+ RENEWAL + MINISTRIES

CATHOLIC RENEWAL & EVANGELIZATION

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MAY 2022



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Dear God Seekers!

We feel very privileged here at Renewal Ministries to be able to offer ourselves as instruments for the Lord to bring his message of eternal life and salvation to so many people around the world.

Travel is back in a big way, but requests continue to come in to preach the Gospel via Zoom in many countries around the world, and so our challenge now is balancing it all. I, personally, have never been as busy as I am right now responding to requests to preach and teach. One dimension of this is our amazing YouTube ministry which has really taken off and about which you can read more in this issue of our newsletter. Many of our videos are now being viewed tens of thousands and even hundreds of thousands of times in countries throughout the world. And we continue to get opportunities to strengthen our priests. While doing a parish mission in Baltimore recently, the pastor was able to invite a number of priests from the Archdiocese to a seminar where I was able to support them with some substantial talks and conversations.

While our main mission is focused on the salvation of people, we occasionally have opportunities to help with the people's physical needs, as well. Whether it's digging wells in Tanzania, helping with food and housing in Haiti, or now helping out with the flood of millions of Ukrainian refugees into bordering countries, we respond when we can.

Several Slovakians that we have worked with closely over the years and their community, Maranatha, are located close to the Ukrainian border. They are involved in a significant way with assisting the 250,000+refugees who are crossing the border from the Ukraine into Slovakia. With our Board's approval, we have been able to make a substantial financial donation to help them in their work. An unexpected blessing for me is that one of my nieces, Rebecca Cirner, the daughter of our longtime collaborators and friends, Randy and Therese Cirner, took a leave from her job and flew there to assist with the work.

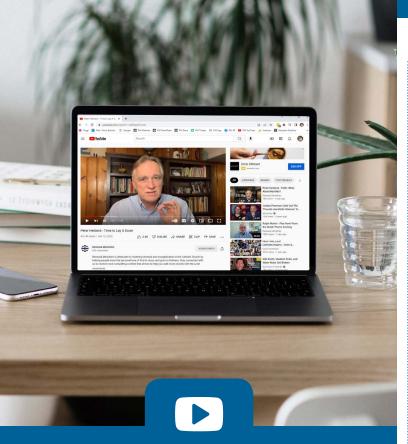
So, whether it is direct evangelization and formation in discipleship or the occasional, unique opportunity to support those assisting the Ukrainian refugees, it is only possible because of your support. Thank you!

Your brother in Christ.

Rolph Martin

Ralph Martin





YouTube Bearing Fruit Beyond Expectations

Just over two years ago, on the Feast of the Annunciation, we launched a new offering on Renewal Ministries YouTube channel called "Weekly Messages." Born from the desire to reach people with the Gospel despite canceled conferences and speaking engagements during the first days of the Covid-19 pandemic, this latest offering contains twelve-to-thirty-minute videos recorded each week primarily by Ralph Martin and Peter Herbeck. In a very short time, this outreach has blossomed beyond expectations and is bearing enormous fruit! Since launching the "Weekly Messages," we have posted 180 videos which have been viewed a total of 3.943.876 times! In addition, the number of subscribers to our overall YouTube channel has soared by 650% in that same time frame.

Here is a condensed version of one of our "Weekly Messages" followed by a small sample of viewer comments posted below the video.

Time to Lay it Down

(Text condensed from 1/12/2022 YouTube Weekly Message)

Hello friends, this is Peter Herbeck. I hope you are at peace in Christ. I want to talk today about the importance of keeping the big picture in mind as we continue to make our way through troubling times. I think it's critical that we see the larger picture that the Lord has prepared us to see so that we can cooperate with Him most effectively. He really is seeking the attention of his Church.

Right now, friends, if you watch the news and see all the trouble, the anger, the division, the disruption, all that's there, it can feel like all the important stuff is happening on the political and social levels.

No. The most significant thing happening is God's action. It's what God is doing for and in the Church right now.

We can be responsible and pay attention to the news to the degree that we need to, but what the Lord really wants his people to do is to see what He's doing, to hear what He's saying, and to cooperate with all our strength with what He's calling us to do.

And what is He calling us to do?

