



GLEANINGS

Renewing the face of the earth  Empowered by the Holy Spirit

SEPTEMBER 2010 - VOLUME XXXVI NUMBER 8

*“Do not neglect
the gift you have,
which was
conferred on you
through the
prophetic word
with the imposition
of hands of the
presbyterate.*

*Be diligent in
these matters,
be absorbed in
them, so that your
progress may
be evident to
everyone.”*

1 Timothy 4:14-15

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Strike While the Iron’s Hot!

by Robert King

The theme for this article was inspired by the July 22nd Sound Insight Radio program with Dr. Tom Curran. To hear the program online, go to www.MyCatholicFaith.org and choose Podcasts.

A friend of mine loves to delve into the roots of words. She loves discovering distant relations between words that reveal their deeper meanings. For example, the other day we explored the relationships between words like “lector” and “election” and “collect” — all of which have descended from the Latin verb *legere*, which means to gather, or to choose, or to read (because reading is about choosing the correct meaning of the word on the page).

In the same way, phrases have “family histories” as well. The phrase, “strike while the iron is hot” comes from the fact that a blacksmith had to watch for the iron to turn just the right color — red hot, or white hot, or somewhere between — so that his hammer could have just the right effect. The phrase doesn’t mean just to take action; it means to take the right kind of action at the right time.

“Strike while the iron is hot” advises us to be diligent in all areas of life. And diligence, oddly enough, is another *legere* word: it means to collect information and select the right action in response. But it means even more than that.



Holy Diligence

St. Thomas Aquinas, the greatest theologian of the medieval Church, teaches that “diligence” refers to the same virtue as “solicitude,” which also refers to the same virtue as “vigilance.” To be diligent is to be watchful, to be attentive, to be careful about matters that are important. But there is even more meaning than that in this word. The Latin word Thomas uses, *diligere*, means “to prize, love, esteem highly.” So, when he explains why “diligence” is the same as “solicitude” (meaning attentive care or concern) he says, “the more we love (*diligimus*) a thing the more solicitous are we about it.”¹

In other words, diligence is a form of love: it is the kind of love that chooses something to be our own, and takes care of it. It is the love that pays attention to what we love, because we have taken responsibility for it.

This is, of course, one of the ways that God loves us: he chooses each one of us to be his own. He watches over us, and attends to our needs. He provides what is important to keep us safe and to show our value to him.

He gives us his Son, who chose to join himself to us “in the fullness of time” - that is to say, when the iron was hot - in our journeys and in our labors and even, ultimately, in agony and death. He did this because he prized us

See *Diligence* page 3

From Virginia's Desk

WWCCR Executive Director

Our theme for this month's GLEANINGS is spiritual growth. We thought this was appropriate for September, because whether we go back to school or not, it's a good time of year to recommit ourselves to "continuing education" in the ways of the Lord. Pope John Paul II used to talk about the need for "schools of prayer" and "schools of communion". One of the key indicators that a person is mature is that they continue to be "teachable", that is, they realize that there's still a lot to learn, no matter how old or educated you become.

Both Anna Pouchet's testimony on pg 8, and Robert King's reflection on pg 1, remind us that God is more than ready to help us in the process of spiritual growth – all we need do is surrender to His loving guidance, and be faithful to seeking His will in prayer each day.

There are lots of opportunities for "continuing education" in the coming months. I highly recommend the Conference to be held in Vancouver, BC on September 24-25. One of the speakers is Fr. George



Our study continues...

Montague, who is a good friend to WWCCR. He exudes the joy of the Lord and is a living witness to a fruitful life committed to on-going spiritual growth. The other speaker will be Maria Vadia, who was here in Seattle for our Pentecost Celebration in 2009. She is well known and loved for her dynamic

preaching and healing ministry (*see details on pg 5*).

I encourage you to attend and invite others to the Come Holy Spirit Series that will begin at St. Anthony's in Renton on Sept. 17 – or any of the other Holy Spirit Seminars that will be offered this Fall. Keep an eye on our website for new listings as they become available.

