

GLEANNINGS

THAT ALL CATHOLICS MATURE IN A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS,
EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, TO THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER.

MARCH/APRIL 2026

Volume LII Number 2

HOLY SPIRIT RETREAT DRAWS PARTICIPANTS FROM ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE

By Jean Beers

They came from Burlington, Redmond, Bothell, Marysville, Kirkland, Lynnwood, Edmonds, Gig Harbor, Spanaway, Ft. Lewis, Puyallup, Vashon, Issaquah, Olympia, and Tacoma to Visitation Church in Tacoma on January 31. Over 70 people gathered for renewal in the Holy Spirit at the retreat day presented by WWCCR's Life With the Holy Spirit Retreat team.

Participants heard about the Father's love for us, about the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus for us and about the empowering of the Holy Spirit. The gifts of the Spirit were described, and there was individual prayer for a particular spiritual gift. There is a growing hunger for life in the Spirit during these times of change in our lives and in our archdiocese.

In his January 14 letter to the archdiocese, Archbishop Paul Etienne ended by saying, "My vision for this next year is for all of us to focus on our personal relationship with Jesus. How do we open ourselves up to the love that he is pouring out for us—so that we can then share his love with others?"

That has been the vision of WWCCR: "That all Catholics mature in a personal relationship with



Life with the Holy Spirit Retreat team and Visitation team members, January 31.

Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to the glory of God the Father." The Life With the Holy Spirit Retreat specifically calls participants to that personal relationship with Jesus.

These retreats are planned in collaboration with parishioners from the host parishes. The retreat team gathers for its own yearly retreat in the fall when members make a one-year commitment to volunteer on the team. That commitment involves attending monthly planning meetings and participating in the one-day Holy Spirit seminar in some way, as well as attending the follow-up gathering a month after the retreat. These are dedicated people who give their all for this ministry.

Is the Lord calling you to serve on this committee? Or is he calling you to serve with WWCCR in other ways? You can find more information on our website www.wwccr.org or by emailing the office at info@wwccr.org. ■

The next Holy Spirit Retreat is April 18, at St. Jude parish, Redmond. See ad, page 8.

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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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 notice of events that help to foster Catholic Charismatic Renewal throughout the Church in Western Washington.

Deadline: in order for any testimonies 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.

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BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT...NOW WHAT?

by Sharon Fox, *Interim Director*

Today we received a call from a woman asking for a prayer group near her. We often get requests like this at the WWCCR office. When we experience baptism in the Holy Spirit, it's typical to want to be together with other people who had the same experience. So, how can you and I continue to grow deeper in the life of the Spirit?

1 PRAY! Pray daily. Pray spontaneously and in tongues. Pray, asking the Holy Spirit to renew and enliven your prayer time. Allow time for silence to listen to what God wants to say to you. Pray for discernment and direction on what the Holy Spirit wants you to do to grow closer to him.

2 GROW! If you have a charismatic prayer group in your area, consider visiting it several times. A prayer meeting is a place to praise the Lord, be encouraged by a testimony, get prayer for a special need, and to be part of a community. During your visits, join in with the praise and worship and listen to the Lord to speak through the prophecies or words of knowledge that are shared. The meeting is a great place for you

to practice using the charismatic gifts yourself. Maybe the Lord will use you to speak his words of encouragement to the others gathered there.

3 GATHER! If there is not a prayer group near you, then find a few people nearby and pray together. Start with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to help you. Of course, you may feel awkward at first and you may not know what to do. The Holy Spirit will help you! Pray, praise, share a testimony about what the Lord did during the week, and pray for each other. Practice makes perfect and you will grow closer to your prayer partners through your prayer time together.

