

STIRRINGS of the Spirit

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

Vol. 6, No. 1

October 2002

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 President

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!



I want to begin by thanking all the people who worked so hard to put together the Holy Spirit Conference. It was an awesome way to celebrate 35 years of Charismatic Renewal in the Catholic Church. Rex Pereira and his team deserve our thanks for their dedication and jobs well done.

In thirty five years, we have made some terrific headway but we have also made our share of mis-takes. In 1998 John Paul II in his Pentecost

Address to the Renewal and the other new movements and communities said this:

Their birth and spreading has brought to the life of the Church an unexpected and, at times, explosive innovation. This prompted questions, uneasiness, tensions; at times, it involved presumption and intemperance on one side, and many prejudices and reserves on the other. It was a period which tested their faithfulness, an important opportunity for verifying the authenticity of their charisms.

In this statement, there are two extremely important issues. First, we need to recognize that the Pope used the *past tense* – “it was a period which tested their faithfulness” – which means that the time of testing is over. It also means, in the eyes of the Church, these new movements and communities have been found to be faithful and their charisms authentic. And this is made clear by the strong support we receive from the hierarchy of the Church, from the Pope and the Bishops.

The second issue is much more difficult to deal with but anniversaries like this provide the setting in which to do so.

John Paul II eluded to our sinful nature saying the Charismatic Renewal caused tensions in which one side was presumptuous and intemperate (that would be us), while the other side held prejudices and reserves. These mistakes have produced barriers that have had the effect of keeping the Renewal on the fringes of parish life, separated in a spiritual sense from our brothers and sisters that sit in the next pew. This is a present reality in most of our parishes. It has created an image problem for the Renewal in the Church. The result of this tension was a division that the Holy Spirit never intended but that the devil has made good use of.

I was talking to Deacon Victor St. Croix from the Thunder Bay Diocese a few months ago and he said to me we need to follow the example of our Pope. I said, what do you mean? He said he is traveling the world asking forgiveness as head of the Catholic Church for its transgressions over its 2000 year history. This really struck me. Luigi Accattoli has written a book called *When a Pope Asks Forgiveness*. In it he reviews the 94 times, John Paul II has asked forgiveness in the name of the Church during his pontificate. He has apologized for the Crusades, the division in the churches, to women, to Jewish people, to Galileo, the Natives, Luther, Islam, the mafia, Rwanda, the Blacks and the list goes on. Why is he doing this? Because he is following the script -- the Holy Spirit's script -- the Sacred Scriptures:

So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering (Mt 23:24).

In reading through *When a Pope Asks Forgiveness*, Accattoli pointed out that in all 94 instances the Pope has corrected an opinion, admitted a fault, expressed regret, or

asked forgiveness. So let me follow his example in this too!

(1) Correcting an Opinion

It is my firm belief, and I believe I'm in good company when I say that the spirituality of the Charismatic Renewal is the spirituality of the Church. It is not like Franciscan spirituality or Jesuit spirituality. If you are Catholic, you are Charismatic. You can also be Franciscan or Marian but that is optional. The Charismatic Renewal is not a movement of the Church, it is a movement of the Spirit in the Church! In other words, to reject the Charismatic Renewal is to reject the work of the Holy Spirit, not the work of some person or some group in the Church.

At Pentecost 1998 the Pope made his desire very clear. He said:

I want to cry out: 'Be open and docile to the gifts of the Spirit!' Accept with gratitude and obedience the charisms that the Spirit never ceases to bestow. Do not forget that each charism is given for the common good, that is, for the benefit of the whole Church!

Now, how come when this truth is so plain to us that in the year 2000, only 2% of priests in Canada declared themselves as Charismatics? There are many reasons, some historic like the changes of Vatican II (that I won't get into now) but many have to do with you and me.

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal doesn't have to change the way it prays or praises or ministers in the power of the Holy Spirit, and it doesn't have to change its appearance. We need to ask forgiveness for our transgressions and we have to work on changing our attitudes, our perspectives.

(2) Admitting fault

We only have a 35 year history to look over but as the Pope said, "it involved presumption and intemperance on one side, and many prejudices and reservations on the other."

