

# STIRRINGS of the Spirit

A Quarterly Provincial Newsletter of the  
Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of Ontario (CCRSO)

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Our mission is to promote and participate in the ongoing renewal of the Catholic Church, witnessing to the reality of Jesus Christ and the love of the Father, under the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, exercising the charisms received through release of the Holy Spirit

## From our Chairman



Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ:

The Holy Doors have now been closed, signaling an end to a very special Holy Year. I thank God for the blessings He

has poured out on His Church and specifically on those of us who participate in the life of the Church through the Charismatic Renewal.

One of the blessings of this past year was a document published by the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith called *Instruction on Prayers for Healing*. The document states it was written "above all as a help to local Ordinaries so that the faithful may be better guided in this area, through promoting what is good and correcting what is to be avoided."

I welcome such clear direction from the Vatican. Oreste Pesare, the director of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS) stated: "We are happy because the way to avoid

abuses which have occurred is filial and fraternal cooperation between the Movements and the Church." Pesare understands that the Church doesn't want to suffocate the Movements, but seeks their growth and maturity.

The document is divided into two sections. It begins with the Doctrinal Aspects that set the framework for the establishment of the Disciplinary Norms.

### (1) Doctrinal Aspects

This section begins by examining the meaning and value of sickness and healing. It reminds the reader that sickness is an evil that may be a punishment by God for unfaithfulness or may be, as in the case of Job, a test to demonstrate one's righteousness. Healings, on the other hand, "manifest the victory of the kingdom of God over every kind of evil." And yet it points out that "the messianic victory over sickness . . . does not happen only by its elimination through miraculous healing, but also through the voluntary and innocent suffering of the Lord. Thus, each man in his suffering can also become a sharer in the redemptive suffering of Christ." There is a beautiful balance being expressed between the

need in the Church for redemptive suffering and the desire of God to be merciful and manifest His victory over suffering.

The document affirms that to "desire healing is both good and deeply human" presuming the acceptance of God's will and it encourages prayer for healing. At the same time, it states that "recourse to prayer does not exclude, but rather encourages the use of effective natural means for preserving and restoring health."

Contained in this Instruction is an excellent explanation of the "charisms of healing." These graces are given to an individual to obtain graces of healing for others, and are not to be understood as the gifts of healing received by who have been healed. It therefore states that, "Consequently, in prayer meetings organized for asking for healing, it would be completely arbitrary to attribute a "charism of healing" to any category of participants, for example, to the directors of the group; the only thing to do is to entrust oneself to the free decision of the Holy Spirit, who grants to some a special charism of healing in order to show the power of the grace of the Risen Christ."

## (2) Disciplinary Norms

The Vatican document lists ten disciplinary norms to avoid abuses in healing services. It begins by stating that when healing services are organized in a church or other sacred place, it is appropriate that such prayers be lead by an ordained minister.

There is a clear line drawn between what is considered liturgical prayer and what is non-liturgical prayer. Permission to hold liturgical services of healing must be explicitly given by the local bishop. These must be “celebrated according to the rite prescribed in the *Ordo benedictionis Infrimorum of the Rituale Romanum* and with proper sacred vestments indicated therein.” Prayers of healing must not be introduced into the celebration of the

Holy Mass, the Sacraments, or the Liturgy of the Hours. The intention is to eliminate confusion between liturgical celebrations and free non-liturgical prayer meetings. However, the diocesan bishop has the right to issue norms for his particular church, following Canon 838(4).

Those who conduct healing services, whether liturgical or non-liturgical, are to strive to maintain a climate of peaceful devotion in the assembly and to exercise the necessary prudence if healings should take place among those present; and when the celebration is over, any testimony can be collected with honesty and accuracy and submitted to the proper ecclesiastical authority.

Article 8 states that the ministry of exorcism must be exercised in strict dependence on the diocesan bishop and that prayers of exorcism must remain separate from all healing services.

Finally, it affirms that the diocesan bishop has the authority to intervene when abuses are verified in liturgical or non-liturgical healing services.

I believe this document is a masterpiece of balanced wisdom that safeguards the Church and her people. Obviously, some of our current practices must be revised. But with the right attitude, we will only be stronger because of it.

