



RENEWAL MINISTRIES

Celebrating
35
YEARS
of God's
Faithfulness

Proclaiming Jesus through Catholic Renewal and Evangelization

October
2015



A letter
from Ralph Martin



Ralph, along with Fr. Kevin Scallon and Sr. Briege McKenna presented a week-long retreat for more than 80 priests in Ireland.

DEAR FELLOW COMBATANTS,

Yes, whether we like it or not, know it or not, we are all engaged in a real combat and are truly combatants!

The Devil, like a roaring lion is on the prowl, looking to devour souls; he's shooting fiery arrows of temptation, discouragement and fear in our direction. That's why we need the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God to defeat these attacks.

Recently, I spent 10 days in Ireland where the Catholic Church is in a state of shock after a large majority of the Irish people voted to legalize same-sex "marriage." I had the privilege of giving a week-long retreat for 80-90 priests, speaking to another group of priests at the national shrine of Our Lady of Knock, and then to 3,000 pilgrims who came to intercede for their priests and to pray for healing.

For 40 years, Fr. Kevin Scallon and Sr. Briege McKenna have held multi-week retreats for priests in Ireland where thousands of priests have received encouragement, healing, and sometimes experienced real conversion and the freedom to continue to embrace their vocations. This was the 40th anniversary of these grace-filled retreats. I have contributed to these retreats twice before. It continues to be a privilege to work side-by-side with two such dedicated servants of the Lord.

As the "tsunami of secularism," to use Cardinal Wuerl's words, has eroded the faith of the Irish, many priests and bishops have become somewhat timid and selective in preaching the fullness of Gospel truth – particularly on the issues of marriage and sexuality that provoke such hostility from the post-Christian culture. I am grateful that God has called me to help encourage and strengthen priests with confidence in the truth of our faith and joy in preaching it, even in the midst of opposition.



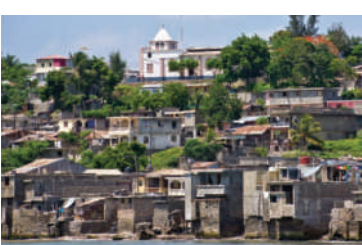
All Hallows
College Church



Ralph in Ireland with Fr. Kevin Scallon, Archbishop Charles Brown, Papal Nuncio to Ireland & Sr. Briege McKenna



This year, Sacred Heart Major Seminary had 20 priests in the summer/online program for the STL (Licentiate in Sacred Theology) in New Evangelization. They are pictured above with Archbishop Allen Vigneron.



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“...it is a privilege and a great encouragement for you to be standing with us in prayer, suffering and action as we face this confrontation. And we are standing with you!”



Basilica
Knock
Ireland

continued from page 1

The day after I returned from Ireland, Peter Herbeck and I spoke at a major conference hosted by the Archdiocese of Detroit and Courage. The conference was designed to equip pastoral leaders to help people who experience same-sex attraction live in harmony with the teachings of the faith. More than 400 people attended, including more than 100 priests, 25 deacons and many lay people in positions of pastoral responsibility. If we teach the fullness of truth, we need to provide help for people to live it! The many excellent talks from the conference are posted on the Courage website: CourageRC.org. The site also has much useful information for helping those who experience same-sex attraction.

On another note: our mission teams have been really busy. Each time I read one of the reports, I marvel and thank God that we are able to help people in such wonderful ways. In this issue you'll read about just one of the many missions we've undertaken in recent months.

YOU KEEP EVANGELIZING! So many of you are buying multiple copies of *The Final Confrontation* and our other evangelistic booklets to share with family, friends and fellow parishioners. In fact, we have sold the entire initial printing of 25,000 copies of *The Final Confrontation* – and placed a rush order for another 30,000! Here is just a snapshot of the orders of *The Final Confrontation* we have shipped:

- **Quantities of two to 10 copies to the following locations:** Albuquerque, NM, Phoenix, AZ, Frankfort, KY, Cheshire, CT, Lake Charles, LA, Fargo, ND, Beacon, NY, Milford, ME, Germantown, TN, Oceanside, CA, Yorktown, NY, Dana Point, CA, Old Bridge, NJ, Woodville, WI, Parma, OH, Detour Village, MI, Hot Springs, AR, Mechanicsville, VA, Sunapee, NH, Tampa, FL, and Sarona, WI.
- **20 to 40 copies** to Dunedin, FL, Yardley, PA, Brookville, PA, Stillwater, MN, Charles Town, WV, Stevens Point, WI, Clarksville, MD, Manchester, NH, North Easton, MA, Whitesboro, NY, Mountain City, TX, Warren, MN, Rippon, CA, and Tucson, AZ and Bowling Green, OH.
- **50 copies** to River Falls, WI and Shelter Island Heights, NY.
- **100 copies** to Fairfax Station, VA, Crescent Springs, KY and Birmingham, AL.
- **200 copies** to Allentown, PA

Many of you are buying the video series *As by a New Pentecost*, and sharing the grace of a personal relationship with Christ and baptism in the Spirit with others. If you have any questions about how to use the videos to conduct a seminar for friends or neighbors, feel free to contact Jack Lynch, our TV producer (JLynch@renewalministries.net or 734-663-1730 x 125). He has wide experience in giving seminars like this and can offer practical advice.

