



GLEANINGS

Renewing the face of the earth



Empowered by the Holy Spirit



December 2017 - Volume XLIII Number 8

***“My soul
proclaims
the greatness
of the Lord,
my spirit
rejoices in
God my
Savior!”***

Luke 1:46

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Praising God with Mary

*(excerpts from the homily given by Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S.
at the 40th Anniversary Celebration Mass on November 4th)*

The Charismatic Movement is a Gift

The first thing that I would like to say is that the Charismatic Movement is a gift to the Church. And when you receive a gift, enjoy it and be grateful and thankful for it! And second of all, use it! That was the purpose of giving you the gift, since the giver wants to love you and cares for you so much. And thirdly, you have to preserve it. You have to take care of that gift as much as possible so you do not destroy it or waste it.

And we did nothing, absolutely nothing, as human beings and as faithful people, to deserve it. A gift is not a reward and it is not payment – it is a *gift* and that means it is just because of the love of the giver that we’ve been given it. Otherwise, if it’s a payment or a reward, it’s something that we tend to think that we deserve. No! We did nothing to deserve it, as we did nothing to deserve Jesus and we did nothing to deserve the Holy Spirit – nothing! It’s just a gift from God. So enjoy it, use it, and preserve it.

Two Gifts the Charismatic Renewal Helped Us Rediscover in the Church

I would like to highlight two things that we have rediscovered in the Church through the Charismatic Movement, thanks to the Holy Spirit of course. I’m not an expert on this, and I’m not the most renowned speaker for the Charismatic Movement, but through many years of being in contact with it and reflecting so many times on this charisma, I want to share my personal opinion about these things.

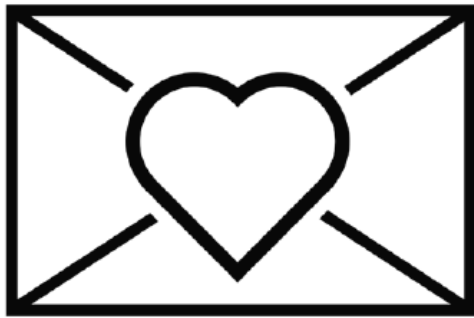
Praising God with Our Whole Being

The first thing we rediscovered is the gift of praising God with our whole being, with the whole body. That’s an incredible gift to the Church! And for many, many centuries this gift was totally hidden or forgotten or never used. I saw many of you, even right now, lifting your hands or swaying, which is great! The liturgy includes signs and symbols. We have to use our whole being! It’s very important to discover that we have to pray not just with our souls and minds, but every single part of our being has to pray and praise.

For example, we have to praise, thank the Lord and pray with our eyes for all the great things that we see: the beauty of creation and especially the beauty of every single human being. Just by contemplating a brother or sister, we *praise* the Lord for the beauty of that person and of every single human being. Then we can fight against anything that destroys that beauty, whether

Bishop’s Homily cont’d on page 3

From Sue



Responding to the Spirit:

We won't stop till the whole world knows You!

The ministry of WWCCR is in a constant state of listening and responding to the promptings of the Spirit, and where the Lord leads we want to follow. When we began 40 years ago as a resource to prayer groups, parishes and people of the Northwest, we began with Holy Spirit seminars. That is still important today and we are returning to our roots. Fr. Jim Northrop and Fr. Cal Christensen have pointed out that people are in need of knowing more about the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit and how it transforms lives. I can't imagine the direction my life may have taken without the healing love of God poured out upon me at one of WWCCR's yearly conferences.

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal's mission is to share the transformative power of the Holy Spirit that leads to a life-changing encounter with the living God and His Son, Jesus Christ. The same power that came upon the Apostles in the upper room at Pentecost, the same Spirit that overshadowed Mary at the Annunciation and the same power that priests call upon at the time of consecration are available to every person! With this power we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. (Philippians 4:13) This is our mandate: to go out and share with the world the love of Jesus and pray for them to receive baptism in the Holy Spirit. "We won't stop till the whole world knows You, Jesus!"