For a list of local charismatic prayer groups, go to wwccr.org/prayer-groups/. If you have a charismatic prayer group at your parish and it is not on our prayer group list yet, we would be happy to add the group. Just download the directory update form, fill in the information, and send it to WWCCR. What a beautiful gift your prayer group could be to the others who are searching for a deeper life with the Holy Spirit. ■

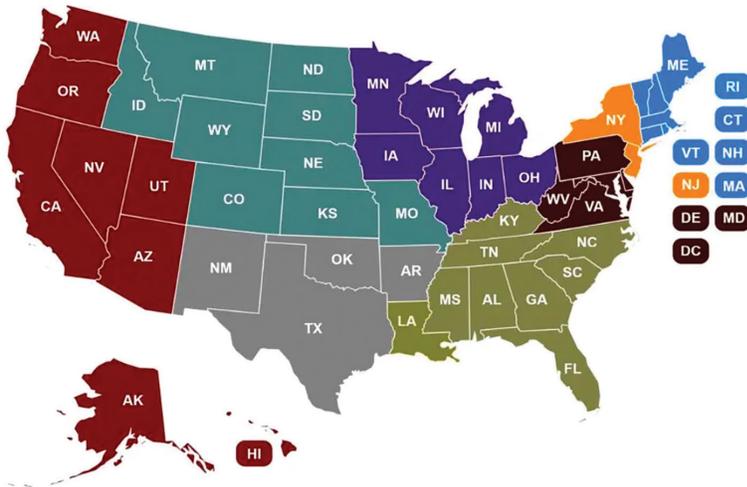
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Every donation, no matter the size, helps us continue our goal of sharing baptism in the Holy Spirit with others. Please consider supporting us with a one-time or a recurring donation. If you'd like to learn more about our programs or to get involved, please don't hesitate to contact us. We ask God to bless you abundantly for your support and your prayers. For more information:

206-364-2272 | info@wwccr.org
WWCCR, PO Box 68575, Seattle, WA 98168.

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WWCCR.ORG





NEW CHARISMATIC RENEWAL INITIATIVE

WWCCR is a part of the new national initiative of Pentecost Today USA to reach across the country to engage leaders from every state by grouping several states together to assess needs, pray for each other and see what the Lord wants to do in each region. We are Region 8, consisting of Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Hawaii and Alaska. Our chairman is Dr. Jorge Samaniego from Hawaii who led the first two Zoom meetings. WWCCR representatives, Cathy Williams, Sharon Fox and Andrea Garcia were blessed to speak with leaders from each of those states when they attended the national conference in Houston last October. We expect to be more connected with those in our region who are working to build up the Body of Christ through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, to learn of their events and plans for the future. For instance, the Northern California Renewal Coalition is planning a conference on May 9 at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco.

Their Zoom meetings began with praising God, praying in tongues and sharing words of prophecy and encouragement. The main goals for Region 8 are building relationships as well as database development, attending each others' state conferences, and planning for future Holy Spirit rallies. Representatives discussed the upcoming conference in San Francisco with coordinator Gabby Baltazar. Participants suggested ways to collaborate among charismatic renewal groups across the West Coast, and organizing Holy Spirit rallies in smaller cities and towns. The importance of building a volunteer base was stressed. They discussed creating a regional bulletin board and adding a calendar of events to the Pentecost Today USA website.

Cathy Williams said that it was so good to connect with others who share the value of personal transformation by living life in the Spirit. There is power in community, we can't "go it alone." Individuals need the encouragement of others

to continue to live life in the Spirit, and small prayer groups are built up by gathering together in larger events. There is great expectation that the regional meetings will strengthen those coming together from each state to learn how to share baptism in the Spirit individually and in groups.

Sharon Fox related how many people in our area don't realize that the Renewal is not only national but international. People all over the US participate in local prayer meetings and attend the national conferences. The largest gatherings are in the heavily populated areas of the nation, the East Coast and Midwest. WWCCR has posted the Northern California conference in the WWCCR bi-weekly email to begin sharing each others' events.

Andrea Garcia suggested that if we attend each other's conferences, Hawaii should be the first. She noted that the least populated region, number 8, was ahead of the game by already holding two Zoom meetings. ■

Take a look at the national office website at www.PentecostTodayUSA.org, and the international office website, www.charisinternational/en/.

Contributors: Andrea Garcia, Cathy Williams and Sharon Fox, Region 8 representatives.

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT: EXTRAORDINARY OR SIMPLE AND HUMBLE?

by Virginia King

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in everyone.” 1 Cor 12:4-6

There are a variety of gifts/charisms/graces given to us through the Holy Spirit. Some seem simple and humble, while others seem extraordinary to us. And what at one time may seem extraordinary, in a different context, or with different understanding and experience, can seem very ordinary.

