



RENEWAL MINISTRIES

Proclaiming Jesus through Catholic Renewal and Evangelization

August 2017



Ralph led a time of repentance in preparation for asking the Holy Spirit to fall once again.

Pictured L-R:

- ▶ Dave Mangan
- ▶ Patti Mansfield
- ▶ Ralph Martin
- ▶ International Catholic Charismatic Services President Michelle Moran
- ▶ Classical Pentecostal historian Vinson Synan.

Dear Companions on the Journey and Partners in the Mission,

So many things continue to happen in the multi-faceted mission of Renewal Ministries, but I want to focus this month on the remarkable fiftieth anniversary celebration—the Golden Jubilee—of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal celebrated in Rome (and many other countries) a few months ago. My wife Anne and I were there, as well as Gary and Anilu Seromik, Al and Patti Mansfield, Dave and Barb Mangan, Butch Murphy, Dr. Mary Healy, and many others who have served with us in many ways over the years.

Rome was hot, the crowds were large, and often the basilicas where some of the workshops and Masses were held couldn't begin to fit the crowds wanting to enter. Thousands stood outside, participating as best they could. But the major celebrations were held in the Circus Maximus, which could comfortably (space wise, if not heat wise!) hold the tens of thousands who were there for the big gatherings.

him on stage. And, of course, once again he urged everyone touched by the grace of the Renewal to share it with everyone!

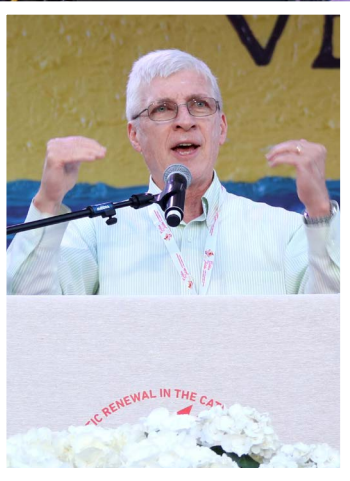
He considers himself part of the Renewal and was very active in planning the celebration; he even suggested what price should be charged, so poorer countries could afford to attend—the registration fee for the four-day event was thirty euros.

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The Circus Maximus is where the Romans staged their chariot races, wild animal hunts, gladiator fights, and periodic execution of Christians. It was a fitting location, since today Christians are being killed in the Middle East and other places for their faith. As Pope Francis often says, we are living together a new “ecumenism of blood,” as the killers don't ask what church we belong to, just if we are Christians. Pope Francis particularly highlighted this point at the final large gathering, when he invited about 300 evangelical and Pentecostal pastors to join



Pope Francis and Patti Mansfield ask the Holy Spirit to fall on all of us once again.



A letter ▶
from Ralph Martin

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50,000 PEOPLE FROM 127 COUNTRIES!



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And attend they did!

What was most inspiring for me was seeing people from 127 countries—a solid number derived from the registrations—arriving from all over the world in their native garb, walking the streets of Rome, praising God, patiently enduring the heat, and giving vivid witness to how powerful this “current of grace” has been over the past fifty years in awakening so many people (150 million is the most recent estimate!) to a love of Christ and a Christian life.

I was filled with a deep gratitude and amazement to see how much the Lord has done through this “current of grace.” I was also filled with a deep gratitude for all those who have participated in, supported, contributed to, or served in one way or another in helping this movement spread. Even though the focus of Renewal Ministries—evangelization and holiness—is more broad, we remain grateful for our wakening to the charismatic dimension and include the work of the Holy Spirit in all that we do. We also remain grateful for some of our closest collaborators, who serve the Charismatic Renewal by participating in its leadership structures. In fact, Jim “Butch” Murphy, who lives in western Michigan, and who has led our work in Mexico as a country coordinator for many years, was just elected president of Rome-based International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS).



ICCRS was founded in Ann Arbor, Michigan, many years ago, with the faithful help of Gary Seromik, who continues to this day as our office administrator. It was very fitting that Gary and his wife Anilu could participate in the celebrations in Rome, since they have contributed so much to its international development. Additionally, Dr. Mary Healy continues to serve as chairperson of the Renewal’s doctrinal commission and led the theological symposium that was part of the celebrations in Rome.