Our fault is in the presumption and intemperance; the presumption that everyone should accept this with open hearts and minds because we understand God's desire in it; the intemperance or excess perhaps in devotionism or in a tendency in our new found conversion to be so full of zeal that we say and do things that turn people off and push them away. But it doesn't end there. We have judged clergy who we felt were not supportive or lacked a certain zeal, or who weren't full of the Holy Spirit. We have insulted them by insisting that they read a certain book or come to a certain conference so they could "catch the fire." Sometimes we have thought ourselves better than others in the Church because of the gift the Lord has lead us to discover. It is our attitude, our perspective and our approach that is the problem here, not our desire, you understand. (My wife always says to anyone she hears this attitude from: "If you are so full of the Holy Spirit, you hold your hands over the bread and wine and see if they turn into the body and blood of Jesus.") Obviously I don't have room to include all our faults in this article but I hope you get the drift.

(3) Expressing Regret or Asking Forgiveness

I do regret all these mistakes because they have not allowed us to evangelize more of the Church and open the eyes of the faithful to the fullness of the truth the Holy Spirit wants to reveal. And as chairman of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of Ontario I ask forgiveness for our transgressions to all clergy and those that we sit in the pew beside and those in other churches whom we have offended. I pray that the Holy Spirit will help us face and remove these barriers to further His work in the Church.

Can I hear an Amen!

Yours in the Spirit,

Brian Sullivan, President, CCRSO

MY EXPERIENCE OF WYD

by Theresa Matters

My World Youth Day journey began about six months before the actual event. I had the wonderful opportunity of being in the presence of the World Youth Day Cross, as it visited my church. The WYD Cross had traveled to numerous countries since Pope John Paul II gave it to the youth of the world in 1984. It has become the symbol of World Youth Day and is cherished by young Catholics worldwide.

As WYD was getting closer and closer the excitement was rising. The first morning arrived and no one was prepared for the impact this journey of faith would have on their lives

forever. Most of us who were going had never been to a WYD event before but we had heard so many good things about previous ones. We were given our "pilgrim pack" with some little goodies in them. There was a map of Toronto, a book with all the events listed, a Canadian flag, the Gospel of Matthew, a wooden cross on a cord, to name a few. The leaders were given last instructions as we were donning our bandanas – some wearing them around their neck, others on their head.

Upon boarding the bus it would appear to be a normal yellow school bus full of students. But if you looked closer you'd see the various WYD paraphernalia, and the bright and cheery smiles of the teens who were definitely not going on a school trip! This trip would change the way they viewed the world and their faith. We arrived in Toronto and had a short walk to reach our destination at Exhibition Place. As we walked, we sang and did a lot of cheering about our Catholic faith. It was awesome to walk by houses and be greeted by Torontonians. Some had the flags of various countries hanging outside their house. They all smiled and waved us on to what awaited us.

At Exhibition Place we were amazed to see so many people with their countries' flag waving in the wind. Groups would walk past that were speaking different languages. It was exciting to meet and talk to people who spoke English and were from other parts of the world. Pins were swapped and email addresses were exchanged. You could turn a full circle and pick out at least ten flags. The challenging part was trying to figure out where some people were from if you didn't recognize the flag. That's why it would have been handy to have a flag book, or a person with the knowledge, there with us.

Thursday arrived and with it came the Pope's first public appearance in front of thousands of excited youths. People were getting ready early in the morning for the afternoon visit. By noon the best way to see the stage was to sit on someone's shoulders, otherwise the massive crowd of people and their flags were all you saw. The huge screens were many people's window to seeing Pope John Paul II. He spoke with wisdom and deep insight. He connected with the youth in a way only our beloved Pope could. He made it clear that "...today Jesus' voice resounds in the midst of our gathering. His is a voice of life, of hope, of forgiveness; a voice of justice and of peace. Listen to His voice!" The Pope challenged the youth to make a decision to follow Jesus always and trust Him because we need to "make His proclamation of joy resound in the new millennium." It was amazing to be a part of that gathering and hear the words of the Pope John Paul. He has inspired many and will continue to do so with his courage and perseverance in the face of adversity.

The weekend fast approached and we loaded our belongings onto the bus that contained our sleeping bags, tarps and clothes. We were going to Downsview Park! Before we touched the Park's grass though, we needed to make a 10 kilometer walk to reach the security gates. But this was no ordinary 10k walk! Everyone was carrying their bags and

everyone was exposed to the intense heat from the sun. As well, you could hear different groups singing and praising the Lord. Some people brought along guitars to play as they walked. My bag was so heavy and cumbersome that I fell with it several times. That reminded me of Jesus as He fell beneath His cross. Everyone on that pilgrimage has a cross to bear in their life and their bags were a physical object that brought a clear reality to the pain Jesus suffered. If we were in pain and tired from our walk, just think of the pain Jesus felt being hung on His cross. He carried His cross to Calvary, knowing He would meet His Father in Heaven. All the pilgrims walked to Downsview knowing they would see the Pope again and experience many more blessings.

