



CHARISMS BUILD UP THE CHURCH

Reflections from the WWCCR Women's Retreat

by Trisha Gosciewski



Session with Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner, SSND

Jesus' heart was burning with love for us at the WWCCR 2020 Women's Retreat, titled, "Christ Has No Body Now But Yours".

Since each retreat has a "personality" of its own, one never knows what the exact outcome will be for the individual participant or for the group, but for me, I have put together a few reflections to share.

The retreat started Friday evening with prayer and worship music and an icebreaker event, with a presentation by the guest speaker for the weekend, Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner, SSND. Then the evening concluded with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Fr. Dwight Lewis. Although all the elements were very uplifting, the talk by Sr. Mary Anne struck a chord for me and set up the structure for the weekend. Sr. Mary Anne told us about "the Renewal" in the Body of Christ. She described how

the Sacraments give the individual member graces, and she noted how our charisms individually build up the Church as a whole. During Sister's talks, I reflected on my own life and identified possible charisms that I had not considered as something to serve the Church and Christ in the world.

On Friday and Saturday evening, the time spent in prayer and reflection at the chapel was led by Fr. Dwight Lewis. The fire of God's love and many graces and gifts were manifested. I heard again the Lord's longing and love to heal us as I prayed for my sisters and Father. I was also called to account as I received Fr. Dwight's message to turn our eyes from ourselves and toward others to pray for them. I felt convicted that I was more concerned about what I wanted in healing prayer, rather than to pray more diligently for others to be healed and filled up by Jesus.

At the Sunday Mass, the retreat concluded with strong prayer and Fr. Dwight's admonition to not be afraid to speak the truth or use our charisms, despite the resistance of the anti-Christ culture. I thought how often I have kept quiet and not offered an answer to someone, more out of avoidance of a potential argument than anything else. I prayed that my heart would seek what the Holy Spirit wanted to say and speak it.

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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: *to renew the face of the earth by nurturing and inspiring Catholics:*

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

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INSPIRATIONS FROM FR. JIM NORTHROP WWCCR Spiritual Director

PRAYING FOR A SPIRIT OF BOLDNESS

I just finished watching a movie on FORMED about the life of St. Paul. I have always been inspired by this zealous apostle of Christ. He allowed the power of the Risen Lord and the life-changing activity of the Holy Spirit to completely change him. He wasn't afraid to suffer for the cause of Christ and reminds us that in all circumstances, "all things will work for the good that God has for those who love Him" (cf. Rom 8:28).

St. Paul reminded St. Timothy not to succumb to a spirit of fear (the Enemy's greatest weapon against God's plan for our lives) but to pray for a "fanning into flame of the gift of God" (cf. 2 Tim 1:6) to help him overcome his own personal difficulties in service to the Lord.

We desperately need this grace today, especially in the midst of our fight with the COVID-19 virus. I have experienced a great sense of sadness with the isolation and inability to gather faithfully to celebrate Mass. It is so painful to tell people not to attend Mass.

The Holy Spirit has been sent to help us be creative and think outside the box. We have so many opportunities before us to grow closer to the Lord and to help others do the same. Let's pray for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Body of Christ to set us ablaze and follow in the footsteps of St. Paul.

OFFICE NOTES FROM JEAN BEERS

How can we stir up the gifts of the Spirit, and how do we recognize them as we use them? Now is the time to build up the body of Christ. What is our heart telling us to do? What do we find ourselves doing for others? Are we speaking words that build up others (words of prophecy)? Are we making a sacrifice of time to call people, help them (acts of mercy)? Are we physically caring for others (ministry)? In these ways, and many more, we are stirring up and using the gifts we have been given. Let's exercise our gifts!

"For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us exercise them: if prophecy, in proportion to the faith; if ministry, in ministering; if one is a teacher in teaching; if one exhorts, in exhortation; if one contributes, in generosity; if one is over others, with diligence; if one does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."
Romans 12: 4-8



2020 Women's Retreat

Reflection by Dolores Marshall

I attended the retreat with a lot of reluctance and felt bad that I was taking the place of someone who really wanted to be there. My main reason was to share the experience with my mother; also I had never been to the Palisades and wanted to see it.

Spiritually I was closed up and had been for a long time, with no spark or enthusiasm in anything. My morning reading and prayer time was rudimentary and my church attendance out of a feeling of obligation, hoping I'll hear something inspiring. Sometimes it happened and participating in the Eucharist will always be important even if I'm feeling dead inside.

