



RENEWAL MINISTRIES



Proclaiming Jesus through Catholic Renewal and Evangelization

December 2016



Ralph recently gave seven talks to the deacons and their wives in the Diocese of Alberta, in Calgary, Canada.



A letter ▶
from Ralph Martin

Dear Faithful Friends,

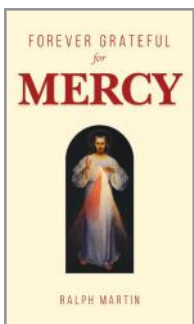
Its been another blessed and amazing year.

One of the things I've been most grateful for throughout the past several years is all of the opportunities we've been given to help strengthen the leadership of the Church. This year has been no different. I've already reported on the blessings of being able to serve priests in Spain and the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia, in earlier newsletters. Recently, I had another opportunity of that sort.

This is the first time that I've been asked to do back-to-back events for all the deacons and priests of a diocese. This happened in the Diocese of Calgary, in Alberta, Canada. I gave seven talks to all the deacons and their wives and then a similar seven talks to all the priests. The study days for the Deacons and their wives took place in a downtown Calgary retreat center so they could return to their homes each evening, while the priests' study days took place in a motel in the famous Canadian National Park in Banff, in the Canadian Rockies. There was great receptivity, and I think the Lord did some very good things for those present.

The priests decided to order 14,800 copies of my most recent booklet, *Forever Grateful for Mercy*, as a way of extending to many of their people some of the insights they gained during the study days. This has been our biggest single order!

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Ralph's recent study days with the priests of the Diocese of Alberta, Calgary, took place in the Canadian National Park in Banff.



“ We all should be living every day as if it is our last; staying very close to our Lord; and very eagerly praying for, fasting for, and speaking a word for the salvation of others. ”

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Bishop Fred Henry, of Calgary, has been a strong defender of the truths of the faith, despite being targeted for legal harassment in the Human Rights Tribunals of Canada for being so clear in his teaching. And recently, the bishops of the Province of Alberta and the Northwest Territories have issued some statements very clearly reaffirming the truths of the faith in the face of strong cultural and political pressure to the contrary.

Thanks be to God for their clarity and courage!

Another very encouraging event that I participated in recently was the annual conference of the Catholic Medical Association, held in Washington, DC. Six-hundred-and-fifty health care professionals attended, and I was delightfully surprised to discover that there was such a strong and clear affirmation of the faith and of the spiritual life among the participants. The clear leadership of past episcopal advisor Bishop Robert Vasa, of Santa Rosa, California, and present episcopal advisor Bishop James Conley of Lincoln, Nebraska, has borne much fruit.

I was asked to give the keynote address on the New Evangelization, and it went very well. Many of the doctors and nurses are witnessing to their faith in very inspiring ways, and they

all treasured the chance to be together and encourage each other. **The pressure to remain silent and even to act against one’s conscience is growing in the medical professions, but these doctors and nurses are determined to be faithful witnesses to Christ come what may. Let’s thank God for them and also pray for them!**

Closer to home, the Archdiocese of Detroit has been preparing for an archdiocesan synod that will refocus the archdiocese’s efforts for the New Evangelization. In preparation for the synod, the archbishop and the auxiliary bishops led a Solemn Mass of Pardon in a packed cathedral, where a very honest confession of sins was made to prepare the way for an influx of grace. **Repentance proceeds renewal, and the archbishop was keenly aware of this as he solemnly repented.** He repented for sins committed within the archdiocese over many decades: for the cover up of the abuse of children, for financial malfeasance, for racism in regards to African Americans, for not teaching the Gospel and the truths of the faith vigorously enough, for hiding behind policies and procedures, for cowardice in confronting the culture of death, and many other very real sins as well, not just of the leaders but of the people. I hope the photo below of the bishops prostrating themselves before God in repentance on our behalf moves you as much as it moved me.

At the Archdiocese of Detroit’s recent Solemn Mass of Pardon, the bishops prostrated themselves before God in repentance of many sins of both the archdiocese and its people. This honest confession will help prepare the way for an influx of grace.

Photo from *The Michigan Catholic*



There continues to be a lot of “prophetic chatter” that some chastisement is coming soon, but as we know, “soon” is a mysterious word. Nevertheless, we all should be living every day as if it is our last; staying very close to our Lord; and very eagerly praying for, fasting for, and speaking a word for the salvation of others.

About this coming year: Doors continue to open.

