanzania.

I also met two women – Margaret and Maria – whom God had already prepared to step out and aid women who are considering abortion. On her radio program, Margaret gave out her personal phone number for women to call. Maria offered her home to women who needed a place to stay during their unplanned pregnancy. I was deeply touched by these two beautiful women.
On the Road

November 2014 ENGAGEMENTS

Monroeville, PA
New Evangelization for the New Millennium Conference
November 1
Ralph Martin, Pete Burak
Contact: www.namcatholicchurch.org or 412-427-2302

Novi, MI
Church of the Holy Family Confirmation Retreat
November 1-2
Debbie Herbeck

Ann Arbor, MI
i.d.9:16 Disciples’ Night
November 6
Randy and Therese Cirner
RSVP on i.d.9:16 Facebook page or pete@id916.com

Toledo, OH
Lift Jesus Higher Rally
November 8
Ralph Martin, Pete Burak, Peter Herbeck, Debbie Herbeck, Sr. Ann Shields, SGL
Contact: ljhrtoledo.com

Lithuania
NEM Board Meeting*
November 9-18
Peter Herbeck

Birmingham, AL
Taping EWTN Programs with Johnnette Benkovic*
November 10
Ralph Martin

Howell, MI
Evening of Renewal at St. John the Baptist
November 13
Ralph Martin
Contact: GJO73@comcast.net

Brighton, MI
Diocese of Lansing Evangelization Assembly
November 19-20
Sr. Ann Shields, SGL
www.dioceseoflansing.org/2014_diocesan_assembly

Archdiocese of Warsaw, Poland
Diocesan Staff*
November 20-23
Ralph Martin

Archdiocese of Lublin, Poland
Retreat for Priests*
November 24-29
Ralph Martin

Vancouver, BC
More of the Holy Spirit and Deeper Conversion
November 21-23
Sr. Ann Shields, SGL
Contact: vernon@seminarofhope.org or 604-460-0114
* Not open to the public

November 2014 MISSIONS

Ghana
Emmanuel Tamakloe and Team
November 25-December 3
For more information about missions contact: Kathleen at 734-662-1730 ext. 132 or kkittle@renewalministries.net

―St. Teresa of Avila

“In all created things discern the providence and wisdom of God, and in all things give Him thanks.”