



RENEWAL MINISTRIES

Celebrating
35
YEARS
of God's
Faithfulness

Proclaiming Jesus through Catholic Renewal and Evangelization

January
2016



A letter ▶
from Ralph Martin

Dear Fellow Disciples of Jesus,

May the Holy Spirit overshadow you and give you everything you need—your daily bread—to carry out His will for you today.

I recently read a section from the first chapter of 1 Maccabees that seems so relevant to what we are facing today. Who would have thought!

In those days there appeared in Israel men who were breakers of the law, and they seduced many people . . . they abandoned the holy covenant; they allied themselves with the Gentiles and sold themselves to wrongdoing.

Then the king wrote to his whole kingdom that all should be one people, each abandoning his particular customs. All the Gentiles conformed to the command of the king, and many children of Israel were in favor of his religion.

After the seduction, persecution came:

Any scrolls of the law which they found they tore up and burnt. Whoever was found with a scroll of the covenant, and whoever observed the law, was condemned to death by royal decree. But many in Israel were determined and resolved in their hearts not to eat anything unclean; they preferred to die rather than to be defiled with unclean food or to profane the holy covenants; and they did die. Terrible affliction was upon Israel.

We are certainly seeing the rise of both seduction and persecution in our world, although not yet in the fully manifest way spoken about in Maccabees. The seeds of division are there—both in society and in the Church. False teaching, warned about so often by Jesus and the apostles, has set many of our fellow Catholics adrift. It has made them susceptible to the “wisdom of the world,” which is deeply hostile to the “wisdom of God.”

Let’s not jump to any conclusions at this point; rather, let’s humbly and patiently wait on the Lord. Let’s remain determined to be faithful to Him each day, by the gift of His daily bread—the grace we so desperately need. Let’s live in trust and joy, even while soberly acknowledging the seriousness of the situation around us. Let’s wait on Him for further direction, all the while fervently praying for Church leaders who are in open conflict with one another. Let’s pray for the pope at this time as well, that God will give him the wisdom and clarity of vision he needs to properly discern God’s will for his leadership. **Let’s pray that God’s will be done.**

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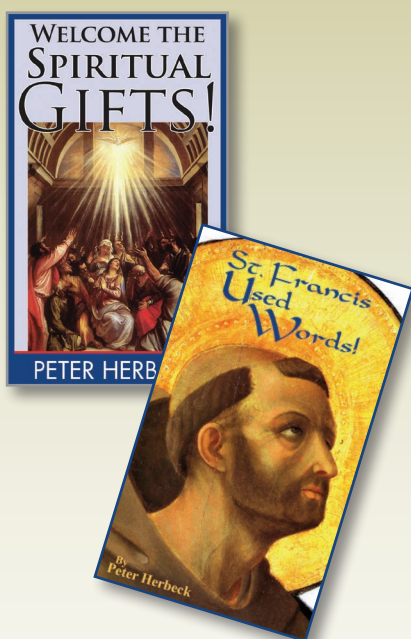
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“Let’s live in trust and joy, even while soberly acknowledging the seriousness of the situation around us.”

“...we are in the process of launching a new website...”

Want to grow in your faith this year?

Check out this month's Reply Card for these booklets and other encouraging resources...



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In the meantime, we at Renewal Ministries are experiencing the fruit of your prayers for us. So many great things are happening as we try to faithfully carry out our mission. We're definitely trying to "make hay while the sun shines," or as Jesus puts it, to work while it is still day, as the night is coming in which no man can work. (Jn 9:4)

2015 was an amazing year in terms of missions, as we carried out forty-seven missions in twenty-seven countries! You read about these very fruitful missions in each month's newsletter; however, there is much information that we can't fit in the newsletter. **Fortunately, we are in the process of launching a new website (www.RenewalMinistries.net) that will allow you to access all of our mission reports.** Each of these reports can open your eyes and hearts to the needs of God's children around the world. Each report also can help you see how hungry they are for His Word.

Meanwhile, Sr. Ann and Peter are fully occupied with preaching and teaching the Word in many different locations and in their very effective writing. Sr. Ann has just returned from Brazil, where she gave a series of talks to the large Charismatic Catholic community Mar A Dentro. In addition, Sr. Ann has felt called to make a contribution to the renewal of religious life in the Church, and recently a number of doors have opened to allow her to do that. She gave a keynote address at a symposium on religious life in St. Louis, Missouri, sponsored by the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious in the US. Sr. Ann also is releasing a new booklet in mid-January, *The Mercy of God and the Joy Repentance Brings*.