Ralph Martin and I have reflected on this question on YouTube with Fr. Mike Scanlan's prophecy from 1980 and Ralph's prophecy from 1975. In a nutshell, Fr. Mike Scanlan, former president of the Franciscan University of Steubenville, shared his sense from the Lord that the Lord is saying "get ready" to the Church. The last hundred or so years of blessing are coming to an end, to some degree, and God is doing something new and different. Fr. Mike felt the Lord saying,

"What I have not accomplished in my blessings and gifts, I will accomplish by my judgment and my purification."

So, the Church is in the midst of redemptive discipline. God is a loving Father, and He disciplines those whom He loves. Well, look, right now, you can see our own infighting and battles and division, hatred, and disqualifying one another. What God is doing in the Church is exposing the condition of the heart of many in the Church, of many of the baptized. He wants us to see it so that we come to repentance.

Ralph Martin's prophecy from 1975 in Rome gives us another look at what I think the Lord is showing us. Ralph felt the Lord saying,

"Because I love you, I want to show you what I'm doing in the world today. I want to prepare you for what is to come. Days of darkness are coming on the world—days of tribulation. I will lead you into the desert. I will strip you of everything that you depend on now, so you depend just on me."

So part of what God is doing is a stripping. And if God strips us of security, if God allows things to happen so that we have to depend on Him more radically, we don't have to run from it. We need to lean into it. We need to understand that we're in his hands; as Pope John Paul II said, "We are in the hands of Divine Providence."

One afternoon I was at a conference sitting by myself in Eucharistic adoration, sort of in the back of a crowd of about four thousand people. At a certain point, it just felt like the holy presence of God was just in the room like a heavy, but beautifully heavy, blanket. It just came on us, and then I felt the Lord speak to me.

And as He spoke to me, honestly, friends, I trembled, and I wept and wept and wept. Jesus said,

"Tell them. Tell my people to lay down their rage and anger and fear, especially their hatred for enemies. That's not my heart. I don't hate anyone. I need to teach my people, and I'm going to teach my people how to love those who hate them, so they can serve my purpose to save them."

Look, when the Lord throws the switch to reveal his glory, to bring about this evangelization, it's going to be something like the world has literally never seen. It's in his plan. It's in his purpose. It's why He's poured out the Spirit so dramatically. So it's essential for us not to be shaken, not to be confused, and not to be knocked off course.

IT'S ESSENTIAL
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AND NOT TO BE
KNOCKED
OFF COURSE.

So let's check our hearts. Let's check our minds and our eyes. Are our sights set on the Lord? Think about Isaiah,

"Behold God is my salvation. I will trust. I will not be afraid, for the Lord is my strength and the Lord is my song, and He has become my salvation."

Let this kind of thing lift your eyes to the heavens. Let this kind of thing characterize your life now. God is with you. Let God tenderize your heart to love, forgive, draw near to, and have great compassion on a world that's lost.

Pray and ask God to give you his heart.

Friends, I don't know how long all of us are going to live, but I do believe we're going to see in our lifetime a great manifestation of the glory and majesty of Jesus Christ. We're going to see a great revival that's already started to percolate. It's already begun to happen in different places in the world, and the Lord is positioning us.

The question is, are you going to be in the center of his work, surrendered to Him, at peace and running in his favor at this hour?

Message Reach

63K SUBSCRIBERS

5,813,468 TOTAL CHANNEL VIEWS

3,943,876
WEEKLY MESSAGE VIDEO VIEWS

Weekly Messages account for 67.8% of our total channel views.

21,910* AVERAGE NUMBER OF VIEWS PER VIDEO

*Those views are not proportionately distributed across all the videos as many have well over 50,00 views, and our top ten all have over 100,000 views.

You can watch any of the over 180 "Weekly Messages" videos on our YouTube channel by following this url: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL LK1vk61R6yhucsBjfN_fjZCKC-CMBtVam or by scanning the QR code o......



Comments from viewers of the *Time to Lay it Down* Weekly Message:

- "Thank you, Peter. I've been forwarding this to clergy and lay friends. The Lord is speaking very clearly through you here."
- "Thank you for this uplifting message. I believe you are right on. God is giving us a loving chastisement, which we deserve. Keep praying. Be trustful and compassionate. We will get through this."
- "Preach it, Peter!! Sharing this with our Rosary Facebook group on a conference call tonight!"



Keep up the good work. LJHR was awesome. Very encouraging. Some new insights. I will NOT act like an orphan. I have a Father who loves me deeply. Praise God.

//Laurette from British Columbia

I really enjoyed all the speakers at the rally. Peter was on fire with his passion, energy, and wisdom. May God continue to bless you.

