

Serving the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando



THE *CHARISMATIC* NEWS

SUMMER 2020 Vol. 5 Issue 2, September 2020

"if then my people, upon whom my name has been pronounced, humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

Pope Francis: "Even in times of darkness, God is there."

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace be with you. It's time for the summer newsletter from the Charismatic Renewal of Orlando detailing the upcoming fall conference. Much has changed since our last newsletter in March. Of course, I am referring to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of us are social distancing and staying at home as much as possible. The Renewal passionately believes that Jesus must be preached, even amidst COVID. Let's not forget that with Jesus everything is possible, and He will never forsake us. He is always with us no matter what we are going through. So, let's stay faithful, relying on our faith and know that this too shall pass.

Therefore, the conference will be produced on a Livestream basis with the theme, "Humble Yourself Before the Lord and He Will Lift You Up". The speakers include, Fr. Trevor Nathasingh, Kelly Nieto, and Dr. Mark Nimo. We have added one additional speaker, Father Bill Halbing. Eleva Music Ministry will lead us in praise and worship. An exciting line up for sure!

This year's registration fee will be \$50. Scholarships are available for those who need assistance by contacting Debbie, 407-697-5837. We are proceeding in faith that God will provide as the CCRC is noticeably short of funds at this time. Our renewal office relies heavily on the contributions we receive at the conference. This year's contributions are critical. Producing the conference on a livestream basis is very costly.

While the registration fee is slightly higher than last year, you will save money in fees for transportation, hotel room and meals. An additional bonus is attending the conference from the comfort of your own home! The one-day conference is September 26, from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm EST. The talks are about 30 minutes long. There will be praise and worship music and Mass will be celebrated. Plenty of breaks and time for meals will be incorporated into the day's schedule.

We look forward to your participation in this year's livestream conference!

You can register for the event by visiting our website: <http://orlandocharismatic.net/>

Attached to the newsletter is the conference flyer detailing speakers and other pertinent information. We look forward to praising the Lord with you as one body in Christ. Please pray for the success of the conference and its team. If you have any questions, contact Debbie Malambri, debbieccrc@aol.com or 407-697-5837.

God's blessings...

Vince Maldonado

Administrator of Operations

Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Orlando

**Pope Francis:
"Even in times of darkness, God is there."**



Vatican City, Aug 9, 2020 / 05:59 am MT (CNA).-

When caught in difficult moments or trials, turn your heart to God, who is near even when you do not search for him, Pope Francis said in his Angelus address Sunday.

"Having faith means, in the midst of the storm, keeping your heart turned to God, to his love, to his tenderness as a Father. Jesus wanted to teach this to Peter and his disciples, and also to us today, in moments of darkness, moments of storms," the pope said Aug. 9.

Speaking from a window overlooking St. Peter's Square, he said "even before we begin to seek Him, He is present beside us lifting us back up after our falls, He helps us grow in faith."

"Perhaps we, in the dark, cry out: 'Lord! Lord!' thinking that he is far away. And He says: 'I'm here!' Ah, he was with me!" Pope Francis continued.

"God knows well that our faith is poor and that our path can be troubled, blocked by adverse forces. But He is the Risen One, do not forget this, the Lord who went through death to bring us to safety."

In his message before the Angelus, the pope reflected on the Gospel reading from St. Matthew, when Jesus asks the apostles to get in a boat and cross to the other shore of the lake, where he will meet them.

While still far from shore, the disciples' boat gets caught in some wind and waves.

"The boat at the mercy of the storm is an image of the Church, which in every age encounters headwinds, sometimes very hard trials," Francis noted.

"In those situations, [the Church] may be tempted to think that God has abandoned her. But in reality, it is precisely in those moments that the witness of faith, the testimony of love and the testimony of hope shines the most," he said.

He pointed to the Gospel: In this moment of fear, the disciples see Jesus walking to them on the water and think it is a ghost. But he reassures them and Peter challenges Jesus to tell him to come out onto the water to meet him. Jesus invites Peter to "come!"

"Peter gets off the boat and takes a few steps; then the wind and the waves frighten him and he begins to sink. 'Lord, save me!' he cries, and Jesus takes him by the hand and says to him: 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?'" Francis recounted.

This episode "is an invitation to abandon ourselves with trust to God in every moment of our life, especially in the hour of trial and turmoil," he said.

"When we feel strong doubt and fear and we seem to sink, in the difficult moments of life, where everything becomes dark, we must not be ashamed to cry out, like Peter: '**Lord, save me!**'"

"It is a beautiful prayer!" he noted.

By Hannah Brockhaus

This episode "is an invitation to abandon ourselves with trust to God in every moment of our life, especially in the hour of trial and turmoil," he said.