Peter, like Sr. Ann and myself, gets more speaking requests than he can handle. I must say, he is getting even more fiery and fervent in his preaching and writing—both in the newsletter and in his other publications, like the excellent booklets he has authored. We continue to get numerous requests for multiple copies of his booklets, such as *Welcome the Spiritual Gifts* and *St. Francis Used Words*.



Pete Burak is working hard to develop i.d.9:16's outreach to young adults across the country. We are excited about the potential this newest ministry has to foster vibrant lives of faith in young adults.



We are hopeful i.d.9:16 will bear the fruit of transforming many young adults into intentional disciples of Jesus Christ.



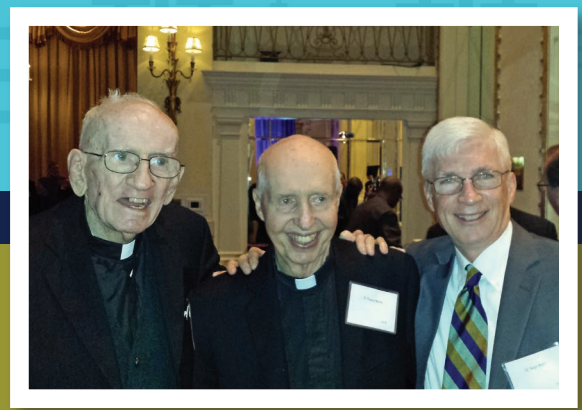
Master General of the Dominican Order Fr. Bruno Cadoré and Ralph were two of the speakers at a conference in Maryland to inaugurate the Jubilee Year to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Dominican Order by St. Dominic.



I also had an amazing end-of-the-year flurry of opportunities. I recently had the privilege of speaking at the Biennial Clergy Convocation for the Diocese of Providence, Rhode Island. During the same two-week period, I also gave two talks at a conference of Dominican Third Order folks, near Baltimore, Maryland. Other speakers at the Dominican conference included the order's top leadership, the master general from Rome, and the provincial of the dynamic St. Joseph Province of Dominican Priests from the East Coast. That group is headquartered in New York, and has its house of formation in Washington, DC, where I studied. **The conference launched the beginning of a special Jubilee Year for the Dominican Order, which is celebrating the 800th anniversary of its founding by St. Dominic.**

Immediately following those two events, I had to “fill in” for speakers at two other important events. The first was for Caritas in Veritate International (www.charityintruthint.com), an umbrella organization of many different ministries that serve the poor with both material help and the Gospel. This was their annual gala, which honors those who have been outstanding in their service. Fr. Robert Spitzer, SJ, was to be the keynote speaker, but had to cancel for some important eye surgery; therefore, the organization's president, Henry Cappello, called a week before the event and asked if I would fill in. I have great respect for Henry's work, and I was available—so I said “Yes!” One of the honorees was Cardinal Wuerl, the archbishop of Washington, DC, with whom I worked very closely—sometimes toward the midnight hours—at the 2012 Synod on the New Evangelization. I sat next to him during the dinner and had a good opportunity to catch up on his involvement in the most recent synod. Also in attendance were the papal nuncio to the United States, and the archbishop who is the Vatican's representative to the United Nations. **I spoke on the relationship between truth and mercy; the talk seemed to be very well received, with both the cardinal and the nuncio making a point of commenting on it to me. I felt that the Holy Spirit really helped me; I am very grateful to Him!**

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Ralph was overjoyed to unexpectedly see some faithful friends at a recent event in Washington, DC. On the left is Fr. Tom Forrest, who succeeded Ralph in leading the international office for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal for many years, and who was a great evangelist throughout the world. He is currently in the Redemptorist's retirement facility in Brooklyn, New York. He is eighty-eight years old, and “hopes to reach ninety.” In the middle is Fr. Francis Martin, a long-time friend of Renewal Ministries, a great Scripture scholar and preacher, and the priest who supervised Ralph's Licentiate in Sacred Theology thesis at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, DC.



Ralph recently spoke at Caritas in Veritate International's annual gala, which honors those who have been outstanding in their service to the poor with both material help and the Gospel.

In the back row are pictured (*third from the left*) Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, DC; (*fourth from the left*) Fr. Tom Forrest, long-time leader in evangelization and friend; (*fifth from the left*) Jim Cavnar, president of Cross International and a member of Renewal Ministries' Canadian Board of Directors; (*ninth from left*) Archbishop Bernadito Auza, the Vatican's representative to the United Nations; (*second from the right*) Ralph Martin; and (*far right*) Bishop Mario Dorsonville, auxiliary bishop of Washington, DC.