By evening the number of people at Downsview was mind boggling. The Pope who led a beautiful evening vigil. flew in by helicopter, and he seemed energized to be there with us. The next morning, after rain and a lot of wind, again the helicopters arrived with our beloved Holy Father. I was privileged to be one of the thousands and thousands of people to be present as He celebrated Mass. As the Mass began, the clouds parted and the brilliant sun broke free and warmed us with its rays. But it wasn't just the sun that warmed us, but also the words of the Pope John Paul who again encouraged and inspired us.

He said to us: "You are young, and the Pope is old and a bit tired. But he still fully identifies with your hopes and aspirations. Although I have lived through much darkness, under harsh totalitarian regimes, I have seen enough evidence to be unshakably convinced that no difficulty, no fear is so great that it can completely suffocate the hope that springs eternal in the hearts of the young. Do not let that hope die! Stake your lives on it. We are not the sum of our weaknesses and failures; we are the sum of the Father's love for us and our real capacity to become the image of His Son."

Soon, it was over. The helicopters left in the clear blue sky and people began packing their things up. We hung around a bit to have lunch and take a few last pictures. Looking back on WYD brings back a warm feeling of unity that all the teens who attended felt. We all shared the same faith and we could all freely express it. Hopefully, WYD has inspired everyone to live their faith more fully when faced with secular challenges. One couldn't help but be encouraged in their faith by all the events of WYD. It was so good to be able to express it anytime and anywhere. Everyone has their own memories that they will cherish forever. †

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REPORT ON THE HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE

August 17-18, in Hamilton

by Margaret Schnarr

On August 17, a capacity crowd packed the Hamilton Place Theatre for the 2002 Holy Spirit Conference.

Father Stan Fortuna CFR, in his usual hard-hitting style roused the crowd with his first talk, "Holy Masquerade." He told us that we live in an age of hypocrisy, where evil is masquerading as good and Jesus has no tolerance for hypocrisy, especially for those who put on a false front of piety or religiosity like the Pharisees. In 2 Cor 11: 14-15, St Paul tells us, *"Even Satan can masquerade as an angel of light! It is not surprising then that his ministers disguise themselves as ministers of the justice of God."* Father believes that God is turning the lights on and revealing areas of corruption in His Church and in the corporate world. He is also lifting the veil and opening the eyes of believers to their own areas of hypocrisy. In these days of turmoil, Father asked us to fast and pray that we can see. Matt 6:22 *"The eyes are like a lamp for the body. If your eyes are sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eyes are no good, your body will be in darkness. So if the light in you is darkness, how terribly dark it will be!"* This tape is a "must have" for those who missed his talk and even for those who heard it, because it is a "now" word for us, full of wisdom, truth and encouragement and a very real challenge.

Brian Sullivan, chairman of the CCRSO also challenged us to seek a change in attitude. In 1967 there were 2 prayer groups in 2 countries. Today there are 148,000 prayer groups throughout the world with an estimated 13.4 million people participating each week, making the Renewal the fastest growing lay movement in the Church. But with this growth comes increased responsibilities. The Holy Father has told us that he expects from us, "the 'mature' fruits of communion and commitment." As mature charismatic Catholics we need to examine ourselves and where necessary follow our Holy Father's example in seeking forgiveness from those who have been hurt by our "presumption and intemperance." (See Brian's editorial on pp. 1-2 of this issue.) He also told us that if there is no mission coming from our prayer groups then we are not praying enough or we are failing to act on the word that has been given to us.

Father John Hampsch was the main speaker and gave a series of five talks focusing on how to have a deeper relationship with God as Father and how much God the Father desires that we know and respond to Him in this way. "The Open Arms of God" was the title of his first talk. Quoting "God is love" (1 John 4:16), Father told us that if love is not

thriving in us then we are not in the embrace of God. He also explained that if we seek God only for our own good and profit, we are not really seeking God. We should be attentive to God's needs. Praise and worship is a powerful tool that helps us in this area. When we enter into praise and worship, the arms of God open to release gifts and graces upon us as He reaches out to receive and embrace us. Jesus is the only one who can reveal the Father to us (Matt 11:27). How do we respond to him? Jesus always comes where He is welcomed. When we make our hearts available He will come and rest there.