Finally, please review our financial report on pg 4. We are in need of your help. Please use the yellow envelope in this GLEANINGS to send a donation today. I promise we will use all these resources wisely to help "renew the face of the earth, empowered by the Holy Spirit." **God bless you!**

2011 WWCCR WOMEN'S RETREAT



One Spirit

SO MANY GIFTS
So little time!

*"Now there are many gifts
but the same Spirit...to each is given
the manifestation of the Spirit for
the common good." 1 Cor. 12:4-7*

February 18-20, 2011

Speaker: Fr. Jim Northrop
at The Palisades in Federal Way, WA

Registration forms are available online at www.wwccr.org or by contacting the WWCCR office. **Space is limited and is on a first come first serve basis - deposit is required. Register Today!**

WWCCR VISION AND MISSION

Vision:

That all Catholics mature in a personal relationship with Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to the glory of God the Father.

Mission:

Our mission is to renew the face of the earth by nurturing and inspiring Catholics:

- ❖ *To experience a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through baptism in the Holy Spirit*
- ❖ *To fan into flame the gifts we receive through the Sacraments*
- ❖ *To develop a deeper life of prayer and worship*

SEPTEMBER 2010 - VOLUME XXXVI NUMBER 8

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GLEANINGS is the monthly newsletter published by Western Washington Catholic Charismatic Renewal (WWCCR). The purpose of this newsletter is to provide teaching, news and a calendar of events which help to foster Catholic charismatic renewal throughout the Church in western Washington.

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DEADLINE: In order for any news or calendar items to be considered for publication in GLEANINGS, it must be submitted by the 1st of the month before the month of publication. **Items for the October 2010 issue are due September 1.**

Diligence continued from pg 1

and chose us to be his own.

He gives us his Spirit, his very life, his own power of love, to watch over each one of us and to guide each of us toward the joy he has prepared for us.

How to Be Diligent

Because we have his Spirit, we also have his love. That means that, just as he does, we can love with diligence. We can choose someone to be our own — as we do in friendship, or in marriage. We can collect all those things good and necessary for the one we love — as we do for our children. We can watch for the right moment, for the opportunity to demonstrate our love — as we do when someone needs help or wants company.

And, as much as we love one another diligently, God calls us to love him diligently as well.

Of course, God doesn't need anything from us; we don't have to take care of him. But we do have to take care of our relationship; that's how we choose him to be our own.

For example, I sometimes go to daily Mass after work. In the evening I'm usually tired and I have developed a bad habit of nodding off during the readings or the homily. But I've discovered that if I'm diligent, if I make sure I get a good night's sleep and eat a snack in the mid-afternoon, I'm able to stay awake. I'm able to be attentive and present to my God, who is making himself available and present to me. And I keep from distracting the rest of the congregation with my snoring.

I'm a naturally lazy man, and I know I won't find time to pray unless I set aside time in my daily planner,

***And, as much
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diligently
as well.***

just as I would for any other important appointment. And, just like an important appointment, there's some preparation that goes into getting ready for the meeting. So I remind myself to take time for spiritual reading

— usually the Bible or some spiritual master. I know that if I want to see clearly what God is doing in my prayer and in my life, I'd better set up some reminders to be careful and attentive, to keep watchful, to make my choice active in every moment of my life.

The Danger of Negligence

The opposite of diligence is negligence. If "diligence" means "to choose for one's own," then "negligence" is the "neg"-ative of choice. Negligence is the refusal to choose, and therefore the refusal to love. Negligence says, "You are not worth my attention."

Jesus tells many parables warning us against negligence. In the parable of the sower, what is the problem with the rocky or the thorny soil? They both neglect to fully receive Christ. Or, what would happen to the treasure in the field or the pearl of great price if the merchant neglected them? Their value and worth would never be found. And of course, what is the difference between the wise and foolish virgins waiting for the bridegroom? The foolish ones neglected to prepare their lamps with oil.

