WESTERN WASHINGTON CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

GLEANINGS

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

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2026 Volume LII Number 6

OUR HELP IS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

by Fr. Jim Northrop

Several people from our area attended the annual Southern California Renewal Communities Convention (SCRC) in Anaheim. Fr. Jim Northrop, Anne Chapman (p 3) and Karen Hauge (p 6) share their experiences with Gleanings.



Fr. Jim presenting at the SCRC Convention

Photo: Sharon Fox

Over Labor Day weekend this year, I had the privilege of presenting at the 2026 Southern California Renewal Communities Convention in Anaheim. It was a tremendous blessing to be part of the event. I also celebrated and preached at the Sunday morning Mass.

I gave three talks. The first, "Radiant with Joy in the Presence of God," drew on the beautiful words of Psalm 34: "Look to him that you might be radiant with joy and your face not blush with shame." My goal was to help us shoulder the challenges of discipleship while experiencing the wonderful joy of the Holy Spirit.

My second presentation celebrated the gift of baptism in the Holy Spirit. It was titled "Baptism in the Holy Spirit: The First Installment of Our Inheritance." I told the audience that I was preparing to celebrate my 38th anniversary of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. That news was greeted with enthusiastic cheers! I also shared the wonderful work WWCCR is doing through its Life with the Holy Spirit retreat team, which conducts seminars throughout the archdiocese. It was a great blessing to be among so many enthusiastic brothers and sisters in Christ who have experienced this same grace.

My final talk, on spiritual warfare, was titled "Tearing Down Strongholds by Putting on the Mind of Christ." A stronghold is a repeated pattern of thought, a deception, or an unconscious agreement with a lie that gives sin, fear, or addiction power in a person's life. It is a spiritual and mental "fortress," built by repeated choices, trauma, or false beliefs, that blocks freedom in Christ. I shared personally about my struggle to move from "brooding over injury" (cf. 1 Corinthians 13:5) to interceding for someone who has offended me.

It was a blessing to return to the SCRC Convention as a presenter. When I was in seminary, from 1992 to 1997, I would attend the conference and other SCRC events. They always gave me a spiritual shot in the arm and helped me continue to grow in my relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Audio recordings of all my talks, including the keynote presentations, are available on my newly revised website, www.thegraceofpentecost.com, and at SCRC.org. ■

Fr. Jim Northrop is pastor of parish family 32, Sacred Heart, Enumclaw, St. Barbara, BLack Diamond, and St. Aloysius, Buckley.

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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IN MEMORIAM



You may have already heard, or this may be startling news. Our dear friend and former WWCCR Executive Director, Virginia King passed away peacefully at her home on Tuesday, October 13, with her family beside her.

Several years back Virginia successfully fought a rare and aggressive lymphoma by the grace of God. It had been in remission. Sadly, in September the same cancer was back, seemingly out of nowhere.

Beginning September 29, Virginia spent about a week in the hospital as her doctors tried to get ahead of the lymphoma but there was no improvement and she was losing ground. She made the decision to go home, under the care of hospice, and was glad to be there with her husband and their sons. The family, along with Virginia, made the decision to keep knowledge of her failing health within the family and a few close friends as they adjusted to the circumstances. It has been so much to process so very quickly. Please pray for them.

Through her work for over 30 years with WWCCR, as well as her parish families, Virginia touched thousands of lives through retreats, conferences, writing, and Bible studies. She always offered her "littleness" to the Lord for him to use. We can't know how far all the ripple effect has traveled from her "yes."

Please join us in thanking God for Virginia's life and the God-given talents she so generously shared, the friendship we had, and all the incredible things we learned together.

If you would like to share a memory about Virginia, go to:

www.everloved.com/life-of/virginia-king/

If you would prefer to send a card, you can send it to the King Family, c/o WWCCR, P.O. Box 68575, Seattle, WA 98168 and we will deliver them. ■

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For more information:

206-364-2272 info@wwccr.org

WWCCR, PO Box 68575, Seattle, WA 98168.

