



INSIDE THIS ISSUE



A LETTER ▶ FROM PETER HERBECK

Pentecost Mission Invitation
PAGE 2

A Man on Mission:
Remembering Tim Green
PAGE 3

From Renewal Ministries'
Annual Gathering:

A Church in Crisis:
Where Do We Stand?
Ralph Martin
PAGE 4

Our Response:
A Command & A Promise
Peter Herbeck
PAGE 6

Freedom From Cynicism
Dr. Mary Healy
PAGE 8

“Cast yourself into the arms of God and be very sure if He wants anything of you, He will fit you for the work and give you the strength.”

//ST. PHILIP NERI

Dear Fellow Disciples,

As we continue to make our way through what Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa recently described as “a time of great tribulation for the whole of humankind,” it is crucial that we hear clearly and respond fully to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.¹

As we’ve discussed this past year, it’s our conviction that the judgments of God are in the land. And we know his judgments are good. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that through God’s judgments, “the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness” (Is 26:9).

The key is to respond wholeheartedly to his judgments, to agree with them and not resist them. Don’t simply endure the trial, but see, understand, and cooperate with the heart response Jesus is seeking. That same verse from Isaiah captures what the Lord is looking for from his people: “My soul yearns for you in the night, my spirit within me earnestly seeks you” (Is 26:9).

God’s judgment on the Church is the redemptive discipline of a loving Father (Heb 12:5). He is shaking the Church from a deep slumber; He is exposing sin and compromise, to awaken her and produce in her the “peaceful fruit of righteousness” (Heb 12:11).

That awakening entails a deep, sincere, and ongoing repentance, a profound turning of the heart toward God. Only the Lord can free the Church from the spiritual sickness that plagues her. Programs, seminars, big vision statements, more money, consultants, organizational experts, lawyers, parish restructuring—all of these combined cannot get us out of our spiritual malaise.

The following Scripture passage captures exactly what the Lord is calling forth from all of us, from top to bottom in the Church:

“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chr 7:14).

“... IT IS NOT ENOUGH FOR US SIMPLY TO ENDURE THIS TRIAL.”

What a beautiful, extraordinary, and hopeful promise! Thank the Lord for the prophets, who help us see and understand “the kindness and the severity of God” (Rom 11:22). The promise is for us, now, but it is a promise that we must respond to wholeheartedly. It’s an “if, then” statement. If you do this, then I will do that, says the Lord!

That’s why it is not enough for us simply to endure this trial. We must respond with all that the Lord is calling forth from his people. Endurance alone fails to grasp the depth of our sickness and the comprehensive treatment needed to bring us back to full health.

The prophet Joel’s prescription is simple, but it’s difficult for a proud and lukewarm Church that has lost its taste for God. He prescribes four actions:

- ① **humble yourself**
- ② **pray**
- ③ **seek**
- ④ **turn.**

Start with humility, bow down before the holy God; be silent before Him. We should all follow the instruction the Angel of Portugal gave to the children at Fatima. He came to help them adopt a posture that allowed them to receive both a visitation from Our Lady and an assignment from our Lord.

I encourage you to read the full story of the Fatima children’s encounter with the Angel of Portugal. It’s profound, beautiful, and instructive. (See our reply card for the book *Fatima in Lucia’s Own Words*.) The angel instructed them to kneel down, to bow down

PENTECOST MISSION

• A 4-SESSION EVENT •



RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Please join Renewal Ministries for our first-ever online Pentecost Mission, on four consecutive Sundays from 8-9:15 p.m. ET, beginning on Pentecost! When the event was announced at the Gathering, Sacred Heart Major Seminary Professor Paco Gavrillides shared the following word:

As we were praying tonight and the announcement came for the upcoming Pentecost celebration together as a community all around the world, I had a real sense that the Lord was trying to communicate to us a very important encouragement that all of us would be united in a very personal commitment to take this time forth until the day of Pentecost as a time of special dedication to the praise and worship and celebration of God, that our eyes would be turned to the Lord, that our lips would be singing the praises of God, that we would be looking to Him together with great faith and expectation for Him blessing us even before the very Pentecost gathering itself. This is so we might experience fresh touches, renewal, strengthening, and an expansion of our soul in faith before Him.