I will be leaving for India in January with a small team, and I just recently received an invitation to do retreats for all the priests, nuns, and lay leaders in a diocese in an Asian country next year. And these are just a few of the many opportunities that we have as a ministry! God has provided amazingly since Renewal Ministries began in 1980, but this next year looks challenging, financially. We just received word from one of our most major donors that he will not be able to continue his support next year. So, if you are able to step up to help us, that would be great.

Know that whatever you can do, large or small, is deeply appreciated, and will contribute to the salvation of souls.

Your brother in Christ,

Ralph Martin

Ralph

Kissing the Face of God by Morgan Weistling (2015)



Please Pray...

That we prepare our hearts to receive the Child Jesus anew this Advent, and that we share this gift with those struggling to find peace or joy.

“O Lord, as we travel through this day of our life, our strength is in you; in our hearts are the roads to our eternal destination, the place where you dwell forever with your people in joy and in peace. Sustain us as we pass through the bitter valleys of suffering; shield us as dangers threaten; let us rejoice in the springs of living water that refresh us on our way; and keep us faithful until journey’s end, through Christ our Lord. Amen.” (Sept. 26, 2016 Magnificat meditation)

For the prayer intentions of all of our supporters and their families, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.



A Lasting Gift

People in the United States and Canada are well known for their generosity. Each year, their giving sustains thousands of charitable organizations—like Renewal Ministries—that are doing a tremendous work around the world.

Here at Renewal Ministries, we are especially grateful to several of our deceased supporters who faithfully supported our ministry during their lifetimes and made a lasting gift to us in their wills. In a sense, their giving continued even after death. They remind us that in both life and death we belong to Christ, and they provide an important example of charitable giving.

There are different ways you can make a bequest to Renewal Ministries. Here is an easy formula if you live in the United States:

I give and bequeath to Renewal Ministries Inc., 230 Collingwood, Suite 250, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, Tax ID 38-2385975, the sum of \$ _____ for its general uses and purposes.

If you reside in Canada, the following formula works well:

I give and bequeath to Catholic Renewal Ministries Inc., 331 Evans Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M8Z 1K2, Registration No. 12374-0243-RR0001, the sum of \$ _____ for its general uses and purposes.

If you have any questions, please call Gary Seromik at 734-662-1730, ext. 121. Gary is the administrator for Renewal Ministries. He will be happy to answer any of your questions.



Johnnette Benkovic was a guest speaker for Renewal Ministries' 2016 Gathering, which had 370 attendees—the largest number yet!

A Year of Open Doors

God opened many new doors for Renewal Ministries in 2016! Canadian Board Member Fr. Scott McCaig was ordained a bishop for the Military Ordinariate of Canada; Dr. Mary Healy, a member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission and the the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services Doctrinal Commission, joined our team as a special consultant; Ralph Martin noted a significant increase in speaking opportunities at retreats for priests and deacons, including some in Spain and Canada; i.d.9:16 increased its young adult outreach with new chapters in four states; we led forty-two mission trips in thirty countries; and our radio, TV, books, and other media continued to flourish.



Priests from all over the country—and the world—come to Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit to learn more about the life of holiness and the call to a New Evangelization. Ralph is the director of this program and teaches in it each summer. Here is a photo of his most recent class.



From left to right: Fr. James Mallon (a member of Renewal Ministries' Canadian Board), Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, Bishop Scott McCaig, Sr. Ann Shields, and Msgr. Greg Smith (chairman of our Canadian board) at the bishop's ordination in May.



Peter Herbeck prayed for Dcn. Larry Oney before his talk at Lift Jesus Higher in Toronto. Dcn. Oney is a member of Renewal Ministries' US Board of Directors.



LIFT
JESUS
HIGHER



SAVE THE DATE for next year's Lift Jesus Higher Rally in Toronto—**MARCH 4, 2017!** It is always a wonderful time of prayer and renewal.

Renewal Ministries was exceptionally blessed this year, when a close friend became a member of our team! ▶

From Dr. Mary Healy: "We have a very similar vision in that we recognize the Holy Spirit and His supernatural gifts as essential for evangelization and desire to bring people into the full freedom that God intends for His sons and daughters. I've already experienced the fruit of mutual encouragement and support, prophetic words, and prayer. I hope the other team members and I can encourage each other to greater zeal for the Lord and for evangelization."



Ralph spoke in Spain at the National Charismatic Conference and the National Priests' Retreat. Below, he is pictured during a time of praise and worship and with (l-r) translator Vicky Rodríguez, and Fernando, Laura, and María Poyatos. Fernando translated *The Fulfillment of All Desire* into Spanish. It is now in its third printing in Spain, and all 500 copies at the conference and all thirty at the retreat sold out quickly.



