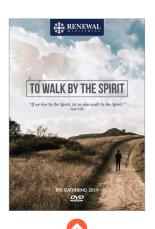


**Catholic Renewal and Evangelization** 

**July 2019** 



A letter • from Ralph Martin



NEW! Talks on DVD from the 2019 Renewal Ministries' Gathering. These talks also are available at RenewalMinistries.net/gathering or through our new App.

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## **Dear Fellow Sons and Daughters of GOD!**

Isn't it amazing? We truly are sons and daughters of God Himself!

With all the "big stuff" going on in the world and in the Church, it sometimes is easy to forget that our mission is to get up every day and faithfully carry out the responsibilities of our state of life with love and sacrifice. And I must admit, I'm pretty excited to have discovered how each of us can do some small but significant things every day that actually have eternal consequences. You may be getting tired of hearing me speak or write about those amazing words of Mary at Fatima:

"Pray, pray very much and make sacrifices for sinners. For many souls go to hell because there is no one to sacrifice and pray for them."

But this is not getting old for me at all! And I hope it's the same for you. How meaningful to be able to pray and offer small (or big) sacrifices and know that they can make a difference in saving souls from hell. Pretty amazing.

At our recent Gathering, I shared how my wife, Anne, when she wakes up at night, prays a chaplet of Divine Mercy for those who are dying. I started doing it myself, adding the intentions of the souls in purgatory, those tempted to suicide or unchastity, and those suffering from depression. I added these intentions because I've recently become aware of some people who are dealing with these strong temptations and afflictions. You can add your own intentions or simply pray for the dying, as my wife does.

This idea was encouraging for those who were at the Gathering and for those who heard the talk online, who tell me that they're beginning to do the same thing when they wake up at night! (You can access my talks and other Gathering talks on Renewal Ministries' free app, at www.renewalministries.net/gathering, or by ordering a Gathering DVD through the Reply Card of this newsletter or at our online store, www.renewalministries.net/store.)

Here are some of the responses we have received:

- ▶ Your talk was great. Thanks again for making it available to us who weren't able to be there.
- ▶ Your dedication to the message of Fatima is important. Here is how Dostoevsky saw it in Brothers Karamazov through the character of Fr. Zossima: "Every hour and every moment thousands of men leave life on this earth, and their souls appear before God. And how many of them depart in solitude, unknown, sad, dejected that no one mourns for them or even knows whether they have lived or not. And behold, from the other end of the earth perhaps, your prayer for their rest will rise up to God though you knew them not nor they you."
- ▶ Your response and Anne's to use times of restlessness to pray for those dying is a habit I hope to adopt.
- ▶ I listened to your talk given at the Gathering—your mention of Anne reciting the Chaplet when she wakes during the night has encouraged me to start doing the same. Thanks, Anne!

# \* HOW TO PRAY THE \*Chaplet of Divine Mercy

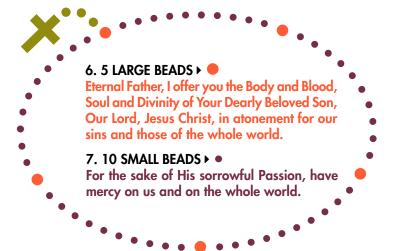
#### **START**

#### 1. SIGN OF THE CROSS

**2.** You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

Repeat 3 times: O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!

3. OUR FATHER + 4. HAIL MARY + 5. APOSTLES' CREED ▶ ●



#### **FINISH**

- 8. Repeat 3 times: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
- **9.** Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

Continued from page 1

I'm willing to keep traveling to the far corners of the world to help inspire more people to start doing things like this that can contribute to the salvation of souls!

If you don't know what the Divine Mercy Chaplet is or how to say it, see instructions to the left. I must confess that in the middle of the night, I just do steps six through eight, which are about all I can manage to remember at that hour. I think this is OK though and it still counts! Incidentally, it only takes about five minutes or so, and it actually can help you fall back to sleep, although that is not the primary motivation for saying it!