When we gather together on the day of Pentecost, may we arrive with great expectation for even a fuller and more complete manifestation for his love, his power, his mercy, his signs, his wonders, and the fullness of his grace.

I believe the Lord is saying that if we prepare, He will give us more than we could think or ask, because it is a time of fresh anointing, a time of a new wave of the Spirit in our lives, not just as individuals, but as a believing community all around the world. Let us pray now in the Spirit, so we're ready for a new release of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

MAY 23

Baptism in the Spirit // Ralph Martin

MAY 30

Holy Spirit: The Game Changer // Pete Burak

JUNE 6

Spiritual Gifts // Peter Herbeck

JUNE 13

Healing // Dr. Mary Healy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

by placing their foreheads on the ground, and to repeat this prayer three times,

“Father, I believe in you, I adore you, I hope in you, and I love you; and I pray for all those who do not believe in you, do not adore you, do not hope in you and do not love you.”

Imagine firsthand instruction from an angel on how to posture oneself before God and how to begin a conversation with Him! It is so simple, little children can do it. It reminds me of the words of Jesus:

“Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Mt 18:3-4).

The Fatima story presents us with a school on how we can respond to Joel’s prophetic exhortation. The children were taught how to humble themselves, pray, and begin their conversation with God, and Our Lady lit a fire of love in their hearts, captivating them with the beauty of holiness and the glory of heaven. She also taught them how to “turn away from their wicked ways,” repent, hate sin, and do battle against the kingdom of darkness for both their own sake and the salvation of others.

The children’s focused, single-hearted devotion to the assignment the Lord gave them is inspiring!

We are living at a time of epic significance. A spiritual battle of global proportion is unfolding right before our eyes, and it’s escalating every day. Jesus, the Captain of the Armies of Heaven, is shaking the earth. He is coming to purify his Church and cast fire on the earth!

He is a “consuming fire” (Dt 4:24). “His eyes are like a flame of fire” (Rv 1:14). He is coming to impart his grace and the burning fire of his love to all who open their hearts to Him, humble themselves, pray, seek his face, and turn from their wicked ways. But for those who refuse to hear Him, who continue to insist on their own ways, their own truth, and their own reality, He will impart the fire of his judgment.

Brothers and sisters, the battle is on! Let’s follow the example of the children of Fatima. Let’s give the Lord our full attention, posture ourselves before Him each day, seek Him first above all else, and wholeheartedly embrace the assignment He has given to us in this hour.

Your fellow disciple,

Peter Herbeck

NOTE

1. Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa, *Jesus of Nazareth: A Person—Fourth Homily Lent 2021*, Accessed April 16, 2021, <http://www.cantalamessa.org/?p=3936&lang=en>.



A MAN ON MISSION: REMEMBERING TIM GREEN

BY DEBBIE HERBECK



Tim Green, a close friend of Renewal Ministries who has contributed significantly to our Mexico mission trips for the past ten years, recently passed away.

For the last twenty years of his life, Tim lived each day on borrowed time. In the year 2000, doctors diagnosed him with a brain tumor, and initially gave him a six-month prognosis. Later, they predicted that with treatment, he could live an additional three to five years. **Despite his terminal diagnosis, Tim chose to fully invest himself in the two things that mattered most to him: his family and the Kingdom of God.**

How many of us, if we realized our days were numbered, would choose to spend time with the poor and the marginalized? Yet this is exactly where Tim wanted to be—in the garbage dump of Mexico City, with the people who knew him as their brother in Christ.

I was privileged to serve beside Tim in Renewal Ministries' missions to Mexico City over the past decade. Tim began coming to Mexico as a chaperone for his daughters' high school trips, and his fluency in Spanish and familiarity with Mexico City—a place he had lived as a young boy—were huge assets to our team. As Tim's once-a-year mission trip turned into three to four trips a year, often with his wife Michele and daughter Dominique, Tim became an

integral, irreplaceable member of the Mexico mission family.