In the front row are pictured (*second from left*) Bishop Barry Knestout, auxiliary bishop of Washington, DC; (*fourth and fifth from left*) Henry and Sabina Cappello, leaders of Caritas in Veritate; and (*sixth from left*) Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, papal nuncio to the United States.

2016 EVENTS

you don't want to miss

SATURDAY • MARCH 5, 2016

24th ANNUAL Catholic Renewal Ministries



LIFT
JESUS
HIGHER

**2016 RALLY ▶
UNSHAKABLE KINGDOM**

Metro Toronto Convention Centre
North Building 255 Front Street W

[Adult Rally \$20]

For Tickets, Consignments, and Information visit
www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.org or call:
416.251.4255 or 905. 833.0360

Keynote Speaker
Deacon Larry Oney



APRIL 15-17, 2016



**RENEWAL
MINISTRIES**



**THE GATHERING:
Rich in Mercy**

Eagle Crest Conference Center
Marriott Hotel • Ypsilanti, MI

Guest Speaker
Johnette Benkovic

For more information or to register:
Call Kathleen at 734.662.1730 ext.132
or visit RenewalMinistries.net

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A few days later, I drove to Cleveland, Ohio, for the biennial convention of the Ohio Catholic Education Association. Over 4,000 Catholic school teachers and principals, diocesan administrators, religious education professionals, and catechists were present. Bishop Robert Barron was slated to be the keynote speaker; they asked me to fill in when he was excused after being named a bishop. I was thankful for the opportunity!

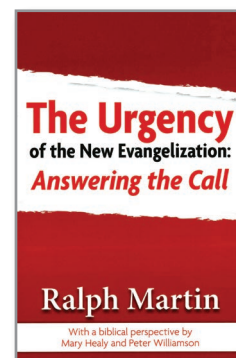


Ralph recently had the privilege of speaking at the Biennial Clergy Convocation for the Diocese of Providence, Rhode Island.

I had an entire hour to speak to everyone at the convention! The topic was “**Catholic Education and the New Evangelization,**” and I spoke about the meaning of evangelization, what’s new about the New Evangelization, the truth about mercy, the real message of salvation, the need for holiness of life in every educator, etc. **One man told me after the talk that, in twenty-two years of teaching theology in Catholic high schools, this was the best talk he had ever heard. Many others told me it was the clearest statement of the truth they have ever heard, and that it was “about time” someone shared this message.**

Although the talk wasn’t recorded, much of what I discussed is in my book, *The Urgency of the New Evangelization: Answering the Call*—see the reply card for how to get a copy. I again felt a lot of special help from the Holy Spirit, and am grateful!

I stopped in at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on my way home from Cleveland—which will help you understand the photo on the next page! Some of my all time favorite *The Choices We Face* programs were with Dion DiMucci and his wife Susan. Dion is in the Hall of Fame.



Meanwhile, my wife Anne traveled to Steubenville, Ohio, to give five of our grandchildren some loving supervision while their school was closed (so teachers could attend the convention). Anne stayed for five days!

Regarding Renewal Ministries’ other outreaches, I have about one-hundred comments from people expressing gratitude for them; we will try to share some of those letters next month.

Your support and prayers are making a huge difference in the lives of many, many people. Please keep on!

Your brother in Jesus, Our Hope,

Ralph Martin
Ralph



Trust: The Heart of Faith

Excerpts from *Evening Prayer on the Vigil of the Mass of Episcopal Ordination and Installation*
By Bishop-elect Edward C. Malesic
OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH · GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

When life changes for us, we are reminded that the Lord wants our faith to be stretched and strengthened. Our first reading likens it to a test—a test which asks for the proof of our faith. And faith leads to salvation. . . .

Jesus, I trust in You. That is the mantra of the Divine Mercy image. It needs to be our mantra. Jesus, no matter what—in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health—I trust in You.

Trust in God is at the heart of faith. . . . [And] it is faith that leads us to salvation. The author of the First Letter of Peter tells us that the goal of our faith is the salvation of souls. . . .

The most supreme law of the Church is that we must do everything with the salvation of souls in mind. **Everything we do should be directed to the salvation of souls, either our own or someone else's.** . . .

Faith in Jesus is the way [to heaven]; in fact, it is the only way. This faith of ours in Jesus is so important that we call it a treasure. The treasure of our faith is worth more than gold. Jesus tells us that once we find faith we must do everything possible to keep it, even if it means selling everything we have in order to retain it. It can't be hidden under a bushel basket, but must be set like a lamp on a stand for all to see. It must be shared. We need to tell of our faith from the mountains and proclaim it to our families, our neighbors, and our places of work. . . .