Yours in the Spirit,

*Brian Sullivan, Chairman, CCRSO †*

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## PERFECTLY CLEAN

Hello! My name is Jacinta. I am thirteen years old and in Grade eight. I am home schooled. My mom is my teacher and she teaches me and my siblings at home.

Well, a few years ago I did some things that I shouldn't have done. It wasn't really, really bad, but it was bad enough. When I went to Confession, I confessed it but I was very vague and didn't explain exactly what I did.

In the next few years it was forgotten, but then one day while I was doing my math this sin kept going through my mind. It bugged me so much that I was almost crying. My mom saw my tears and asked what was the matter. I began

to cry and she said, “Do you want to talk about it?” I said yes and we went into our prayer room and shut the door. I spilled it all out – everything. Then she and I agreed that I should go to Confession, but I was scared and wanted to do it over the phone, but my mom said I had to do it face-to-face.

She called our parish priest, but he wasn't home. However, in a short while he just happened to drop by. After mom talked with him, he and I went into our prayer room and I went to Confession. I told him all the sins I had committed in my life that I could remember. I cried through it all and was embarrassed that I did all these things. The moment I walked out of the room, I ran and hugged my mom and cried out to her that I WAS CLEAN! That was the best moment: I WAS

CLEAN, PERFECTLY CLEAN!

Well after that, going to Confession was rough. I would cry before and all the time I talked to Father. But then after Confession, I was clean and I would feel so much better! But even though I was always scared to go to Confession, I went anyway, and always came away PERFECTLY CLEAN again. It was the best thing in my life. But my conscience became annoying – when I scratched the roof of the van or if I hit the wall with the vacuum by accident, I would have to tell my mom or my dad. I still say, “Sorry if I offended you today,” every night, but they don't want to hear about the other little accidental things that happen.

We have this beautiful gift of Confession and Jesus *died* so we could have our sins forgiven and be in heaven with Him when we die. Well, after a good confession I imagine God just found a spotted sheep and made that sheep into a lamb without blemish or spot. Some may have to be scrubbed and others just wiped, but all the same God wants us to go anyway. He gave us the gift of Confession and we should use it. I like using it because the moment I walk out of the confessional I realize that I'm PERFECTLY CLEAN! †

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*Jacinta is 13 years old.*

# THE CHALLENGE OF THE NEW MILLENNIUM

By Charles Whitehead

The Charismatic Renewal is by its very nature prophetic. We are people who claim to have a special understanding of the person and power of the Holy Spirit because we have experienced His touch and know His freedom. But we cannot and must not attempt to control the Spirit, because as Jesus said to Nicodemus, “*The wind blows wherever it pleases, you hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. That is how it is with all who are born of the Spirit*” (Jn 3:8). The nature of the Spirit of God is to be good and positive, but unpredictable — sometimes a gentle breeze, sometimes a mighty wind. One day he’s stirring up dramatic signs and wonders in our midst, another day he’s working deep within us in unseen but life-changing ways.

To follow the Holy Spirit is always a challenge and not an easy journey — if it were otherwise many more people would be willing to join us. So we should never allow ourselves to become comfortable, to settle down and decide not to continue to journey, or to step back into the way things were before we knew the liberating power of the Spirit. To do so is to turn from life to death.

As we enter the new millennium this is the challenge facing the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Are we tempted to go back to the safety of the former things, and turn away from the risks and challenges of life in the Spirit? Or are we encouraged by all that we have experienced and seen, and inspired by the Pentecost 1998 words of Pope John Paul II: “There is a great need today for mature Christian personalities, conscious of their baptismal identity, of their vocation and mission in the Church and in the world! There is a great need for living Christian communities! Here then are the movements and the new ecclesial communities; they are the response, stirred up by the Holy Spirit, to answer this critical challenge at the end of the millennium. You are this providential response.” What this means is that the Church has recognized the importance of the Charismatic Renewal and the new movements and communities. She understands that the charismatic and hierarchical dimensions are co-essential to her life, and that these new works of the Holy Spirit are powerful currents running strongly in the great river of her life. But there is also a danger against which we must always be vigilant — that of losing our prophetic edge in our desire to be accepted.

The preamble to the ICCRS statutes reminds us very clearly of one of the most significant things about the Catholic Charismatic Renewal — something which makes us different from any other movement in the Church today.