***"Do not be afraid; just have faith."
Mk. 5:36***

A Secret Place

‘But when you pray, go to your private room and, when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in that secret place, and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you.’ (Matthew 6:6)

“Prayer is an Unnatural Act!” ...A lifetime of rebelling against, and struggling with, prayer elicits from me this exasperating experience of my flesh. But for Jesus, prayer was as Blood is to Life. Throughout all four Gospels, he is portrayed as a man centered in prayer. It nourished him –Body, Mind and Soul. It rooted him in the Bosom of his Father. It propelled him with a Power transcending all resistance to the Will of God. It defined his existence and drove him to his destiny -the Cross.

That we all resist the call to prayer decries our Brokenness. This humbling admission is not in the least futile, for the offering of this Brokenness in prayer, is a Fragrant Fruit to our Merciful God! That Jesus taught his disciples to pray as the first order of business, frames prayer as a *Pearl of Great Price*. That he calls us to this Well-spring is our guarantee that we too can drink from it.

When Jesus prayed, he retreated into the Love of his Father. It was this *Secret Place* that he longed to share with his beloved disciples ...as, he still, longs for us to know his Father’s love. Prayer is above all, an encounter with God. It is found in that *Secrete Place* in our heart, a Sacred Place, set aside for Divine Intimacy –a *Private Room*, where we *shut the door* on our endless distractions, where we avail our souls to the Spousal Love of God, where he *rewards* us with the Touch of the Father.

Before teaching his disciples how to pray, Jesus first tells them how not to: *‘In your prayers do not babble as the pagans do, for they think that by using many words they will make themselves heard... your Father knows what you need before you ask him.’* Generally, we have grown beyond the mindless multiplication of rote prayer, but our tendency toward “many words” is a problem we all must contend with. Jesus reminds us it is not necessary to spend a lot of time explaining to God our needs which he already knows. As, the more we speak, the less we listen.

*Prayer is
above all,
an encounter
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Continued on page 4

A Secret Place continued

As a woman is said to be expecting -waiting for the arrival of her child- so should our prayer time be Pregnant with Expectation –with the Visitation of our Lord, with the Movement of his Spirit. Elijah was expecting to hear God. Without the quiet expectation of encountering God, we quickly resort back to words or wandering thoughts.

God's Voice takes on endless forms as we ponder the day's Scripture, or a verse that has been stirring in our mind: small insights; promptings toward good; nudging toward change. How or when the Spirit percolates into consciousness endlessly varies; but that he wants to Touch, to be Received, is a certainty. Every day, he is calling us to prayer, to enter into that *Secret Place*, to place ourselves into the Womb of his Love. Our Father is in that *Secret Place* waiting for us, anticipating our time with him.

Father, open my ears and my heart in my feeble attempts to sit with you in prayer –that I may receive what you so desire to give; that I may give what you so desire to receive; that your Word will take flesh and be conceived in your Love.

Jesus, I want to know prayer as you knew prayer, to be rooted in the Bosom of your Father. Plant me in the Peace of your Holy Spirit. Free me to be stirred by his Whisperings.

Holy Spirit, release me from my pursuit of Self. Fill me with an Uncontainable Desire to respond to your Love; to Exalt my God above all things; to Surrender into his All-Loving Will for my life. Plunge me into your *Secret Place*.

Speak Lord, your servant is listening...

Richard has been on the Word Gifts team for the CCRC conference and a Prayer Group Leader along with his wife Katie for many years.

His blog is a special addition to the Orlando Renewal.

<http://godstuffrichard.blogspot.com/>

"HUMBLE YOURSELF BEFORE THE LORD
AND HE WILL LIFT YOU UP"



Join us at
Catholic Charismatic Conference of Orlando
September 26, 2020

◀ **LIVE STREAM** ▶

TO REGISTER: WWW.ORLANDOCHARISMATIC.NET

Speakers

Fr. Bill Halbing

Fr. Trevor Nathasingh

Dr. Mark Nimo

Kelly Nieto

Registration

fee:

\$50.00

Music:
Eleva Music
Ministry



**Father Bill
Halbing**



**Fr. Trevor
Nathasingh**



**Kelly
Nieto**



**Dr. Mark
Nimo**

See www.OrlandoCharismatic.net for complete Conference information and Registration.



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Details on Event information are published on the DOCCRC WEBSITE:
www.OrlandoCharismatic.net

Charismatic Resources Available online

The Charismatic media resources are now available online. Using the Diocese of Orlando Media Center host, you can reserve and checkout media from the diocese website (link below) and receive it at your parish office. Previously, media were available only at the DOCCRC quarterly meetings, so this will make them widely available to anyone in your prayer group, or even in your parish who wishes to borrow them. Information on the procedure is also found on the Media Center web page. On the diocese website under Ministries/ Offices, click on Media Center to navigate to that page. Use search to find the item you want, then click on the specific item. For example, search for “Charismatic” to get a listing, then click on a specific item to get the details. Use the Media Request Form to actually request it be sent to your parish.

Link: www.orlandodiocese.org



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