



Extraordinary Faith for Troubled Times

by Sue Martell

God has granted us the gift of imagination and it can be used as a door to the past. I invite you now to walk through that door with me into the distant past of ancient Israel.

Imagine that we are in a small room in a small house illuminated by oil lamps and the glow from the hearth in the corner. Inhale the light scent of

olive oil and smoke from the lamps. Savor the lingering fragrance of freshly baked bread, ripe dates, and roasted lamb. Our noses wrinkle as we realize there is also a whiff of “fresh country air.” We are clearly in a rural community!

The reflection of the fire’s flickering flames dances on the soot-stained walls. A red-hot ember flies into the room as we hear the loud “pop” that sap creates when exploding from the center of a burning branch. A young woman hurriedly gets up and brushes the glowing coal back into the hearth using a handmade straw broom. I feel the nose of a friendly goat bumping my arm, seeming to ask for a scratch between its ears. It sees its opportunity and eats a few wisps of straw dislodged from the broom as the young woman swept.

There is a woven “work of art” in progress on the upright loom leaning against the back wall. A basket

full of soft, warm fleece ready to be spun into yarn sits on the floor with a spindle lying on its side nearby. The young woman is wearing a homespun dress with a simple sash around her waist—and a blue shawl which she probably created on her loom. Her hair is neatly tucked under the shawl.

In the warm, rosy light our eyes fall on a small scroll left behind on the table when the young woman got up to tend the fire. She must have been reading.

We now watch as she sits down at the table once again and traces her fingers lovingly over the words written on the small scroll: “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel” (Is. 7:14). Rapt with awe and wonder at the content of the text, she is startled—and nearly

continues to page 3

**INSPIRATION FROM FR. JIM
& NOTES FROM THE OFFICE
PAGE 2**

**WWCCR IS ON THE MOVE!
PAGE 4**

**A CALL TO PRAYER /
STICK CLOSE TO JESUS
PAGE 5**

**2021 VIRTUAL
WOMEN’S RETREAT
PAGE 6**

**INTERCESSION
PAGE 7**

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*

WWCCR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SHARON FOX
RUBYSLIPPERDESIGN@YAHOO.COM

ANDREA GARCIA

JULIO POCON
JPOCON@COMCAST.NET

KELLIE SCHMIEDER

BISHOP EUSEBIO ELIZONDO
LIAISON TO THE ARCHBISHOP

FR. JIM NORTHROP
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

WWCCR STAFF

INTERIM OFFICE MANAGER
JEAN BEERS

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS
CAROLYN MCNERNEY
THERESA JORDAN

WEBMASTER
SKYE MCGINN

BOOKKEEPER
MARY BETH HEROLD

GLEANINGS is the bimonthly 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.

Deadline: in order for any articles, 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. All submissions subject to editing for length, accuracy, and clarity.

©2021 WESTERN WASHINGTON
CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL
NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT PERMISSION.

INSPIRATION FROM FR. JIM NORTHROP WWCCR Spiritual Director

Remembering the Goodness of the Lord

As we launch into a New Year, I remember the numerous emails and notes people sent me last year reminding me of what a difficult year 2020 was for them and how they are hoping that 2021 will be different.

I must admit 2020 was a challenging year with the Covid 19 pandemic, the demonstrations, and the election. Each year brings about challenges and blessings. One of the things I try to remember is count my blessings and to think about how the Lord faithfully accompanies us through all of our life experiences.

Prayer helps us to see time and our lives in a heavenly way. Time is not cyclical for Christians but linear. It is aimed at something marvelous which we believe is the Second Coming of Jesus Christ which will bring about the fullness of God's Kingdom.

Our Saints can sure help us because they had many of the same struggles

but tried to keep in mind the faithfulness and goodness of the Lord.

The following words appear in The Dialogue by St. Catherine of Siena taken from the Office of Readings for Saturday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time, where the Father is speaking to St. Catherine's heart about His purpose in creating the human person:

I gave him a memory to recall my goodness, for I wanted him to share in my own power. I gave him an intellect to know and understand my will through the wisdom of my Son, for I am the giver of every good gift and I love him with a father's constant love. Through the Holy Spirit I gave him a will to love what he would come to know with his intellect.

These words remind us that God is the Lord of history and all things are going to work for our good because we love Him (cf. Romans 8:28).

OFFICE NOTES FROM JEAN BEERS Interim Office Manager

Challenge And Change

We have been challenged this past year, called to change whether we want it or not. As a ministry and individually, it's been a challenge to learn to do things differently, such as meeting online via zoom or webinars, attending Mass, retreats and conferences using our laptops. We have struggled with computer problems, and adapting to wearing masks and observing social distancing. We just want to get back to normal. But is "normal" what the Lord is calling us to?

