



*A Radiant Church
Through The Holy Spirit*

January—February 2012

A VOICE IN THE DESERT

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter Of
**Catholic Renewal
Ministries**
Of the Diocese of Phoenix



**Father John Shetler celebrated a Charismatic Healing Mass
November 11 at St. Steven's in Sun Lakes (See story p. 6)**

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CRM Mission: To declare Jesus is alive through his word, to put the gifts of the Holy Spirit into service for the community, to give testimony to what the love of God has done in our lives, to be united and committed in one spirit of service to form community.

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From the Desk of
Father Andrés



A Year of Faith

In my Sunday homilies I often involve the congregation in word associations. This helps the people to actively and alertly participate in the homily and to more deeply internalize an important lesson from the scripture readings. On a recent Sunday, the scriptures and the homily both focused on faith. When I said the word “faith,” the congregation was to respond with the word “happy.” When I said the word “happy,” the congregation was to respond with the word “faith.” To have faith is to be happy; to be happy is to have faith.

This past October, Pope Benedict XVI issued an Apostolic Letter to all Catholics entitled “Porta Fidei,” or “The Door of Faith.” In the letter, Pope Benedict proclaimed a Year of Faith to commence on October 11, 2012 and to end on November 24, 2013, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King. October 11, 2012 is also the opening day for the Synod of Bishops on “The New Evangelization.” Not coincidentally, October 11 also marks, to the day, the 50th anniversary of the opening of the 2nd Vatican Council as well as the 20th anniversary of the publication of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

We welcome 2012 as a time of faith, and of happiness. We begin the year with our 20th annual CRM Conference and its call to Holiness 20:12. Holiness is the journey to becoming all that God wants us to be: as individuals, as Church, and as Renewal. Ezekiel 20:12 reminds us that “I the Lord make them holy.” God is both architect and builder of our holiness. However, without faith, God is able to make little progress in us toward holiness, so the months of 2012 leading up to the “Year of Faith” are also a time of faith.

Let us then be rejuvenated in our faith. Led by the Holy Spirit, let us deepen our relationship with the Lord with committed effort. Renewed by the Catechism, let us rediscover the wonder of the Deposit of Faith which has been vibrantly passed down to us through 2000 years of the Church on earth. Let us study and learn from the Catechism just as we learn from Sacred Scriptures, for the Catechism embodies 20 centuries of the Holy Spirit speaking to and through the Church.

Welcome to 2012, a time of rejuvenation - a time to again become little children in the Lord and to recapture the faith, and the happiness, of our youth in Christ.

God bless you. I love you.

Fr. Andrés Arango, Eud.

From Marge Chavez

Wow! Here we are starting a new year! And my dear brothers and sisters, my prayers are that all of you have a very joyful and blessed new year!

We at CRM are excitedly looking forward to our big upcoming Conference in February and we encourage all of you to spread the news to everyone you know with an invitation to come and join us. It is really going to be special. We have wonderful speakers, as you know, Father Bill Halbing, Jim Murphy, and Auxiliary Bishop Eduardo Nevarez!

And, to help raise money for the conference, on Friday, December 2nd, we had a really fun Christmas dinner-dance at St. Steven's in Sun Lakes. We ate and danced and had raffle prizes. The church hall was already decorated for Christmas so we really felt in the spirit of the holidays! The event was a wonderful success and we want to thank every one who attended and made it such a fun night!

The theme of our Conference, as you know, is "Holiness 20:12" from Ezekiel 20:12 and for the year 2012. The scripture says, *"Also, I gave them Sabbaths to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them."*

So many times in recent years the Lord has called us again and again to be a holy people, set apart for him. He calls us again and again to "be holy as I am holy." To perfect ourselves in his sight but also in the sight of the world as a witness to God and his ways. In these times especially we must witness to others what it really is to be a Catholic Christian in difficult times such as we are living in today. It is a challenge to us to evangelize the love and mercy of a caring God, to bring others to a place of wanting to be holy in their ways also as God desires. That is our mission as members of CRM, to give the fellowship of the Holy Spirit to those around us that he might sanctify them as even we are being sanctified.