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WHAT MATTERS MOST TO JESUS

by Anne Chapman

The minute we entered the Anaheim Marriot Hotel, my husband Doug experienced a "powerful presence of the Holy Spirit," he later shared with me. We were two of 1,500 Catholic charismatics all gathered for "rejuvenation in the Holy Spirit"! What I was very aware of was the anticipation of our event as well as all the children and families waiting to board shuttles to go down the street to Disneyland! The Marriot was the setting for the SCRC convention held annually in Anaheim and we were ready to be set on fire! Saturday was filled with workshops given by dynamic well-known speakers—including our own Fr. Jim Northrop—music, praise and worship, and a healing service.

Our first workshop was given by Jim Murphy and was titled, Fruitful or Barren…What Matters Most to Jesus. I was anxious to learn the answer, and also wondering if my ministry was as fruitful as I'd hoped.

Jim started by citing John 15:1-17, the Vine and the branches. He first shared verse 8: "By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples," and verse 16: "I chose you and appointed you to bear fruit."

So, yes, it is important to Jesus and we are commanded to go and bear fruit, but Jim cautioned us to be careful not to become *addicted to fruit*. (We usually become addicted to things that make us feel good.) In ministry I love praise and positive feedback for successes! We look for results: *holy data, Look what I've accomplished*. It can become a commodity, Jim said.

But our definition of fruit and Jesus' definition of fruit are two very different ones. Fruitfulness is a *way of being* not a thing or action. Fruit is deeper. It is Christ emanating forth from me. Our goal is to be more Christ-like, to have the *personality of God*. Fruit is in our nature as we become closer and closer to Jesus. Galatians 5:22 lists the fruits and the Holy Spirit's nature that we strive to share in. Fruitfulness is a process and we cannot make it happen. We must stay close to the Trinity, the Vine.

Also, many times we have to wait. God's time is slower than ours. I try to have my *way of being* be better—to love like Jesus—but it can be difficult.

Often God does inner work in us as he helps us to grow spiritually. Pruning is painful but necessary to become more Christ-like. Brokenness, pain, doubt and despair, grief and loss, healing of the past, and healing of memories are often part of God's work. It can all lead to fruitfulness. Healed people heal people. Loss teaches us about love. It all has purpose and changes our being—*our way of being*. God transforms us, we can't.

So, Jim's talk is telling me to set aside my pride or sense of accomplishment in ministry and to remember whose work it actually is! I will not use my feelings as a means of knowing how much fruit there is from my work.

I definitely want fruitfulness to be my way of being and define it as Jesus does, not as Anne does. My job is just to stay as close to Jesus as I can—always striving for the fruits of the Holy Spirit: surrender, trust, faith, and more—and watch Jesus work!

"Remain in me as I in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine so neither can you unless you remain in me." John 15:4

We attended six talks, and I learned so many new ways to use and seek the Holy Spirit's power, how to rejoice in my sufferings, how to handle stress and have peace in the midst of turmoil! So much more. It was a full, grace-filled weekend and we were definitely blessed to be able to attend! ■

Anne Chapman is a parishioner at St. Brendan parish, Bothell.



GOD'S POWER AND MERCY

by Julie Schlumpf

Last August, I was blessed to spend some time in Honolulu, Hawaii with dear friends. Our time together began so beautifully: swimming on the breathtaking beaches, enjoying the company of wonderful friends, and sharing delicious local food. It was everything I had hoped for.

Near the end of my trip, however, we learned that a hurricane was approaching and headed directly our way. We were told to prepare for the worst: to have extra food and water on hand and to make sure our cars had plenty of gasoline. As the days drew closer to the storm, the mood became increasingly tense.

When the hurricane arrived, I remember feeling the force of the powerful winds, the torrential rain, and the flooding. As I listened to the storm raging around us, I couldn't help but think about the power of God. Nothing but God's holy power and mercy could bring us safely through such a storm.