//Marion from Ontario

Thank God for technology so we can at least participate virtually until when we can, in Jesus' name, meet in person.

//Tanina in Ontario

Beautiful. I listened to Heather, and honestly, never before have I listened to a speaker where I identified with every word she spoke. Thank you for a great day. Jesus is SO awesome. God bless your ministry.

//Olivia in Ireland

Wonderful conference! We feel reenergized and with a new infilling of the Holy Spirit. Thank you so much. I will be telling friends to watch this on YouTube.

//Chris in Oregon





MORE THAN CONQUERORS

The theme of the thirtieth annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally was More than Conquerors. For the second year, it was a hybrid event, held in-person at Christ the King Catholic Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and live-streamed across the world. One hundred and sixteen people attended in-person, and 14,750 people from more than thirty-five countries joined us via live stream on Saturday, March 5. In addition, as of this writing, the rally has been viewed 23,545 times on our YouTube channel!

Excerpts from each of the keynote talks are included in this newsletter, and the entire set of talks is available for you to watch for free on our YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xog0H2LVOQ You can also access the video by scanning the QR code below:







I've always looked forward to the Lift Jesus Higher Rally; the energy, the joy, the praise of the Lord, which we find when we are gathered together is astonishing and very encouraging. Lift Jesus Higher centers on what is most important. We lift Christ up in our hearts; He is our living God.

//Cardinal Thomas Collins
Archbishop of Toronto, Canada



Make your Life a Living Word

PETER HERBECK

Executive Vice President of Renewal Ministries



It's important for us, friends, to understand how much trial and tribulation and spiritual battle are a normal part of the Christian life. And how God thinks about suffering is different than how we think about it. In the book of Revelation, chapter one, verse nine, the Apostle John is writing a letter to seven churches. He's writing a letter to them because he received a revelation from the Lord Jesus about the seven churches. They are under persecution. They are under trial. Some of them are literally being martyred, and it's a tough go. And Jesus has something for each of the seven churches.

First, John is laboring over the difficulties these churches are going through. What's God's strategy for John in this pagan empire that is pressing in against his people and harming them? John is praying for them, and he gets a revelation. God's solution for John is not to contact a few senators in Rome. No. Politicians can't save us. Militaries can't save us. Nothing could help them. What did John need? He got a revelation of the glory and majesty of Jesus, eyes flaming fire, hair white as wool. John fell to the ground as though dead, and he trembled. Jesus touched him and said, "I am the Alpha and the Omega," and the healthy fear of God came back into John, along with faith and confidence. He was seeing Jesus in faith, who Jesus was. He saw Jesus is right in the middle of the churches, holding the churches in his hand, and seeing this strengthened John.

So, then John writes this letter to the brothers and sisters. He says, "John, your brother, who shares with you in Jesus the tribulation, the kingdom, and the patient endurance." This is what the Christian life on earth has been for most Christians throughout history. Jesus said, "you are going to have tribulation, but be of good cheer. I've won the victory over it so that you can be of good cheer."

But look what we are sharing together! We are sharing the life of the King together. We are sharing his Word, his Sacraments, his fellowship, and his mission. We are in communion with God the Father, so the Kingdom is among us, even though there is lots of trouble among us. And we are sharing the patient endurance. Patient endurance is a big thing throughout all of the book of Revelation. Because this is what we must endure. And some of us are going to go through hard times to get there, but that's okay because we know where we are going—to heaven.

This faith thing has power. This hope thing is real, if we just stay in it. It is time for all of us to get really serious about it, to go deep into the heart of the Father, to just keep saying what Jesus says, and to keep doing what He does.

You've got one shot to a living word

Because guess what? Life is short. You've got one shot to make make your life your life a living word that will echo into that will echo eternity. What's it gointo eternity. ing to be? Are you going down sad, crabby,

afraid, disappointed, depressed? No! Or are you going to say, "All that stuff is there, but I know who my God is. My God who rules. I know what He has done for me. I'm a child of God! I'm going to go home soon, and I want to go home as Jesus's best friend. I want to take all the grace He's given me so that I can resist the lies and be a little tiny bit of light in the world while I am still here." Amen? Amen!