Tim's heart for the poor was always evident in his tender care and attentiveness to each person he met and served. He was a shepherd, a teacher, a man of prayer, and he helped hundreds of young people on our mission teams come into a deeper relationship with Christ. His example of patience, kindness, compassion, and deep love for the people of Mexico helped us all serve with Christ's heart. Tim wove his faith seamlessly into his daily life, and he rarely missed an opportunity to pray with a stranger.

Tim was easy to spot in the garbage dump, towering over almost everyone in his bright blue camping shirt and bucket hat. One of his many roles was to lead our prayer ministry team. He taught many of us how to pray fervently and persistently for the physical, emotional, and spiritual healing of those who lived in the dump. Back on the bus after a long hot day in garbage, Tim would recount the ways the Lord had worked, and always humble and gracious, he would give glory to God.

The last time we were together in Mexico was in January of 2020 with a team of young adults, Michele, and Dominique. We celebrated Tim's birthday and honored him, giving thanks that God had given him twenty extra years. Physically, Tim was slowing down, yet he was still a man on mission, faithfully preparing for his final destination in heaven.



MEXICO MISSION UPDATE

*By Jim Murphy
Country Coordinator for Mexico*

The mission goes on.

Tim Green's funeral was a holy experience. A true servant of God was commended into the hands of his Master! Tim made such important contributions to our work in Mexico! We pray for his soul and look forward to his intercession for us as this important mission continues.

Covid has forced us to stop traveling to Mexico . . . for the moment. By the grace of God, we are able to continue our work, in a limited way. We are able to arrange for quarterly food deliveries out to the dump, which each feed about six-hundred to eight-hundred people. Our dear and ever-faithful brother, Angel, goes to the dump on our behalf to oversee the distribution of the food.

We also are able to send financial support to both Madre Ines at the orphanage and Fr. Manuel for his important ministry in his parish and local region.

We are so blessed by all of you who continue to pray, donate, and keep our Mexican family in your hearts.

Thank you!

Want to support our missions?
Please visit:
www.renewalministries.net/donate

SEEK FIRST THE

Kingdom



Renewal Ministries hosted its annual Gathering on April 17. This year's event, themed *Seek First the Kingdom*, featured talks from Ralph Martin and Peter Herbeck, praise and worship, prayers for healing, and more. The Gathering was held at Christ the King Catholic Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan. We had an in-person audience of 106 people, and about 2,661 people joining us online at any given time, for a total of about 10,000 people tuning in at some point of the evening! About 26,500 people had watched the event by the time this newsletter went to press!

▶ Watch The Gathering on our YouTube channel: youtube.com/renewalministriesrm

A CHURCH IN CRISIS: WHERE DO WE STAND?

This article is taken from Ralph Martin's talk at the recent Renewal Ministries' Gathering.



People are deeply troubled by what's happening in the world and the Church. There's an unease under the surface. I'm getting more and more emails from people asking, "What's going on?" I'm going to be as honest as I can in terms of what I see going on—and then I'm going to talk about the hope.

Dark clouds are gathering over the world and the Church. There's more and more talk about how we need a global reset and a world authority to handle these problems. More and more, in the US, Canada, and other countries, all the levers of power are in the hands of people radically opposed to the Christian way of life.

■ CHALLENGES IN THE CHURCH

Unfortunately, we're also having challenges in the Church. Just when the Church needs to speak a clear word with authority and power to the world, to call it back from its foolishness, the Church has been beaten into silence. St. Paul said,

"If there isn't a clear sound given from the trumpet, who's going to come for battle?" (1 Cor 14:8)

Or as Jesus said,

"A house divided against itself can't stand." (Mk 3:25)

The Catholic Church, unfortunately, is a house divided. A number of years ago, John Paul II said,

“ We're entering the final confrontation between the Gospel and the anti-Gospel, between Christ and the anti-Christ, between the Church and the anti-Church. ”

There's a false Gospel and a fake Jesus in the Church. There's a sickness there, and it's spreading, and people are cheering it on. Shouldn't there be some correction? Yes. Is there? No. Just when people need to hear a clear word, we get ambiguity and political correctness.

The bishops are trying to pretend they are unified, but they are not. That's a serious problem that is confusing many Catholics. What do you do? Who do you listen to? Who do you trust? We really need to know the real Jesus, who challenges us and calls us to repentance, conversion, and holiness.