It's a privilege and a great encouragement to know you are standing with us in prayer, suffering and action as we face this confrontation. Be assured we are standing with you!

Your brother in Christ,

Ralph Martin

P.S. From October 4-25, the very important Synod of Bishops will convene in Rome. They will focus on the vocation and mission of the family. There is open conflict among the Cardinals and Bishops who will attend. Please pray that a strong, clear message based on God's Word wins the day.



Do you or someone you know struggle with same-sex attraction?

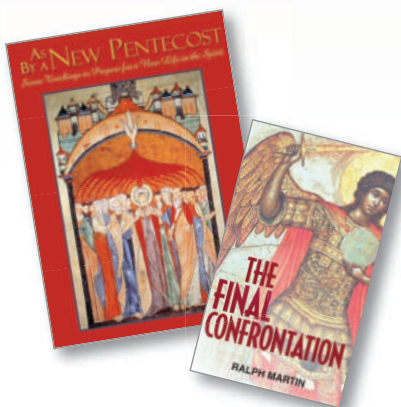
TAKE COURAGE!

Courage is an international Catholic Apostolate helping thousands of men and women live chaste lives in fellowship, prayer, and the Sacraments.

Courage chapters meet in many locations around the world. In addition, the Courage website offers resources for clergy, mental health professionals and physicians, as well as lay people. Resources include online and email discussion groups, articles, videos and brochures.

EnCourage is an apostolate to help parents, friends and family members of loved ones with same-sex attractions.

For more information, visit their website: CourageRC.org or call 203-803-1564



More than 250 young adults gathered for Mass, dinner, outdoor games and dancing at the i.d. 9:16 annual barn party in Ann Arbor, Michigan



2016 The Gathering: RICH IN MERCY

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved - and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:4-7



SPECIAL GUEST:

Johnnette Benkovic

Author, speaker and founder of Living His Life Abundantly & Women of Grace

The Gathering: Rich in Mercy April 15-17, 2016

Eagle Crest Conference Center
Marriott Hotel • Ypsilanti, MI

For more information or to register:
Call Kathleen at 734-662-1730 ext. 132
or visit RenewalMinistries.net



forming young adults into
INTENTIONAL DISCIPLES
of Jesus Christ

i.d.9:16: AN ANSWER TO PRAYER

by Jenni Horn | The Cenacle, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Last November, while praying to discern the direction for our young adult ministry, we remembered hearing about i.d. 9:16. I contacted Pete Burak who answered my questions and told me that they used Alpha as their “conversion tool.” I had never heard of Alpha, but was persuaded by his enthusiasm and encouragement to participate in the monthly Disciples’ Night via Livestream.

We watched the archived Disciples’ Night talks and were inspired by the content, structure and passion for mission. We decided to launch our own Disciples’ Night two weeks later using an archived talk.

We networked with young adults; extended personal invitations; shared the i.d. 9:16 YouTube ad; created a Facebook event; and prayed nonstop. The result was the largest crowd we had ever hosted...all in two weeks!

That night the curious became the convinced. They liked the speaker, the format, and being part of something bigger. So in January 2015, we joined the Disciples’ Night via Livestream.

Amazed at the tools God was providing, we launched Alpha in February. None of us had ever seen Alpha in action. But we read the books, used the training DVDs, and “gave it a go.” Following the Alpha recipe produced astonishing results.

With each course we run, new leaders emerge. Young adults with little desire to pray have begun to pray with and for others. Those with deep faith have been given a new way to pray in the Holy Spirit. We have seen physical healings and deep conversions. We are living the Acts of the Apostles!

The gifts of i.d. 9:16 and Alpha combined have transformed all of us into Apostles impelled by the Love of God to share what we have been given.

For more information about how you can bring Renewal Ministries’ young adult ministry, i.d.9:16, to your parish or diocese email:

Pete Burak | Pete@id916.com

Watch the Monthly *Disciples Night LIVE* Thursday, October 1 @ 7:40 p.m. EDT

id916.com

JUST IN!