What is the point of all these parables? That if we treat God with negligence, if we refuse to put time

and care into our relationship with him, we will miss him when he comes. We will not recognize him because we have neglected to get to know him. This means that we will neglect to enter eternal life with him in Heaven, as some of the parables make clear; but it also means that we will miss out on the gifts and joys and blessings he offers us every day. If we neglect the foretaste of Heaven now, we will not be able to taste and see his goodness then.

The Joy of Diligence

On the other hand, the time put into preparation and the effort of watching attentively pays off abundantly in those life-changing moments, those

times when we must make a decision and make it now — to change a career, to enter a relationship with someone, to follow a call to priesthood or religious life — and we find ourselves ready. We have chosen God as our greatest good, we have collected the gifts and blessings he has given us, and we recognize the shape and color of his love in this moment. Like the blacksmith, we know when the iron is ready to be shaped, and we have the tools at hand to shape it according to God's glorious design. ♦



(Endnotes): 1 *Summa Theologica*
II-IIae Q.54 A.1 ad 1.

Robert King is a freelance writer and a parishioner at Blessed Sacrament Church in Seattle, WA. For more of his reflections check out his blog on growing in virtue at www.virtue-quest.com.

Financial Update

YOUR HELP IS IMPORTANT!

It's been a few months since we've included a financial report in GLEANINGS. This brings you up-to-date on the current situation. We don't have a reserve fund – we get by month to month just like many of you do in your households. We'd ask you to consider making a commitment to send a donation, month to month, when you receive GLEANINGS. It's between you and God to decide how much you can send, and it might be a different amount each month, but your help is important to the continuation of this ministry. **Thank you!**



	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Cash balance at the end of the previous month	\$19,434.79	\$6,323.50	\$3,481.18	\$12,095.11	
Income all sources	\$10,035.32	\$14,788.94	\$20,647.70	\$18,857.02	\$112,026.89
Expenses	<u>\$20,750.03</u>	<u>\$18,308.68</u>	<u>\$14,556.66</u>	<u>\$20,419.71</u>	<u>\$120,447.83</u>
Net income/shortfall	-\$10,714.71	-3,519.74	\$6,091.04	-\$1,562.69	-\$8420.94

God's Love continued from page 8

for real, reveal yourself to me and I'll do anything you ask."

God did not hesitate to answer that prayer; within minutes a variety of circumstances made it plain to me that God was intervening to get my attention. In this one moment He revealed how much He loved me personally and that His care for my life was much bigger and better than all that I had been pursuing apart from Him.

After that initial experience I kept my promise and sought God with all my heart. I started going to Mass everyday. I got rid of anything that wasn't of God in my life. I went to confession almost every week, and through that process of penance and prayer and saying the Rosary I started to hear God's voice, very clearly.

In that process He asked me to leave my job. I had been working for that company for 7 years and I was vested, so this was a very hard thing to accept. At that time He kept asking me: "Anna, do you trust me? Anna, do you trust me?" So, on the day I was preparing to give my resignation, I prayed one more time, "Lord, are you sure?" I went to Mass that morning and the priest was giving

out a book entitled "Trusting God's Purpose" by Edith Stein. God got my attention with that, and I turned in my resignation.

The Lord continued to reveal himself to me in the Sacraments of the Church, especially His presence in the Eucharist. He revealed Himself to me through Scripture. I would read Scripture and I would write my thoughts and then I would go to daily Mass and the priest would speak on the very things that the Lord told me in my writings. He would also show me things that went along in my day. Scripture is very important.

When I resigned my job I didn't know what was going to happen to me. I had savings, money in the bank, so I was still thinking I could be in control of my life. But then God allowed me to get to a point where all my money was gone. I had to live every day trusting God. Every day! Everything was just falling apart and I had to get down on my knees. For though He had revealed Himself to me, I still thought I could be in control. So He had to show me

who was in control. Finally I was able to surrender to God's love.

I am so undeserving of His love. I betrayed God but He showed up for me. What has changed? Lots of prayer, lots of getting down in my knees. But mostly, lots of confidence in God's love and care for me. We have a big God, a huge God, and He will make a way where there is no way.