So, in the midst of the "big things," let's keep doing the "small things" that can actually contribute to the salvation of souls!

And speaking of "big things," we are printing in this newsletter a remarkable "Manifesto" from Cardinal Gerhard Müller, the former head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. As confusion has grown about how to interpret things that are happening in Rome and elsewhere, Cardinal Müller has been a voice of great clarity and truth, a voice that needs to be heard more widely. (Pay attention particularly to sections four and five, and see if you've heard this somewhere before!) You will be encouraged and strengthened as you read it. Pass it on!

Your brother in Christ,

Rolph Martin

Ralph

P.S. We're celebrating the fortieth anniversary of Renewal Ministries next year and are taking a pilgrimage of thanksgiving in the "Footsteps of St. Paul" next May. The details are on page seven; please consider joining us!





# THE FULFILLMENT OF ALL DESIRE

## — HOMILY FROM MSGR. GREGORY SMITH —

This abridged article originally appeared on Canadian Board Member Msgr. Gregory Smith's blog on the Feast of Corpus Christi.

It can be viewed at http://gregorynsmith.blogspot.com.

It was a great joy to have Ralph Martin here for our parish mission and the annual retreat for the Archdiocese of Vancouver's permanent diaconate community.

I've known Ralph for over twenty years. Forty years ago, his book *Hungry for God* taught me the priceless lesson that progress in prayer is the result of God's gift, not my effort.

Nine years later, Ralph wrote *Crisis of Truth.*\* I read it in seminary and discovered life in the Church was probably going to be more difficult than I had thought. The errors he exposed in that book have since become increasingly evident in the Church.

Despite the influence and importance of these and many other books, I think most people consider Ralph's finest work to be *The Fulfillment of All Desire*. It is "destined to be a modern classic on the spiritual life."

On this Feast of Corpus Christi, "the fulfillment of all desire" is a perfect theme for a homily.

I could easily devote this homily to the word "fulfillment." In fact, St. Thomas Aguinas calls the Eucharist

"the fulfillment of ancient figures and the greatest of all His miracles."

Fulfillment is a one-word summary of what the Scriptures tell us today.

The first reading describes sacrifices—specifically, communion sacrifices—that are intended to solemnize a covenant: a covenant sealed in blood. The blood is first poured on the altar, which represents God. Then it is splashed on the people, uniting them to the blood on the altar. In Exodus, "a union has been created from this blood relationship" and "the terms for preserving that relationship are spelled out" (*The Collegeville Bible Commentary*, 105).

Every ten-year-old Christian knows what happens next. Before Moses is even down the mountain, the people have already begun to worship the golden calf. To say this covenant is on shaky ground is an understatement.

But the Letter to the Hebrews shows us how the Blood of Christ initiates a new and perfect covenant. If there's any doubt about that, we have the words of Jesus in the Gospel: "This is my Blood of the Covenant" (Mk 14:24).

#### Fulfillment. Pure and simple.

But the word that really inspires my thoughts today is "desire." It seems to me that the Eucharist must be desired to have its full effect in our lives, and that offers us an opportunity to ask ourselves whether the Eucharist truly is the fulfillment of our desire.

#### Do we long for it? Do we hunger for it?

We should. St. Thomas called the Sacrament the fulfillment of ancient figures and the greatest of all Christian miracles—in the same sentence he called it a "unique and abiding" consolation.

We priests and deacons can experience routine and over-familiarity. While giving Holy Communion to hundreds of people every Sunday, we sometimes wonder how many people approaching the altar have any of the feelings that St. Thomas expressed when he wrote, "O precious and wonderful banquet that brings us all salvation, contains all sweetness." Do we experience "spiritual delight, tasted at its very source"?

One of my parish's extraordinary ministers told me she sometimes feels sad at the absent-minded expressions of those who stand before her. It's not what's on our face, but what's in our heart that matters—but it's easy to wonder why we don't look a little more enthusiastic, a little more reverent, or even slightly awe-struck as we approach the table of the Lord.