My introduction to charisms began when my faith was becoming enlivened and I was learning to surrender to Jesus as Lord of my life. I began attending a Catholic Charismatic prayer group where the other members of the group were full of faith. I could see the joy in their hearts and the sincerity of their prayer. Simply by being with this group of people, I easily learned to praise God through song and spontaneous prayer. But one of the things that was not easy for me was praying and singing in tongues. It seemed so strange, so “extraordinary” and unlike any prayer that I had ever heard before.

This was not a charism that I was attracted to. And yet, it seemed so natural to many of the members of the prayer group. And they encouraged me to receive this gift from the Holy Spirit. They helped prepare me to receive this gift through their example and good teaching. They exhorted me not to put limits on what God wanted to give me; to trust the Holy Spirit to give whatever gifts would be for my good and the good of others. They explained that this was often the first charism that the Holy Spirit bestows, and that it helps us be more ready to receive other charisms. And, most importantly, they shared how much this gift of tongues had helped them personally in their prayer lives.

I truly wanted my prayer life to grow, so this final reason convinced me to ask the Holy Spirit to give me the gift of tongues. Because I had come to know and trust this wonderful group of people, I asked them to pray with me to receive this charism. At first, I was only able to utter a few syllables, which seemed to me to be nonsensical. But they encouraged me to “practice” and trust the Holy Spirit. Over time, I was more comfortable praying this way, especially when I attended the prayer meetings. There, my “prayer language” could blend in with the whole group and it was easy to practice.

I remember clearly the day when I realized that, rather than feeling strange and awkward, praying in tongues had become “natural” to me. I was at work at my secular job where I was responsible for helping other workers solve problems with their tasks. I was walking through the large workspace, monitoring the other workers, and found that I was praying in tongues under my breath. In that moment, I realized that the Holy Spirit was with me in my work, giving me strength, wisdom and understanding.

After that, I had new freedom in praying in tongues very frequently, not only when I needed help for a task, but whenever I wanted to pray, to praise, to honor God. I use this charism when praying for others for healing, protection or provision. What once seemed extraordinary is now, to me, a simple and humble gift. And I thank God for it!

I would encourage everyone who wants to have their prayer life strengthened to ask for the gift of praying in tongues, and to practice praying and singing this way until it becomes a natural way to pray, to praise, and to honor God. I am confident that the Lord will guide you, too, to pray for others in this way, for healing, protection and provision. To God be all glory! ■

Virginia King is the former Executive Director of WWCCR and a member of St. Pius X parish in Mountlake Terrace.

THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER

by Bishop Sam Jacobs

When a teaching of Jesus is hard to understand, like the Eucharist, people tend to dismiss it or give their own interpretation. “Many of his disciples walked away” because they could not accept or believe this teaching. Their faith in Jesus was shaken. The religious leaders, because they would not accept who Jesus was, refused to believe in his words and works. The same is true about Jesus’ teaching on the gift of the Holy Spirit. Baptism in the Holy Spirit is based on the teaching of Jesus and had its effects in the life of the early Church.

In the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus, before he ascended, reemphasized the role of the Holy Spirit. “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.... But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:4-5,8).

The words of Jesus, the experience of those in the Upper Room, and the practice of those so baptized in the Spirit confirm the plan of God that all be filled with the Holy Spirit. Peter in his first homily attested to this when the crowd outside of the Upper Room asked what they must do.

Not only are we to believe in the name of Jesus and be saved by his death and resurrection through

Baptism, but we are to receive the empowering Gift of the Spirit so that we can grow in our relationship with God and witness our faith through signs and wonders as our credentials. (This was the experience of the early Church and the Church through the centuries in different individuals.)

Many people are baptized and confirmed, but the full release of the grace and power of those sacraments is blocked. God confers the grace of the sacrament but we must respond to that grace, whether in Baptism or Confirmation. As a child, it is the faith of our parents and the believing community that is relied upon. But the individual needs to personally respond to and embrace the grace of God. This happens when we hear the word of God, repent of our sins, give our lives to Jesus as Lord, and are open to the release of the gifts of the Spirit. That is what happens at baptism in the Holy Spirit. What was blocked or bound is released. In my case, even though I believed in God, and prayed to the Father, Son and Spirit, it wasn't until I realized that Jesus was not the Lord of my life and that I was not following the lead of the Spirit in my life, then surrendered completely to His lordship, that the gifts of the Spirit were released in me.

