



RENEWAL MINISTRIES

Catholic Renewal and Evangelization

January 2019

A letter
from
Ralph Martin
introducing a
**NEW
INITIATIVE**



  Clemente de Torres (Early 18th Century) *The Mystic Marriage of St. Catherine of Siena*

Introducing the *St. Catherine of Siena Society*



Last month, I gave an overview of all the amazing work the Lord has allowed us to accomplish over the past year and what we hope to continue to accomplish in the new year. This month, I want to announce a new initiative that could significantly contribute to our ability to continue being a clear voice for the Gospel for years to come.

We are launching the St. Catherine of Siena Society, which will enable our loyal supporters to continue their support after their deaths. Each year, a fair number of our supporters “move on” to the next stage of the mission, and when we are notified, we have a Mass said for each one of them. Periodically, we are notified also that a longtime supporter has remembered us in their will, and when that bequest arrives it always is experienced as an especially wonderful blessing. We want to extend this opportunity to everyone and so are establishing the St. Catherine of Siena Society for those who have decided to remember the mission of Renewal Ministries in their will or trust.

Why St. Catherine of Siena?

She embodies our mission in many ways. She was deeply contemplative and deeply Charismatic. She communed continually with God in prayer and received amazing wisdom and insight from Him, and at the same time prophesied to the pope, cast out demons, healed the sick, and called many to repentance and a life of holiness.

She lived at a time of great crisis for the Church—with competing claimants to the papacy and the legitimate pope living in fear and subservient to the French political powers in Avignon, France. When she arrived in the papal court, she smelled the “stench of sin.” She even wrote passionately about the horror of homosexuality among the clergy and cowardly bishops who transferred offending clerics to other assignments without appropriate discipline. Her passion for the Lord and the renewal of the Church, combined with her deeply contemplative and Charismatic ministry, is inspiring to us. And so the name!

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I would like to ask all of you, particularly those who are approaching—or in—retirement, to consider naming Renewal Ministries in your final plans.

You can leave a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or a percentage of what remains after your loved ones are taken care of. This can easily be arranged by adding a codicil to your will or an amendment to your trust. **You may also wish to add Renewal Ministries as a charitable beneficiary** when you update your will or trust, or by updating a beneficiary form for a life insurance policy, commercial annuity, retirement plan, etc. We have some good Catholic estate lawyers here in Ann Arbor who are friends of Renewal Ministries who can advise you how to do this, if you need such help. All you need to do is include wording in your will like that shown on page three of this newsletter.

When you name Renewal Ministries, you should include either our US or Canadian address, legal name, and Tax ID number (depending on where you live), so there won't be confusion with other similar non-profit organizations.

“ *The basic vision that Catherine has of reality is that of redemption. She sees the drama of redemption. She sees every human being in their relationship to being saved or being lost. . . . Her perspective is that there is only one thing of worth going on in the world right now: People are making contact with Christ and are on their way to salvation, or they're not making contact with Christ and are on their way to damnation.* ”

—Ralph Martin, in his CD set *Growing in Love: The Stages of Spiritual Growth According to St. Catherine of Siena*

When considering such donations, people sometimes ask me about Renewal Ministries' longevity. Our goal isn't to go on forever, but to go on as long as the Lord gives us strength, capable colleagues, and sufficient financial support. In that regard, things are looking very promising.

The Lord has provided us with a good range of ages in the leadership of Renewal Ministries, and even if one of us was no longer here, the remaining team and new people the Lord may add to it would be able to carry on quite effectively. My own father lived until he was ninety two—active and alert to the day he died—and I have no plans to retire, as I don't consider this a job, but a mission, and I have as much energy and zeal for the Gospel as ever. Peter Herbeck is sixteen years younger than me, and Pete Burak is considerably younger than Peter—so succession is looking good as well.