Let us look forward to a year of Life in the Spirit Seminars and Pilgrimages and Healing Masses. My dear brothers and sisters I invite all of you to find new ways of helping CRM bring Jesus and his Holy Spirit to others. There are so many gifts and talents out there among you that we would love to see used in the coming year. I urge you to come forward and bring your gifts to the table! —Marge

Companion on the Journey

By Tom Beale

I ask my wife, "Why didn't you tell me?" She responds, "I told you three times already. Listen." Or, she attentively says, "Tell me about your day. What was exciting?" But my mind is far, far away and I fail to share much of anything. The basic issue? When she's ready to talk, I'm not always ready to listen; and when she's ready to listen, I'm not always ready to talk.

Do we have the same issue with the Holy Spirit? Are there times when he is ready to speak but we are busy and not ready to listen? Are there times when we want to speak to him but he doesn't seem to listen?

We know that the Holy Spirit is ALWAYS listening to us, even to those things we really don't want to say to him because they are selfish, prideful or otherwise un-Godly. And he doesn't always answer us, at least not how we may want, but that's not a sign that he's not listening. We know he listens because he even answers our unspoken prayers. He hears all that we "say" in our minds and hearts, spoken and unspoken.

Does the Spirit speak to us? Hopefully you know from experience that he always speaks to you. Jesus told us that the Spirit would be with us forever and "he will teach you everything and remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26) It's true. He never ceases speaking to us, but we are not always listening for him. So how do we improve our listening skills?

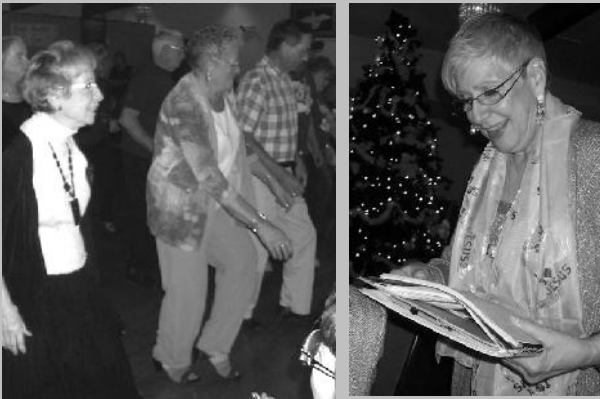
That's not always easy because our lives are busy and noisy. Our challenge is to learn to live life with a deeper sense of quiet and solitude, recognizing that those qualities reflect an interior quiet and solitude apart from the notion of a solely physical silence.

A few simple exercises will help: (1) Practice solitude by finding brief time(s) daily to just sit silently in the presence of God and listen. (2) Turn it over daily to the Spirit. Ask him to regularly get your attention, open your mind to hear him, and transform your will to obey him. (3) When the Spirit wants to speak to you, he will somehow get your attention, so when you hear him, just do what he says.

Let's turn it over right now: "Holy Spirit, I want to hear and obey your voice in all things and at all times. I surrender to you. Please be my ears to hear, my mind to recognize your voice and my will to obey your promptings. Be the inner silence within me. Amen."

Speak with him today. Listen. Obey. He is your companion on the journey.

Photos From St. Steven Fund Raiser Dinner Dance.



Healing Masses

Charismatic masses followed by the laying on of hands for healing are celebrated throughout the year at parish churches in the Diocese of Phoenix.

For information on how to set up a healing mass at your parish contact Marge Chavez at 480-201-6691.