Baptism in the Spirit is not a new sacrament. In the words of Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa: “The Baptism in the Spirit is not a sacrament, but it is related to several sacraments. The Baptism in the Spirit makes real and in a way renews Christian initiation.... The Baptism in the Spirit's effectiveness in reactivating

baptism consists in this: finally, man contributes his part—namely, he makes a choice of faith, prepared in repentance, that allows the work of God to set itself free and to emanate all its strength. It is as if the plug is pulled and the light is switched on. The gift of God is finally ‘untied’ and the Spirit is allowed to flow like a fragrance in the Christian life.” (Editor's Note: One can read more about the concept of the gift of God being untied in an article on Baptism in the Holy Spirit by Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa at the following website: [https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/baptism-in-the-holy-spirit/.](https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/baptism-in-the-holy-spirit/))

One of the objections some raise is the “laying on of hands,” which to them is a sign of empowerment. But this sign can also be used to convey care and love, as when we lay hands on the people we pray for or parents lay hands on their children. This latter is the intent of those who pray over people for the fuller release of the gifts of the Spirit.

People can interpret, reject or discredit if they wish. But the preponderance of the Word of God, the lived experience of the early Church and the transformation of the lives of millions by baptism in the Holy Spirit testifies to the plan of God. ■

Bishop Sam Jacobs is the Retired Bishop Emeritus of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana. He is an Episcopal Consultant to Pentecost Today USA.

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WWCCR

Mission:

To fan into flame
the gifts we receive
through the sacraments.

“Concerning spiritual gifts,
brethren, I do not want you
to be uninformed...”

1 Corinthians 12:1

An important part of the
ministry of WWCCR is cultivating
an understanding of, and active
participation in the charisms
of the Holy Spirit. “Whether
extraordinary or simple and
humble, charisms are graces
of the Holy Spirit which
directly or indirectly benefit
the Church, ordered as they are
to her building up, to the good
of humanity, and to the needs
of the world.” CCC 799

“Strive eagerly
for the greatest
spiritual gifts.”

1 Corinthians 12:31

REFLECTION

“Even the Spirit of Truth whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.” John 14:17

ARE YOU LINKEDIN?

by Andrea Garcia

Lately I've had a lot of time for reflection. I've been looking for a new nanny job since December and it's been hard but I trust my network. In the world of nannying, trying to find ways of connecting with families, conducting interviews and contracts takes time, energy, patience and prayer.

I've observed the modern professionals around me looking for jobs as well. Some spend their time navigating the phenomenon known as "LinkedIn." What on God's green earth is LinkedIn?! I know everyone knows what it is.

The reason I ask this is because recently during our GLEANINGS planning meeting we began in prayer as always, asking the Holy Spirit for guidance, words of wisdom and knowledge as we plan the next issue, when that word, LinkedIn, popped into my mind. Being zero tech savvy I had to look it up. LinkedIn “Is the world's largest professional networking platform, designed for career development, business connections and industry knowledge sharing.” But Lord, what does this have to do with the Spirit-filled life?

Reflecting on it a bit more, I realized that it does seem to mirror the way the Holy Spirit works but with a slightly different outcome. Both entities function as an invisible means of connection operating behind the scenes to link the individual to a larger group of people. Where LinkedIn uses data points to suggest “people you may know,” the Holy Spirit uses it to orchestrate “divine appointments” that alter the course of a life. You and I are a part of another “Linked In” phenomenon. We are wired for connection far beyond this worldwide web. We have a platform with the Holy Spirit and a network of believers linking individuals to the Church, and to prayer group communities that are continuing to spread life with the Holy Spirit.

REFLECTION: As you spread life with the Holy Spirit, who have you been linked to?

ACTION: Ask the Spirit to link you to someone who needs life with the Holy Spirit. ■

Drea Garcia is WWCCR Board Vice President and a parishioner of Parish Family 55 at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Seattle.