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal is not a single, unified worldwide movement. It does not have a single founder or group of founders as many other movements do. It has no membership lists. It is a highly diverse collection of individuals, groups and activities, often quite independent of one another, in different stages and modes of development and with differing emphases, that nevertheless share the same fundamental experience and espouse the same general goals. This pattern of loose-knit relationships is found at the diocesan and national levels as well as on the international level. These relationships are often characterized by free association, dialogue and collaboration rather than by integration into an ordered structure. Leadership is characterized more by offering service to those who want it rather than by governance.

This explanation clearly shows us why the Charismatic Renewal is different, and what it is that we must protect and maintain. There have been attempts at the local, national, and international level to fit the Charismatic Renewal into a predetermined structure, with membership lists and criteria, formation programs, and a strong central authority. The leadership must always resist such attempt to change the nature of the Renewal because if they ever succeed, they will destroy its life. When the structures become dominant, the charisms die and the prophetic challenge is silenced.

Now, I’m not suggesting for a moment that the leadership in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal should resist the proper authorities, but I am saying that we must be on our guard against those who do not understand the nature of the Renewal and try to make it into something it can never be. At the heart of this great move of God is the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, a life-changing experience that turns us from works to faith, from law to freedom, and from self to God. This is the gift of the Charismatic Renewal to the Church and to the world, and it is a grace we desperately need if we are to face the challenges of the new millennium. So, as we give thanks to the Lord for all that he has done, let’s face the future secure in who we are, thankful for all that has happened and determined to remain charismatic and prophetic no matter what others may think, say, or try to do. The wind of the Spirit must be allowed to continue to blow wherever it pleases. †

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*This article is reprinted with permission from the ICCRS Newsletter. Charles Whitehead is Past President of this international branch of the Charismatic Renewal which is based in Rome.*

# CCRSO MEMBERSHIP LIST

For the convenience of prayer group leaders who should know who their CCRSO representative is, we give you below a complete up-to-date list. The membership list is made up as follows: one Bishop's liaison person is appointed by the Bishop of each diocese. Also one person is confirmed by the Bishop of each diocese for each Bishop, auxiliary or associate Bishop in the said Diocese (for example: Diocese of Hamilton has two bishops, therefore there are two member delegates). In addition, one extra person per diocese can be a member, who is confirmed by the Bishop of each Diocese or the "liaison" member for said Diocese.

## **Diocese of Alexandria/Cornwall**

### Bishop's Liaison

Elaine A. Smith, 330 7th St. W., Cornwall, ON N6J 2Y5. Phone 613-932-3543. E-mail: ElaineSmith@ccrso.com

### Member Delegate

Donald E. Smith, 330 7th St. W., Cornwall, ON K6J 2Y5. Phone & e-mail same as E. Smith above.

## **Diocese of Hamilton**

### Bishop's Liaison

Robert (Robin) Ferguson, 146 Cornell Ave., Kitchener, ON N2G 3E6. Phone 519-742-7478. E-mail: robin.ferguson@sympatico.ca

### Member Delegates

Reta Lienhardt, 24 Nine Pines Rd., Kitchener, ON N2E 1L4. Phone 519-743-2836. Fax: 519-742-0982. E-mail: rital@nonline.net

Sylvia Castellano, 5195 Porter St., Burlington, ON L7L 6R2. Phone 905-331-2920

## **Diocese of Hearst**

### Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Fr. Leo Papineau, c/o St. Patrick's Parish, 8 Cedar St., Kapuskasing, ON P5N 2A8. Phone 705-338-4673

## **Archdiocese of Kingston**

### Bishop's Liaison

Sr. Emily Doherty, CND, 7 Wright Cresc., Kingston, ON K7L 4T8. Phone 613-548-3575. Fax 613-548-4744.

### Member Delegate

Fatima Dias, 79 Old Oak Rd., Kingston, ON K7M 6X2. Phone 613-546-2324

## **Diocese of London**

### Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Vince VanZutphen, St. Peter's Seminary, 1040 Waterloo St., London, ON N6A 3Y1. Phone 519-434-5873.

### Member Delegate

Rita Fortin, 2250 Moy St., Windsor, ON N8W 2M6. Phone 519-256-8585.

