RENEWAL MINISTRIES
CATHOLIC RENEWAL & EVANGELIZATION
DECEMBER 2026





2026 Year in Review

Dear Friends,

I know that friendship can really only exist among a limited number of people, but I definitely feel a special bond – maybe call it solidarity – with all of you who value what we are doing for the Kingdom and support us. There is something real that can appropriately be called the "Renewal Ministries family." So, with deep gratitude to you and to the Lord, I present our traditional end-of-the-year issue, recounting many of the amazing things we saw the Lord do this year.

We have a special love and concern for our priests and want to do all we can to support and strengthen them in their important work of shepherding us through the dark valleys and high mountains of this world to the Everlasting Kingdom, where death and separation will be no more. This year, the Lord gave us many opportunities to do so! Bishop Scott McCaig, CC, and I were able to do substantial retreats for priests in Peru and Uruguay, and then he invited me to do a retreat for his priests in the Military Ordinariate of Canada, where Catholic priests serve as chaplains in the Canadian military.

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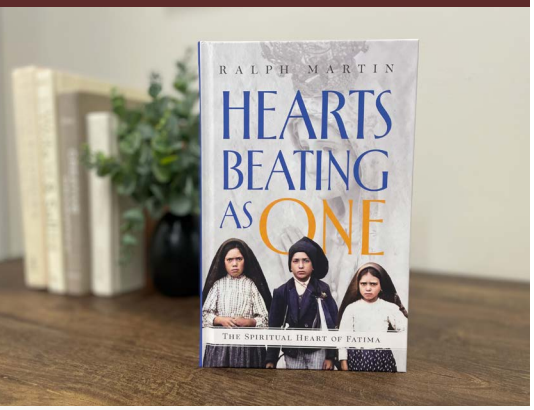
"Yet in the shadows and silence
of that holy night,
a great and inextinguishable light
shone forth for every man;
the great hope that brings happiness
entered into the world:
'the Word was made flesh…
and we saw his glory'" (John 1:14).

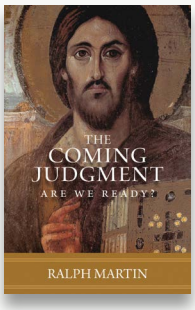
// Pope Benedict XVI

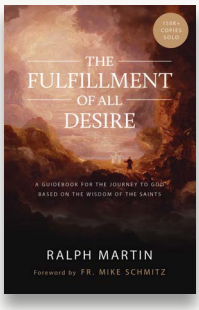


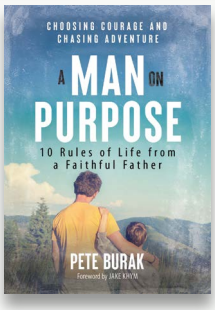
Ralph and Bishop Scott with Cardinal Daniel Sturla (L), Archbishop of Montevideo, and Bishop Milton Tróccoli (R), Bishop of Maldonado-Punta del Este–Minas and President of the Episcopal Conference of Uruguay.

NEW BOOKS FOR 2026









Get more details or place your order today:

www.renewalministries.net/shop

Mail your order via the attached reply card.

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Speaking of Canada, we had many opportunities to continue to strengthen our dear neighbors to the north. In addition to the annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally which continues to be a remarkable manifestation of the power and love of God and the priests' retreat in Ottawa, I was able to spend some special days in Vancouver helping to strengthen the key priests and lay leaders who are supporting Archbishop Smith in leading renewal in the Archdiocese. Peter and Debbie Herbeck spoke at men's and women's conferences in Regina, Saskatchewan, and Peter Herbeck and Rachel Herbeck were able to spend several days in Halifax, Nova Scotia, supporting our good friend and board member, Fr. James Mallon, by doing a parish mission at his parish. I had the privilege of addressing all the lay missionaries of Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO), a Canadian ministry that works on college campuses, leading students to Christ and helping them grow in discipleship. I look forward to leading their annual retreat next April!

In a time of turmoil in the Church, we were overwhelmed by the support we received from bishops throughout the world when we invited them to join our first International Episcopal Advisory Council. Cardinal Thomas Collins, the Archbishop Emeritus of Toronto, has agreed to serve as Chairman and many other distinguished bishops and archbishops gladly lent their names and their support, including **Archbishop Paul Coakley of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City** and current President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; and Archbishop Gintaras Grušas, Archbishop of Vilnius, Lithuania, and current President of the European Conference of Bishops. We are deeply honored and feel immensely supported by the seven archbishops and twelve bishops who are part of this advisory council and whose photos you can see on page eight of this newsletter.