Plus, we have two excellent boards, one for the US and one for Canada, with very capable people and truly excellent Episcopal advisors, Archbishop Robert Carlson of St. Louis, and Cardinal Thomas Collins of Toronto. In the extreme eventuality that Renewal Ministries didn't have the leadership to continue, the board would transfer any assets to similar ministries that would clearly fulfill important aspects of Renewal Ministries' mission.

If you have any questions about the St. Catherine of Siena Society, please contact our Director of Mission Advancement John Recznik:

☎ 734-662-1730, ext. 123

✉ jrecznik@renewalministries.net

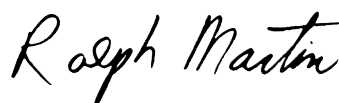
**You can also visit our website:
RenewalMinistries.net/plannedgiving**

Anyone who decides to remember us in their will or trust will receive:

- ▶ A plaque of recognition and gratitude.
- ▶ A picture of St. Catherine.
- ▶ A complimentary set of my CD album on St. Catherine's life and teaching.

Thank you for considering this important new initiative as we enter 2019.

Your brother in Christ,



Ralph

Introducing the St. Catherine of Siena Society

*Supporting Catholic Renewal
and Evangelization by remembering
Renewal Ministries in your will.*

Why St. Catherine of Siena? She Embodies Our Mission:

- ✚ Deeply Contemplative and Charismatic
- ✚ Called Many to Repentance and Holiness
- ✚ Lived at a Time of Great Crisis in the Church



*For the same reasons you support
Renewal Ministries now, would you
consider remembering us in your will?*

Making a bequest to Renewal Ministries is simple...

Use this 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.

• • •

Use this formula if you live in Canada:

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.

Members of the St. Catherine of Siena Society will receive:

- ▶ *Plaque of recognition and gratitude*
- ▶ *Picture of St. Catherine (seen on this page)*
- ▶ *Complimentary set of Ralph Martin's CDs on St. Catherine's life and teaching*

For more information, visit our website at
www.RenewalMinistries.net/PlannedGiving



GOD'S SEVEN THOUSAND: ENCOURAGEMENT FROM ELIJAH

By Msgr. Charles Pope

This article originally appeared on *Community in Mission*, a blog for the Archdiocese of Washington found at <http://blog.adw.org> (search "Elijah seven"). It is reprinted here with permission.

In daily Mass, we recently read of the struggles of Elijah the Prophet, who spent his life fighting the influence of the Canaanite god Baal in Israel. Up on Mt. Carmel, Elijah was strong and fearless, but he also had moments of deep discouragement.

Many of us today are discouraged in these times of cultural confusion, times when so many Catholics have fallen away from the practice of the faith or so easily dissent. It makes me think of the prophet Elijah at his lowest moment: he was in a cave, anxious and fretting, so depressed he could barely eat.

Those were very dark times, when huge numbers of Jews fell away from the exclusive worship of the Lord and bent the knee to Baal. Jezebel, the foreign wife of the Jewish King Ahab, was instrumental in spreading this apostasy. Elijah fought against it tirelessly and at times felt quite alone.

There he was, fleeing from Queen Jezebel (who sought his life) and deeply discouraged by his fellow Jews, who were either too confused or too fearful to resist the religion of the Baals demanded by Jezebel. Perhaps he thought he was the last of those who held the true religion. In the cave, Elijah pours out his lament.

"And there he came to a cave, and lodged there; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said to him, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He said, 'I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the people of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.'" (1 Kgs 19:9-10)

God will have none of this despair or complaining. He says to Elijah,

"Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria; and Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel; and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. And him who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay; and him who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay. Yet I have seven thousand in Israel, that have never bent the knee to nor bowed to Baal, nor kissed him with the mouth." (1 Kgs 19:15-18)

There are others after all! It is a small remnant to be sure, but Elijah is not alone. A small remnant remains faithful and God will rebuild, working with them.

Elijah is commanded not to give way to discouragement, but rather to keep preaching and to anoint leaders and a prophet who will keep preaching after him.