Another primary call for the ministry of WWCCR is to assist in opportunities of healing. Most recently, trained volunteers, who had the call on their hearts, saw the need and responded by offering two Unbound: Freedom in Christ training sessions. In June 2018 we will be sponsoring an Unbound Conference hosted at

St. Pius X. As it says in 2 Corinthians 3:17, "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." Once we experience freedom and healing, we are able to access and walk more readily in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Another way WWCCR has responded to the Holy Spirit is teaching on the gift of prophecy. Bishop Elizondo even instructed us in his homily at our 40th that God uses the gift of prophecy to build up the Church. Well, over the past two years three trained volunteers stepped forward to teach about the gift of prophecy, by offering "How to Pray a Prophetic Blessing," "Introduction to Prophecy: A 12-Week Course" followed by a 6-week "Developing Your Prophetic Gifts" workshop. The participants went back to their parishes with increased confidence that God speaks to His people and that He wants us to share what we hear. We are including in this issue the prophetic word gifts given at the 40th for you to pray with and discern how they might apply to your life and what God is asking or calling each of us to.

Even though we have a sense for how God is leading the ministry in 2018, we remain always open and docile to the power of Spirit alive and at work through His people. You are a treasured blessing to the ministry of WWCCR and we continue to give thanks for your prayers, the sharing of your time and gifts, and your generous contributions that allow us to respond day by day to all that God desires. When we partner together in prayer and generosity we can do great things. In John 14:12, Jesus says, "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father." Thank you for all that you do, give, and share with WWCCR.

You remain always in our prayers.

***Sue Gallwas and the staff of WWCCR, Carolyn
McNerney, Alane Howard,
Debora Johnston and Joan Celix***

We wish you a very blessed and joyous Christmas!



it's abortion, violence, hatred, bigotry, racism or abuses of any kind because we can see the beauty of every single human being. We have to praise God for everyone.

And we have to thank and praise Lord for our voice! When someone comes up and says, "I love you," praise the Lord! When someone comes up to say, "Thank you," praise the Lord! When someone comes up and says "I'm sorry," praise the Lord! When someone comes up and says "I need you," praise the Lord!

We have to praise the Lord for that capacity to go out and hug or kiss someone, to feel the comfort of someone saying, "I need you. Thank you for being in my life." Whether it's my dad, my mom or my siblings, my classmates or my best friend, my husband, my wife, or my children, thank the Lord for that kind of tenderness that touches you and for the gift of touch. We need to praise the Lord for that! Who doesn't need that? The comfort and warmth of a big hug, shaking hands, a tap on your shoulder – we need that [tenderness] which comes from the whole being. I'm sure Jesus did that all the time. He was not just performing miracles! He was always going and touching people and allowing them to come and touch Him, because it's part of our whole being, to praise Him in this way. Look around and just thank the Lord for family, for friends, for every single believer here who is my brother and sister; for all those who come up and hold my hand whenever I'm in distress or sorrow or in a crisis in my life – praise the Lord! I think this is an incredible gift to the Church over the past 50 years of the Charismatic Movement since Vatican II. It is my hope that we will never lose that gift.

The Second Gift: The Gift of Prophecy

The second thing that I would like to emphasize was in the first reading of our Mass today (*Romans 12:3-13*). It says that we'll receive the gift of prophecy. It is one of the gifts that has been in the Church forever, but until Vatican II we kind of forgot it or put it aside. Thanks to the Charismatic Renewal, it has been coming up more and more, especially through the laypeople. So please prophesy! We need it! Speak up! Praise Him, announce Him and all the great blessings that you have and that everyone has. But denounce everything that is against that: racism, bigotry, violence, prostitution, pornography, drug addictions or other things that are putting down human beings in our society, so that the things like the massacres that we had in Las Vegas won't happen again. Prophecy in gratitude to God for all the great things that are happening here in St. Stephen the Martyr parish and the Archdiocese of Seattle. Prophecy that we need new forms of serving all the people that are homeless in the streets. Prophecy

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new forms of tenderness through the priests and everyone around so that nobody is excluded, or, at least that many more are *included*.

It is a process, a work in progress, and we are slow learners. But we need to keep on prophesying. We need many, many more new prophets to defeat what we do not like in our society, in our church, in our world: discrimination, white supremacy, racism, and stuff like that. We, as Christians, as disciples of the Lord, we have to come [to Mass] to be nourished with heavenly strength. Wisdom and of course fortitude or courage are gifts of the Spirit. That's why we come here to be nourished so that we can go and share that, be missionaries of that. We need to speak out, to be prophets of joy and prophecy against whatever is not according to love.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is Our Model in the Charismatic Renewal

And I think of the Blessed Virgin Mary doing this, of course. Just read the Magnificat! I challenge you to read it a hundred times, but meditating on it every time: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord." I'm sure that she was leaping with joy when she said that! Whether leaping, swaying or dancing, I don't know, but I can just imagine her. I don't think that she was saying it [quietly and gloomily]! She proclaims and praises the Lord so wonderfully for the great marvels that He had done in her and through her. And she also says, "Wow, look around! He has come to let us know that He will pull down the mighty from their thrones! And the poor He will lift up!"