Exhortation on Hope



MICHAEL DOPP

Founder of Redeemer Ministries, and New Evangelization Summit, author and presenter of relit: The Heart of Evangelization, co-founder of UEvangelize.org

It is easy for us to lose hope and to be seduced by the world. And the world is not indifferent. The world is not just kind of saying, "Well, you know, choose me or choose the Gospel." The world is trying to capture your soul. So we keep our eyes on the foolish men of this world, on the fallen world, on the prince of this world, and we wonder why we don't have hope. So, instead, we need to look at the Father and say, "The Father rules the world and has a plan." He is not just sort of vaguely present. The Father RULES over the world. Amen! And He doesn't just rule it; He has a PLAN for it. He is trying to bring Jesus here to capture our hearts. And we wonder if He has a plan for MY life? God the Father does not just rule a part of the world, but the whole world. Amen, He has a plan for you and every other person out there, even if they do not yet know his Son, Jesus Christ. God the Father rules the world AND has a plan.



Lessons I Haven't Yet Learned from Covid

FR. SIMON LOBO

Priest with Companions of the Cross & Pastor of St. Benedict Parish Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

This Covid-19 has been a total disruption, the biggest of our generation. We are living in a time of crisis. And yet we are at this conference with the title from Roman 8:37 "We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." In Greek, the phrase "more than conquerors" is just one word, hypernikaō, and literally means "hyper-conqueror."

But, when it comes to Covid, do you feel like a hyper-conqueror? Like you have conquered Covid or that Covid has conquered you? Because if I am honest, I feel like I am in the second half of that group. When I look over the last two years, there are various lessons I haven't yet learned from Covid; God is still trying to teach me something about pace, unity, and hope. We are in a battle to reclaim these three things.

1 PACE

We need to fight for pace. At the beginning of Covid, we did a lot of pivoting, trying new technology, everything moved online, and we were getting used to preaching to a camera. All of this stuff was happening, yet we were limited to our own little social bubbles. Living with members of my community, Companions of the Cross, during Covid, we developed this really healthy rhythm of our days. You know, Jesus was highly productive and never in a rush. And there are many resources to help us live at a human pace. Two great books would be "Get Your Life Back" by John Eldridge and "The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry" by John Mark Comer. And a YouTube video to watch would be "The Pace of Grace" by Pastor Michael Todd.

As we are coming in and out of restrictions now, I think perhaps the most heroic thing we can do to fight for pace in 2022 is to start our day with our phones off and our Bibles open.

2 UNITY

The Covid-19 virus trained us to be afraid of people. For the "common good," we are supposed to be "socially distant." What's the long-term effect of that?! We have not had natural touchpoints with people for two years, and this "social distancing" has polarized us. Every single person has an opinion, and it feels like people have hardened into these positions.

In the face of this polarization, we need to fight for unity. We start by repenting and saying, "Lord, I cannot change anyone's opinion, but show me where my heart is polarized." Satan's number one tactic is to divide and conquer. Are we going to allow this division? Or are we going to choose unity by going to confession or approaching that person we've crossed swords with? Two scriptures that have spoken to me in this regard are Ephesians 4:1-3 and Ephesians 4:26-27. If you are struggling in any of this, remember that Jesus wants to be the hyper-conqueror of disunity in your life. Fight for unity!

3 норе

Fight for hope. This whole experience of Covid has been so exhausting, so draining. And where I am from in Nova Scotia, Canada, we had this mass shooting the month after Covid hit. Twentyfour people were killed. The worse in Canadian history. And then just one thing upon the other with racism in the United States and the truckers' crises and now Russia. So, we come to a place where we are just feeling so hopeless. And we know we should place our hope in Jesus, but in reality, we keep thinking, "If so and so just gets elected, things will be better." We have all this human hope in politicians, but we are left disappointed.

Jesus wants to be the conqueror for you. This has been a hard time. For you, maybe it's fighting for pace. Or maybe it's all the disunity you've experienced. Maybe it's the fight for hope. You are feeling hopeless. Jesus wants to restore these things for you. Jesus has already won the victory. He wants to be the hyper-conqueror for you. Ask Him now. Ask Him to be the hyper-conqueror in your life.

Fr. Graham Keep, Fr. Adam Maher, and Fr. Simon Lobo lead in-person attendees in a time of Adoration.



Living Through His Victorious Power

HEATHER KHYM

Host of *Abiding Together* podcast & Co-founder of Life Restoration Ministries Canada



We have been adopted into the family of God, so we are royal heirs. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* 783 says that

"Jesus Christ is the One whom the Father anointed with the Holy Spirit and established as priest, prophet, and king. The whole People of God participates in these three offices of Christ and bears the responsibilities for mission and service that flows from them."