## **Archdiocese of Ottawa**

### Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Joseph Muldoon, St. John the Apostle Church, 2340 Baseline Rd., Nepean, ON K2C 0C9. Phone 613-829-1760.

### Member Delegate

Rev. Mr. James Heffernan, 2448 Thorson Ave., Ottawa, ON K2C 1M5. Phone 613-820-7568.

## **Diocese of Pembroke**

### Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Fr. Merlin Ethier, 1389 Village Rd., Box 130, Astorville, ON P0H 1B0. Phone 705-752-1775.

### Member Delegates

Mr. Richard Fleury, 599 Glenwood Dr., Pembroke, ON K8A 1T7. Phone 613-735-5422

Mr. Michael Joyce, 314 Dominion St., Renfrew, ON K7V 1H4. Phone 613-432-9989

## **Diocese of Peterborough**

### Bishop's Liaison

Dennis Handy, Apt. 210, 865 Alexander Crt., Peterborough, ON K9J 7J5. Phone 705-749-3698.

**Diocese of Peterborough (continued)**

Member Delegates

Frances Killen, 236 Hartley St., Peterborough, ON K9H 5K5. Phone 705-742-0136. E-mail: vkillen1@home.com  
Cathy Gordon, P.O.Box 124, Baltimore, ON K0K 1C0. Phone 905-372-3623.

**Diocese of St. Catharines**

Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Fr. Donald Lizzotti, c/o St. Michael's Church, 310 Central Ave., Fort Erie, ON L2A 3T3. Phone 905-871-0692

Member Delegate

Kevin Trombley, 346 Helena St., Fort Erie, ON L2A 4J8. Phone 905-871-1840. E-mail: Monica Trombley@hotmail.com

**Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie**

Bishop's Liaison

Brian Sullivan, 745 Kells Rd., R.R. 1, Powasson, ON P0H 1Z0. Phone 705-724-1035. E-mail: briasull@enoreo.on.ca

Member Delegates

Cindy Sullivan (address and E-mail same as for Brian Sullivan above).

Mr. Terrance J. Shannon, 191 Wembley Dr., Sudbury, ON P3E 1N4. Phone 705-673-8273.

Gaetan Pelletier, 255 Parkland Crt., Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6R2. Phone 705-759-4995

**Diocese of Thunder Bay**

Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Mr. Armand Danis, 217 Gordon St., Thunder Bay, ON P7E 4T4. Phone 807-475-4016. E-mail: [adanis@tbaytel.net](mailto:adanis@tbaytel.net)  
Fax 807-577-8820

Member Delegate

Sandi Debesys, 1059 Riverdale Rd. N., Thunder Bay, ON P7C 4V2. Phone 807-475-8312.

**Diocese of Timmins**

Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Mr. Stan Cor, 810 Martin St., P.O. Box 237, Porcupine, ON P0N 1C0. Phone 705-235-5461. E-mail: [scoreo@canoemail.com](mailto:scoreo@canoemail.com)

Member Delegates

Janine Cor (address and phone number same as Stan Cor, above).

**Archdiocese of Toronto**

Archbishop's Liaison

Rev. Bill Comerford, Holy Name Parish, 71 Gough Ave., Toronto, ON M4K 3N9. Phone 416-466-8281. Fax 416-466-8559.  
E-mail: [wcomerford@axxent.ca](mailto:wcomerford@axxent.ca)

Joan Green, 695 Coxwell Ave., #604, Toronto, ON M4C 5R6. Phone 416-694-6737.

Patricia Compeau, 105-95 Paisley Blvd., W., Mississauga, ON L5B 1E7. Phone: 905-272-9061

Felicio Patrick Rodriques, 26 Chopin Cresc., Brampton, ON L6Y 2S1. Phone 905-459-2500 or 905-459-4661. Fax 905-450-4662. E-mail: [fprod@home.com](mailto:fprod@home.com)

**C.C.R.S.O. Board of Directors**

Brian Sullivan, President	Elaine Smith, Secretary	Richard Fleury
Rev. Mr. Armand Danis, Vice-Pres.	Sandra Debesys	Reta Lienhardt
Patrick Rodriques, Treasurer	Robin Ferguson	Donald Smith

**C.C.R.S.O. Director of Services**

Rev. Peter Coughlin, c/o St. John the Baptist Church, 2016 Blairholme Ave., Burlington, ON L7R 1V4. Phone 905-634-2485. Fax 905-634-6460.