Pictured left to right:

Anilu Seromik (green sweater), Gary Seromik, and Ralph’s wife Anne



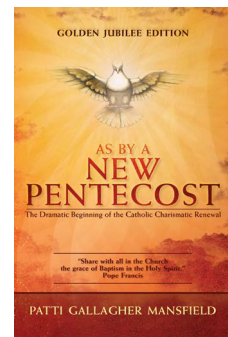
Congrats to Jim “Butch” Murphy (L), the new ICCRS president and Christof Hemberger (R) the new vice president!



Over 400 people crowded into the “Grand Aula” of the Urbaniana University in Rome for the symposium, at which Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, myself, and Fr. Peter Hocken delivered papers.

Hundreds more watched in another large room through a TV monitor. Fr. Peter Hocken, an English priest who lived in the US for a number of years, has been a pioneer in spearheading the ecumenical dimension of the Renewal. I had breakfast with him the last day in Rome. Sadly, he died unexpectedly a week later, peacefully in his sleep, after he returned to Austria, where he was currently living. May God have mercy on his soul, and Fr. Peter, pray for us!

The next night, the 30,000 officially registered delegates and thousands more from all over the world converged on the Circus Maximus. This night was the highlight of my time in Rome. Music groups from all over the world played for an hour before things began. And then—the best part—David Mangan and Patti Mansfield shared how it all began fifty years ago, when they were college students at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Patti’s book *As By A New Pentecost* tells the amazing story and can be ordered on the enclosed reply card.





Dr. Mary Healy led the theological symposium for a packed house of over 400 people + more watching on TV monitors!

Speakers, shown at podium, included (L-R): Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, Ralph Martin, & Fr. Peter Hocken



I was then asked to lead a short time of repentance in preparation for asking the Holy Spirit to fall on all of us once again. It was a moving time of repentance, prayer, and praise—including magnificent singing in the Spirit.

The final night featured the ecumenical dimension, and 50,000 people were there as Pope Francis arrived and once again encouraged the Renewal to spread all over the world.

Join me in just thanking God for all the many, many, many lives that have been touched, sins forgiven, souls filled with the Spirit, sacrificial love expressed, suffering patiently accepted, and witness boldly given in so many countries, for so many years, all over the world!

More next month!

Your brother in Christ,

Ralph Martin

Ralph Martin

P.S. As you may know, we've developed a seven-session video DVD resource that many people are finding of great use in spreading the grace of the Holy Spirit among friends, family, and fellow parishioners. This also is called *As By A New Pentecost*, and also is available on the reply card. Keep sharing the fire!

Please Pray...

- ✚ **FOR** the light of God's love to shine into the hearts of those facing despair.
- ✚ **FOR** a strengthening of marriages and families, and an increased outpouring of God's grace to better enable them to experience peace and joy in serving one another.
- ✚ **FOR** the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.



Remembering Pam Edwards

Recently, a very dear friend of Renewal Ministries died, Pam Edwards. Pam was the wife of Tom Edwards, one of our long-standing country coordinators, who has done heroic work in Eastern Europe, Africa, and Asia for us over the years.

Pam was fighting serious illness most of her adult life and nevertheless lived to celebrate her fiftieth wedding anniversary with Tom just weeks before she died. Pam herself was a source of counsel, encouragement, and grace to many and helped many women grow in the spiritual life in the house of prayer that she and a dedicated team hosted in the St. Augustine, Florida, area for many years.

May the dear Lord have mercy on her and all of us. And Pam, pray for us! The day after the funeral, Tom left for a mission in Eastern Europe. That was the kind of couple they were. Their three children, nine grandchildren, great-grandson, and many, many others, will miss her dearly.



I Am Called

— Q & A WITH PETER HERBECK —

A member of our staff recently sat down with Peter Herbeck to discuss what he sees as the great call and opportunity for every Christian today. . . .