Perhaps St. Thomas' *Prayer Before Mass* might increase our **desire** for this saving sacrament and our hunger for the Bread of Angels—so that we might receive not only the sacrament, but also its full grace and power.

Almighty and Eternal God, behold I come to the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. As one sick I come to the Physician of life; unclean, to the Fountain of mercy; blind, to the Light of eternal splendor; poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. Therefore, I beg of You, through Your infinite mercy and generosity, heal my weakness, wash my uncleanness, give light to my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness. May I thus receive the Bread of Angels, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, with such reverence and humility, contrition and devotion, purity and faith, purpose and intention, as shall aid my soul's salvation.

Grant, I beg of You, that I may receive not only the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of our Lord, but also its full grace and power. Give me the grace, most merciful God, to receive the Body of your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, in such a manner that I may deserve to be intimately united with His mystical Body and to be numbered among His members. Most loving Father, grant that I may behold for all eternity face to face Your beloved Son, whom now, on my pilgrimage, I am about to receive under the sacramental veil here below.

<sup>\*</sup> Access *The Crisis of Truth* talks on the Renewal Ministries' App or at www.youtube/renewalministriesrm.



## — CARDINAL GERHARD MÜLLER —

This article was released through Cardinal Müller's office in several translations.

# "Let not your heart be troubled!" (Jn 14:1)

In the face of growing confusion about the doctrine of the Faith, many bishops, priests, religious and lay people of the Catholic Church have requested that I make a public testimony about the truth of revelation. It is the shepherds' very own task to guide those entrusted to them on the path of salvation. This can only succeed if they know this way and follow it themselves. The words of the Apostle here apply:

"For above all I have delivered unto you what I have received" (1 Cor 15:3).

Today, many Christians are no longer even aware of the basic teachings of the Faith, so there is a growing danger of missing the path to eternal life. However, it remains the very purpose of the Church to lead humanity to Jesus Christ, the light of the nations (see Lumen Gentium 1). In this situation, the question of orientation arises. According to John Paul II, the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) is a "safe standard for the doctrine of the faith" (Fidei Depositum IV). It was written with the aim of strengthening the faith of the brothers and sisters whose belief has been massively questioned by the "dictatorship of relativism."



The epitome of the Faith of all Christians is found in the confession of the Most Holy Trinity. We have become disciples of Jesus, children and friends of God by being baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. The distinction of the three persons in the divine unity (CCC 254) marks a fundamental difference in the belief in God and the image of man from that of other religions. Religions disagree precisely over this belief in Jesus the Christ. He is true God and true Man, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. The Word made flesh, the Son of God, is the only Savior of the world (CCC 679) and the only Mediator between God and men (CCC 846). Therefore, the first letter of John refers to one who denies His divinity as an antichrist (1 In 2:22), since Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is from eternity one in being with God, His Father (CCC 663). We are to resist the relapse into ancient heresies with clear resolve, which saw in Jesus Christ only a good person, brother and friend, prophet and moralist. He is first and foremost the Word that was with God and is God, the Son of the Father, Who assumed our human nature to redeem us and Who will come to judge the living and the dead. Him alone, we worship in unity with the Father and the Holy Spirit as the Only and True God (CCC 691).

## 2 > The Church

Jesus Christ founded the Church as a visible sign and instrument of salvation realized in the Catholic Church (CCC 816). He gave His Church, which "emerged from the side of the Christ who died on the Cross" (CCC 766), a sacramental constitution that will remain until the Kingdom is fully achieved (CCC 765). Christ, the Head, and the faithful as members of the body, are a mystical person (CCC 795), which is why the Church is sacred, for the one Mediator has designed and sustained its visible structure (CCC 771). Through it the redemptive work of Christ becomes present in time and space via the celebration of the Holy Sacraments, especially in the Eucharistic Sacrifice, the Holy Mass (CCC 1330). The Church conveys with the authority of Christ the divine revelation, which extends to all the elements of doctrine, "including the moral teaching, without which the saving truths of the faith cannot be preserved, explained, and observed" (CCC 2035).