Life In The Spirit Seminars

Life in the Spirit Seminars serve as an introduction to a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit. They provide teaching, guidance, and prayer leading to a new and deeper relationship with the Lord. They are an invitation to make or renew a deep personal commitment to Jesus Christ in openness to the Holy Spirit and His gifts. Seminars are given throughout the year at parish churches in the Diocese of Phoenix.

For information about how to set up a Life in the Spirit Seminar at your parish contact Tom Beale at 623-878-6488.

A Pilgrimage with the Holy Spirit Day of Retreat and Reflection

In this one-day retreat we learn what the scriptures and the church tell us about the Holy Spirit and simple, practical ways to personally experience the Holy Spirit in our lives.

For information on setting up a Pilgrimage with the Holy Spirit Day of Retreat and Reflection at your parish contact Tom Beale at 623-878-6488.

Valley Wide Charismatic Prayer Meetings

Valley wide prayer meetings open to everyone from the entire diocese of Phoenix are held every second Friday of the month throughout the year. Meetings include praise and worship, teachings, prayer, and fellowship, and are held at a different parish church each month.

For information on setting up a valley wide prayer meeting at your parish contact Marge Chavez at 480-201-6691 or JoAnn Duffy at 480-945-2990.

Weekly Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Meetings

Weekly charismatic prayer group meetings are held at many parishes throughout the valley where there is praise and worship, teaching, sharing, prayer ministry and fellowship. These meetings provide a place for the formation of close friendships with other charismatic Catholics in a local area and encourage growth in the use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and a life lived in the Holy Spirit.

For more information on starting a prayer group at your parish or to locate a weekly prayer group meeting in your area contact Marge Chavez at 480-201-6691 or JoAnn Duffy at 480-945-2990.

Intercessory Prayer

Intercessory Prayer Ministry meets every Thursday at the diocese of Phoenix after the 12:00PM Mass at St Mary's Basilica to pray exclusively for the needs of the Catholic Renewal Ministries. Leaders or prayer group representatives are encouraged to come to pray for their prayer group needs.

For more information contact Manuel and Bertha Murillo at 602-276-9100 or 602-540-3490.

Worship Night

To host a worship night— a time of praise and worship especially for youth and young adults (but all ages welcome), contact Jojo Concepcion at 623-229-6902.



Life in the Spirit Seminar Held at St. Jerome

After a full Saturday and Monday evening “Pilgrimage with the Holy Spirit” in September, the prayer group at St. Jerome parish in Phoenix followed up with a “Life in the Spirit Seminar” continuing on Monday evenings for the next two months, including seven nights of teaching and prayer, two healing masses and one final night of potluck, fellowship and sharing. Speakers for the Seminar came from all over the Diocese and the attendees were faithful in coming and open in their participation and sharing. It was beautiful to watch the Holy Spirit work in peoples’ hearts and lives. The Lord delivered healing and spiritual renewal in abundance!

Life in the Spirit Seminar held at St. Daniel the Prophet in Scottsdale



Members of the St. Daniel prayer group were joined by their pastor, Father McGuire, on October 11 for the opening night of their Life in the Spirit Seminar. He talked about “God’s Love”. He said God keeps seeking us out, inviting us into deeper love with him. We need to let ourselves be found, open our hearts, and enter the relationship freely.

Healing Mass Held on October 28 at St. Joseph the Worker in Williams

By Loriann Gigous

About 1 1/2 years ago eight faithful members of us at St. Joseph’s began a fledgling prayer group. We were very hungry and open for God and healing. On October 28, 2011 we held our second charismatic healing mass.

Leading up to the big evening were many obstacles and difficulties (a sure sign God was using us, His people). Father Bruno, who was to say mass, learned that his mother was dying, and had to leave. My aunt passed away and I had to leave. Then I became ill and couldn’t return to prepare with the prayer group. I cried to the Lord about how I felt.

But God, true to His Word, was greater than he who is in the world! Father Victor from Flagstaff agreed to come and say mass for us. Then, during the consecration, at the elevation of the host, instead of hearing the people singing in tongues, I heard only the sound of angels singing! I had experienced the same thing at the very first healing mass that I had attended twenty years ago, and I knew that God had done a very special thing for me.