We too are prophets of that. We have the *charisma*, that gift, which the Blessed Virgin Mary had. She walked out immediately and started sharing with everyone that she believed that there is nothing impossible for God. She believed that the Holy Spirit was making a new life in her womb and would bring that life to the world. A new and shocking, rock-shattering life: the life on the Cross, the life of loving-suffering or suffering-loving. She was not victimized. She said, "Here I am, Lord!" She didn't say, "Well, poor me, I've got to endure this." No, she said, "Here I am, Lord. Do with me according to Your will because I know that You will do mighty things for me, through me, in me, and with me."

How great is the potential of the soul and the body of a Christian who allows the Lord to take over their whole being. That power is so great that the impossible happened! A virgin gave birth through the mighty power of God. There is nothing impossible for God. With Mary we can praise and worship with our voices and our whole being, in our homes, our work, in the streets, and in the Church! A little over fifty years ago, Vatican II happened.

What we have in the Church is from Vatican II. But in my opinion, I say we need to keep on digging into what Vatican II brought. We need to keep on discovering the real prophetic voice of Vatican II. We need to keep on perfecting the sanctity and the holiness of every baptized person.

We have millions of baptized Catholics doing absolutely nothing but sleeping in the Church! We need prophets to wake everyone around up to live according to what we believe. The greatest of the believers that have ever existed, including the Blessed Virgin Mary, show us the way, that nothing is impossible. But we have the potential to be all the rest of the saints! We're learning every day! Keep on praising the Lord, and He will energize that, He will enflame that. Keep on praising Him with your eyes and your ears and your tongue and your whole body! And of course keep on prophesying, keep on daring to do so. And the only way that we can know that a prophecy is coming from God is if it comes with charity. The prophets from God always come with love. They don't come to destroy, they come to save and to perfect. That's Mary! So let us thank the Lord for all of these great people who have passed this on to us, helping us to be here today. And let us ask the Lord to always give us His Body and Blood so we have the energy to prophesy for someone else to discover this.

Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, M. Sp.S. is auxiliary bishop of Seattle, Vicar General, Vicar for Hispanic Ministries and Vicar for Vocations of the Archdiocese of Seattle. He is the liaison to the Archbishop for WWCCR.

Words from Those Who Attended WWCCR's 40th Anniversary Celebration: "I felt loved by Jesus!"



"I thank you with all my heart for the incredible celebration you organized in the power of the Spirit to celebrate WWCCR. It was an infusion of grace and strength that is overflowing into the various ministries I'm serving in West Seattle. The music was awesome! I loved the teachings and am reading over my notes to keep them fresh within me. I especially want to thank Carolyn for the bookshop: the two books I bought are powerful - I read one in the morning and one in the afternoon, and share insights with others and try to live them."

- Margaret Whetham

Margaret Whetham teaches Religion to 105 7th and 8th grade students at Holy Rosary Catholic School in West Seattle.



The Open Door and the Prayer and Share prayer groups from St. Nicholas in Gig Harbor posing with Pope Francis. Going strong for 43 years!



*Left to right, top: Carol Thomas, Tamara McKenney, Judy Rossi, Shirley Finholm, Paula Silk, Bernadette Kalafatich
Bottom row: Teri Dukes, Jeanne Langhelm, Darlene Medina, Irene Stanich (not pictured: Corliss Lester)*



"Jim Murphy was fun and amazing as a speaker."

"I was challenged and blessed. Praise Jesus!"

"Empowering, healing. I felt close to others even though it was my first time at a WWCCR event. I feel renewed!"

"I learned many useful and practical ways to relate to the Holy Spirit in my daily life and battles. I will be calling on the Holy Spirit always!"



"I loved Heights of Zion's praise and worship."

"It was a true Charismatic event helped by the music ministry to pray and sing in the Spirit."



"Dr. Tom Curran was excellent!"