Q ▶ Your newest booklet, *Light in the Darkness*, discusses the many challenges of our times. How can these challenges become an obstacle to Christians?

A ▶ The constant stream of news often grips people with worry and anxiety. It stifles the work of the Spirit in us, making it difficult to keep first things first, to recognize what's most important, and to see the great opportunity that exists in the midst of this challenge.

We can't be constantly plugged into the voice of the world—which is filled with anxiety—and still hear what the Spirit is saying to enable us to maximize our service to the Lord.

Q ▶ What do you think the Spirit is saying to us?

A ▶ The first part of His message is that we need to lay hold of our identity in Christ. We are sons and daughters of God. We are loved by the Father. It sounds obvious, but if we lose sight of it or just live it on the surface—if it's not sinking into our hearts—we won't have the confidence and peace of knowing that we live in the hands of a loving Father. That knowledge is what helps us transcend the circumstances of our lives.

Q ▶ What do you think is the second part of His message?

A ▶ We are on mission. As Pope Francis says in *Evangelii Gaudium* (EG), "That is the reason why I am here in this world. We have to regard ourselves as sealed, even branded, by this mission of bringing light, blessing, enlivening, raising up, healing and freeing" (273).

Q ▶ How does the Holy Spirit help us with this mission?

A ▶ I am a child of God, and I can say all is well, even in the midst of trials. God said, "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Mt 28:20). The Holy Spirit helps me to see that the circumstances of my life do not dictate how I am going to live or understand myself. So I will not let circumstances steal my joy, peace, the clarity of my identity, or my security in God.

Jesus tells us, "Do not worry about your life" (Mt 6:25). He wants disciples to internalize that—or we won't be useful to Him in the way He wants us to be. That is why He says to "strive first for the kingdom of God . . . and all these things will be given to you as well" (Mt 25:33).

Q ▶ Can you share an example of living out this call to trust?

A ▶ When I was a young, married guy working in full-time ministry, my financial support was drying up, and I got filled with a lot of fear. I wondered if I'd missed what I was supposed to do with my life. In that state of fear and panic, my circumstances began to control my thinking. I looked for a new job, without really bringing it to the Lord.

Then, in prayer, I heard the Lord say,

"You can take the job, but I want to show you what's leading you to take the job: You're scared. I need to teach you what it means to be my disciple. I am faithful to everyone I call, and I can provide. I am going to release money to you that I have set aside, that the devil has tried to hold back. When it comes, I want you to make a decision. There is a battle going on, and I have a mission for you. You can choose either way (to stay in ministry or to pursue other work); I will still love you."

In the next few weeks, some totally surprising donations came in—about \$4000. One friend, who knew nothing about my situation, sent a card saying that in his prayer time, the Lord had asked him to send me money.

“ I will not let circumstances steal my joy, peace, the clarity of my identity, or my security in God. ”

Q ▶ What did that experience teach you?

A ▶ That I am called. I am a son. He is faithful. Panic and fear are human emotions, but if you let them control you, it's easy to go off the Lord's path.

Q ▶ How do you see this reflected in people's lives today?

A ▶ The world's circumstances are causing fear, and people want to protect themselves and secure a place of safety, rather than to live the Lord's call.

If you are in that position, just repent and turn back to Him. Your circumstances don't determine your destiny; your response to Jesus determines your destiny. **Now is the time to be a light to the world, to be salt to the earth.**



Take Jesus' perspective of the world: "In this world, you will have tribulations; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (Jn 16:33).

What an amazing witness to an anxious world! We can be of good cheer!

Q ▶ What is the key to a relationship with Jesus that allows people to respond to Him with this kind of confidence?

A ▶ Regularly spending time with the Lord in prayer. It won't come from anywhere else. It comes from being with Him.

Also, Pope John Paul II emphasized the need for prayer, community, and mission. In addition to daily, ever-deepening prayer that is the foundation of our identities and fruitfulness, we need community. The Lord wants us to gather with brothers and sisters who share our same mission. He wants us to risk opening our lives and sharing our burdens, and to be accountable. He wants us to help each other be salt and light, and to love God and neighbor. **The devil's strategy is to isolate us and to cripple us with loneliness.**

The Lord wants us to be on mission, both individually and as a community. He is sending us to make disciples.