Jeremiah 29:12-13 says, "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Even though I am away from my family and friends I am not alone. Jesus' love is real.

Jesus has asked me to share what I have experienced so that you will go deeper in your love. And also, He asked me to recruit you to share this good news with the many people out there who don't know God, who don't know that Jesus Christ loves them. ♦

Anna Maria Pouchet attends the St. Brendan's Prayer Group in Bothell, WA

**WWCCR
PRAYER GROUP
DIRECTORY UPDATE**

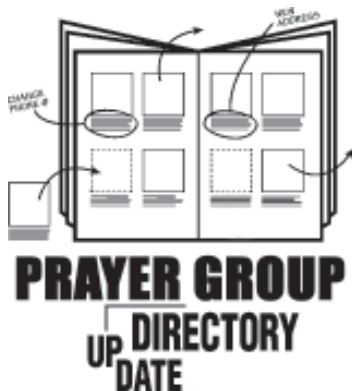
It's that time of year again!

We frequently receive calls at the office from people who would like to find a prayer group. The Prayer Group Directory is a wonderful resource for referring newcomers.

If you are on our list of prayer group contacts, you will receive a letter in the mail reminding you it is time to update the WWCCR Prayer Group Directory. The new directory will be included in November GLEANINGS. Take this opportunity to meet with your pastor, talk about your prayer group, and have him sign the form.

The Prayer Group Directory forms will be mailed to the contact person for each of the prayer groups that we know of. If you don't receive a form by September 15 and you don't see your prayer group listed on our website, please contact us or download the form from our website (*we must receive the form by October 1 to be included in the November GLEANINGS*).

We really need your help to provide up-to-date information for all those who seek a community growing in life in the Holy Spirit!



Cut this prayer list out and put it in your bible or prayer book to keep these prayer intentions close at hand.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL CONFERENCE 2010

*sponsored by: Vancouver Catholic Charismatic
Renewal Services & BC Service Committee*

*Come
let the
touch of
Jesus
heal you!*

Friday, September 24

7 pm to 10 pm

Saturday, September 25

9 am to 6 pm

BROADWAY CHURCH

2700 E. Broadway Ave.,
Vancouver, BC

Two internationally Acclaimed Speakers and Authors:

**Fr. George Montague SM
& Maria Vadia**

*There will be prayer ministry for:
Healing, Freedom, Life's Burdens*

For information and tickets (\$20)
contact Lennie 604-597-8227 * www.vccrs.ca

Don't come alone! Bring a friend!

Intercessory Prayer Network

The Intercessory Prayer Network (IPN) is comprised of all who have offered to pray regularly for God's will to be accomplished through the people and programs of WWCCR. We know that prayer changes things!

Please pray for God to bring about His desires through the work of preparation and the events you see in this newsletter and calendar; particularly the events WWCCR is sponsoring, and also:

.....

For greater diligence in growing in maturity in our relationship with the Lord Jesus, and an end to all negligence in our docility to the Holy Spirit as we strive toward the glory of God the Father.

.....

For all our benefactors (those who support the vision & mission of WWCCR with their prayers and their time, talent and treasure), that the Lord will provide for all their needs and those of their families and loved ones; and that God will encourage them to persevere in every good work.

.....

For the Holy Spirit Seminars that begin in September and October – for all the preparations, publicity, and prayer that precede them to bear good fruit in an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all who attend, including the teams who do the presenting!

.....

For all the prayer groups to be prompt in returning the Prayer Group Directory Update forms.

.....

If you are willing to receive weekly WWCCR related prayer requests by email, please contact us at info@wwccr.org.

God bless you!

.....