Some good news is that Archbishop Aquila, from Denver, recently released a statement saying that we've made a big mistake trying to accommodate the culture and affirm everyone and everything for so long. He said he is guilty of this too. He said it's time to start talking about the consequences of not obeying the Lord and the reality of eternal punishment and condemnation. It's time to start preaching the Gospel.

We also have whole bishops' conferences fighting each other. Currently, the bishops in the Ukraine and Poland wrote a letter to their counterparts in Germany basically saying, "Please stop the direction you're moving in, because it's weakening our own people's motivation to live a chaste life. They're getting the impression from you that sexual sins are no big deal—please stop, because you're weakening our people." On one side of the German/Polish border, they are interpreting *Amoris Laetitia* in a very liberal direction, and on another side, the bishops' conference is saying, "The only way we can interpret this, if there's any ambiguity in the document, has to be in harmony with the Tradition"—which is an established principal in the Church.

We need to know what we're facing. We need to know what's coming against us. We need to know, because we're going to run into it.

It's going to come down to the parish level, to the cities and villages. There is a global effort to take advantage of the Covid crisis to install a world authority run by the elite on totally secular principals. And they can't brook the absolute claims of Jesus Christ. They'd like there to be dialogue and cooperation among religions, for everybody to be nice, and for nobody to say anything too radical or absolute, but Jesus is radical. He says,

“I am the way, the truth and the life, and no one comes to the Father except through me.” (Jn 14:6)

He said those who don’t believe Him will die in their sins.

Where is an acknowledgment of what the deepest human aspirations really are? We don’t just long for clean water, a reduced carbon footprint, or government handouts. **We long for life!**

“What does it profit a person if he gains the whole world and he suffers the loss of his soul?” (Mk 8:36)

Is there a solution to death? That’s the fundamental question. Where is the cry of the apostles? Where is the call of St. Peter on the day of Pentecost? He said,

“Save yourselves from this wicked generation.” (Acts 2:40)

When are the shepherds going to wake up and start calling people out of the deception, the darkness, and the illusion of men being able to create a paradise on earth by themselves? We’ve tried that. Every time human beings try to create a paradise on earth, to solve the problems of the human race apart from God, they create hell on earth. Go back to the Tower of Babel. Go back to the Soviet Union or Nazi Germany.

■ THE GOOD NEWS

Where is our hope? What we are facing is overwhelming, but Jesus is going to return in glory to judge the living and the dead. Psalm 2 says the one enthroned in heaven laughs at the folly and futility of rebellion against God. Exodus 15:6 says the hand of the Lord has struck with power. How? Through the incarnation of Jesus Christ in the humility and hiddenness of Bethlehem and of Mary’s womb. The hand of the Lord struck with power, and then it came into fullness in the manhood of Jesus, his crucifixion, and the resurrection.

The resurrection means that evil has truly been defeated. Satan has been crushed. The victory has been won. The Lord has come to our rescue; He’s done the deed that gets to the root desire of the human race—to live and not die.

Now you might ask, if the victory has been won, why is the devil still prowling about like a lion, seeking to devour souls? Why are we still getting sick and dying? Why are we returning to dust? Because we have to accept our punishment for the rebellion of our race against God. The Lord said, “If you do these things, you will surely die.” The devil said, “No you won’t. You’ll be like gods.”

What a disaster! We believe the devil, we try to separate ourselves from God, and we die. All the sickness, illness, pain, broken relationships, and death are because of rebellion against God. Life on earth will be hard. As Christians, we have to walk out the punishment, but its eternal implications have been taken away. When Christians die, it’s no longer separation from God, dying in our sins; there’s no condemnation. For Christians, death is a doorway into experiencing the fullness of the victory. But we have to walk the path. All of us have a path of pain in some way right now. All of us are dealing with things and are tempted by the devil. All of us have weaknesses of the flesh and are influenced by the world in different ways. We have to be encouraged by the fact that the victory really has been won. It’s been decided—the devil’s days are numbered. As it says in Hebrews 12:2,

“For the joy that was set before him, Jesus endured the cross.”