## **3** ► Sacramental Order

The Church is the universal sacrament of salvation in Jesus Christ (CCC 776). She does not reflect herself, but the light of Christ, which shines on her face. But this happens only when the truth revealed in Jesus Christ becomes the point of reference, rather than the views of a majority or the spirit of the times; for Christ Himself has entrusted the fullness of grace and truth to the Catholic Church (CCC 819), and He Himself is present in the sacraments of the Church.

The Church is not a man-made association whose structure its members voted into being at their will. It is of divine origin. "Christ himself is the author of ministry in the Church. He set her up, gave her authority and mission, orientation and goal" (CCC 874). The admonition of the Apostle is still valid today, that cursed is anyone who proclaims another gospel, "even if we ourselves were to give it or an angel from heaven" (Gal 1:8). The mediation of faith is inextricably bound up with the human credibility of its messengers, who in some cases have abandoned the people entrusted to them, unsettling them and severely damaging their faith. Here the Word of Scripture describes those who do not listen to the truth and who follow their own wishes, who flatter their ears because they cannot endure sound doctrine (cf. 2 Tm 4:3-4).

The task of the Magisterium of the Church is to "preserve God's people from deviations and defections" in order to "guarantee them the objective possibility of professing the true faith without error" (CCC 890). This is especially true with regard to all seven sacraments. The Holy Eucharist is "source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC 1324). The Eucharistic Sacrifice, in which Christ includes us in His Sacrifice of the Cross, is aimed at the most intimate union with Him (CCC 1382). Therefore, the Holy Scripture admonishes with regard to the reception of the Holy Communion: "Whoever eats unworthily of the bread and drinks from the Lord's cup makes himself guilty of profaning the body and of the blood of the Lord" (1 Cor 11:27). "Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of

Reconciliation before coming to communion" (CCC 1385). From the internal logic of the sacrament, it is understood that civilly remarried divorcees, whose sacramental marriage exists before God, as well as those Christians who are not in full communion with the Catholic Faith and the Church, just as all who are not properly disposed, cannot receive the Holy Eucharist fruitfully (CCC 1457) because it does not bring them to salvation. To point this out corresponds to the spiritual works of mercy.

The confession of sins in Holy Confession at least once a year is one of the Church's commandments (CCC 2042). When the believers no longer confess their sins and no longer experience the absolution of their sins, salvation becomes impossible; after all, Jesus Christ became Man to redeem us from our sins. The power of forgiveness that the Risen Lord has given to the Apostles and their successors in the ministry of bishops and priests applies also for mortal and venial sins which we commit after Baptism. The current popular practice of confession makes it clear that the conscience of the faithful is not sufficiently formed. God's mercy is given to us, that we might fulfil His Commandments to become one with His Holy Will, and not so as to avoid the call to repentance (CCC 1458).

"The priest continues the work of redemption on earth" (CCC 1589). The ordination of the priest "gives him a sacred power" (CCC 1592), which is irreplaceable, because through it Jesus becomes sacramentally present in His saving action. Therefore, priests voluntarily opt for celibacy as "a sign of new life" (CCC 1579). It is about the self-giving in the service of Christ and His coming kingdom. With a view to receiving the ordination in the three stages of this ministry, the Church is "bound by the choice made by the Lord Himself. That is why it is not possible to ordain women" (CCC 1577). To imply that this impossibility is somehow a form of discrimination against women shows only the lack of understanding for this sacrament, which is not about earthly power but the representation of Christ, the Bridegroom of the Church.















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Dr. Peter Williamson, who teaches the "Letters of St. Paul" at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in the Archdiocese of Detroit, will be traveling with us! He will share expert insight into the places we visit and their deep significance for the spread of the Gospel. Dr. Williamson is an expert in St. Paul, a dynamic disciple of Jesus, and a great preacher! We will also be joined by a bishop or a priest whose name we hope to announce soon.