Is There Any Hope for Me
now being printed in
Albanian



OVERCOMING *the* POWERS OF DARKNESS

By Peter Herbeck

God is light
and there is no other.
Without the light
which comes from God,
humanity loses its bearings
and becomes subject
to the powers of
darkness.



Recently, the exposure of Planned Parenthood's gruesome practice of selling the body parts of aborted babies sent shockwaves through our country. People ask repeatedly, "What is happening to our country? What is wrong with these people? Why can't they see the horror of their own actions?" The answer is that we're seeing the unmasking of an evil that runs deep within the human heart.

The prophet Jeremiah said "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately corrupt; who can understand it?" (Jer 17:9). We're seeing the depth of deceit, corruption and what Jesus called the "evil intentions" (Mk 7:21) of the human heart revealed.

THEY FORGOT GOD

We are witnessing what Ralph Martin has described in his booklet, *The Final Confrontation*, as the removal of the restraint on evil. I believe this restraint is being removed because America has forgotten God. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI aptly diagnosed our time:

“The real problem at this moment of our history is that God is disappearing from the human horizon, and, with the dimming of the light which comes from God, humanity is losing its bearings, with increasingly evident destructive effects.”¹

When God is pushed from the human horizon humanity slides into darkness. God is light and there is no other. Without the light which comes from God, humanity loses its bearings and becomes subject to the powers of darkness. On the road to Damascus, Jesus re-

vealed himself to St. Paul as blinding, glorious light. He commissioned St. Paul to open the eyes of the Gentiles "so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God" (Acts 26:18). Apart from God, man is in darkness and subject to Satan, "the ruler of this world" (Jn 12:31).

When human beings suppress the truth about God, and refuse to obey His commands, they freely step outside God's protection and choose to be subject to the powers of darkness. There is no middle ground where man can escape the powers of light and darkness that are present in this world.

The writer of the letter to the Hebrews reminds us that when we step outside the light which comes from God, we fall prey to Satan, "who has the power of death," (Heb 2:14) and seeks to enslave the human race "through the fear of death" (Heb 2:15).

When I watch those videos exposing Planned Parenthood, I see human be-

ings who are enslaved to the fear of death. Why are they suppressing the obvious truth of the humanity and the rights of those unborn children? Why have they convinced themselves that something so cruel and wicked is necessary and a moral good? They are, whether they realize it or not, in the grip of the powers of darkness.

They are trapped in the demonic reversal. They've bought into a huge lie that goes something like this: "My happiness depends upon my freedom, and if I am to be free, I must have complete power over my life, including the power to give life or take it away as I see fit." That lie, which usurps rights that belong only to God, leads people to embrace the demonic doctrine that says: "Someone has to die in order for me to be free, or healthy, or financially stable, or reach my goals in life."

Think about it. What is the main reason millions of babies are aborted every year? It is convenience, or the avoidance of a perceived hardship.

Why do scientists, despite evidence to the contrary, continue to insist on using fetal stem cells for research? To remove any limits on scientific research that may provide cures for debilitating and life-threatening diseases.

Why is euthanasia, or so-called "death with dignity" growing? The dying want to "be in control," to be able to decide for themselves when and how they will die. In addition, they don't want their family to bear the financial burden or demands of caring for a dying person.

The battle against death has a deep hold on our society. The frantic pace of daily life, constant distractions, perpetual entertainment, fear of silence, the sexual drive gone mad, and a growing taste for evermore violent forms of entertainment are all attempts to deny the reality of death.

When God, who is light, is pushed from the human horizon, man is left to "dwell in darkness and the shadow of death" (Lk 1:79). Man does not choose evil for its own sake. But when he suppresses the light of God's truth, God "gives him up to a debased mind and to things that should not be done" (Rom 1:28). That is, man is left to suffer the consequences of his decisions.

The Kingdom of God is built on the principle, "my life for yours." Jesus demonstrates this by laying down His life for us and then rising from the dead and ascending into glory.

Self-sacrificial love is the only way to the fulfillment of all our deepest desires, to eternal happiness and freedom beyond compare.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world, he who follows me will not walk in darkness" (Jn 8:12). Without this light, without trusting in Jesus we will walk in darkness. We will end up doing just the opposite of what Jesus has called us to do. The powers of darkness are real, and without God's help, you will not be able to resist the wiles of the Devil.

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

As the depravity and cruelty of Planned Parenthood's deeds are revealed, a righteous anger is rising in many good people around the country. That is a good sign. We need to stand up and defend the defenseless and to bring these wicked deeds to an end.