Finally, we need to live in the presence of the Holy Spirit. One of the fundamental characteristics of the Holy Spirit in the Bible is to create movement. The Holy Spirit makes us capable of responding.

Q ▶ In addition to understanding our mission on a community level, how can we determine our individual call and mission from the Lord?

A ▶ We learn about our identity on a deeper level through prayer. Ask the Lord, "How do You want me to live out my individual mission?" Also, in a community, people can help us discern our gifts and understand how God has equipped us.

At ninety-three, my mom prayed all fifteen decades of the rosary daily, read Scripture, and prayed for a long list of people. She had a walker and didn't go outside much, but she was very alive to the mission and felt very much a part of it.

Also, I had a good friend who was active in church attendance, but not much else. One day, his pastor said he needed someone to distribute Communion at the hospital. His wife nudged him, thinking it would be a good fit, but he didn't think he would have a good bedside manner or be spiritual enough to help people. However, when the pastor asked again the next week, my friend offered his services. He continued in that position for over twenty years and became a central figure in that hospital, through praying with people and both bringing them into the Church and helping prepare them for heaven.

➔ **Knock.**

➔ **Ask.**

➔ **Seek.**

If you are determined and you're open, He will show you the role you are supposed to play.

Q ▶ You spoke about challenging times providing an opportunity to serve the Lord. How is that possible?

A ▶ The need is so great right now, as is the seriousness of the spiritual battle we are facing. Jesus helped Teresa of Avila understand what service He prizes most:

"I think He prizes one soul which, by His mercy and through our diligence and prayer, we may have gained for Him, more than all the other services we can render Him."

That's something we all can do: pray, fast, and labor with the Lord for the salvation of the men and women of our generation. Pope Francis confirmed that call for each one of us: "Every Christian is challenged, here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization" (EG 120).

We need to resist the paralyzing fear and anxiety that dominate the world today, keep our heads clear, and stay focused on the mission the Lord has personally given to each one of us.

This is a moment of opportunity to give the Lord what He most desires, the salvation of souls. †

▶ ARTWORK CREDIT:
Calling 2013 Oil on canvas by Yongsung Kim

WANT MORE?

Check out Peter Herbeck's newest booklet, *Light in the Darkness*, which offers both a diagnosis and a cure for the modern age. The darkness is not the end of the story; we simply need to give God our "yes!"



Spreading the GOSPEL in Uganda

“FORGIVENESS IS A DECISION, NOT A FEELING.”

This trip was very powerful. We facilitated a discipleship school with 145 leaders from most of Uganda. Some of our most interesting conversations occurred during meals, as our Ugandan brothers and sisters shared their experiences. One example is this story from Robert Tumuhimbise, the national coordinator of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) in Uganda. It demonstrates the unique obstacles encountered in Uganda.

Robert’s team was doing a Life in the Spirit seminar for young men who had been captured by and then rescued from the Kony Rebels. As they began the talk on God’s love, a young man jumped up and shouted, “SHUT UP!” In the shocked silence that followed, the young man screamed out,

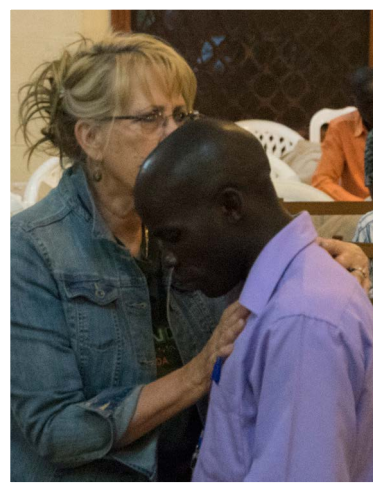
“I was taught by my mother to pray, and we daily prayed the rosary. My family and I were captured by the Kony Rebels, and my father, who was injured, couldn’t keep up, so they clubbed him to death. When my mother cried out, they gang raped her, and after all the soldiers had finished, they cut her throat, and she bled to death. Where was your God of love then?”