**Crusade Chairman**

Mr. Robin Ferguson, 146 Cornell Ave., Kitchener, ON N2G 3E6. Phone 519-742-7478. E-mail: [robin.ferguson@sympatico.ca](mailto:robin.ferguson@sympatico.ca)

**Director, Bread of Life Renewal Centre**

Al Lukachko, 758 Applewood Cresc., Milton, ON L9T 3C4. Phone 905-875-2815. E-mail: [sdguaro@user.rose.com](mailto:sdguaro@user.rose.com)

## CATHOLIC INTERNET SITES

At the last meeting of Catholic Charismatic Services of Ontario (CCRSO) in Pembroke in October 2000, it was suggested that we provide a list of good Catholic internet sites where one could log into and find a wealth of information from the latest Catholic news to answers to any questions you may have. The list below are all Catholic sites Many deal strictly with Catholic Charismatic spirituality. We hope this list will be helpful to you. It is only a partial list. We intend to add to it in our next issue. If you have a favourite site which is not listed, we would be glad to hear from you and we will include it.

<http://www.catholiccanada.com/> (This is like a Canadian Catholic encyclopaedia.)

<http://www.christusrex.org/www1/CDHN/ccc.html/> (Site deals mainly with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.)

<http://www.companioncross.ca/> (Site of *Companions of the Cross* base in Ottawa)

<http://www.ewtn.com/wewn/index.htm/> (Site of Mother Angelica's *Eternal Word Television Network* in Irondale, Alabama)

<http://www.catholic.net/rcc/documents/teachingindex.html/> (Articles on everything Catholic)

<http://www.garg.com/ccc/> (Catholic Charismatic world Website)

<http://www.radixguys.com/> (Radix youth group)

<http://www.cin.org/> (Vatican News)

<http://www.Petersnet.net/> (An excellent source of CCR information and links to other sites)

<http://www.newadvent.org/> (An excellent source of CCR information and links to other sites)

<http://www.in-unity.org/> (A very large Catholic Charismatic site)

<http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/~bshouty/Charismatic.html/> (A site which gives an excellent history of the CCR)

<http://www.catholic-church.org/grace/cc/cc-home.htm/> (A CCR site which gives loads of good information)

<http://www.religion-cults.com/spirit/charismatic.htm/> (A CCR site which gives lots of good information)

<http://www.scborromeo.org/> (An excellent apologetics website – answers to a myriad of questions you may have.)

## LIFE JESUS HIGHER RALLY

Submitted by Jenny Wrong

As we in the Charismatic Renewal all know, God is indeed calling us all to evangelize for the Kingdom of God. The past may represent missed opportunities but the future holds the promise of bringing many to true spiritual conversion. One such opportunity is beckoning to you via the **9<sup>th</sup> annual 2001 LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY, on Saturday, March 3, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in Toronto.** Those of you who have attended past Rallies know how blessed you were and will not want to miss the great line up of speakers this year. In addition to the Renewal Team (**Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields** and **Peter Herbeck**), **Fr. Benedict Groeschel** and **Fr. Stan Fortuna** complement a spiritually dynamic program that, with the help of the Holy Spirit, will bring many to experience a deeper faith conviction.

**Fr. Benedict Groeschel**, a Professor of Psychology, has a long list of accomplishments and has authored many books on healing life's hurts. He is also a regular on Mother Angelica's television network EWTN.

Because of the many requests received for Youth Ministry, there is a separate youth track led by **Fr. Stan Fortuna**, a Franciscan Friar who hails from South Bronx in New York City. As an accomplished musician, composer and producer, Fr. Stan has a special appeal to young people. Nicknamed "the Cool Rappin' Priest," his gift of turning the Gospel message into Rap music with religious lyrics, has gained him a large following. His involvement with inner city kids and working with poor families gives this much sought-after priest deep insights into the psyche and the need for deliverance and conversion from the addictive behavior that imprison many young people.