THIS IS A LESSON FOR ALL OF US.

In times like these, it is hard not to feel like Elijah: deeply disappointed and even discouraged in the face of our current cultural decline. How many of our countrymen and even fellow Catholics have bent the knee to the Baals of our time, accepting the doctrines of demons? How many have been led astray by the Jezebels and the false religion of the Baals of our time, setting aside the cross and substituting the pillow of comfort and selfish desire? Now, like then, many are told to immolate their children, to kill the innocent through abortion (and call it "choice," "women's healthcare," or "reproductive freedom"). There is widespread misunderstanding of marriage, rampant divorce, cohabitation, fornication, children being born out of wedlock, sweeping approval for same-sex unions, and even the open celebration of homosexual activity.

All of this causes grievous harm to children by shredding the family—the very institution that needs to be strong if they are to be raised well.

Euthanasia is back in the news, and the legalization of polygamy may be on the horizon.

So here we are today in a culture of rebellion. Sadly, too many in the Church (including clergymen and those in the Church hierarchy) seem bewitched, succumbing to false compassion.

Lest we become like Elijah in the cave, discouraged and edging toward despair, we ought to hear again the words of God to Elijah:

"I have seven thousand in Israel that have never bent the knee to nor bowed to Baal."

God has a way of working with remnants in order to rebuild His Kingdom. Mysteriously, He allows a kind of pruning, a falling away of what He calls the cowards (e.g., Judges 7:3, Revelation 21:8). With those who are left, He can achieve a great victory.

Consider that at the foot of the cross there was only one bishop (i.e., one priest, one man) who had the courage to be there. Only four or five women possessed such courage. But Jesus was there; and with a remnant, a small fraction of His followers, He won through to the end.

Are you praying with me? Stay firm! Stay confident! Do not despair! There are seven thousand who have not bent the knee to the Baals of this age. With a small group, the Lord can win through to the end. Are you among the seven thousand? Or do the Baals hold some of your allegiance? Where do you stand?

Elijah was reminded that he was not alone. Hearing of the faith of so many of you readers reminds me that I am not alone. When I hear the Amens coming from my congregation as I preach the "old time religion," I remember that I am not alone. When I gather with other coalitions of believers, I am reminded that there are many good souls still to be found. Seek them out. Build alliances, and stand ready to resist, to fight the coming and already-present onslaughts.

I cannot be certain of the fate of Western culture (frankly, it doesn't look good). I am not sure if these are the end times or just the end of an era. But of this I am sure: Jesus wins and so do all who stand with Him and persevere to the end. Get up, Elijah. Go prophesy, even if you are killed for it. Keep preaching until the last soul is converted.

 **FEATURED PAINTING:**

Washington Allston (1818) *Elijah in the Desert*

 **SAVE THE DATES**

FOR UPCOMING 2019 RENEWAL MINISTRIES' EVENTS

1 Lift Jesus Higher Rally

HOPE IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING

MARCH 2 ▶ Toronto, Ontario

"...we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."
Romans 5:3-4

- ▶ TALKS BY Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, and Sr. Ann Shields
- ▶ SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: Fr. Mark Goring
Fr. Mark Goring, a member of the Companions of the Cross, is the director of the Catholic Charismatic Center in Houston, Texas, and a contributor to the television program *Food for Life*.

For details, visit www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.ca or email info@lift-jesus-higher-rally.ca



2 Annual Renewal Ministries' Gathering

TO WALK BY THE SPIRIT

APRIL 5-7 ▶ Ypsilanti, Michigan

- ▶ TALKS BY Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, and Sr. Ann Shields
- ▶ SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: Patti Mansfield

Patti was present at the original Duquesne Weekend that marked the beginning of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the US!

For details, visit RenewalMinistries.net/gathering or email Kathleen at kkittle@renewalministries.net





By *Nancy Greenhaw*
COUNTRY COORDINATOR
for BOTSWANA

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.