Spreading the Gospel through
— **MEDIA** —

Renewal Ministries greatly increased its efforts to reach out through the Internet in 2016! We launched a new website in January and increased our online presence through regular blog, Facebook, and YouTube channel updates.

Have you "liked" our Facebook page yet? Do you subscribe to our blog? Did you know you can access our material from past conferences, recent episodes of *The Choices We Face*, and more on YouTube? These are all great avenues to access regular inspiration from Renewal Ministries!

Our website also offers 24/7 access to our popular television and radio programs:

- ▶ THE CHOICES WE FACE
- ▶ FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY
- ▶ FIRE ON THE EARTH



www.renewalministries.net



& NEW RESOURCES

BOOKLETS ▶ *Forever Grateful for Mercy, The Mercy of God and the Joy Repentance Brings, & Game Changer*

CDs/DVDs ▶ *Jesus Shock, Made for Relationship: A Biblical Understanding of Homosexual Behavior, 2016 Gathering: Rich in Mercy, & Renewing Today's Parish: A Perspective From Priests*

GHANA



HAITI



MALAWI



42 MISSIONS
in
30 COUNTRIES
[IN 2016]



Renewal Ministries' Country Coordinators

Thank You!

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to the members of our US and Canadian Renewal Ministries Board of Directors, for all of their prayers and support throughout the past year!

CANADIAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

US BOARD OF DIRECTORS • LEFT TO RIGHT
Dcn. Dan Foley, Nancy Timmis, Fr. David Pivonka, Dcn. Larry Oney, Tom O'Brien, Ellen Holian-Mykrantz, Tim Patton, Sharon Doran, Ralph Martin, Laurie Manhardt, and Robert Van Norden



Ralph Martin Bishop Scott McCaig Jim Cavnar



Fr. James Mallon Dominic Inneo Miriam Wright



Msgr. Gregory Smith Dcn. Tom Welsh



Vernon Robertson John Germain



i.d.9:16 Mexico Mission

#id.9:16
intentional disciples 1 corinthians

RENEWAL MINISTRIES' YOUNG ADULT OUTREACH
Providing opportunities for young adults to encounter Jesus Christ, hear His call, and spread the Good News.



Young adults gather annually for the i.d.9:16 "Barn Party" in Ann Arbor, MI. The event starts with Mass and is followed by dinner & fellowship.

On the Road

December 2016 ENGAGEMENTS

Ann Arbor, MI
i.d.9:16 Disciples' Night
Dec. 1
Contact: pete@id916.com

Donaldson, IN
Rejoice! Women's Retreat
Dec. 2-4
Debbie Herbeck
Details: diocesefwsb.org/rejoice

Ann Arbor, MI
Parish Women's Retreat
Dec. 3
Sr. Ann Shields
Contact: pscholand@rc.net

Peachtree City, GA
Advent Evening Event
Dec. 3
Ralph Martin
Contact: TThomas@holyltrinityptc.org

Toronto, Ontario
Renewal Ministries' Canadian Board Meeting*
Dec. 4-5
Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck,
Sr. Ann Shields

Diocese of Arlington, VA
Day for Coordinators of Youth Ministry*
Dec. 8
Ralph Martin

Dayton, OH
Encounter Conference
Dec. 9-11
Dr. Mary Healy, Peter Herbeck
Details: encounter2016.com

Hattiesburg, MS
Parish Mission
Dec. 9-10
Ralph Martin
Contact: matiascreel@gmail.com

Grosse Pointe Farms, MI
Encounter
Dec. 11
Pete Burak
Contact: mmebus@comcast.net

Royal Oak, MI
Presentation on Healing
Dec. 21
Dr. Mary Healy
Contact: malves@shrinechurch.com

Vancouver, British Columbia
Catholic Christian Outreach National Conference
Dec. 30
Dr. Mary Healy
Details: cco.ca/riseup

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

Save the Dates...



LIFT
JESUS
HIGHER

— March 4, 2017 —
Toronto • Ontario

Renewal Ministries
GATHERING

— April 7-9, 2017 —
Ypsilanti • Michigan

“Advent is here. What a marvelous time in which to renew your desire, your nostalgia, your real longing for Christ to come — for him to come every day to your soul in the Eucharist.

The Church encourages us:

Ecce veniet! — He is about to arrive! ”



➔ ST. JOSEMARÍA ESCRIVÁ

RENEWAL MINISTRIES

In the United States

Episcopal Advisor
Archbishop Robert J. Carlson, St. Louis, MO

Chairman of the Board
Deacon Dan Foley

President
Ralph Martin

In Canada

Episcopal Advisor
Cardinal Thomas Collins, Toronto, ON

Chairman of the Board
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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www.renewalministries.net

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