We participate in the Kingdom of God as his royal heirs and have this authority only through Him. But, friends, many of us have abdicated our responsibility, our royalty, because we don't always actually live as children of God. We more often live as orphans instead. We are white-knuckling it.

So how do we come back into this? I would say it's with conversion. Conversion with power. The power that comes with conversion looks like Jesus tying a belt around his waist and getting down and washing the feet of his disciples. This is what power with integrity, character, and purity of heart looks like. This is our baptismal call as children of God.

So how do we fight as a child of God? With arms wide open, surrendered to the Father. He is the one with the power. I am just going to open the door to his power. Not my ideas of what I want, but what God wants, and what He desires. But Jesus has come to make a beautiful exchange with us. He'll take your sorrow, and He wants to give you joy, instead. And in turn, He wants us to do the same for other people. And the only way that can happen is if we are deeply abiding with Him.

Pope Benedict XVI says that "Christianity is not just a lofty ideal. It is an encounter with a person, and that person is Jesus." God is real, and He is power. And He has the power to change things. Our God has the power to heal and restore things that we cannot in our human power. Only He can.

The outcome is not as important as the intimacy with Him. We need to be people who have testimonies, who allow God to come into these broken places in our lives. We cannot surrender to the way the world thinks, which is just that "It is what it is." Have you heard that? It is NOT "what it is" when we are children of God! God is bigger than our circumstances. He can change the most broken things into something beautiful because He is God.

You shouldn't have one testimony. You should have a thousand testimonies. I want to hear about the thing that happened years ago, but I also want to hear about the thing that happened last week and yesterday. How is God

working miracles in your life, taking the broken places and transforming them into something beautiful? And if that is not happening, then we need to ask ourselves, am I really following Jesus. Am I really walking with Him, like Him, through Him, in Him through redemptive suffering? We are supposed to walk up the hill with Him, not just carry our cross in circles. God can heal and restore us even now. Carrying our cross is not for nothing.

It is critical that we abide. That we drop everything and follow the living Jesus. He is compelling and radiant. He is worth following, and He is just waiting for you to invite Him in. God is the real power that changes things, so open the door again. If you have abdicated parts of your participation as a son or daughter of the King, invite Him back in. Today is a day we can come with repentant hearts and come back to Him.

Admit your dependence and open wide the door to Jesus.



San Jose, CA Clergy Convocation for Diocese of San Jose*

May 8-12 Ralph Martin

Clarendon Hills, IL Blessed is She, Rise Revival Nights, **Notre Dame Catholic Church**

May 9-10 Debbie Herbeck Event details: https://blessedisshe.net/ product/revivals/

Milwaukee, WI Legatus* May 12

Pete Burak

Grand Rapids, MI Legatus*

May 12 Peter Herbeck

Ypsilanti, MI Talk for Huron Valley Catholic School* **May 13** Ralph Martin

Los Angeles, CA **Encuentro Católico Carismático Latino** Estadounidense (ECCLE)*

May 13-15 Dr. Mary Healy

Escanaba, MI **Diocese of Marquette Retreat**

May 13-15 Ralph Martin

Contact: secretary@stpetercathedral.org

Ann Arbor, MI Legatus*

May 18

Dr. Mary Healy

Fresno, CA Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference

May 20-21 Ralph Martin & Peter Herbeck Contact: christyvillas25@gmail.com

Baton Rouge, LA Legatus*

May 26 Ralph Martin

England

Various talks for clergy and catechists May 28-June 6 Ralph Martin

Contact: peterlittleton@rcaos.org.uk

* Not open to the public.

MISSIONS

Our mission work continues around the world! Due to Covid, many missions currently happen last minute and are unable to be posted in the newsletter. Please pray for our ongoing missions in Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Lithuania, and Romania.



The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once difficult and uplifting, of working with Him in the building of the civilization of love.

//ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT



- ▶ For our brothers and sisters in Eastern Europe and for peaceful resolutions to political conflicts around the world.
- ▶ For the joy of the Easter Season to infuse every aspect of our lives as believers in the Risen Christ.
- For the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members.

Renewal Ministries is a Catholic ministry committed to renewal and evangelization in the Church. It seeks to proclaim Jesus Christ through its TV, radio, and social media outreaches, as well as through books, conferences, retreats, and other international evangelistic events.

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NEWSLETTER

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