MARCH/APRIL INTERCESSORY PRAYER NETWORK

Please pray for these priests, deacons, and seminarians:

Mar 1	Pope Leo XIV	Apr 1	Pope Leo XIV
Mar 2	Archbishop Paul Etienne	Apr 2	Archbishop Paul Etienne
Mar 3	Bishop Eusebio Elizondo	Apr 3	Bishop Eusebio Elizondo
Mar 4	Bishop Frank Schuster	Apr 4	Bishop Frank Schuster
Mar 5	Fr. Jim Northrop	Apr 5	Fr. Jim Northrop
Mar 6	Deacon Antonio Cavazos	Apr 6	Deacon Vu Do
Mar 7	Fr. Vijay Bhaskar Chappadi	Apr 7	Deacon Denny Duffell
Mar 8	Deacon Carl Chilo	Apr 8	Fr. Kevin Duggan
Mar 9	Deacon Kwok Chin	Apr 9	Fr. Quy Duong
Mar 10	Fr. Cal Christiansen	Apr 10	Deacon Bill Eckert
Mar 11	Fr. Patirick Clark	Apr 11	Deacon John Elshaw
Mar 12	Fr. K. Scott Connolly	Apr 12	Fr. Robert Evenson
Mar 13	Deacon Joseph Connor	Apr 13	Deacon David Field
Mar 14	Fr. James Coyne	Apr 14	Deacon Jim Fish
Mar 15	Fr. Louis Cunningham	Apr 15	Sem. Tagan Flaatt
Mar 16	Sem. Robert Currall	Apr 16	Deacon Peter Freeman
Mar 17	Father Klemens Dabrowski	Apr 17	Deacon Brian Freese
Mar 18	Fr. Dexter Dais	Apr 18	Fr. Patrick Freitag
Mar 19	Fr. James Dalton	Apr 19	Fr. Ronald Gajettan
Mar 20	Fr. Thanh Dao	Apr 20	Fr. Andrzej Galant
Mar 21	Deacon Reuben D'Sa	Apr 21	Fr. Naresh Gali
Mar 22	Fr. Anthony Davis	Apr 22	Deacon Cesar Galindo-Legaria
Mar 23	Deacon Jim Decker	Apr 23	Fr. Richard Gallagher
Mar 24	Fr. James DePalma	Apr 24	Deacon Leon Garcia-Martinez
Mar 25	Deacon Jose DeLeon	Apr 25	Sem. Jeffery Gascoyne
Mar 26	Fr. Bryon Dickey	Apr 26	Fr. Emilio Gonzalez
Mar 27	Sem. Mathew Dion	Apr 27	Deacon Jose Gonzalez
Mar 28	Fr. Micheal Dion	Apr 28	Deacon Lawrence Gorman
Mar 29	Sem. David Do	Apr 29	Deacon Gerald Graddon
Mar 30	Fr. William Dodoma	Apr 30	Fr. Chad Green
Mar 31	Fr. Bryan Dolejsi		

Let us pray, almighty and eternal God, in your unfailing love you provide ministers for your Church. We pray for those whom you call to serve the Archdiocese of Seattle as priests, deacons, seminarians and religious. Inspire in them a generous response. Grant them courage and vision to serve your people. May their lives and service call your people to respond to the presence of your Spirit among us that, faithful to the Gospel and hope of Jesus the Christ, we may: announce glad tidings to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives, set prisoners free, and renew the face of the earth. Amen

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray...

For our search for an executive director, for discernment and vision for the committees, staff and board as we continue to seek direction for the ministry of WWCCR.

For the women on retreat on March 13-15, especially for the 21 women who are attending for the first time. May the Holy Spirit come in a powerful way that draws them even closer to Jesus and his church.

For our archbishop, bishops, priests, deacons and seminarians, who will act sacrificially this Lent and Easter in their service to God's people, may they be inspired in their preaching, faithful in their ministry, and find rest when most needed.

For the Holy Spirit retreat at St. Jude in Redmond on April 18, may those who attend receive the gifts that they pray for so that they can grow in a deeper life of the Spirit and build up the church.

For all parish families, especially for the ones that are facing difficult decisions and changes, may we be faithful and flexible, trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit to change our hearts and guide us forward.

Come Holy Spirit,
hear our prayer. Amen.



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GLEANINGS

MARCH/APRIL 2026

Experience a
LIFE with the
Holy Spirit
RETREAT

Bring a friend!

Saturday, April 18
9:00am to 4:00pm

St. Jude Parish
10526 166th Ave NE, Redmond



Register online at
wwccr.org