Nancy taught sessions on Unbound and the Five Keys.

Spreading the GOSPEL in Botswana

Our first mission to Botswana was a blessed trip in which the Lord went before us and many great things happened!

We were invited both by the national treasurer of the Renewal, and also by a bishop who met Ralph Martin at the Renewal's fiftieth anniversary celebration in Rome. The national coordinator for the Charismatic Renewal for Botswana wrote us on his behalf. **After seeing the effectiveness of our teachings, as well as several dramatic healings, she wants us to help the Renewal grow in the countries around Botswana and is putting together programs that we will hopefully be able to serve at next year!**

We read that Botswana is one of the poorest and least-developed countries in the world. But when we arrived in the city of Gaborone, it was very well laid out, with sidewalks, streetlights, and high rises. It wasn't until we got out of the city that I saw small booths of people trying to make a living, or supplement one, through selling fruit, vegetables, and more.

Our teaching focused on Unbound and the Five Keys, a method of finding freedom in Christ by renouncing sin and claiming the Lord's authority over one's life. It was very well received! At our first location, the session on forgiveness that was followed-up with ministry was very powerful! There were three priests in the group, and they were all very enthusiastic about the knowledge they received. They said it will help them greatly—both personally and in their priesthood. About fifty Charismatic Renewal leaders attended. I think the first wave of revival may already have started!

Here are two stories of healing

→ I prayed with a woman who could barely walk. She had severe arthritis in her legs, and they were bent. When we prayed, she forgave those who had taken her to the witch doctor and allowed spirits to come. She forgave herself for some other problems in her life. When we were finished, I asked her if she wanted to try to stand up. She stood up and began walking with my help. She leaned on my hand, and then she dropped my hand and was walking without my help. Her eyes were shining and the praise of God was on her lips. From then on, this woman walked everywhere without her cane or any pain!

→ Everyone in the area was invited to our next session, including leaders in the Charismatic Renewal. The news of the many healings had gone before us, and there was already a fairly long list of people wanting prayer. God didn't disappoint them, and there were powerful healings!

When we arrived, three women were waiting for prayer. A Nigerian religious sister who had attended our first conference was the herald of what God had been doing. This woman of God was a real dynamo and kept us busy praying! Two of the people waiting were religious sisters from Nigeria who wanted encouragement and a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit. He did not disappoint! The final lady had suffered for years with chronic back problems, had been bedridden, and was not able to work. When we prayed, she renounced going to the witchdoctor, forgave numerous people, and invited Jesus into her life and body as Healer and Savior. God healed her! There was a look of amazement on her face that was precious, and when we came back into the room where the others were waiting, she kept sitting down and getting up again to show everyone her back was healed.

Thank You, Jesus!

WHY UNBOUND?

A note from a Nigerian missionary priest...

“I have been the spiritual director of the Charismatic Renewal.

We have had conferences, beautiful retreats, and workshops in which I've helped people reconnect with God. From my own experience, Unbound is 'a course like no other.'

Other conferences are wonderful, but we leave the fundamentals unattended.

We forget that if we don't get freed, we can't free other people.

It begins with us.

That is the core thrust of this course: each individual must do an introspection and try to build a better relationship with God before going out and evangelizing other people, especially regarding deliverance.

The material is powerful, deeply Catholic, very sound, and yet is also very engaging.

It keeps us in line with the Church, and the people delivered can take responsibility for it and continue it in their lifetime.

I believe the whole Catholic world must hear this.

It really affected my life and my ministry.

It is a blessing, a miracle.