Keep the joy of the final victory and the resurrection from the dead before you. Keep the joy of the forgiveness of sins and the communion of saints in front of you as you take up your cross every day and follow Jesus.

Jesus says we need to be worthy of Him. His disciples need to take up their cross

every day and follow Him. We need to pass the test—that’s why we’re still on earth. It’s the test of deciding whether Jesus is worthy, our treasure, the Lord. Who wants salvation? Who will freely choose Him? Who will endure hardship rather than deny Him?

Our pride, blindness, selfishness, rebellion, and foolishness hold us back sometimes. But if your pride or foolishness is holding you back from a complete surrender to Jesus, you’re a fool. You’re choosing death rather than life. If you hear his voice today, harden not your hearts (Heb 3:15). None of us are worthy; none of us can make this journey on our own strength. Jesus is here to travel the journey with us—to make us worthy, by dwelling in our souls, by feeding us with his own body and blood, and by teaching us through his Word.

Listen to what Jesus says in Matthew 10:37-38—this is in the context of persecution, and that’s going to become very relevant for us.

“He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.”

None of us are worthy, but we have to ask the Lord to make us worthy, and to give us the strength to love Him above all things, and to not deny Him before men. Jesus says,

“Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies me before men I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.” (Mt 10: 32-33)

The world is closing in on us. Soon, they’re going to ask us to burn incense to the emperor. We have to prepare ourselves to not betray Christ when the test comes to us. These are serious words. **We’ve got to want Jesus more than anything in our life, and we’ve got ask Him to give us the grace to persevere and to face the trial. And He will give us that grace.**



Every time human beings try to create a paradise on earth, to solve the problems of the human race apart from God, they create hell on earth.

OUR RESPONSE: A COMMAND & A PROMISE

BY PETER HERBECK

This article is taken from Peter Herbeck's talk at the recent Renewal Ministries' Gathering.



I think the Lord wants me to communicate this message:

“Don’t waste a moment. Don’t miss the opportunity of what I want to do in you right now.”

The Lord permitted this shut down of the world. The Lord opened up doors for people to have more time with Him, because He wants us to understand He’s pruning and purifying us. He wants us to be still and know that He is God. He wants us to draw near. He wants to help us see that the way forward is actually simple, but it’s hard at the same time. What do I mean?

SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM

Matthew 6:33 says,

“Seek first the kingdom of God and his way of holiness and everything will be added unto you.”

We look at everything going on around us and ask, “What should I do, where should I go?” Then we feel powerless and get discouraged.

Jesus is saying,

“It’s all in my hands. Things will unfold on my timetable. I want the attention of my people—a gaze of faith that welcomes this purification.”

He is leading us to seek first—to yearn, search, crave, and go after. Don’t let the anxieties of the world, the noise of every day, or unnecessary conversation take your focus from Him. Let these words be on your hearts:

“I want you to have quiet and solitude every day. Be in my Word every day. Believe I’m going to help you. I’m going to heal you. I’m going to train you. I’m going to give you what you need as we go forward. But the only place you can get this is with Me, in Me.”

Have quiet prayer time before the Lord. Let Him talk to you through God’s Word. Frequent the sacraments. Frequent Confession and Adoration. He has unfolded all the answers, and He’s mobilizing us to listen to Him. He wants to take some stuff out of us and put some stuff into us. We need to go to Him with great trust that He’s in charge and He doesn’t want us to be afraid; otherwise, we won’t get what He wants to give us, and we’re going to miss the opportunity He’s putting before us.

Jesus is putting first things in first place. He’s putting the First Commandment in the first place in our hearts. The world is ignoring God, which is deeply offensive, and Jesus is saying,

“I’m going to purify my Church. My grace and glory will come through her, but only if her loves are rightly ordered—only if she’s loving Me first, loving my Father, and having the First Commandment in the first place.”

THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES

In John 15:5, Jesus says, “I’m the vine, you’re the branches.” People often forget this part: “My Father’s the vine-dresser” (Jn 15:1). The Father cuts off dead branches, and He throws them in the fire.