The young man and two of his friends left, and the team stopped for the day. They invited people to come by their quarters for tea and cookies. They were surprised when the three young men who had stormed out came by just to chat. They actually came back for cookies twice! One team member finally

told them that she didn’t understand the ways of God and why He permitted such horrible things, but that the same God had also rescued them, and they shouldn’t forget that. That word was the bridge that helped them begin to dialogue. They eventually went through a Life in the Spirit seminar, forgave, and asked God into their hearts to heal the hurt and give them a new life. Only God can heal a wound that deep.

This mirrored an experience we had a couple of years ago. One young woman told us that the Kony rebels had come into her village and brutally murdered many people, including her mother and father. They also committed other unspeakable atrocities.

She asked if she must forgive. I still do not know of an adequate answer, but I told her that when she forgave, she did not give up her right to justice. She only gave up her right to judgment and gave that to Jesus, to whom it rightly belonged. I told her she would see justice with her own eyes at the Final Judgment, and that justice would be more terrible than anything she could ever imagine. We pray God’s truth will set her free.



By Nancy Greenhaw
COUNTRY COORDINATOR
for UGANDA

Lloyd and Nancy Greenhaw minister in the United States, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, and several other countries in Africa. They conduct missions, conferences, and retreats for adults and youth. They also are involved in prison ministry and work with the homeless.

Nancy and Lloyd live in Texas and have two daughters, fourteen grandchildren, and eleven great grandchildren.



EMMAUS CENTER

This is our sixteenth year at the Emmaus Center. They always say, “Welcome home!”—and it is like coming home. The people are loving and welcoming—it’s a little piece of heaven. This major force for good has influenced not only Uganda, but countries all around Africa. Most of the CCR leaders we have encountered in Uganda were formed by Emmaus’ programs.

While we were there, we spoke with Frances Auno, who lost her young adult daughter last July. It is still a gaping wound. The healing is quiet and hidden, but God is lighting the path one long day and one excruciating step at a time. I am awed by the faith of Frances and her husband. It was a blessing to sit with her and to hear her story. It is always difficult for a community leader to share deeply with those around her, and she felt safe. Thank You, Jesus!

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

At the beginning of one of our presentations, it began to rain, and it got louder and louder, until it was almost deafening. The rain was a tremendous blessing, as there had been a severe drought for months. In some areas, the people were so hungry, they were boiling leaves from trees to stay alive.



Therefore, we decided to praise the Lord in thanksgiving until the rain stopped. The praises of God rose over the leaders. The dancing quickly exploded, with the line of people dancing all through the church. And the rain didn’t stop until the hour was over! Everyone was happy, and many said the praise of God and the much-needed rain was the testimony and the answer from God. We then went to Adoration and Mass.

HOLINESS

One excellent talk came from Rose Keifer, a CCR interpreter, international speaker, and bestselling author who lives on faith. She is single, but adopted her late sister’s children and other orphans. She is a remarkable woman—an example of the fruit Renewal Ministries has borne in Uganda and throughout the world. She spoke on the universal call to holiness, reminding us that being in the CCR is not about conferences, missions, or saving souls; it is about holiness. She quoted often from Ralph Martin’s book *The Fulfillment of all Desire*:

**“Holiness is not an option!
‘Seek first the Kingdom of God
and his justice
and all these things shall be
added to you as well’”
(Mt 6:33).**

Holiness does not come from saying rosaries or participating in Jericho marches. Holiness is aligning our will with God’s will and accepting the circumstances He chooses for us. When we focus on anything other than Christ, we become like Martha and start to complain. We try to become God by telling God what to do. We see this in Luke 10:40: “But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to him and said, ‘Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.’” She was ordering God around! Too often, we do our will in God’s name, not God’s will for us.

I also spoke on practical steps to holiness:

- ▶ **REPENTANCE.**
- ▶ **FAITH.**
- ▶ **FORGIVENESS.**

Repentance is a change in our minds that leads to a change in our actions, not just feeling sorry for something. Sin has two components, rebellion and deception. We can repent of the rebellion, but if we still believe the lie, we will repeat the sin. When we sin again and again and cannot control it, we tend to justify it.