The theme for this Rally is "**His Word will Change Your Life.**" So plan to attend this special event and bring someone who really needs to hear this life-changing message.

Check the web site: [www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.org](http://www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.org) or contact Larry (416) 227-2560, or Sadie (905) 270-2510 for more information and tickets. †

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL

The *Joy of the Lord* Prayer group hopes to facilitate a *Life in the Spirit Seminar* in the Spring utilizing the new participants prayer guide "Living Your Life in the Spirit of God" and the Video Series. Perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues in the chapel of St. Columban's Church in Cornwall, along with monthly healing masses.

### DIOCESE OF LONDON

Ozzie Wilson reports that London Diocese held a Day of Renewal on November 4, 2000 at St. John the Divine Parish. Guest speaker was Jim Murphy and music was provided by the BLD Praise Outreach Ministry from Guelph. Between 150-200 people attended. Besides sharing his personal testimony, Jim Murphy challenged us to respond to the call of our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II for a new evangelization. In the afternoon, a prayer meeting format was followed and many were blessed by Jim's exercise of the spiritual gifts, especially the Word of Knowledge. The day closed with Holy Mass. Before dismissing the people, Fr. Vince vanZutphen and Jim personally anointed and prayed over every person who desired it. The excellent ministry by Jim and the BLD Music Outreach led many to comment that this was the best Day of Renewal we had ever had.

The next Day of Renewal planned for London will be on **May 5, 2001** when the speaker will be **Sr. Ann Shields**. Meanwhile, *Eagle's Wings Ministries* which arranges Days of Renewal and other activities in London, is planning to conduct a *Life in the Spirit Seminar* to start on February 15 and end on March 29, 2001. We pray that the Lord will send us a fresh influx of persons interested in committing their lives to the Holy Spirit.

David Brock reports that the Holy Spirit is alive and well in Strathroy! *Emmanuel Prayer Group* at All Saints Church recently sponsored a Milenium Celebration day featuring Fr. Graham Keep from Listowel as guest speaker. The theme was "Refresh My Heart, Lord," and all who attended were truly blessed and refreshed.

Our parish mission was held at the end of November with Fr. Joe McCart. It was well attended and offered a new perspective on the healing power of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. We look forward to our upcoming *New Life in the Spirit Seminar* which will be held Thursday evenings from February 22 to April 5, 2001. For

more information please contact Alice Brock at 519-245-3382 evenings or weekends.

### DIOCESE OF PEMBROKE

Thirty-five people attended a *Life in the Spirit Seminar* last Fall. We were thrilled to have Father Peter Coughlin with us and it seemed fitting since it was a returning for him to the same place he first experienced the renewal years ago.

#### CCRSO SPRING CONFERENCE

April 20-22, 2001

at Bishop Smith Catholic High School  
in Pembroke

**Theme: "Be Renewed: Be Transformed into  
the Likeness of Christ"**

**Speakers: Fr. Roger Vandenakker  
and Fr. Peter Coughlin**

**Fr. Joe Kane will be on hand for guidance and  
confessions**

**Music Ministry: Adrian Chaput**

**Accommodations have been arranged at area  
motels at special conference prices and more  
information is available by contacting**

**Bev Fleury at <[bevfleury@sympatico.ca](mailto:bevfleury@sympatico.ca)>  
or Sherry Fleury at 613-735-5422.**

**Please register early**

### DIOCESE OF SAULT STE. MARIE

#### Sault Ste. Marie Region

Walter Morrow reports that a weekend *Life in the Spirit Seminar* was held in November at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Sault Ste. Marie. The seminar ran on Friday evening and all day Saturday, a total of fifteen hours. Eighty-five people took the seminars and twenty-five members of the prayer group served them. We were amazed on Saturday afternoon as about eighty percent of our total received the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Because of a time constraint we were able to use only five of the videos produced by Father Peter Coughlin. At the end of the seminar, we sent each person home with a copy of

*Living Your Life in the Spirit of God*" booklet with instructions to use it over the next seven weeks. The small group leaders are keeping in contact with each participant to handle problems and give encouragement. We were so pleased with the seminar results that we will be doing this again using the same format.

If anyone would like to contact me for details of our weekend, I would be pleased to assist in any way I can. Contact Walter Morrow at 705-7361-2812.