In his 2nd talk, "Getting to Know our Huggable, Snuggable God," Father spoke of 9 ways to encounter the presence of God. Baptism in the Spirit leads us into a deeper dimension of God and because of this, charismatics have a deeper potential for holiness if we only respond to the grace that is given.

In his 3rd talk, "God as Your Roommate in the Room for Improvement," Father Hampsch spoke of the importance of cultivating an awareness of how God is acting in our lives. 2 Cor 3:18 tells us that; *"We who reflect the Lord's glory are being changed into his likeness."* We can stop God from making us holy by refusing to let Him work in us. There are many ways in which we "hide" from God, especially in times of trial. Father examined some of these ways and showed us how we ought to respond.

"Nestling in the Hand of God," Father Hampsch's 4th talk, focused on the need for the virtue of humility in our relationship with God so that we can trust Him in all things and rely solely on Him for all things. We are creatures dependent on God, we need to be humble, yet we cannot achieve it on our own. We need constantly to strive for this virtue. People who are humble are more effective in praying for healing for others. Sir 35, 17:18 tells us that: *"The prayer of the humble person pierces the clouds and goes to the heart of God. That prayer does not rest until it reaches its goal. Nor will it withdraw until God responds, judges justly and affirms the right."* He also reminded us that intellectualism, the lack of simplicity and humility is one of the biggest obstacles to receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

We were blessed to have Fr Stan talk to us again on his personal journey with the Lord, "My Walk in Joy."

Following the Mass on Saturday evening there was a time of Eucharistic Adoration. The Eucharist was then carried in

procession throughout the assembly. Many words of knowledge were given as to the healing the Lord was doing as He walked among His people. He healed many of spiritual blindness and still many others of physical problems. These people returned Sunday to publicly share their stories and to give praise and thanks to God.

The Sunday crowd as always was less than the Saturday which is a shame because the talks were excellent. Father Hampsch wound up his series with a profound talk on God's providence and care for us.

Bishop Sherlock was the celebrant and homilist for the closing Eucharistic Celebration. His homily was excellent and he reiterated Father Hampsch's point on humility. He told us that the Holy Spirit cannot live with pride and self-righteousness. Only in a state of humility can we be filled with the Holy Spirit. We are called to holiness, to allow the Holy Spirit to mold and form us into the image of Christ so that we can become what He calls us to be – the light of the world.

The Youth Track

Approximately 500 young people attended this separate session with Fr Stan Fortuna. They were greatly blessed as were the parents who attended as he gave much excellent advice to parents on how to deal with their young people. There are 3 tapes available from these sessions. We would encourage people to order the tapes from this Conference as one can gain so much from them. They can be ordered by calling the Bread of Life Office at (905)-529-4496. If you

could not attend you can at least receive the benefit of these excellent teachers by purchasing the tapes.

Music was led by the BLD -- Grand Valley Outreach Praise Ministry for the main conference. The Vision of Love Ministry ministered to the youth in song and skits.

Prophetic Word

Luke 1:76: *"You O child shall be called the prophet of the Most High, to go before the Lord to prepare straight paths for Him."* This is also our call. The Lord poured out His love and His glory upon us; we were embraced by the Trinity and reminded that we are indeed the "Temple of the Holy Spirit" and that "Greater is He who is within you than he who is in the world." God reminded us that His gifts and blessings are always available to us and so often we neglect to reach out and receive. We were given water from the "River of Life" and told to go and share what we had received with others. Isaiah 49:6-7: *"I will make you a light to the nations."* Matt 13:13-16: the Lord called us to pray for our brothers and sisters that they would have eyes to see and ears to hear the truth. He told us that His Word was *"Like a hammer shattering rock,"* and that we should pray that His Word would shatter the hard hearts of His people. God also told us that if we desired more of Him we were to keep our spiritual houses clean and to fill ourselves with His Word, see His face continually and live a life of love. Then His blessings would be poured out in abundance. †

MONTREAL FIRE RALLY

October 19, 2002

at

ST. JOSEPH'S ORATORY IN MONTREAL

9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

The team will be comprised of Fr. Michael Scanlan, TOR; Sr. Ann Shields, Ralph Martin and Peter Herbeck.

For the first time, the FIRE rally will be simultaneously translated into French, Italian and Spanish.