I remember years ago when my family life was a struggle and I wanted it to be "normal." Yet that time of my life was the will of God for me. I had to learn to stay with the Lord through the trial. He was with me in his great faithfulness and getting through that time changed me. I became more confident in the Lord, I found that I could trust in him. As a result the peace of God extended deeper in my heart.

continues from page 1

blinded by an intense light in the room suddenly emanating from between the loom and where she sits at the table. As her eyes adjust to the brilliance, she sees the otherworldly figure of the Archangel Gabriel, who then gives her the message of the Annunciation as recorded in the first chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke.

Our Lady—then the very young lady in the scene from our imagination—gives what is likely the most profoundly faithful statement ever spoken! “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled...” (Luke 1:38).

What an example she is for us, especially considering the realities of her time in history—a time of societal upheaval, inequality, disease, and injustice. Israel was a conquered nation, firmly “under the thumb” of the brutal, pagan, Roman Empire. There were political uprisings and riots in the streets as zealots protested. There were dangers from bandits, slave traders, corrupt leaders, and “turncoat” tax collectors—some of whom were fellow Jews. The Samaritans, considered “half-breeds” by the Jews, essentially lived next door to Israel. Unless you were a Roman citizen, you had few rights—though you might have had a few under the authority of the Israeli ruling body, the Sanhedrin. This was also a time of plagues, diseases, and illnesses—and with no antibiotics or vaccines available. (Perhaps we have more in common with the people living in ancient Israel than we would have realized).

Still, the young woman (Our Lady) stepped out in faith and believed what the Archangel Gabriel told her. Her story is spoken of to this day. Our imaginations took us “back” into her dwelling in Nazareth—and now we have traveled forward

more than two millennia into the present. At times we, too, experience political turmoil, injustice, persecution, illnesses, and infections—sometimes without yet having effective vaccines or cures.

But—no matter the challenges we face, we, like Our Lady, have the ability to choose to believe God in faith and step out in obedience to His word. And we have Mary’s example of “faith under fire.” Her “yes” signified that she had faith in God’s ability to do what He said He would do—and the future of the world was impacted forever.

Mary’s faith is also available to us. Faith is one of the spiritual Gifts of the Holy Spirit listed in 1 Cor. 12:9.

The Gift of Faith mentioned there refers to an extraordinary gift of faith for extraordinary callings or circumstances—and is used to accomplish the purposes of God in this world. Few would deny that we live in a time where extraordinary faith and obedience are needed.

The next time you are sitting at your table meditating on the scriptures, why not rub your eyes and pray for the ability to clearly see your calling from God through the brilliance of His glory? It is possible that what He calls you to do will require great faith, but your “yes” and your obedience could change the world, if you, like Mary, respond, “Let it be done to me according to your word.”

What the Archangel Gabriel prophesied to Our Lady long ago is still true today: “For with God, nothing shall be impossible” (Luke 1:37).

Sue and her husband Ray Martell are members of St. Hubert parish, Langley, Washington. They are published authors and editors in the field of Native American ministry.





Current Office in Seattle

WWCCR is on the Move!

When the New Evangelization is defined, it is often through the phrase: “new in ardor, new in methods, new in expression.” It is emphasized that the message is not new, rather it is the way that the message is proclaimed that is new. This same way of looking at things could describe the ongoing work of WWCCR. While the Vision & Mission stay the same, the way that we live out that Vision & Mission is subject to change. And in recent months, we’ve seen how dramatic that change can be.

The Pentecost Celebration was pulled together by gifted volunteers, as we learned to “meet” in the virtual space of Facebook and Youtube. Our upcoming Women’s Retreat will “meet” in the same way. Nothing can replace the goodness of being able to gather together to praise God in song and to proclaim His goodness to one another face to face. Nevertheless, it is a blessing to be able to stay connected through technology.

In the past, attendance at many events has been limited to those who live nearby, or to those who don’t mind driving at night, or to those who are able to take time away from other responsibilities to attend a weekend event. We are finding that, in the future, we may be able to overcome many of those limitations, even after we are able to meet again in person. It doesn’t have to be “either/or.” It can be “both/and.”

Because the model of ministry in the future will look very different than the model of the past, we need to be prepared to make changes when necessary, and to be striving for “new ardor, new methods, new expressions” of sharing baptism in the Holy Spirit. The Lord has frequently reminded us to look for the “new thing” that He is doing. And so, we pray that we will always be willing to go where He leads in every aspect of the ministry.

At this time, we believe the Lord is leading us to make a change in

location as well. The office that WWCCR works out of can be seen as its “headquarters.” There is a lot of activity that goes on in the office, but the real ministry most often takes place in a parish church or social hall, or, occasionally, in a conference center. Everything that happens in the office is for the sake of providing ministry throughout all of Western Washington. Over the course of 43 years, the “headquarters” of WWCCR has moved location five times. These moves were all made of necessity, based on a variety of circumstances.