### **Thunder Bay Region**

In Terrace Bay the *Master's Light Prayer Group* have adopted a seminarian from Central America and they carry out a cenacle for priests every Thursday at a private home. Their prayer meetings are on Tuesday evenings after the Rosary and Mass.

Fr. Peter Coughlin visited the diocese at the invitation of Bishop Colli and Deacon Armand Danis. He traveled throughout the diocese with Armand, teaching and empowering people to pray for healing. He visited ten communities, traveling 2,800 kms. over a two week period. The reception by people and clergy was very positive and he has been invited to return.

## **ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO**

*Holy Rosary Prayer Group* will be hosting a **Healing Mass** with presider Fr. Stu Murphy on **January 11, 2001** at 7:30 p.m. It will take place at Holy Rosary Church, 356 St. Clair Ave. W., Toronto.

Hilda Martin also reports that *Holy Rosary Prayer Group* will also be facilitating a ***Life in the Spirit Seminar*** beginning **February 8, at 7 p.m.** For more information call Hilda at 416-781-0733.

A special gathering is being planned for January 20, 2001. On that day the Archbishop of Toronto, Aloysius Cardinal Ambrozic, will meet with priests, deacons, and leaders of Charismatic Prayer Groups in the Archdiocese of Toronto for a Eucharistic Praise Gathering.

It will be an all-day event beginning at 8:30 a.m. with registration. At 11 a.m. a special votive Mass of the Holy Spirit will take place with Aloysius Cardinal Ambrozic as the homilist. A guest speaker, Deacon Bill Brennan, a retreat master, a teacher and a conference speaker, will give two talks and also a presentation on The Holy Spirit Institute and how it could benefit the Renewal in Toronto. As the space is limited, regretfully, admittance is by invitation only. This day is sponsored by The Archdiocesan Charismatic Service Team (ACST) in Toronto.

## **THE GOLDEN HORSESHOE RENEWAL TEAM**

### ***In His Presence***

#### **A Call to Leadership Series**

**A Call to Intercession:** Saturday, January 13, 2001. An all-day seminar starting at 9 a.m., at St. Jerome Church, 8530 Chinguacousy, Brampton (cor of Chinguacousy & Drinkwater). Speaker: Fr. Peter Coughlin. Day ends with a Heal-ing Mass. For more info call Norina (905) 822-6836.

**Spiritual Leadership on Shepherding:** Saturday, February 17, 2001. An all-day seminar starting at 9 a.m., at Holy Rosary Church gym, 354 St. Clair W., Toronto. Speaker: Fr. Peter B. Coughlin. Healing Mass at 4 p.m.

## **A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

In our last issue we notified you that the **Leadership Retreat** planned for November 10-12, 2000 in Pembroke was being canceled. This retreat was for prayer group leaders and it was hoped that each prayer group would send one or two leaders. We are pleased to inform you that this Retreat is now scheduled for **September 28-30, 2001**. You will receive more information about this as time goes on.

Sometimes when talking to leaders in prayer groups they are not aware of this newsletter — they have never seen a copy. This makes us wonder if the contact person receiving this newsletter is passing it on to the others in the prayer group; or in the case of large prayer groups, are copies being made and passed on to the core group?

I would also like to urge prayer groups, especially the large ones to appoint a "publicity person," who would report to me any news of happenings in your prayer group. For example: are you facilitating a ***Life in the Spirit Seminar*** or any other seminars or programs? Are you planning any Days of Renewal? Is your prayer group involved in any special kind of ministry, i.e., soup kitchen, prison ministry, nursing home visitations, perpetual adoration, etc.? In other words: **WHAT ARE YOU DOING?** Perhaps, you might say: "we don't do anything special — we just meet regularly to praise and worship the Lord, to share and intercede for our own and other's needs." To that I would say, "Well, in today's darkened world, that's pretty special! You are a light shining in the darkness!" So write to me and let me know what's happening in your prayer group. Others are interested!

The next issue of **STIRRINGS** will be the **April 2001** issue. I will need your submission by **MARCH 21**. Mail, e-mail, or fax information to: Reta Lienhardt, 24 Nine Pines Road, Kitchener, ON N2E 1L4. Phone (519)-743-2836.

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