“You will keep in perfect peace she whose mind is steadfast, because she trusts in you.” (Isaiah 26:3)

CRM Provides Music for Parish Mission at Queen of Peace



Victoria Davis and the Lamb of God Music Ministry were among those leading praise

and worship during the Parish Mission October 23-26 at Queen of Peace parish in Mesa.

The speaker for the four-day mission was Bill Wegner, Catholic Lay Evangelist from Good News International, who entertained us with his delightful humor as he spoke about our call to return to holiness following Adam and Eve’s original “messing up of the garden of Eden” where God had placed them.

God sent Jesus to prepare a new place for us where we could walk again in holiness with God as Adam and Eve had done in the beginning.

First Year Anniversary Celebrated at St. Rose Philippine Duchesne in Anthem



The “All for the Glory of God” prayer group in Anthem celebrated it’s one year anniversary on November 10 with praise, worship, Mass, food, and the sharing of testimonies.

The fledgling prayer group already has hosted a Pilgrimage With the Holy Spirit, a Healing Mass, and a Life in the Spirit Seminar during their first year. The group’s leaders, Ken and Maria Goracke have served in the Catholic Renewal for many years and bring a vibrancy and enthusiasm of years of experience to the group.

Mass for the occasion was celebrated by Father Mark Harrington who prayed for God’s healing in all of us at the closing of the Mass.

The reading for the night was about Jesus weeping in the Spirit before the tomb of Lazarus as he prayed to his father to restore life to his friend. Jesus was every much as human as he was divine. He was compassionate. The Holy Spirit pours Jesus into our hearts. When we are kind and loving we bring the humanity of Christ to others.

Valley Wide Healing Mass Held November 11 in Sun Lakes



On November 11 Father John Shetler celebrated a healing mass at St. Steven’s in Sun Lakes for the CRM November Valley wide gathering for praise and worship. He was assisted by Brother Maximilian Bianchi FSD of Scottsdale.

The reading for the night was “when you do this (feed the hungry, visit the sick and imprisoned, etc.) for the least of my brothers (and sisters), you do it for me”. Father Shetler told us that it is the sins of omission (when we do not do these things) that convict us. Did we do these things for him in others and did we do so willingly. When we do this we see beyond the brokenness of the person and see the Christ within them. We need to see the dignity of the person and not judge. In this God will see our little lamps lit in our acts of caring for him. (See photos on cover.)



Christmas Celebration Held December 9 at St. Daniel’s

CRM’s Christmas gathering took place in St. Daniel’s chapel. It was the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe’s appearances to Juan Diego so the children put on a beautiful play depicting Juan Diego with Our Lady and the miracle of his tilma with the flowers spilling out and Our Lady’s image appearing on it.

JoAnn Duffy narrated the story while Jojo Concepcion accompanied on the guitar. After the flowers fell out of the tilma the children placed them in a vase next to a picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe.





20th Annual Catholic Charismatic Conference HOLINESS 20:12

From Ezekiel 20:12: "Also, I gave them Sabbaths to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them."

Join us for the 20th Annual Phoenix Catholic Charismatic Conference, Friday, February 3, 2012, 2:30PM-9:30PM, Includes A Separate Session for Teens and Young Adults in Room 122, and Saturday, February 4, 2012, 8:30AM-9:30PM, Includes Break Out Sessions for Teens and Young Adults.

**Phoenix Convention Center
100 N. 3rd St., Phoenix, AZ 85004
North Building Room 120D**



Keynote Speakers:



**Auxiliary Bishop
Eduardo Nevares**



**Father Bill
Halbing**



Jim Murphy

Worship Leaders

**Ed Orillo
Blaise Reyes
Jojo Concepcion**

Music Ministries

**Lamb of God Music Ministry
Simple Praise Worship Team**

Parking: Conference Center East Garage, 601 E. Washington St. (\$12/day). This above ground parking structure is the largest in the area and is located directly east of the South Building and southeast of the North Building. Entrances are available off of Washington (one-way westbound) and Jefferson (one-way eastbound) streets.