So, Friday evening was a bit difficult for me with all the praise and enthusiasm abounding! Feeling like an imposter but determined to make it until I could blessedly go home on Sunday. I slept horribly on Friday night, so that made Saturday especially challenging. I struggled to stay awake during the presentations. Thank God for easy access to the snack bar. I made it to the beach on Saturday and was inadvertently joined by a lovely lady from my small group for a beach walk. When we got back to the center we went to the chapel so she could go to confession. I sat there wondering if I ought to go too, and the ladies were singing The Divine Mercy Chaplet. It was so beautiful! My heart began to stir and I could at least pray to be opened up so the Spirit had some room to move. I let myself be prayed over in immersion prayer on Saturday evening, though I didn't have the openness to make the altar call with Father Dwight.

Sunday morning was lighter for me. I got some sleep and was going home soon. The second spark of life in

my spirit came during Father Dwight's moving homily. I could see how I packed the enemy in my bags and let him torment me all weekend. I heard what I needed to hear and was relieved of weight in my heart. Also, my small group leader asked to exchange name tags to pray for each other this year. I felt blessed indeed.

This past Christmas my mother gave me a copy of a CD of Father Northrop singing The Divine Mercy Chaplet, something I intended to listen to one of these days. After the retreat I pulled it out and now, at 3:00, I sing a Divine Mercy Chaplet with the pretty rosary bracelet I got from Palisades. It is absolutely perfect and the time in the chapel was my inspiration. I am so thankful I went on the retreat as my spirit is continually opening and desiring more during a truly strange time of social distancing.

Impressions by Clarice Harrison

Scared, new room, new people and *loved it!*

Healed on this retreat in Confession.

Holy Spirit, power and gifts: what are Charisms?

Something we prayed for, our mission, the shoes we chose and shared with each person in silence. So beautiful.

The Priest on retreat, what a gift of joy and full of the Holy Spirit.

Feeling weak after being prayed over and the heaviness of the Holy Spirit's love. Like a weighted blanket—

Walk to the ocean beach—Ahhhhhh

Praying now for everyone, meeting new friends as we all journey out as one body in Christ to love and share our gifts.

Thank you Lord.

AFTERGLOW

by Jean Beers

What a rich banquet we enjoyed at the “Christ Has No Body Now But Yours” retreat. We were escorted by lovely candlelight along the stairs and in the chapel; the theme of walking was creatively explored in our shoe photos, the reasons we chose them, and the shoe rosary. The sessions on the gifts of the Spirit by Sr. Mary



Fr. Dwight Lewis

Anne Schaezner gave us many resources to discover our gifts and recognize those of others; the small groups enabled us to share our faith stories and pray personally for each other; the many prayer opportunities invited us to open our hearts to the Lord and to receive His love for us; the celebration of both Masses drew us closer

to the One who loves us. Fr. Dwight Lewis's preaching and prayer ministry were highlights of the retreat; the connection with new friends promised more fellowship to come.

There is more: the music ministry called us to begin the days, to praise, to rejoice, to draw near to the Lord during worship and times of prayer ministry. We were accompanied by beauty all weekend.

Each opportunity had its effect on our hearts, even if we sometimes felt tired, distracted, discouraged; there was always something to help us call on the Lord, open our hearts again. The beautiful women and their gifts, both those preparing the banquet and those attending, shared the gifts of their lives with us that drew us in to the encompassing love of God. The excellent meals with a variety of choices represented the many opportunities each of us had to be enriched over the weekend. A weekend retreat is a participation in abundant life, as Jesus said, “I come that they may have life and that abundantly.”

Jean Beers is the Interim Office Manager at WWCCR. She is a parishioner at St. Hubert Parish in Langley, WA.



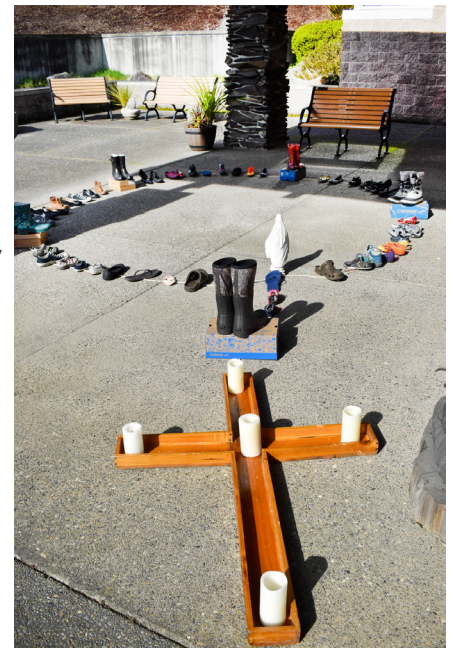
Small group prayer ministry was such a blessing!