Our far and wide proclamation of the Word and teaching the wisdom of Christ and the Church has continued with great energy! We continue to produce two daily radio shows and podcasts, *Fire on the Earth* with Peter Herbeck and *Burning Hearts* with Rachel Herbeck; a weekly television program, *The Choices We Face*, that is

Ralph and Anne Martin with Fr. Graham Keep, Renewal Ministries' Chaplain, and Fr. Michael Scherrey, CC, during a visit this summer.



Ralph appeared on several television and radio shows and podcasts to share the message of *The Coming Judgement: Are We Ready?* Below, Ralph is with Johnette Benkovic on the set of EWTN's *Women of Grace*.



distributed internationally through EWTN; multiple YouTube videos each week; and have had the opportunity to do many guest appearances on significant media outlets. I was a guest on *Pints with Aquinas* with Matt Fradd, one of the most watched podcasts today, and was a guest on various media initiatives led by Scott Hahn, John Bergsma, and Fr. Dave Pivonka, President of Franciscan University of Steubenville and a member of Renewal Ministries' Board. EWTN invited me to appear on several of their programs, including *EWTN Live* with Fr. Mitch Pacwa, SJ, *Bookmark* with Doug Keck, and five episodes of *Women of Grace* with Johnnette Benkovic.

This year, Pete Burak published his first book, *A Man on Purpose: 10 Life Rules from a Faithful Father*, and I unexpectedly published two—*The Coming Judgement: Are We Ready?* and *Hearts Beating as One: The Spiritual Heart of Fatima.* I also released a new edition of *The Fulfillment of All Desire* with a forward by Fr. Mike Schmitz and a new introduction in honor of its twentieth anniversary. (If you order right away, it is not too late to send one or more of them as Christmas gifts!)

Through participation in Pine Hills Camp and the ongoing work of Be Love Revolution and Forged, the lives of hundreds of young men and women were changed this year, some quite profoundly.

We can't forget the amazing fruitfulness of our international missions! I encourage you to read our monthly newsletter reports of these missions to be encouraged and inspired.

We couldn't have done all this - and much more that we don't have room to recount - without your support! **As the end of the year fast approaches, please consider supporting Renewal Ministries through a special year-end gift. Everyone who gives to Renewal Ministries or prays for this important work is a true participant in the amazing work the Lord is doing and will share in the reward!**

Yours,

Ralph Martin

Ralph

You can donate on our website at **www.renewalministries.net/donate,** *or scan this QR code:*

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THE CHOICES WE FACE

This fall, we recorded another season of *The Choices We Face* which will begin airing in March 2027. The upcoming season features incredible guests, including Dr. John Bergsma, Dr. Deborah Savage, Patti Mansfield, Fr. Charles Rooney, OP, Andre Regnier, Jeff Nelson, and Katey Norman. Below, Delaney Dickey is pictured with Pete Burak while filming.



AT HOME & ABROAD

"Thank you for your steadfast commitment to proclaiming Christ and calling His people to holiness through Renewal Ministries."

(Letter)

• • •

"Brothers and sisters, may the Lord bless you. I am always edified reading of your good work."

(Letter from a Priest Supporter)

• • •

"Thank you for your inspiring presentations that fill the void in my spiritual appetite that is sadly seldom satisfied from homilies. Subscribed! May God inspire all priests with the same inspiration that you have received."

(YouTube Comment)



Peter Herbeck and Bishop Scott McCaig, CC, led a retreat for priests in the Diocese of Green Bay to strengthen and encourage them in their vocation and mission.

In February, Ralph Martin and Bishop Scott McCaig, CC, led a retreat in Peru for seventy-two priests. Participants shared that retreat strengthened them in their desire to lead a life of holiness and empowered them to preach the full Gospel message.



Peter and Debbie Herbeck, Pete Burak, Anthony Feola, and Rachel Herbeck spent ten days with the Javé Nissi Community in the Diocese of Pouso Alegre in Brazil. They spoke throughout the diocese about the kerygma, life in the Spirit, discipleship, evangelization, and Christian marriage and family life.



Pete Burak gave the closing keynote talk at SEEK, the annual conference of FOCUS, in Columbus, Ohio, in January 2026. SEEK gathers more than 15,000 young adults to encounter Christ and be inspired to live more fully as a disciple through talks, worship, Adoration, and the sacraments. Pete will be speaking at SEEK again in January 2027!

Each day of the Good News Cruise, a faith-filled cruise for married couples, Rachel Herbeck discussed a chapter of Ephesians with a guest. Pictured below is Rachel Herbeck with Heather Khym, a member of Renewal Ministries' Canadian Board of Directors, on the cruise.