Registration: \$35.00 (US\$20.00)

For more information visit www.fireministry.org or call Faith Experience Ministries at (514) 695-7172.

DIOCESAN NEWS

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

The Holy Spirit prayer group in Cambridge will be facilitating a *Life in the Spirit Seminar* beginning October 29th.

One person turned out on Tuesday, September 24, a 7-week *in the Spirit Seminar* at St. Andrew's in Oakville. These seminars are being presented by Peter Coughlin. After the seminars a prayer group will be formed and healing masses and teaching nights are being

We are celebrating *Jesus Shepherd* which has been formed by Fr. Bill Trusz and Gatchene in Kitchener. It has 30-40 members and

DIOCESE OF EMBROKE

Charismatic Renewal in this diocese is under way or renovation. Two or three prayer groups ceased to function, but this does not mean that people are not seeking the Lord and experiencing His blessings. Many are experiencing the desert in various ways and going on in their search for the Lord's presence. At present the

faithful to what He calls them to

DIOCESE OF AULTWATER

The prayer group celebrated their 30th anniversary last May with a Mass

Fr. Halbing. In September their service group attended their annual Mass at Villa Loyola. Also in September there was a day of

Programs and activities for the Charismatic Renewal are various and advertised through these special events. They are sponsored by *little servants of Christ the King*.

DIOCESE OF EARSTOWN

The *Resource Team* was invited to conduct a parish mission at St. Patrick's Church in Kapuskasing, from October 24 to 27. The theme for that mission was "New Millennium". In addition, a number of Holy Masses will be celebrated as well as the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation." The mission ended on October 8.

DIOCESE OF SARNIA

The Green of St. Peter's Prayer Group in Sarnia is sponsoring a *Life in the Spirit* seminar this year. Perhaps 6 - 10 people signed up to take the seminars, but in the end a total of 54 attended. During the talks each week, they used the video series. Fr. Peter Coughlin led 48 people in prayer to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and all were blessed abundantly. A reunion was being

that the Spirit. On November 9 - 13, the *Resource Team* consisting of Fr. Deacon will be at St. Peter's Parish (Catholic that Hearst).

Edward Sault Ste. Marie sent in the following report. On the feast day of Our Lady of Good Friday following the 7 p.m. Mass, the Monstrance containing our Blessed Lord was removed from the perpetual adoration chapel and processed to the main altar of the church where it remained until 7 a.m. the next morning, when the adoration resumed at 8 p.m. until 7 a.m. the men of the core team each recited intercessory prayer and then laid hands on a large box

requests from one parishioner. The attendance of parishioners. The power and presence of the Holy Spirit. We thank God for this wonderful gift!

North Bay Region

On May 30th and June 2nd, as the *CCRSO Resource Team* was on their journey to and from Timmins, they stopped off in the North Bay area. Healing Masses were celebrated at Callander and Corbeil.

On Monday, October 28th, the *Resource Team*, again on their way back from Kapuskasing, will stop at North Bay for a meeting with those involved in the Healing Ministry. †

DIOCESE OF ST. CATHARINES

IN HIS PRESENCE

Day of Renewal and Reflection

with Fr. John Vandenakker

(Companions of the Cross)

Holy Rosary Church Hall,

Sullivan Ave., Thorold

November 23, 2002

Registrations at 8:30 a.m.; Mass at approx. 4:30 p.m.

Book table available & orders taken for books & tapes

Music by *Victory Rock* (formerly *Jochanaan*)

Theme: *Greater Things You will Do*

More info: Call Joan/Bill at (905)-684-3477

DIOCESE OF TIMMINS

In late May, the *CCRSO Resource Team* visited Timmins for a 2-day time of renewal focusing on healing. The theme for event was "I, the Lord, am your Healer" (Ex 15:26). The team consisted of Fr. Bill Comerford, Deacon Armand Danis and Pat Rodrigues, together with Michael Whate of the School of Healing Prayer in Toronto who was present as an observer.

About fifty people from Timmins, Kapuskasing, Kirkland Lake and Iroquois Falls attended the gathering. The program consisted of a number of teachings on healing by Fr. Bill and Deacon Armand, and a modeling workshop in which participants were taught how to pray for healing in a prayer team setting. The opportunity was also taken to participate in the Sacraments of the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation, as well as to attend Holy Mass with the

community at Nativity Parish. The event was a great success as was evidenced by such comments as: "What a blessing!" "It was a million times more than I expected," and "I think it's a miracle that they actually came up here."