Friday evening in the chapel with the Blessed Mother and the shoe pictures

Equipped to walk with the Lord, a theme depicted in the Women's Retreat ad of a woman in walking sandals, was developed through photos of a variety of shoes, boots and sandals. The retreatants picked a photo and then explained why they chose that particular footwear. The photos were

later placed around the beautiful statue of Mary in front of the altar as an offering of their service to the Lord. The Rosary was prayed with boots and shoes on pedestals that represented the Our Fathers, and the individual shoes that represented the Hail Marys as a special highlight of the weekend.



The “shoe” rosary

continued from page 1

As the retreat concluded, we were sent out. Fr. Dwight said, “I want you to stay but...” like the three booths proposed by St. Peter at the Transfiguration, we all knew we were being sent out. We could not stay in the moment of the retreat forever, because the Lord has no body now but ours to do His will on earth. And with that final hymn ringing in our ears, the retreat was concluded.

Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner, SSND, Speaker

Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner is a School Sister of Notre Dame, serving in Minnesota as a teacher, hospital chaplain and hospice team member, serving parishes in a variety of staff positions, serving the National Service Committee for Catholic Charismatic Renewal as a Council member, and is Editor of *Pentecost Today*, magazine of the National Service Committee.

Fr. Dwight Lewis, Celebrant

Fr. Dwight Lewis is zealous to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Born in Trinidad, Fr. Dwight is now a priest serving the Archdiocese of Seattle as chaplain in Tacoma hospitals. He has been celebrant of WWCCR Healing Masses, and was the speaker at the Pentecost Celebration last June.

Trisha Gosciewski is a member of the Women's Retreat planning team.

**RESOURCES
shared at the retreat:**

MALINES DOCUMENTS

[www.nsc-chariscenter.org/
malines-documents](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org/malines-documents)

**GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT &
CHARISMATIC RENEWAL INFO**

www.nsc-chariscenter.org
to find the national magazine,
Pentecost Today.

Please pray for these priests, deacons, and seminarians:

May 1	Pope Francis	June 3	Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, MSpS
May 2	Archbishop Paul Etienne	June 4	Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg
May 3	Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, MSpS	June 5	Fr. Jim Northrop
May 4	Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg	June 6	Fr. Michael Radermacher
May 5	Fr. Jim Northrop	June 7	Fr. Philip Raether
May 6	Fr. Charles Palluck	June 8	Deacon Arturo Ramirez
May 7	Fr. Watson Paramasivam	June 9	Fr. José Maria Ramírez Briseño
May 8	Deacon Anselmo Pardo	June 10	Deacon David Rapp
May 9	Fr. Thomas Park	June 11	Fr. Michael Raschko
May 10	Seminarian Val Park	June 12	Fr. John Rashford
May 11	Deacon Cary Parnell	June 13	Fr. Armando Red
May 12	Fr. Colin Parrish	June 14	Deacon LaMar Reed
May 13	Fr. Vincent Pastro	June 15	Deacon Rob Rensel
May 14	Fr. Felino Paulino	June 16	Deacon John Ricciardi
May 15	Deacon Sagato Pele	June 17	Deacon Michael Riggio
May 16	Deacon Michel Pentony	June 18	Fr. George Rink
May 17	Fr. Donald Perea	June 19	Seminarian Kyle Rink
May 18	Fr. Armando Perez	June 20	Fr. Patrick Ritter
May 19	Fr. Leonardo Pestaño	June 21	Fr. Dennis Robb
May 20	Fr. Vincent Peterson	June 22	Deacon David Robinson
May 21	Deacon Theman Pham	June 23	Deacon Ted Rodriguez
May 22	Fr. Thomas Aquinas Pickett	June 24	Fr. David Rogerson
May 23	Deacon Scott Pickett	June 25	Fr. Stephen Roman
May 24	Fr. James Picton	June 26	Deacon Rey Ronquillo
May 25	Fr. Clement Piruwa	June 27	Deacon Jack Roscoe
May 26	Fr. Paul Pluth	June 28	Fr. Cody Ross
May 27	Seminarian Kyle Poje	June 29	Fr. Stephen Rowan
May 28	Fr. Marc Powell	June 30	Deacon Bob Rupno
May 29	Deacon Daniel Powers	July 1	Pope Francis
May 30	Fr. Elias Puentes	July 2	Archbishop Paul Etienne
May 31	Fr. Thomas Quinn	July 3	Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, MSpS
June 1	Pope Francis	July 4	Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg
June 2	Archbishop Paul Etienne	July 5	Fr. Jim Northrop

“Let us pray to the Lord also for our priests, that they may have the courage to go out and go to the sick people to bring the strength of God’s word and the Eucharist and accompany the health workers and volunteers in this work that they are doing.”