We’re going through a time of pruning of people of faith to deeper maturity so we can be what God wants us to be. He’s cutting off dead branches in the Church, for their sake and the Church’s sake. Lots of people are leaving the Church and going with the tide, because they’re not living for the Lord. They’re baptized, but they’re not yet given over to the Lord. They’re not living as disciples, and they’re not listening to the Lord, so the Father has to cut them off so they can experience their condition.

The Church is being pruned so that it can be alive and radiant, rather than lukewarm and compromised. We must become a Church radically centered on Jesus and living with Him, listening to Him, following Scripture, following the Catechism, feeding on the Sacraments, and following the saints.

The devil wants to distract us and fill us with meaningless and anxiety-producing conversations, so we don’t get solitude and the time to feed from Him. We need a faith that knows, “The Master’s calling me now. My Lord is the captain of the armies of heaven, and He’s gathering his army. He’s preparing us, training us, and feeding us.” Living with Him in that way should be central for us every day.

Jesus wants to produce in us fruit that will last—fruit that the Father will reward and honor. It’s impossible for us to achieve this on our own energy and strength. It’s a gift that’s going to come from Him as we abide in Him. Make sure that’s happening in your life.

What does “abiding” look like on a daily basis? Talk to Him from your

heart in simple words and phrases. Be attentive to Him. Live like He's actually in you. He wants to have a conversation with you. He wants to help you, but if we can't hear Him, if we're not living with Him in the quiet of our hearts in simplicity, we're not being fed by Him.

PROMISES WITH POWER

We must believe his promises. They have power! I grew up in an alcoholic home. My family went to church, and every day, my mom prayed the rosary and read the Bible. But when a family member got baptized in the Spirit and the word started coming through the family, we began coming alive in a new way, and something happened to my mom. She said, "I've had enough! The Lord is with us—and we're going to talk and act like it!"

Suddenly, little yellow post-it notes started appearing places, like on bathroom mirrors. My mom posted all the promises of God around the house. She also started talking that way. She said, "Enough of the negative talk! Our family has generations of alcoholism and discouragement—enough is enough! Help change the climate in our house."

She believed the promises. Like her, we have a conversation to be had and promises to believe and share with others. Talk about the promises of God. List them out. Let them come out of your mouth instead of saying, "We can't stand this guy or that guy." Jesus says, "If you abide in me, you will bear much fruit" (Jn 15:5). In a time like this, when the flesh is of no avail, the only way to conquer the powers of the world is through our confidence in God's Word.

The Lord continues,

"These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." (Jn 15:11)

Another way to understand full joy is "calm delight." The Lord, who never lies says,

"If you abide in me—because I love you so much and I want you to be fruitful, because it's going to glorify my Father—I'm going to bear fruit

for you that will last through all eternity, and I'm going to give you calm delight in your soul."

We have got to go to the Lord to get it—**but it's a promise.**

A LIVING HOPE

In the book of First Peter, Peter speaks to small communities in the gigantic pagan Roman empire. These communities have no power, no influence, and probably little money. They are being persecuted and are regularly facing all kinds of trials and difficulties. Nevertheless, Peter rejoices, because he's amazed at what he's seeing God do in his people:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (1 Pt 1:3-5)

We are sustained by faith that gives birth to hope and an abiding surrender to the truth. Hope is confidence from God, that the fullness of faith awaits me—and so I want to live to please Him at every minute.

Peter then says,

"For a little while you may have to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold which though perishable is tested by fire, may redound to praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."
(1 Pt 1:6-7)

Are you going through trials? Are we all going through trials? We're going to go through even harder trials in the days ahead. But what's it all about? Our faith is being tested right now. Can we really confess his promises? Do we really trust his commands? Are we really surrendered to Him? This is tough for us! He wants to purify us to glorify Him.

Peter marvels and says, "Without even having seen Him, you love Him" (1 Pt 1:8). I can imagine Peter saying, "I saw

Him in the flesh. I saw Him after He rose from the dead. You have never even seen Him, but you love Him, and you are filled with unutterable and exalted joy—even though you're in a trial, even though you're being persecuted." Do you see what the Lord can produce in people no matter what the circumstances are? Right now, so many baptized people are either worldly and looking like the world, or scared and living as if God is far away. People are leaving the Church because they don't know what they don't know.