During the worst of it, I prayed the rosary. Late that evening a huge fallen tree brought down a power line, and we lost electricity. Then, around 4:30 in the morning, water began leaking through the window and one of the shutters had blown off and landed in the neighbor's yard.

As I continued to pray in the darkness, I found myself envisioning Jesus calming the storm, just as he had done when Peter and the disciples were caught in the boat and cried out to him. I imagined Jesus standing in the midst of the wind and waves, commanding the storm to be still.

And in that moment, I was reminded that the same Jesus who has power over the sea and the wind is with us in every storm we face—not only the storms outside of us but also the storms within our hearts. His presence always remains with us, sustaining us through every moment.

That experience became the inspiration for this song:

Who is This Who Calms the Sea?

Who is this who calms the sea,
When winds and waves surround me?
He speaks, and all the storm must cease,
And in the chaos, I find peace.

Though storms may rage and mountains shake,
His steadfast love will never break.
When I am weak, He makes me strong;
He holds me close and leads me on.

So I will not fear the thunder,
I will not fear the rain.
Though waters rise around me,
I will call upon your name.

Chorus
Jesus, Jesus, mighty King.
Your name makes heaven and earth sing.
The storms grow still, the darkness flees;
Your peace flows deep as endless seas.

(Chorus in Hawaiian)
Iesu, Iesu, Ke Ali'i nui,
E mele ka lani, ka honua ho'i.
Malie ka 'ino, holo ka pouli,
Ka maluhia, hohonu e like me ke Kai. ■

Julie Schlumpf is a parishioner at St. Martin of Tours in Fife.

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR DAY OF REFRESHMENT

by Heather Weldon

Prayer warriors from across the region recently gathered September 26th for a powerful Prayer Minister Retreat Day focused on spiritual rest and restoration. Hosted by Western Washington Catholic Charismatic Renewal (WWCCR), the dedicated day of refreshment took place at Holy Family Catholic Church in Kirkland. Vibrant teachings were led by Deacon Carl Chilo, O.P.L., and Deacon Reuben D'Sa. It was a time of worship, community connection, and profound spiritual renewal. Holy Family parishioner Heather Weldon has stepped forward to share her thoughts of the day.

• • •

"... it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." Galatians 2:20

It is not I who heals, but Christ who heals through me. As prayer ministers, we know that we are not to carry the burden of the miracle. We know we can't make something happen. And yet, subtle thoughts can still creep in: "*If I can just pray aright...*" or "*If I can just...*" But it is not "I."

It is Christ who heals, but healing isn't the destination. Jesus is. While physical and emotional healing are often the first steps in a deeper journey, healing itself is not the end goal. Our deepest calling is simply to bring people to Jesus. We are bridges. Yes, healing builds faith and leads to discipleship, but it is a personal encounter with the living Christ that truly sets people free. We bring people to Jesus, and he takes it from there. We turn Godward, steadfastly face Christ, and pray.

During our Day of Refreshment, Deacon Carl and Deacon Reuben asked us thoughtful reflection questions to take into deeper contemplation: "*Are you a disciple?*" A disciple *learns* about the Master, *follows* the Master, and eventually *becomes like* the Master. Are YOU a disciple? Learn, follow, become like...

God doesn't view someone as lost or addicted, he sees a beloved son or daughter made in his image. To minister as he did, we need to have the Lord's heart. Our prayer again and again ought to be, "Lord, make my heart like yours," as Brother Lawrence wrote in The *Practice of the Presence of God*. We minister with love from that secret place of intimacy with God, giving only what we have received. So, am I spending more time working *for* Jesus, or spending time *with* Jesus? We must spend more time in relationship with him, because we are called to bring the supernatural power and transforming love of Jesus Christ to others. Learn, follow, become like...

We don't do this in isolation, we are many parts of One Body working alongside the saints and angels. God has called, equipped, and anointed each of us for a life of mission. He puts people on our paths for a reason, and he finds us—we cannot hide!