Without faith, we have nothing. Without faith, we must fear death—because without faith death marks the end. But God doesn't desire death; He wants life. And so, He laid out a plan. He sent His Son to us so that if we believe in Him—have faith in Him—we will have eternal life. Salvation.

That message is as relevant today as it was when Jesus was born. That message is as relevant to the so-called "nones" of our society—those who have no religion—as it is to the elderly woman who prays her rosary devoutly every day. . . .

That means we must also live out our lives as faithful disciples of Jesus and give witness to Him, not only by what we say, but by how we live. Every one of us from pope to newly Baptized is called to follow Jesus and to learn from Him—to sit at His feet, listen to Him, and then live our lives as disciples.

I was watching an interview with one of the women on the US Soccer team. What a win they had last week! And the interviewer asked her the secret to her success in soccer. She said, "I devoted my life to soccer." Those words struck a chord with me: "I devoted my life to soccer."

What if that same interviewer asked you or me, "**What is the secret of your success as a Christian?**" **Could we say, "I have devoted my life to Jesus?"** Would we be able to compare the work that soccer star has put into her sport with the effort that we have put into our work as Christians?

This gives us an opportunity to re-examine ourselves and to ask ourselves some basic questions. Am I devoted to Jesus? Am I following God's will? What can I change in my life to be a better follower and disciple of Jesus? How important is my faith to me anyway? What am I willing to give up to preserve my faith? Do I understand that if I place my trust in Jesus, I will live forever in happiness? And, how can I help other people have the treasure of faith that I have found? How can I be a light that attracts others to Jesus? ✕

RALPH "ROCKS"
IN THE NEW YEAR



Spreading the Gospel in Zimbabwe

Nancy Greenhaw
COUNTRY COORDINATOR
for ZIMBABWE



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



FREEDOM FROM FALSE RELIGIONS ▶

Fr. Maxmillian brought us to St. Leo's Parish in Sadza to encourage Catholics in their faith. He chose St. Leo's because of a high incidence of traditional religions in the area. The people, even Christians, live in fear of curses and of ancestral gods, and feel they must offer libations to them so their crops will grow. The so-called Apostles, a group that used to be called witchdoctors, now controls many through their pseudo-gift of prophesy. This is nothing but communication with demonic spirits. Fr. Max really wants to break the hold these people have over his parishioners.

Fr. Max himself grew up as an albino in Africa—where witchcraft says albino body parts are powerful for cursing others. He knows manslaughter is not an unusual occurrence in some areas.

When we arrived, about one-hundred Zimbabweans had been waiting all night for our arrival. They were smiling, waving hands, and singing their native songs. Father Max encountered many challenges while organizing the conference. For instance, cows ate all of the vegetables a parishioner had planned to donate. Thankfully, God inspired someone to make another donation that provided for our needs!

Vandals had taken nearly everything from this parish, which had been abandoned for a few years. However, the community loves Fr. Max and will do anything for him. They provided us with beds, a table, chairs, utensils, and dishes.

These people are resourceful. They cooked meals on campfires, and washed dishes outside. Since the well pump was broken or missing, a small army of men filled up buckets from the source and passed them to a man perched on the water tower.

They also heated water in buckets over a campfire for showers. We used black plastic bags as shower curtains, but there was a huge gaping hole because the door wouldn't close. With all the foot traffic in the house, that bothered me the most, as there was no way to lock it. I just sang loudly and made lots of noise!

The number of participants grew each day, until we had over 300 of the faithful attending!



Praising the Lord



Jumping for Joy
at St. Leo's Parish

SADZA · ZIMBABWE

FREEDOM THROUGH PRAYER ▶

The Unbound model greatly influenced Fr. Max. He uses it in the confessional and in his prayers for the people. He hopes his troops will embrace it for themselves. While in Sadza, I taught about the Five Keys, and Lloyd taught about Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and about knowing and defending the faith.



Fr. Max provides an improvised confessional at St. Leo's.