Also, forgiveness is a decision, not a feeling. It is a gift we give ourselves; holding on to unforgiveness is like drinking poison while hoping the other person gets sick!

TOUCHING JESUS’ CLOAK

Before one of our healing services, Lloyd described when Bishop Sam Jacobs set the monstrance on a small table at the foot of the altar; put candles on the table; knelt behind the table, holding the monstrance; and invited the people to kneel before the Lord and tell Him their needs.

Just like the woman in Scripture who touched the hem of Jesus’ garment and was healed, he had people touch the cloth around base of the monstrance and then go to the side of the room for prayer. It was extremely powerful.



Fr. David Byaruhanga, the national CCR spiritual director and an exorcist, wanted to lead his people in prayer that way as well. Fr. David held the monstrance, and they were permitted to touch the cloth around it as they told Jesus their needs. He stood for over an hour, holding Jesus in front of the altar, and people came to speak to Jesus about their problems, touch the hem of His garment, and go to the sides of the church for prayer. Sometime during the service, Fr. David began to tremble, as power went out of him!

*We are seeing an increase in healing
and freedom in Uganda!*

Thanks for allowing us to serve.

On the Road

August 2017 ENGAGEMENTS

Lincoln, NE
Retreat for the School Sisters of Christ the King*
July 26-Aug. 4
Sr. Ann Shields

Attleboro, MA
Fraternity of Priests Conference*
July 31-Aug. 1
Ralph Martin

Ann Arbor, MI
i.d.9:16 Disciples' Night
Aug. 3
Caroline Dirkes
Contact: katie@id916.com

Jackson, MI
Pine Hills Girls' Camp
Aug 12-19
Debbie Herbeck and Staff

Knock, Ireland
Knock Annual Novena
Aug. 14
Dr. Mary Healy
Details: www.knockshrine.ie/events

Salem, OR
Charismatic Renewal Conference
Aug. 17-19
Dr. Mary Healy
Details: www.woccr.org/events

Flint, MI
Restoring Marriage and Family Life Conference
Aug. 21
Dr. Mary Healy
Contact: michael@dofh.org

Centennial, WY
Catholic Men's Retreat
Aug. 25
Peter Herbeck
Contact: womingskies@msn.com

Lexington, KY
Catholic Way Bible Study Leaders' Retreat
Aug. 25
Dr. Mary Healy
Contact: Susan Beam at gobeamme@gmail.com

Medora, ND
Bismark Clergy Education*
Aug. 28-Aug. 31
Dr. Mary Healy

** Not open to the public.*
For a complete listing, visit:
RenewalMinistries.net/Events

MISSIONS

Gambia
July 14-Aug. 14
Emmanuel Tamakloe

Hungary
July 31-Aug. 5
Dcn. Zoli Kunszabo

Guinea Bissau
Aug. 2-5
Emmanuel Tamakloe

Papua New Guinea
Aug. 7-27
Lloyd and Nancy Greenhaw

Asia
Aug. 10-24
Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, and Tom Edwards

Kenya
Aug. 22-Sept. 5
Peter Thompson

For more information about missions, contact Kathleen at 734-662-1730 ext. 132 or kkittle@renewalministries.net



“The Holy Spirit is the breath of creation, the mighty current which would like to gather everything up and rush back to its original source. The soul which is weary and sick and conscious of its poverty should call on the Holy Spirit. He is the giver. Through him we are shaped to the likeness of the Son. He gives us new life and makes us capable of living a new life. He heartens and strengthens our will. He heightens our understanding so that we may believe and hope and love—that is so that we may draw nearer to God and live in unity with him.”

➔ **Father Alfred Delp, SJ** (condemned to death by the Nazis)

RENEWAL MINISTRIES

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Ralph Martin

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Monsignor Gregory Smith, Vancouver, BC

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, conferences, retreats, and other international evangelistic events.

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