May the God of hope
fill you with all joy and
peace in believing, so
that you may abound in
hope by the power of
the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13

WWCCR's Annual Women's Retreat



February 23-25

Our Guest Speaker:

Bishop Peter L. Smith
Auxiliary bishop of Portland, OR

Spiritual Director: Lucille Hadden

Location: the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center
at the Palisades in Federal Way, WA

It will be a weekend filled with teaching, fellowship, praise
& worship, reflection, and an opportunity to grow deeper in
our relationship with Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit.
We gather together to praise the Lord for His merciful love!

Don't forget to bring your Bible!

2018 Women's Retreat Registration Form - DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 12, 2018

Mail to: Women's Retreat c/o WWCCR, PO Box 33609, Seattle, WA 98133

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone (____) _____
Cell Phone (____) _____
Email _____
Prayer Group _____
Any special physical or dietary needs? _____

- ☐ Single room
☐ Double room - Roommate _____
☐ Commuter

For information contact WWCCR
(206) 364-2272 or info@wwccr.org
or check updates on www.wwccr.org

Amount enclosed *

(payable to: WWCCR):\$ _____

Donation for scholarships: \$ _____

Please check:

- ☐ \$270 Single or ☐ \$235 Double or ☐ \$100 Commuter
☐ Payment in full by Check or Credit Card (fill in below)
☐ Enclosed is my \$50 deposit* and I will make 5 payments
by check, money order, or cash
☐ Enclosed is my \$50 deposit* and I will make 5 payments
by credit card. Payments are processed on the 20th of each month.
☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

Card # _____

Exp. _____ CVC# (3-digit code on back of card): _____

Name on card: _____

Office only

Check# _____	Date _____	Amount _____	Check# _____	Date _____	Amount _____
Check# _____	Date _____	Amount _____	Check# _____	Date _____	Amount _____
Check# _____	Date _____	Amount _____	Paid by _____		

Prophetic Words

Shared at Our Anniversary Celebration

*Below are prophetic words brought forth and discerned to be for God's people.
We pray that these words may bless, challenge, and inspire you.*

Friday - November 3, 2017

“Happy Anniversary Beloved Bride! Now is the time to draw closer as we move into the Promised Land. This land, flowing with milk and honey, is made of those who don't know Me yet. They know about Me but I want them to be in relationship with Me. This land has new ways with which to reach them, new ways to worship Me. This new era coming has to do with drawing ALL into a newer relationship with ME – changing you, all around you, the atmosphere, and the Church.

This isn't about “working” for Me. I don't need you to DO anything for Me. I want you – your heart, your mind – all of you! Beloved (corporately & individually), it is YOU I desire, not your works. Those I am bringing and those you are going to are looking for the genuineness of your relationship with Me.

Do you love Me? Feed My lambs. Do you love Me? Feed My sheep. Do you love Me, truly love Me? Then come to Me and rest. I am not looking for laborers. I am looking for My sons and daughters.

Come, take My hand and let's transform the world and set My children free – all of My children, not just some. This task is impossible to you, but not to Me!

You have captured My Heart My sister, My bride. Come, a fruitful life awaits us if you but follow Me.”



Saturday - November 4, 2017

“Beloved, what are you afraid of? My Spirit isn't limited to just your circle. I want you to move beyond your self-imposed barriers. You have asked Me to change the world, your city, your church, your family, and your neighbors. But in order to do that YOU are the one I need to use. Do not say, “I am too young, too old, too ignorant, not well educated.” Am I not God? I can and will use those who allow Me to fill them. I will never force you – only the enemy does that. I will always ask your permission. My Spirit is not just for a small congregation or a small group of elders, but the whole church.”



“My precious people, you have traveled and traveled so long and so far, and I give thanks for you. This journey has tested you and given you many trials. You have been hurt, shunned and even exiled for Me. Your wounds have been bared; you are tired and worn. I do not forget you. I will never forget you! You are Mine! I have poured My Spirit into you to bring all My people forth, to bring joy to life in this world of darkness.

Do not fear, for My Spirit guides you. Lead others through the places you have come from... now! Bring them with you to Me. Encourage the young, lead the blind, carry the infirm. Open wide the doors for all to come through, but do not come alone. Do not come alone. My people, do not come without the others I call.”



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“God’s grace covered everything!”



Left to right: Deacon Carl Chilo, Fr. Ed White, Fr. Armando Guzman, Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, Fr. Mel Strazicich, Fr. Jean Pierre Kasonga and Fr. Jim Northrop

***Look inside to experience the inspiration and fun
at our 40th Anniversary Celebration through words and pictures!***

CLEANINGS

December 2017