Our retreat day was one of rest and refreshment —a time of saturation, soaking, and receiving God's overflowing blessings. We have been called, anointed, and equipped for a high and holy purpose. Yes, each of us! Now, we simply yield to God, remain meek before him, and remember: it is not I, but the Holy Spirit within who does the work. We don't carry the weight of the miracle—we just carry his presence to others. Yield to Christ, and the Holy Spirit will move. ■

REFLECTION

A THANKFUL HEART

by Drea Garcia

"I will give thanks to you.
Lord, with all my heart:
I will tell of all your
wonderful deeds."
- Psalm 9:1

As I reflect on the holiday season this year, I am feeling very thankful. For when life changes in a single heartbeat, the world shrinks down to the absolute essentials. God, Family and Community.

Experiencing a heart attack forces an abrupt pause, stripping away daily worries and leaving you face-to-face with the fragile, beautiful gift of life itself. Looking back on that terrifying moment in August and preparing for the long road of recovery, my mind does not dwell on the fear. Well, ok, to be honest with you, maybe a healthy dose of awareness of God's finger on my life is good for this lady's heart!

On deeper reflection, my heart instead overflows with profound gratitude. When we come to the end of our own strength, we truly begin to see the magnitude of God's goodness. The intercession of the saints in the moments when I was weakest, unable to form words or find the strength to plead for myself, others stepped into the gap. The community of believers—family, Blessed Sacrament brothers and sisters in Christ, WWCCR friends, prayer groups, priests, and even strangers—lifted my name in prayer.

Sustaining Strength: Those prayers were not just quiet wishes; they were a tangible lifeline. They brought a supernatural peace that guarded my mind when my body was failing.

Hands of Help: God manifested his love through the people who dropped everything to help me when I needed it most, proving that his Church is a living, breathing body of comfort. It really does takes a village!

Answered Cries: *Every breath I take today is a testament to answered prayers and the miraculous, steady hand of the Almighty.*

A Renewed Vision of God's Goodness. It is easy to praise God on the mountaintops, but it is in the valley that his character becomes our absolute anchor. He did not look away during my crisis; he carried me through it. God is good all of the time!

Reflection. Ask yourself this question. In any situation you are facing right now that has turned your world upside down, who do you think is in control of it all. You or God?

On this new road, slow down and take a look around. You might just drive and pass by the beautiful scenery called life. No matter how messy it might seem, God is always there to straighten it out. ■

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

SIMPLICITY

by Karen Hauge

When my spiritual director mentioned to me about the upcoming SCRC Convention, I prayerfully embarked on this spiritual weekend that would be filled with worship, praise, and people! I laid out my itinerary of what sessions to attend.

One of the speakers was John Michael Talbot. I would have to say he touched my very soul by how little he said. Guitar in hand, seated on the stage, he began speaking of the ways people invoke the Holy Spirit. One way is with loud, off the charts praising so you cannot hear your own voice or your innerself thoughts. He demonstrated another way with a strum of the guitar, choosing one note, hearing that note all the way until it drops off. It struck me so deeply. The audience was completely silent, listening to the very end of that one beautiful note. It made me think about how Jesus touches me in that very silence of my soul. Waiting, listening, hearing, feeling the love of Jesus poured out for those of us with faith and open hearts to receive.

On my flight back to Seattle, Jesus spoke to me as though he purchased the seat on the plane next to me. I could barely blink away tears as I typed my notes. He spoke to my heart that my Blessed Mother leads me into this umbrella of light and majesty. She sees who I am in heaven and Jesus whispers to me, to my spirit...Love. One word, one note. ■

Karen Hauge is a parishioner at Sacred Heart Parish, Enumclaw.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER INTERCESSORY PRAYER NETWORK

Please pray for these priests, deacons, and seminarians:

Nov 1 Pope Leo XIV
Nov 2 Archbishop Paul Etienne
Nov 3 Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S
Nov 4 Bishop Frank Schuster
Nov 5 Fr. Jim Northrop
Nov 6 Fr.Rajasekar Savarimuthu
Nov 7 Fr. Milhton Scarpetta
Nov 8 Dcn. Duane Schireman
Nov 9 Fr. Thomas Selvaraj Anthony Muthu
Nov10 Fr. Dennis Sevilla
Nov11 Dcn. Tim Shamrell
Nov12 Fr. John Shannon
Nov13 Dcn. Joseph Sifferman
Nov14 Fr. Patrick Sherrard
Nov15 Fr. Vinner Raj Simeon Raj, H.G.N.
Nov16 Fr. Richard Spicer
Nov17 Fr. Aloysius Ssensamba
Nov18 Dcn. Daniel Stamper
Nov19 Fr. Simon Stehr
Nov20 Fr. Todd Strange
Nov21 Dcn. Mirek Sztajno
Nov22 Fr. Mel Strazicich
Nov23 Fr. Thomas Suss
Nov24 Fr. Marcin Szymanski, O.P.
Nov25 Fr. Joseph Tapia-Beeman
Nov26 Dcn. Ike Tarabi
Nov27 Fr. Kingsley Tebulo
Nov28 Dcn. Mike Teskey
Nov29 Fr. Navy Kumar Thomas
Nov30 Fr. Stephen Thomas

Dec 1 Pope Leo XIV
Dec 2 Archbishop Paul Etienne
Dec 3 Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S
Dec 4 Bishop Frank Schuster
Dec 5 Fr. Jim Northrop
Dec 6 Fr. Brian Thompson
Dec 7 Fr. Frances Thumbi
Dec 8 Dcn. Donald Tillitson
Dec 9 Fr. John Paul Tomassi
Dec10 Dcn. Bill Townsend
Dec11 Fr. Anh Tran
Dec12 Fr. Anthony Tran
Dec13 Sem. Chung Tran
Dec14 Fr. Thomas Tran
Dec15 Fr. Vu Tran
Dec16 Sem. Fred Tucker
Dec17 Dcn. Asipeli Tuifua
Dec18 Dcn. Sonny Ungco
Dec19 Dcn. Gene Vanderzanden
Dec20 Dcn. Dick Wallace
Dec21 Fr. John Walmesley
Dec22 Dcn. Richard Werner
Dec23 Fr. Edward White
Dec24 Fr. Nicholas Wichert
Dec25 Fr. John Wilke
Dec26 Dcn. Steve Wodzanowski
Dec27 Fr. Stephen Woodland
Dec28 Fr. Gerald Woodman
Dec29 Dcn. Joua Pao Yang
Dec30 Fr. David Young
Dec31 Dcn. Gary Zellmer

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

In thanksgiving,
let us pray ...

...for the many blessings that the Lord gave to those who attended the three retreats this fall and for all the spiritual fruit that the participants will bear from attending.

...for the blessing of family and friends who encourage us, challenge us, and love us when we struggle.

...for a new hunger and a deeper desire to seek the Lord through scripture, through prayer, through the use of the charismatic gifts.

...for our parish families as we approach the seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas, that our celebrations bring us together to a deeper sense of belonging and a greater love for each other.

...for our archbishop, bishops, priests, deacons, and seminarians, for their sacrifices and ministry to us. May the Lord bless them with endurance and faithfulness.

...for our WWCCR Board, committees, volunteers, and staff as we make plans for 2027, that the Lord will give us direction and assistance in our ministry throughout this archdiocese.

Come Holy Spirit,
hear our prayer. Amen.

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GLEANINGS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2026

WWCCR's 49th Anniversary

COME AND SEE

Saturday, November 14

10:00am Praise & Worship
10:30am Mass with Fr. Jim Northrop
11:30am Special Exhortation by Fr. Jim
12:00 Potluck & Fellowship

at St. Joseph Church & Social Hall
220 Mt Park Blvd SW, Issaquah

Let us give thanks for the many blessings received through the ministry of WWCCR!
Bring a potluck food to share. Coffee, tea, & water provided.
For more information contact WWCCR | 206-364-2272 | info@wwccr.org | wwccrorg