Also Parking: Southeast corner of Jefferson and 3rd St. (\$5/day with CRM coupon)

**Registration Donation: \$25.00 by January 13, 2012, or \$35.00 at the door. Teens \$5.00.
Free Registration for all Priests, Deacons, and Nuns**

For registration forms go to the CRM website at: www.catholicrenewalministries.org

**For Adults contact: Marge Chavez (480) 201-6691 or JoAnn Duffy (480) 945-2990
For Teens and Young Adults contact: Jojo Concepcion (623) 229-6902**

**Sponsored by: Diocese of Phoenix Catholic Renewal Ministries, 400 E. Monroe Street, Phoenix AZ 85004
Fr. Andres Arango, Liaison for Catholic Renewal Ministries, Marge Chavez, Coordinator (480) 201 6691**

**Diocese of Phoenix
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Newsletters, Event Programs, Calendars and Flyers for the Catholic Renewal Ministries are printed by JMC Publishing. Contact Jojo Concepcion at 623-229-6902

Upcoming Events in Brief
 January 9, 2012.....(Monday).....Charismatic Healing Mass.....St. Jerome Catholic Church.....7:00-9:00PM
 January 9, 2012.....(Monday)...Charismatic Healing Mass.....St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church...6:30-9:00PM
 February 3-4, 2012....(Friday-Saturday).....Charismatic Conference.....Phoenix Convention Center.....see ad p. 7
 February 13, 2012.....(Monday).....Charismatic Healing Mass.....St. Jerome Catholic Church....7:00-9:00PM

INTERCESSORY PRAYER
 Every Thursday at the Diocese of Phoenix following the 12:00PM Mass at St. Mary's Basilica

MONTHLY HEALING MASS
 Every 2nd Monday of the Month
 January 9 and February 13, 2012 from 7:00-9:00PM
 St. Jerome Catholic Church
 10815 N. 35th Ave., Phoenix

MONTHLY HEALING MASS
 January 9, 2012
 6:30-9:00PM
 Celebrant: Father Frank Bartel
 St. Thomas Aquinas
 13720 W. Thomas Rd.
 Avondale

UPCOMING VALLEY WIDE PRAISE AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE REVISED
 We will be having Praise and Worship four times a year now instead of every month. New times and places to be announced.

HEALING PRAYER ROOM
 Individual Prayer for Healing & Deliverance
 Every Wednesday 6:30-8:30 PM
 Queen of Peace Catholic Church
 Madonna Hall
 141 N. Macdonald, Mesa

HEALING PRAYER ROOM
 Individual Prayer for Physical and Emotional Healing
 2nd and 4th Mondays 7:00-8:30 PM
 St. John Vianney Catholic Church
 539 Loma Linda, Goodyear

HEALING PRAYER ROOM
 Individual Prayer for Physical and Emotional Healing
 Every Friday 7:00-9:00PM
 St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
 3140 N. 51st Ave., Phoenix

Healing Prayer Ministry
 Every Weekend After All Masses
 St. Jerome's Catholic Church
 10815 N. 35th Ave., PHX.

Healing Prayer Ministry
 Every 1st Sunday Of The Month After The 11:00AM Mass
 St. Steven Catholic Church, 24827 S. Dobson Rd., Sun Lakes
 (On Dobson just north of Riggs Road)

Listen to 1310 AM Immaculate Heart All Catholic Radio Station

For REAL ESTATE needs in the West Valley Call Jojo Concepcion 623-229-6902

For REAL ESTATE needs in the East Valley Call Ed Orillo 480-330-4350