Thank you. ”

That evening, Lloyd spoke on the universal call to holiness and mission. He shared that the Five Keys were the best tool we had found to work toward that holiness and help others encounter Jesus and the reality of His love and power. Maybe because of the testimonies that were going around among the participants, there was a real sense of excitement. These people were hungry for a move of God! Here is one example:

“(After receiving an injection for an illness), I could not see or hear for more than three years. Then, someone prayed for me, and I received my sight again, but I still could not hear. I had no balance, and I could not walk. I could not do anything. Now, through your prayers, I can hear people singing, and I can hear my own voice. I'm grateful to God, because Jesus promised that He will do it for us if we have faith and if we have people around us who can lead us, like you. We are grateful to God because you are a disciple, a true disciple who can tell the person that I will hold your hand and I will walk with you no matter what. And that is what we need—encouragement. We need to show people the light we have that is the light of God. I really, really love Jesus for what He has done! May He continue touching other people like me. We thank You, Jesus, for your love.”



Later, we brought people around the Blessed Sacrament and asked the Lord for a release of the many gifts He had given us at baptism and confirmation. I invited the Holy Spirit to come, and we all asked for the gift of tongues. It seemed that most of the participants received the gift. Thank You, Jesus! Lloyd then led them in asking for the gift of faith, healing, words of knowledge, and many others. We were truly blessed to see God working powerfully in people's lives.

We then traveled to a parish retreat with several hundred people in attendance. They had been told about the wonderful things God was doing, and the climate of faith was high. Lloyd told them that healing and freedom are good things, but what is truly important is establishing a deeper relationship with Jesus. It was a wonderful night, and many gave testimony of a personal touch by God.

This trip had a more-than-usual number of healings. There was never enough time for all to share their testimonies! We are wondering if something new is happening in the kingdom as a preparation for God knows what. It has raised our level of faith, and we are praying and asking God for more of His love and power!

May we all stay hungry and thirsty for a new movement of God!



On the Road

January 2019 ENGAGEMENTS

Tasmania, Australia
Mission School with Sisters of the Immaculata*
Jan. 1-7, 2019
Dr. Mary Healy

Toledo, OH
Encounter Conference
Jan. 3-5
Peter Herbeck
Details: encounterministries.us

Detroit, MI
Legionaries of Christ Evening of Reflection*
Jan. 11
Dr. Mary Healy

San Diego, CA
Legatus Meeting*
Jan. 17-18
Ralph Martin

Spokane, WA
Men's Conference
Jan. 19
Peter Herbeck
Contact: Brian Kraut, 509-358-7314

Lake Charles, LA
Legatus Meeting*
Jan. 31
Debbie Herbeck

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

“History is not in the hands of the power of darkness, chance, or human decision alone. When evil energy is unleashed, when Satan vehemently bursts in, when a multitude of scourges and ills surface, the Lord, the supreme arbiter of historical events, arises. He leads history wisely towards the dawn of the new heavens and the new earth.”



Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

MISSIONS

Mexico
Jan. 2-8
Jim Murphy
& Debbie Herbeck

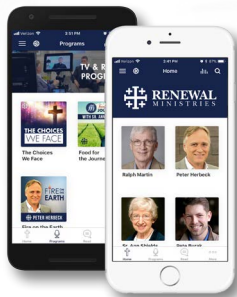
Ghana
Date to be determined
Emmanuel Tamakloe

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



Please Pray...

- ✚ **For** an end to abortion, and that a conviction of the sacredness of all human life will fill our nation's citizens and leaders alike.
- ✚ **For** the gift of fortitude, that we may heed St. Catherine of Siena's admonishment to "proclaim the truth and do not be silent through fear."
- ✚ **That** each day, we may pray with greater fervency the words, "Jesus, I Trust in You."
- ✚ **For** the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.



NOW AVAILABLE! Renewal Ministries' App

- Find your favorite shows more quickly and easily!
- Receive special announcements and offers!
- Get early access to presentations from conferences and the Renewal Ministries' Gathering!
- Read the newsletter before it arrives in your mailbox!

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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Download the **i.d.9:16** mobile App for easy access to all of the above Renewal Ministries' content and so much more!

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