We must remember that the people on these videos, so callous, arrogant and greedy, are enslaved by the powers of darkness. God has formed them in the palm of His hand. Jesus came to save them.

St. Francis of Assisi wept bitterly when he saw people who were trapped in sin. He fasted and prayed for them to be released from the grip of the Devil:

If he saw a soul redeemed with the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ being stained with sin, he would be overcome with sorrow, and weep so compassionately that he seemed to travail over them continually, like a mother in Christ...this is the reason he was so energetic in prayer, so active in preaching... he realized he was sent by God to win for Christ souls which the Devil was trying to snatch away...²

May the Lord Jesus give us the grace to see what St. Francis saw. May He grant to us the same zeal and compassion for souls, as well as the confidence and conviction that we too are being sent by God **to win souls for Christ.** ✚

Notes:

¹ Benedict XVI, *Letter of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to the Bishops of the Catholic Church Concerning the Remission of the Excommunication of the Four Bishops Consecrated by Archbishop Lefebvre*, March 10, 2009.

² St. Bonaventure, *Minor Life of St. Francis, St. Francis of Assisi Writings and Early Biographies: English Omnibus of Sources for the Life of St. Francis* (Chicago: Franciscan Herald Press, 1991), Chapter III no. 8.



Peter Herbeck with Fr. James Mallon at a leadership summit in Nova Scotia. The summit was hosted by St. Benedict parish where Fr. Mallon is pastor. The closing dinner featured live Scottish music.

Fr. Mallon serves on the Renewal Ministries Board of Directors in Canada. He is the author of *Divine Renovation: Bringing Your Parish from Maintenance to Mission*. For more information see enclosed order form.

By Lloyd Greenhaw
COUNTRY COORDINATOR



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.

THE TEAM

Both weeks:

Dcn. Lloyd & Faie Duplantis,
Fr. Jacob Lipari, and Tina, Joseph,
Terese & Patrick Schonacher.

First week:

Shane, Tracey, Brandon, Brooke &
Brianna Duplantis, Thomas & Renee
Lirette and Kassie Roy

Second week:

Julie Chauvin, Chris, Emily & Nicole
Runstedler and Brian Merkel



The owner of this new home greets Dcn. Lloyd Duplantis with exuberant joy. The mission team was blessed to participate in the blessing and dedication of 12 new homes.

Spreading the GOSPEL in Haiti

This mission had a wonderful blend of proclamation and demonstration of the Gospel. We ministered to the poor during the day and held evangelization outreaches in the evenings.

PROCLAMATION

Our evangelization outreaches were at the parish church at Cité Numéro Deux, St. Louis Cathedral, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Cathedral, St. Helens, Sacred Heart, and the prison at Jeremie. Every church was packed with hundreds of the faithful. Each time we shared the basic Gospel message and the Five Keys (from *Unbound*) to finding freedom in Christ. We always ended with prayer for healing and deliverance. The team went among the people and laid hands on them while I prayed as the Lord led. It was always very powerful and there were many testimonies of healing from the congregation.

The outreach at Sacred Heart Church was particularly memorable. The entire parish had been praying a novena to the Sacred Heart in anticipation of the feast of the Sacred Heart. We came on the final night of the novena to share how the Lord has revealed Himself as a God of Mercy; how He has sent St. Thérèse, St. Faustina, and Pope St. John Paul II to reinforce this message; and how the rivers of Mercy will flow into the Ocean of Mercy during the great Jubilee of Mercy declared by Pope Francis beginning in December.

We urged them to become Ambassadors of Mercy and take the Gospel to the streets. They responded with great enthusiasm! The pastor then processed around the Church with the Blessed Sacrament while I prayed for healing and deliverance. There was something special happening and we could really feel the Lord's pleasure. What a joy it was for our team to be a part of this important day in the life of Sacred Heart parish. The pastor was overjoyed and begged us to come back on the feast day for a celebration with the bishop and 20 priests from around the diocese.



Each evangelistic outreach ended with prayers for healing and deliverance. Many people testified that they received spiritual or physical healing.

SETTING THE CAPTIVES FREE

Our visits to the Jeremie prison were particularly moving. During the first week, we brought the prisoners dinner, along with peanuts, Slim Jim meat sticks, playing cards, and other small items. The prisoners were not allowed out of their cells so we took plates to each cell and passed them through a narrow slot. Each cell had more than 30 inmates cramped into an area designed for 10. The heat was oppressive and the look on their faces was pathetic. With all the noise and confusion there was no way to really pray with them.

With the help of Fr. Jomanas we arranged for a second visit the following week. This time, the team assembled in the courtyard between the two cell units. With the excellent help of Monday, our translator, I preached the good news of the Gospel.