"I'm all too aware of the constant pull away from God, our sinfulness and desire for consolation and comfort that can quickly drag us back from our purpose in God. The messages you share always encourage me to acknowledge where I am really at before God and repent. Thank you once again and may God continue to bless you and yours."

(YouTube comment)

• • •

"For the first time this year, I attended the Lift Jesus Higher rally in Toronto. It was well organized and the talks were amazing!!"

(Email)

More than 2,000 people attended the Lift Jesus Higher Rallies in Toronto, Ontario. Focusing on the theme of No Greater Love, the adult and youth rallies were filled with powerful talks, inspiring worship, powerful testimonies, Eucharistic adoration, and Holy Mass. Save the date for next year's rally: April 24, 2027.

Save the Date

APRIL 24, 2027

TORONTO ONTARIO

Details: www.ljhr.ca



GLOBAL MISSIONS

In 2026, Renewal Ministries completed thirty-six missions in twenty-seven countries. We plan to complete thirty-seven missions in thirty countries in 2027.

2026 Mission Countries:

- Brazil
- Canada
- Croatia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Guinea-Bissau
- Hungary
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Latvia
- Liberia
- Lithuania
- Malawi
- Mexico
- Namibia
- Papua New Guinea
- Peru
- Romania
- Rwanda
- Slovenia
- Taiwan
- Tanzania
- Turkey
- Uganda
- Uruguay
- Zambia





Tanzania | Tom and Jean Marie Edwards held daily FIRE rallies with teaching and worship; prayer ministry; pro-life and apologetics workshops; and retreats for priests and religious sisters in the Diocese of Morogoro.

Mexico | In Mexico City, seniors from Fr. Gabriel Richard High School had the opportunity to minister to children and families.





Taiwan | In Taiwan, Tom and Jean Marie Edwards led parish missions and retreats at parishes and prayer groups throughout the country and gave pro-life presentations as part of 40 Days for Life.

Uganda | In Uganda, more than 40,000 people attended the National Conference of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Soroti. The multi-day conference included preaching and teaching, worship and adoration, and prayer ministry for healing and deliverance.



BE LOVE REVOLUTION | Pictured above is a Beloved event—an evening of fellowship, teaching, and worship for high school girls. Be Love Revolution is a dynamic ministry focused on helping young women know the personal and transformative love of Jesus through weekly Bible studies, bi-monthly Beloved nights, small groups, ministry in local middle and high schools, service projects, and more.

NEXT GENERATION

"During camp, I learned that all we need is God who loves, cares, and protects us, and that I am the one sheep that Jesus ran after and rejoiced over."

(Pine Hills Girls Camp Camper)

• • •

"Forged has helped me grow in relationship with Christ through consistent prayer, silence, and brotherhood. Forged has given me examples of how to live as a man for Christ. It has also given me brother to fall on and has formed me into a brother whom others can fall on."

(High School Sophomore)



FORGED | Seventh and eighth grade boys were invited to come closer to Jesus if they wanted more of him during a time of adoration at a Forged retreat. Forged walks with young men to help them receive the love of the Father through worship nights, small groups, mentorship, ministry in local schools, and more.

Pine Hills Camps | Both Pine Hills Boys Camp and Pine Hills Girls Camp experienced the biggest camps ever. The camps include powerful times of prayer, talks, fellowship, and lots of fun for seventh through ninth graders.





Thank You

to those whose selfless commitment helps guide our ministry

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- Emmanuel Tamakloe
- Dr. Bohus Zivcak



PLEASE PRAY

- May we, like the shepherds and the wise men, seek the Christ Child this Christmas.
- For those who do not know the Lord, may they encounter Emmanuel (God With Us) and be transformed this Christmas season.
- For the prayer intentions of all our supporters, their family members, and their parish families, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.

EVENTS

DECEMBER 2026

View complete event list at renewalministries.net/events.

Providence, RI
Diocese of Providence Women's Conference
December 5
Debbie Herbeck & Rachel Herbeck
Details: evangelizeri.org/womens-conference

Toronto, ON
Catholic Renewal Ministries Canada Board Meeting*
December 6-7
Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, and the Renewal Ministries Team

St. Paul, MN
Day of Recollection for Seminarians*
December 8
Dr. Mary Healy

Newark, OH
The Holy Spirit & Evangelization
December 12
Dr. Mary Healy and Peter Herbeck
Details: stfrancisparish.net

* *Not open to the public.*

RENEWAL MINISTRIES

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.

Scripture references in the newsletter are from the *Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition* of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

NEWSLETTER
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