**Next IPN events:
Sunday, September 5
Sunday, October 3
2:00-4:00 PM**

IPN gatherings are usually on the 1st Sunday of the month at the WWCCR office – *unless otherwise noted.*

*“And you, beloved faithful,
pray for priests so that they
may be attentive stewards of
the gifts of divine grace...”*

~ Pope John Paul II

**Please pray for these priests, deacons
and seminarians this month:**

- Sept 1 Archbishop Alex Brunett
- Sept 2 Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, MSPS
- Sept 3 Bishop Joseph Tyson
- Sept 4 Fr. Jim Northrop
- Sept 5 Fr. Edgar Sanchez
- Sept 6 Fr. Ramon Santa Cruz
Dcn. Richard Sarver
- Sept 7 Fr. Timothy Sauer
- Sept 8 Fr. Milhton Scarpetta
- Sept 9 Fr. Frank Schuster
Patrick Sherrard (seminarian)
- Sept 10 Fr. Dennis Sevilla
Dcn. Walter Shields
- Sept 11 Fr. Jack Shrum
Dcn. Joe Shriver
- Sept 12 Fr. Gorgonio Silagan
- Sept 13 Fr. William Slate
Dcn. Carl Smith
- Sept 14 Fr. Roger Smith
Dcn. Lloyd Snider
- Sept 15 Fr. Brian Snyder
- Sept 16 Fr. Richard Spicer
- Sept 17 Fr. Mark Stehly
Dcn. Mark Stenson
- Sept 18 Fr. Todd Strange
- Sept 19 Fr. Mel Strazicich
Dcn. Alton Stromberg
- Sept 20 Fr. Thomas Suss
- Sept 21 Fr. Daniel Syverstad
Dcn. Bill Swanson
- Sept 22 Fr. Stephen Szeman
Dcn. Bill Tanasse
- Sept 23 Fr. Francis Thumbi
Dcn. Bill Taube
- Sept 24 Fr. Jaime Tolang
Dcn. Mike Teskey
- Sept 25 Fr. Anthony Ton
Brian Thompson (seminarian)
- Sept 26 Fr. L. John Topel
- Sept 27 Fr. Phuong Tran
Dcn. Bill Townsend
- Sept 28 Fr. Vu Tran
- Sept 29 Fr. Anthony Tran
- Sept 30 Pope Benedict XVI

Cut this prayer list out and put it in your bible or prayer book to keep these prayer intentions close at hand.

NATIONAL LEADERS' AND MINISTRIES' CONFERENCE

power from on high

for all generations

OCTOBER 29-31 ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Not just for leaders!
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SPECIAL YOUNG ADULT TRACK
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www.nsc-chariscenter.org
or call 1-800-338-2445

 Bishop Sam Jacobs
 Caroline Sambalo-Divina
 Fr. David Pivnicki, TOR
 Peter Herbeck
 Fr. Farsen Costalamoso (Pastor)

TRAINING FOR HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY

Christian Healing Ministries' School of Healing Prayer DVD Series



Presented by WWCCR






WWCCR will again offer the School for Healing Prayer beginning in January 2011 to be held *every 3rd & 5th Saturday (for a total of 15 classes)*. The scheduled dates of the classes are:

Jan 15	Mar 19	May 21	Jul 30	Oct 15
Jan 29	Apr 16	Jun 18	Aug 20	Oct 29
Feb 19	Apr 30	Jul 16	Sep 17	Nov 19

Each class runs from 9am to 6pm and will include praise and worship, 2 or 3 teachings and prayer practicums so that all participants will have experience in praying for others.

If you are interested in more information about the School, there will be an Orientation meeting (*date to be announced soon*) prior to the beginning of classes to go over information about the school and to turn in the class registration.