I incorporated my personal testimony of incarceration and how it was the best thing that ever happened because I encountered Jesus there. I shared how the day after I gave my life to Jesus the judge cut my sentence in half and within two weeks the floors and walls of the prison began to crack and I was sent home because the prison officials feared the unit would collapse. That really got their attention!

I asked them to be honest with themselves, to admit that they were not truly free before they were incarcerated. In fact, they had been imprisoned by drugs, alcohol, and violence. I explained that the only true freedom is found in Jesus Christ. I asked if they would like Jesus to come heal them body, mind, and soul and change their lives forever. Every square inch of the windows and doors were crowded with faces. Many were lying on the floor in order to better see and hear. There was total silence as they listened and began to hope in the Lord.

I promised that even if they never had a father who loved them, they could become a part of the family of God, with a brother named Jesus, and a Father in heaven who loves them and has a plan for their lives. I shared that they have a loving mother in Mary who will never stop praying for them and who can break the bondage in their lives through her intercession. I then led them in the Miracle Prayer to accept Jesus. I have never seen anyone pray with more fervor than these men. There were many tears on the prisoners' faces. The prison officials were speechless. Jesus was there.

Once again we were struck with the way God works when the Gospel is proclaimed and demonstrated. Not only were the people of Jeremie touched, our entire team was enriched and moved by our experiences.

It is easy to see the Face of the Lord in the beautiful people of Haiti and experience an irresistible desire to help them. †



The beautiful children of Numéro Deux school.



MINISTERING TO THE POOR

During the mission, we were able to live out the Gospel by:

- Dedicating a dozen new homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Fr. Jacob also blessed these homes.
- Distributing food to more than 200 people. In addition, Dcn. Lloyd and Faie handed out envelopes with a \$20 voucher to each person.
- Visiting and praying with the children at schools sponsored by Haiti Mission, Inc. In addition, our teens were able to distribute food, pens and pencils to them.
- Holding and praying for the beautiful babies at orphan-ages run by the Missionaries of Charity.



For the last several years, Renewal Ministries has partnered with HAITI MISSION, INC. Founded by Dcn. Lloyd and Faie Duplantis, this organization provides humanitarian aid by:

- Distributing food and money vouchers
- Building schools
- Starting goat, pig, and poultry projects
- Building homes
- Drilling wells

On the Road

October 2015 ENGAGEMENTS

Ann Arbor, MI

i.d.9:16 Disciples' Night

October 1

Join us via livestream: id916.com/live

Contact: pete@id916.com

Akron, OH

Young Adult Conference

October 3

Ralph Martin

Contact: erichbgood@gmail.com

Davison, MI

St. John the Evangelist,

Fatima Apostolate

October 3

Sr. Ann Shields, SGL

Contact: 810-653-2377

Des Moines, IA

Clergy Convocation*

October 4-7

Ralph Martin

West St. Paul, MN

St. Joseph Parish, Men's Conference

October 10

Peter Herbeck

Contact: 651-457-2781

Monroeville, PA

New Evangelization for the New Millennium Conference II

October 10

Debbie Herbeck

St. Louis, MO

Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious Symposium*

October 13-15

Sr. Ann Shields, SGL

Contact: 412-373-0050

Brooklyn, NY

Divine Mercy Parish Mission

October 16-18

Sr. Ann Shields, SGL

Contact: Fr. Tom Vassalotti:

tvassalotti@hotmail.com

Essex, ON

Men's Day

October 17

Ralph Martin

Contact: Nickfournier231@hotmail.com

Abbeville, LA

Family Missions Company Annual Conference

October 23-25

Peter Herbeck

Contact: events@fmcmissions.com

or 337-893-6111

Dubuque, IA

Deacons Retreat, Archdiocese of Dubuque*

October 23-25

Ralph Martin

São Paulo, Brazil

Mar a Dentro Community Anniversary*

October 29-November 7

Sr. Ann Shields, SGL

* Not open to the public.

For a complete listing visit

RenewalMinistries.net/Events

MISSIONS

Slovakia/Czech Republic

October 8-23

Serbia

October 15-18

Rwanda

October 25-November 9

Mexico

October 18-24

Serbia

November 9-11 & 27-28

Ghana

November 4-8

Turkmenistan

November

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

Please Pray...

✙ For the Holy Spirit to guide the Church in addressing the pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelization.

✙ That zeal for proclaiming the Gospel may be rekindled in every believer.

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

“If God be with us, there is no-one else left to fear.”

St. Phillip Neri

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

Msgr. 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.

Editor

Rose Wingfield

Design

Emily Bachelor

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