-Pope Francis

May/June INTERCESSORY PRAYER NETWORK

Local and international prayer initiatives to end COVID-19 crisis



Our Lady of Seattle, St. James Cathedral/Photo: Archbishop Paul D. Etienne

Archbishop Etienne has commissioned this prayer for the community to pray, seeking the intercession of Our Lady of Seattle:

Holy Mary, we come before you as spiritual children in great need, seeking your intercession, and asking that your mantle of love surround us to console, protect, and lead us to your son Jesus.

We entrust all of God's family, especially the church in Western Washington, into your immaculate hands. With your son Jesus' gentle power you can *undo any knot* in our church, and in the lives of believers who entrust themselves to your care.

Today I especially entrust to you *[mention request/ Coronavirus here]*, and I ask that — through your intercession, and that of St. James, our guardian angels, and the faithful in our archdiocese — we may be free from every spiritual and temporal ill, and be safely led to encounter your son's merciful, sacred heart.

Our Lady of Seattle, Undoer of Knots, pray for us!

CHARIS, the International Office for Charismatic Renewal, proposes that we pray every day until the end of the epidemic, the sequence of Pentecost (see text of prayer on p. 7) in which the Church prays for the healing of the sick, followed by three Hail Marys. Here's the text of their request:

Vatican City, 10th March 2020

Dear friends of the Renewal,

You all know that we are experiencing an unprecedented crisis in our world today with the coronavirus epidemic. The situation is so serious that in some countries, such as Korea or Italy, religious gatherings, including masses, can no longer take place.

Many of you are certainly already carrying all this in your prayers, but we would like to widen the circle of prayer to all the members of the Renewal throughout the world. Let us all together raise our prayer to heaven!

Jesus healed the sick by the power of the Holy Spirit. We propose that we turn to this same Holy Spirit to ask for the end of the epidemic, the

healing of the sick and the salvation of the souls of those who die from it.

For this, we propose that you pray every day until the end of the epidemic, the sequence of Pentecost in which the Church prays for the healing of the sick, followed by three Hail Marys.

Let us ask with faith that the Holy Spirit may descend upon our wounded world and manifest the Father's tenderness for those who suffer. Let us ask Mary to spread her maternal mantle of protection over all men.

Thank you to all those who will join us in this campaign of intercession.

In union of prayer.

Jean-Luc Moens
Moderator of CHARIS

Sequence to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit,
send forth the heavenly
radiance of your light.

Come, father of the poor,
come, giver of gifts,
come, light of the heart.

Greatest comforter,
sweet guest of the soul,
sweet consolation.

In labor, rest,
in heat, temperance,
in tears, solace.

O most blessed light,
fill the inmost heart
of your faithful.

Without your grace,
there is nothing in us,
nothing that is not harmful.

Cleanse that which is unclean,
water that which is dry,
heal that which is wounded.

Bend that which is inflexible,
fire that which is chilled,
correct what goes astray.

Give to your faithful,
those who trust in you,
the sevenfold gifts.

Grant the reward of virtue,
grant the deliverance of
salvation,
grant eternal joy.

Amen.



PENTECOST NOVENA

Wait for the Promise of the Father

"While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for 'the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'" Acts 1:4-5

The apostles waited, in obedience to Jesus, not knowing what would happen, or how long they would wait.

"When they entered the city they went to the upper room where they were staying... All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers." Acts 1:13-14

The apostles devoted themselves to prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus. They prayed for nine days and on the tenth day a noise like a strong driving wind filled the entire house in which they were.

Let us too wait on the Lord to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, to be renewed in the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. Let us devote ourselves to prayer for nine days, **beginning Friday, May 22**, a Novena for the outpouring of the Spirit this Pentecost 2020. Here are links to four novenas, or you may have a favorite novena to the Holy Spirit. Let's devote ourselves with one accord to prayer, waiting for the promise of the Father.

Suggested Pentecost Novena Websites

Presentation Ministries Novena: bit.ly/PresentationMinNovena

Novena to the Holy Spirit: bit.ly/Novena2HolySpiritPDF

Burning Bush Novena: bit.ly/BurningBushNovena

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Novena: bit.ly/ArchOKCityNovena

Also watch our WWCCR Facebook page for daily prayers during the Novena.



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WWCCR PENTECOST 2020

You shall be my
Witnesses

ACTS 1:8

Prepare for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit!

Sunday, May 31, 2020 3 - 5 pm

● Live Streamed Event ● Testimonies ●

wwccr.org

GLEANNINGS
MAY/JUNE, 2020