#### **GET THE DETAILS...**

VISIT THE PILGRIMAGE WEB PAGE: www.RenewalMinistries.net/pilgrimage

-OR-

CONTACT KATHLEEN KITTLE: 734.662.1730 ext. 132 or kkittle@renewalministries.net

FOR REGISTRATION SPECIFIC QUESTIONS: Contact Miranda, our travel reservation specialist, at (866) 468-1420. If you need to leave a message, she will get back to you within 24 hours.

## **4** ► Moral Law

Faith and life are inseparable, for Faith apart from works is dead (CCC 1815). The moral law is the work of divine wisdom and leads man to the promised blessedness (CCC 1950). Consequently, the "knowledge of the divine and natural law is necessary" to do good and reach this goal (CCC 1955). Accepting this truth is essential for all people of good will. For he who dies in mortal sin without repentance will be forever separated from God (CCC 1033). This leads to practical consequences in the lives of Christians, which are often ignored today (cf 2270-2283; 2350-2381).

The moral law is not a burden, but part of that liberating truth (cf. Jn 8:32) through which the Christian walks on the path of salvation and which may not be relativized.

## **5** • Eternal Life

Many wonder today what purpose the Church still has in its existence, when even bishops prefer to be politicians rather than to proclaim the Gospel as teachers of the Faith. The role of the Church must not be watered down by trivialities, but its proper place must be addressed. Every human being has an immortal soul, which in death is separated from the body, hoping for the resurrection of the dead (CCC 366). Death makes man's decision for or against God definite. Everyone has to face the particular judgement immediately after death (CCC 1021). Either a purification is necessary, or man goes directly into heavenly bliss and is allowed to see God face to face. There is also the dreadful possibility that a person will remain opposed to God to the very end, and by definitely refusing His Love, "condemns himself immediately and forever" (CCC 1022). "God created us without us, but He did not want to save us without us" (CCC 1847). The eternity of the punishment of hell is a terrible reality, which—according to the testimony of Holy Scripture—attracts all who "die in the state of mortal sin" (CCC 1035). The Christian goes through the narrow gate, for "the gate is wide, and the way that leads to ruin is wide, and many are upon it" (Mt 7:13).

To keep silent about these and the other truths of the Faith and to teach people accordingly is the greatest deception against which the Catechism vigorously warns.

It represents the last trial of the Church and leads man to a religious delusion, "the price of their apostasy" (CCC 675); it is the fraud of Antichrist. "He will deceive those who are lost by all means of injustice; for they have closed themselves to the love of the truth by which they should be saved" (2 Thes 2:10).

## **6** ▶ Call

As workers in the vineyard of the Lord, we all have a responsibility to recall these fundamental truths by clinging to what we ourselves have received. We want to give courage to go the way of Jesus Christ with determination, in order to obtain eternal life by following His commandments (CCC 2075).

Let us ask the Lord to let us know how great the gift of the Catholic Faith is, through which opens the door to eternal life. "For he that shall be ashamed of me, and of my words, in this adulterous and sinful generation: The Son of Man also will be ashamed of him, when He shall come in the glory of his Father with the holy angel" (Mk 8:38). Therefore, we are committed to strengthening the Faith by confessing the truth which is Jesus Christ Himself.