On Fr. Max's Feast Day, we celebrated with a special Mass. The people loved every minute of it. At the end of Mass, there were a number of testimonies. One woman shared that when we were here last year, she and her husband had come for prayer. They had experienced a string of unnatural fires and car accidents. They had lived for years with no problems, but suddenly that had changed. They suffered from four fires in a matter of weeks. One destroyed their home and another destroyed a poultry project and killed 20,000 chickens. Two other fires brought them additional distress and financial woes. The woman stated she was having car accidents at least four times a week, although she had never had one before that. **When I prayed for them, we broke some curses, and the man forgave his father, who had disowned him and not spoken to him in years.**

After our prayer time, this man went to his father and asked for and received forgiveness. The father was 105! They have not experienced a car accident or fire since that time. The man was so encouraged, he ran for political office and was elected to the parliament! There were several other testimonies of healing and of how God had touched and transformed lives.

FREEDOM IN THE TRUTH OF CHURCH TEACHINGS ▶

We spent the last half of our trip with Fr. Arnold Maringe, at St. Barnabas Church. The first thing you notice there is the slanted floor. The roof leaked, so when they poured the concrete, they did it on a slant so the water would run off quickly. This was supposed to be a temporary solution, but they have been in this makeshift structure for about three years.

We arrived on the feast of the Assumption, and women from around the diocese gathered to honor Our Lady. Fr. Maringe celebrated a special Mass for the Queen and then we spoke. Lloyd began with a great apologetics presentation about Our Lady, and the women were thrilled. They all have a great devotion to Our Lady, but didn't know how to defend their beliefs from Scripture.

I gave a talk called *Faith to the Point of Audacity*, from the teachings of St. Therese. The women really got into it, and when I spoke about building one's faith by changing one's words, we really connected. **When I told them we needed to build up our husbands with our words, and that husbands are the head of the family, but wives are the necks who turn the head, it brought the house down!** I think the fact that Lloyd and I obviously get along well, and that we have been married for fifty years, resonated with the women. A number of them gave testimonies that the talks had impacted their lives. **They said from now on, they are going to build up their husbands!**

Sister Oliva—who I met when we first came to Zimbabwe ten years ago—led the praise and worship on Sunday. She was a student in Uganda when I first met her, and now is a Franciscan nun. I never thought we would worship together again, but our Lord is a God of surprises! **She started singing and instantly got the crowd on their feet. It exploded from there.** With sweat pouring down her forehead, that sweet nun had the place rocking for Jesus! Throughout the day, we alternated between talks and worship. It was a very powerful time, but it took a little getting used to dancing on the overly slanted floor! For many, this was the first time they made an adult decision to become an intentional disciple of Christ.



"That sweet nun [Sister Oliva] had the place rocking for Jesus!"

On Monday, Lloyd spoke on apologetics and very lightly touched on the Church's reason for opposing contraception and abortion. They were very interested in this topic, as it directly affects them. The girls who rode with us on the way home after that talk asked more about contraception and abortion, and we discussed these issues the whole thirty minutes home. We also spoke to couples about statistics on contraception, abortion, overpopulation, NFP, and Theology of the Body. It was a real challenge for them, and several stood up to share their lack of trust and to ask for God's strength and courage. It was a time of breaking new ground and of leaving the results up to the Lord. Much of what we taught was new to the people.

During our time there, I think the Lord gave them hope to overcome slaveries to sin, both big and small. I know marriages and lives were changed. We had a wonderful opportunity to preach the Gospel in places where they do not ever get speakers.✘

On the Road

January-February 2016 ENGAGEMENTS

New Orleans, LA
Men's Retreat
January 8-9
Peter Herbeck

Grand Rapids, MI
Legatus Meeting*
January 14
Ralph Martin

Grand Rapids, MI
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish
January 15
Ralph Martin
Contact:
legatusofgrandrapids@gmail.com

Chesapeake, VA
Parish Renewal
St. Stephen Martyr Parish
January 22-23
Ralph Martin
Contact: scott@stmrcc.org

Orlando, FL
Legatus National Summit*
January 28-30
Ralph Martin

Des Moines, IA
Deacons' Study Day*
February 6
Ralph Martin

Royal Oak, MI
Lenten Mission
February 17
Peter Herbeck

Anchorage, AK
All Alaska Clergy Convocation*
February 22-26
Ralph Martin

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

“Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.”



St. Francis DeSales

MISSIONS

Mexico City [Young Adult]
January 3-9, 2016
Debbie Herbeck

Zambia & Namibia
January 26-February 16
Lloyd & Nancy Greenhaw

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



Please Pray...

- ✚ For a renewal of respect for life at all of its stages—from natural conception until natural death—within our country and the world.
- ✚ For the gift of perseverance among all who seek to grow closer to our Lord in the upcoming year.
- ✚ For the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their families, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.

RENEWAL MINISTRIES

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President
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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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