The Board of Directors met with a focus group in late September, to discuss the need for a move, and to ask for prayer, discussion and discernment on the next steps. As a result of that meeting, a Transition Team was created, led by Kellie Schmieder. An Intercessory Prayer Team was also created, led by Andrea Garcia, for the specific purpose of interceding for the discernment and work of the Transition Team.

The important thing to remember is that the location of the office of WWCCR is not critical to fulfilling our mission. The Vision & Mission are clearly understood and will be pursued. Please pray that we will be ever faithful to God’s purpose, and be ever alert to the “new” ways that He is leading us to proclaim the Good News of Jesus, which is the same, yesterday, today and forever.

A Call to Prayer

by Andrea Garcia



The Wailing Wall, Jerusalem

Before I left for the Holy Land in October 2019, I asked my sister if she'd like for me to take any prayer requests to lay at the place known as the Wailing Wall in the heart of Jerusalem. I wrote her prayer request down and neatly tucked it in my travel purse. Once there, I waited in line watching people lay their petitions in the cracks and crevices. I felt spiritually connected to these fellow pilgrims coming together from places all around the world. Separate yet together in prayer. What a wondrous sight to see.

(Side note) My sister's prayer request placed at the wall is being answered. Restoration within the family is happening. Now that's the power of prayer!

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."
Philippians 4:6

Another call for prayer

We invite you to be "separate yet together in prayer."

Would you consider joining with the Board of Directors in a time of holy prayer for the needs at WWCCR? Each Wednesday, the Board members have made a commitment to fast and pray for these specific needs:

- Executive Director
- Office space
- Staff and Volunteers

We have seen great things happen when we come together and pray. See page 7 for a special prayer to St. Joseph for the needs of WWCCR. Thank you.

Drea Garcia is a WWCCR Board member and a parishioner at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Seattle.

Stick Close to Jesus!

by Julio Pocon

As I meditate and reflect on how the Holy Scriptures have helped me to continue my journey with Our Lord Jesus Christ, this particular verse stands out:

Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."
John 6:68, NIV

On many occasions, I have been tempted to quit, to walk away, to renounce or give up. But as far as I remember, my biggest trial has been losing my mom at age sixteen. And right after that, seeing my whole family disintegrating, perhaps everyone searching for peace, forgiveness, understanding and love. I came to meet Jesus Christ at age fourteen, so I had been walking and growing in my relationship with Him only two years. But I was able to realize, "What better place to be than with Jesus?" So, I decided to stick as close as I could to Him.... and after thirty-three years He hasn't failed me once!

Julio Pocon is a WWCCR Board member and a parishioner at St. Andrew Parish in Sumner.



We're venturing into new territory and branching out into a virtual Women's Retreat this year!

What is a virtual retreat? It is a retreat you can access through your computer in the comfort of your own home. When you register you'll receive a link, that will be sent closer to the retreat date, in your email inbox that will bring you to the live streamed event online—you'll be participating in retreat activities at the same time as all your fellow retreatants, just from different locations. During the retreat, you'll watch the sessions by guest speaker Joan Williamson, interact with others in small group sessions, participate in praise & worship led by Julia Cox—all through your computer or laptop. The theme of this year's retreat is "A Spring of Water Flowing in the Parched Land," and it is bound to be a timely refreshment for all the women who are able to attend. The retreat will conclude with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Jim Northrop, Spiritual Director of WWCCR, at 7pm at St. Thomas Church in Tukwila.

For those wishing to attend Mass in person (if restrictions permit at that time), there will be an opportunity to sign up as the retreat gets closer. We will of course use measures already put in



Meet our Speaker:

Joan Williamson is a speaker, retreat leader, and consultant who is working as the Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Covington, WA. She has served in Youth Ministry, Faith Formation, and/or Sacramental Preparation since 1984, has been part of NET Ministry travelling the USA and Canada, has led a variety of Archdiocesan Workshops in Seattle and Minneapolis/St. Paul Archdioceses. She received her BA in Secondary Education from WWU, her MA in Pastoral Studies, and Certification in the Pastoral Leadership Program from Seattle University. In college, Joan was a three-time All American javelin thrower with the National Championship and Nat'l Meet Record in 1984. She is a member of WWU's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Most especially, Joan has a deep love for Jesus Christ and finds this to be the greatest treasure in life. She is always looking for ways to share her faith with others. She enjoys walking, reading, and spending time with friends over a good cup of coffee. Things that intrigue her are social systems, kinesiology/physics, and nature.

place by the parish to ensure a safe and healthy environment (social distancing, masking, sanitizing, no singing, etc.). For those who prefer to participate virtually, the Mass will be live streamed to your computer at home from a link you will receive in your email as the date gets nearer.