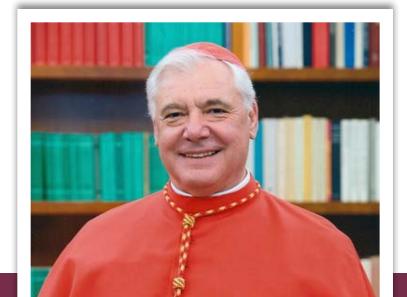
We too, and especially we bishops and priests, are addressed when Paul, the Apostle of Jesus Christ, gives this admonition to his companion and successor, Timothy: "I charge thee, before God and Jesus Christ, Who shall judge the living and the dead, by His coming, and His kingdom: preach the word, be instant in season, out of season, reprove, entreat, rebuke in all patience and doctrine. For there shall be a time, when they will not endure sound doctrine; but, according to their own desires, they will heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears. And will indeed turn away their hearing from the truth, but will be turned unto fables. But be thou vigilant, labour in all things, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil thy ministry. Be sober" (2 Tm 4:1-5).

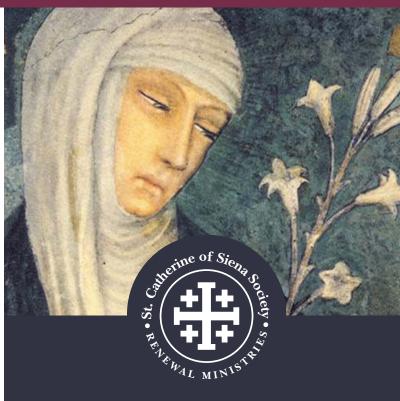
May Mary, the Mother of God, implore for us the grace to remain faithful without wavering to the confession of the truth about Jesus Christ.

United in faith and prayer,

Gerhard Cardinal Müller

Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith 2012-2017





## **以LEAVE A LEGACY OF FAITH ☆**

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

One significant way you can help ensure Renewal Ministries' continued work of Catholic Renewal and Evangelization is to join the St. Catherine of Siena Society by designating us as a beneficiary in your will or trust.

When you notify us that you intend to remember Renewal Ministries in your will or trust (or that we are already in your will or trust), we will send you the following:

- ▶ A plaque of recognition and gratitude
- ▶ A picture of St. Catherine of Siena
- ▶ Ralph Martin's CD album on St. Catherine's life and teaching

For more information regarding the St. Catherine of Siena Society, please contact our Director of Mission Advancement:

John Recznik

**5** 734-662-1730, ext. 123

✓ jrecznik@renewalministries.net

RenewalMinistries.net/plannedgiving

## On the Road.

#### **July 2019 ENGAGEMENTS**

Nantes, France
Evangelization Conference
Ralph Martin

Ralph Martin July 5-7

Contact: Maryse.lemauff@gmail.com

Cleveland, OH Charismatic Conference

Dr. Mary Healy July 12-13 www.crmweb.org/

Columbus, OH Catholic Charismatic Renewal Mini-Conference

Peter Herbeck July 13

Contact: info@ccrcolumbus.org

Boston, MA Brotherhood of Hope Summer Conference

Dr. Mary Healy July 15-19

https://brotherhoodofhope.org/

Wheeling, WV Priests' Conference East\* Ralph Martin July 15-18

**Steubenville, OH Applied Biblical Studies Conference**Dr. Mary Healy

July 25

https://steubenvilleconferences.com/ events/abs/

Conway, AR
Catholic Charisma

**Catholic Charismatic Conference** 

Dr. Mary Healy July 26-28

https://arkcc.org/arkansas-catholic-charismatic-conference/

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

The words of the Gospel are miraculous. If they don't transform us, it's because we don't ask them to. But in each of Jesus' phrases, in each example that He gives us, there is a staggering power that would awe, purify, and raise us from the dead, if only we acted with that immediate and complete obedience toward Him that was shown by the paralytic or the centurion.



Venerable Madeleine Delbrel (+1964)

#### MISSIONS

Tanzania July 2-20

Tom Edwards

Latvia

*July 15-22* Don Turbitt

Gambia

July 24-August 4 Emmanuel Tamakloe

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

# Please Pray...

- That we may grow in fortitude in order to courageously respond yes to all the Lord desire for us each day.
- For all political leaders, that they may open their hearts to the working of the Holy Spirit, and be guided by His voice and wisdom.
- For the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.

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Deacon Dan Foley

President

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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Heather Schultz

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