Stan Cor, Bishop's Liaison for Diocese of Timmins summed up the weekend this way:

Surely God was with us, leading, guiding, inspiring, teaching, healing, setting us free from things that had us bound, and setting us free for His purposes. He reassured us of His awesome love for us, personally and individually. He challenged and strengthened our faith for healing and in other areas. He enabled us to give and receive forgiveness and freedom in forgiveness. He assured us that we are special, lovely and lovable to Him. He invited us to be more than mere followers: rather, He called us to be His disciples and friends. He has more confidence in us than we have in ourselves. It isn't about us; it is about Jesus. Jesus is the healer. He called us to be His voice, His hands, His feet to bring the Good News of salvation and healing wherever we go.

Stan went on to say that he heartily recommends the *CCRSO Resource Team* to prayer groups and parishes, and another visit to Timmins of the Team will take place on Tuesday, October 22nd, at which time a Healing Mass will take place at Nativity Church beginning at 7 p.m. †

ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

Christ the King Rally

"Launch Into the Deep"

Saturday, November 23, 2002

8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Queen Elizabeth Theatre

Exhibition Place, Toronto

Speakers: Bishop Faber MacDonald

Brian Sullivan (Youth Track)

Registration: \$15 adults; \$5 youth

Agenda: ❖ Praise and Worship ❖ Speakers
❖ Music Ministry ❖ Reconciliation ❖ Holy Mass ❖
Healing Service

Bring a brown bag lunch

For more info, call (416)-466-0776

Archdiocese of Toronto (continued)

Holy Rosary Prayer Group was the host for a retreat at Marylake Retreat House in King City the weekend of September 20-22. The facilitator was Deacon Armand Danis and the program consisted of teaching on prayer, healing and deliverance.

From the evaluation forms it was evident that the retreat was most uplifting and informative – giving participants a greater knowledge of the gift of healing and deliverance. Some had many questions in this regard which were answered and the deep presence of the Holy Spirit and sense of God's love was sensed throughout the weekend.

HOLY ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

will be sponsoring a
EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION WITH HEALING

Celebrant: Fr. Bob Bedard
(of the *Companions of the Cross* and *Food for Life*)
on Wednesday, November 6, 2002

at 7:30 p.m. at
Holy Rosary Church , 354 St. Clair Ave., W.
Toronto. (St. Clair W. exit on Spadina line)

Free parking
For more information call (416)-781-0733

St. John Fisher Church

300 Balmoral Drive, Bramalea

is sponsoring a

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION

followed by a healing service with the
Most Blessed Sacrament on
Thursday, October 3, 2002

Celebrant: His Excellency the Most Rev.
Pearce Lacey, D.D.

6:45 p.m. - Rosary
7:00 p.m. - Praise & Worship
7:30 p.m. - Holy Mass

For more info contact Shirley or Reg Digby at
(905) - 793-0422

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Summer has come and gone and now many prayer groups will be, or are in the midst of planning their outreach activities for the coming year. Several are getting ready to conduct a *Life in the Spirit Seminar*. Others will be facilitating an *Abundant Life* or *Alpha* Program, while others are planning a follow-up for these programs. Still, others will be putting a *Bible Study* into place. No matter what you are doing, please let me know so that we can announce it in this newsletter. No matter how trivial your plans seem to you, it is still news and an encouragement to others. It stimulates a flow of ideas in our own planning. Do you have a publicity person who would be in charge of publicizing your events – which would include sending information to **STIRRINGS**? Perhaps you could appoint someone to do this.

We would also like to hear from you if you have suggestions on how we can make **STIRRINGS** more interesting and worthwhile to you. What improvements or changes would you like to see? If we hear from some of our readers, we will devote space in the next issue to what you have to say.

Remember that the *CCRSO Resource Team* is available to come and minister to the needs of parishes, prayer groups or dioceses. In the January 2002 issue of **STIRRINGS** on page 2, our Chairman, Brian Sullivan outlined the activities and capabilities of this team. If you see a need in your prayer group or parish, discuss it with your core team, contact your bishop's liaison, and request the help of the *Resource Team*.

Finally, if you received this issue of **STIRRINGS** and you are no longer the contact person for your prayer group, please inform us who the new person is so we can keep our mailing list up-to-date. Thank you for your cooperation.

The next issue of **STIRRINGS** will be the January 2003 issue. Deadline for submissions will be December 16th. Send them to:

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web-site lately?

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