Watch the GLEANINGS newsletter & your email for announcements on the Orientation meeting date.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 HEALING MASS in KELSO, 7 PM <i>see below</i>	2 OFFICE MASS @ WWCCR, 11 AM	3 HOLY HOUR @ WWCCR, 2:30PM	4
			5 INTERCESSORY PRAYER GATHERING @ WWCCR, 2-4 PM	6 WWCCR OFFICE CLOSED  LABOR DAY LA ESCUELA	7 HEALING MASS in SNOHOMISH, 6:30PM <i>See below</i>	8
12	13 PLEASE PRAY FOR: HISPANIC/LATINO PRAYER GROUP INITIATIVES	14	15 PLEASE PRAY FOR: WWCCR OUTREACH TO YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS & FAMILIES	16	17 HOLY HOUR @ WWCCR, 2:30PM ✠ CHS Renton 7:30pm <i>see below</i>	18 CHM III - 5
19	20 HORA SANTA	21	22	23 PLEASE PRAY FOR: WWCCR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF	24 HOLY HOUR @ WWCCR, 2:30PM Vancouver, BC Conference <i>see page 5</i> ✠ CHS Renton 7:30pm <i>see below</i>	25
26	27 GLEANINGS WORKERS NEEDED	28	29	30 		

Check our website for updates on events not available at time of print
 WWCCR events are CAPITALIZED, Prayer Group and other events are marked with a ✠

Come, Holy Spirit*

A Spiritual Journey to a Fuller Experience
 of the Holy Spirit in Your Life

7 Fridays: Sept 17, 24;

Oct 8, 15, 29; Nov 12 and 19

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

St. Anthony Parish Hall

314 S 4th Street Renton, WA 98057

Hosted by St. Anthony Parish

and the Friday Night Prayer Group

These sessions are FREE! Bring your family and friends.

Light dinner will be served after the session.

For more info or to register,
 call Marilou 253-631-3272, Julie 425-271-5832,
 Bernadette 425-432-4010

"It's not only a journey that we will undertake together for these seven weeks...but a journey that we will each continue for the rest of our lives."

*This is a DVD presentation of teachings by Dr. Tom Curran.

Healing Masses

Wednesday, September 1, 7:00 PM

Presiders: Fr. Mike Barry and Fr. Mel Strazicich
 Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
 2200 Allen Street, Kelso, WA

Tuesday, September 7, 6:30 PM

Presider: Fr. Emmanuel Iweh
 St Michael Church
 1512 Pine Ave, Snohomish WA

Our Eucharistic Chapel

is available for private prayer any time that our office is open,
 9:30AM until 4:00PM, Monday through Friday.



Office Mass Schedule:

Thursday, Sept. 2, 11AM, Fr. George Rink

Holy Hour: We would love to have you join us every Friday from 2:30-3:30 pm as we pray for charismatic renewal, the work of WWCCR and your own special intentions.

Inside this September 2010 issue: Theme Article: Strike While the Iron's Hot page 1 *

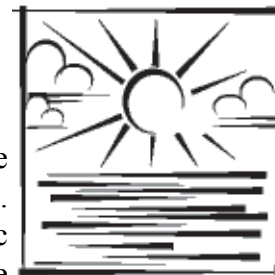
*** From Virginia's Desk page 2 * Financial Update page 4 * IPN Prayer Intentions page 5 ***

*** Healing Masses, Calendar & Upcoming Events page 7 * Testimony pages 8 & 4 ***

Because of God's Love

by Anna Maria Pouchet

This is an excerpt of the testimony given at the WWCCR Pentecost Celebration on May 22, 2010



I am here today because of God's love. I'm from a small island in the Caribbean called Trinidad. I left Trinidad in 1993 to pursue an education. I'm from a devout Catholic family and I was introduced to Charismatic Renewal at the age of 8 years old. I was baptized in the Spirit at the age of 12. But there was a defining moment in my life where I, like Peter, betrayed God. I walked away from everything that I knew was good.

I came to the United States to get a degree and I became very worldly, very secular. I graduated as an engineer and worked for a pharmaceutical company in Pennsylvania. I kept pursuing the world, and in that pursuit I found no meaning: no meaning to what I was doing, no meaning to my life. I had the education, the job, my own home, and the list goes on, but none of these things truly satisfied. You see, God was not the foundation behind all that I was doing and, as a result, I did not understand the purpose of it all. I was tired and empty, alone and isolated.

In the midst of this sad moment in my life, when I had lost my joy, God "showed up" and helped me to realize how real His love is. One day I was in tears and I prayed, "Lord, if you are

See **God's Love** page 4

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