**Register by Jan. 22nd
registration is \$35**

and includes a physical retreat packet arriving in the mail.

**Register Jan. 23rd through Feb 2nd
registration is \$40**

and includes a virtual retreat packet sent via email.

No registration after Feb. 2nd, so sign up early!

The retreat will be 9am - 4pm, with a lunch break at 12-1PM
To register, go to www.wwccr.org and click on the "Events" tab.

January/February INTERCESSORY PRAYER NETWORK

Please pray for these priests, deacons, and seminarians:

Jan 1	Pope Francis	Feb 1	Pope Francis
Jan 2	Archbishop Paul Etienne	Feb 2	Archbishop Paul Etienne
Jan 3	Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, MSPS	Feb 3	Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, MSPS
Jan 4	Bishop Daniel H. Mueggenborg	Feb 4	Bishop Daniel H. Mueggenborg
Jan 5	Fr. Jim Northrop	Feb 5	Fr. Jim Northrop
Jan 6	Fr. Kevin Duggan	Feb 6	Seminarian Grant Habersetzer
Jan 7	Deacon Joe Dunne	Feb 7	Fr. Bradley Hagelin
Jan 8	Fr. James Eblen	Feb 8	Deacon Bill Hamlin
Jan 9	Deacon Bill Eckert	Feb 9	Fr. W.R. Harris
Jan 10	Deacon John Elshaw	Feb 10	Deacon Frank (Tom) Hawkins
Jan 11	Fr. Jaya Kumar Embeti	Feb 11	Fr. Richard Hayatsu
Jan 12	Fr. Robert Evenson	Feb 12	Fr. Anthony Haycock
Jan 13	Deacon Dale Fickes	Feb 13	Fr. Kenneth Haydock
Jan 14	Deacon James Fish	Feb 14	Deacon Thomas Hayward
Jan 15	Fr. Sean Fox	Feb 15	Fr. Joseph Heffernan
Jan 16	Fr. Patrick Freitag	Feb 16	Fr. Jarlath Heneghan
Jan 17	Fr. Andrzej Galant	Feb 17	Fr. William Heric
Jan 18	Fr. Richard Gallagher	Feb 18	Fr. Bryan Hersey
Jan 19	Deacon Felix Garcia	Feb 19	Seminarian Chad Hill
Jan 20	Fr. David Gese	Feb 20	Fr. Phuong Hoang
Jan 21	Fr. Vincent Gilmore	Feb 21	Fr. Christopher Hoiland
Jan 22	Fr. Patrick Godley	Feb 22	Fr. Matthew Holland
Jan 23	Fr. Emilio Gonzalez	Feb 23	Deacon Del Hoover
Jan 24	Deacon Lawrence Gorman	Feb 24	Fr. Timothy Ilgen
Jan 25	Deacon Gerald Graddon	Feb 25	Fr. Caleb Insko
Jan 26	Fr. Chad Green	Feb 26	Seminarian Marc Jenkins
Jan 27	Deacon Jeffrey Greer	Feb 27	Fr. Leo Yongguk Jeon
Jan 28	Fr. Randy Guarino	Feb 28	Seminarian Erick Johns
Jan 29	Seminarian Max Munoz Guerra		
Jan 30	Fr. Armando Guzman		
Jan 31	Fr. Mark Guzman		

Lord, lift up your holy priests; grant them the graces they need to minister to your people. Keep them pure and strong in your love; give them courage when things are difficult and accompany them when they are lonely; strengthen them in times of weakness. Amen.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

Join us in our prayer below to St. Joseph for his intercession and protection for the ministry of Western Washington Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Let us pray...

○ Saint Joseph,
assist us by your powerful and effective intercession, and present this intention to your Divine foster-son, Jesus Christ, our Lord: We place the interests and needs of WWCCR before You, Jesus, especially our need for wisdom and provision for the future disposition of the WWCCR office building, for any re-structuring we need, and for the appropriate staffing, including our search for an Executive Director. Amen.



WESTERN WASHINGTON
CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL
P.O. BOX 33609
SEATTLE, WA 98133-0609

Check out our
NEW website!
wwccr.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 4246

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**WESTERN WASHINGTON
CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC
RENEWAL (WWCCR)**

MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 33609
SEATTLE, WA 98133

OFFICE ADDRESS:
936 N 143RD STREET

OFFICE (206) 364-2272
INFO@WWCCR.ORG
WWW.WWCCR.ORG



GLEANNINGS
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

With Retreat Speaker:
Joan Williamson
Pastoral Assistant, St. John the Baptist Church, Covington, WA

A Spring of Water Flowing
in the Parched Land

2021 WWCCR Virtual Women's Retreat
Saturday, February 6, 2021

Hours: 9am - 4pm
with lunch break 12-1pm

For more information and registration details, go to wwccr.org or call 206-364-2272