The answer is found in renewal. We have seen thousands of brothers and sisters baptized in the Holy Spirit all over the world, often where people are living in poverty. They're imperfect like you and me, but there's something different about what's going on inside Catholics who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit. They have come alive and are sharing and moving more deeply in the Spirit. As Fr. Francis Martin said, "This is the grace of this generation. This is what renewal is."

Renewal is coming alive in the spirit of Pentecost, having that stirred in us, and the fire of God coming alive. As Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa said,

"We all need to be baptized in the Holy Spirit so we can have a personal, living, vital relationship with the One who is the Lord of all."



**PLEASE
PRAY**

- ▶ That the Lord's faithful will speak boldly and joyfully about his work in their lives.
- ▶ For all suffering as a result of the coronavirus, that the Lord would bring them healing and peace.
- ▶ For the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.

FREEDOM FROM CYNICISM



BY DR. MARY HEALY
The following was shared by Dr. Mary Healy at the recent Renewal Ministries' Gathering

The Lord wants to free us from a spirit of cynicism that has come upon many this year.

It's like there is a ball and chain weighing us down. You may not even have realized that you were picking up this cynicism. With it comes bitterness and anger with all the things wrong in the world and the Church. But the Lord says, "I want my children to walk through their day and life with a lightness and purity of heart. You will not be able to fight this battle effectively unless you have a pure heart free from cynicism, anger, bitterness, and complaining."

The Israelites complained and grumbled a lot in the desert, and we tend to do that. I was convicted by the Lord a couple months ago when I was complaining; the Lord really led me to repent. I encourage us all to repent and ask the Lord to break that spirit of cynicism.

Pray with me:

"Jesus, I repent for any way I have absorbed the cynicism, bitterness, or anger in today's spiritual atmosphere. I repent for any spirit of complaining or grumbling. Please set me free, make my heart pure, and give me the joy and the lightness of heart that belong to your children by the power of Jesus' mighty name.

"In the name of Jesus, we break the chain of cynicism binding any of us. We break it by the power of his resurrection, and we proclaim hope in its place. We proclaim the joy of the resurrection of Jesus and his victory over sin and death, his victory in the Church, and his victory in the world, and we break the power of anger, bitterness, complaining, and grumbling. Please lift up our hearts and give us holy joy and the simplicity that is our inheritance as your children."

TESTIMONIALS *from* GATHERING ATTENDEES

"Thank you for providing a live Gathering this year. I was so blessed to be able to attend. The talks were so powerful that I will listen to them again. You did an amazing job of being present to the people in front of you, as well as the people around the world who were watching. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do for God and his people."

"Thank you for being bold enough to shout it out from the roof tops. Thank you for being a faithful son of the Father in presenting his Son, the living eternal Word, by the power of his Holy Spirit in all his splendor. Thank you for letting the light penetrate the darkness and for exposing its works and the instruments of its works."

"Thank you, it was an awesome night filled with blessings of joy and deep peace. As always, the Lord used you so powerfully! May He continue to bless you and inspire you so you can inspire others and set us on fire with love for Jesus!"

"Dr. Healy hit on a sore spot with me of late—running a small business through this Covid purgatory really turned me to cynicism about many things politically, which spread over to my daily life and attitude. FREEDOM! I feel it lifted today and I am going to do my best to not let the devil back in!"

"Great job with the Gathering. I sent the link to quite a few people and got back a number of very positive responses from people who were blessed."

"Thank you! We really need this up lifting of the Spirit! Thanks be to God!"



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.

STAY CONNECTED WITH US:

YOUTUBE
youtube.com/renewalministriesrm

FACEBOOK
[@CatholicRenewalMinistries](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicRenewalMinistries)

APP
subsplash.com/renewalministries/app

WEBSITE
 Visit us at: www.renewalministries.net

UNITED STATES
Chairman of the Board Deacon Dan Foley
President Ralph Martin

CANADA
Episcopal Advisor
 Cardinal Thomas Collins, Toronto, ON

Chairman of the Board
 Monsignor Gregory Smith, Vancouver, BC

NEWSLETTER
Editor Heather Schultz
Design Emily Bachelor

© 2021 by Renewal Ministries