

STIRRINGS of the Spirit



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



Vol. 7, No. 2 January 2004

*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 have been doing some reflection on John Paul II's *Novo Millennio Ineunte*. It seems to me that the more I return to it the more I discover in it and the more clearly I see God's desire for his Church and to some extent the Charismatic Renewal.

You may recall in the last newsletter I spoke about how Bishop Sherlock had informed us that the Pope has asked each diocese to come up with a pastoral plan for the implementation of the vision he has unfolded in *Novo Millennio Ineunte*. He also suggested that we offer our services to help the dioceses achieve the plan. Let me clarify why this is advice we should not ignore.

Clearly one of the things that the Charismatic Renewal has done in the Church is establish prayer groups in different parishes. The main function of the prayer groups is to pray and, as new people join, we encourage and assist them in learning to pray. They are, I believe, what John Paul would call schools of prayer.

In chapter three of *Novo Millennio Ineunte* he writes, ***"Yes, dear brothers and sisters, our Christian communities must become genuine "schools" of prayer, where the meeting with Christ is expressed not just in imploring help but also in thanksgiving, praise, adoration, contemplation, listening and ardent devotion, until the heart truly 'falls in love'"*** (33). And so our prayer meetings are such places. We teach people to open their hearts to God and pray in all these different and wonderful ways. John Paul has stressed

that ***"it is essential that education in prayer should become in some way a key point of all pastoral planning"*** (34). The Charismatic Renewal obviously has something to offer the Church in this regard.

The reason that education in prayer is so essential to the plan is that prayer develops a relationship with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit allowing the heart to fall in love. A heart in love with the Lord, is a heart intent on holiness, on being transformed into the image of Jesus. John Paul II has stressed in *Novo Millennio Ineunte* that ***"holiness remains more than ever an urgent pastoral task"*** (30). He reminds us that those who have been baptized have received an objective gift of holiness and that this gift in turn becomes a task, which must shape the whole of Christian life: "This is the will of God, your sanctification" (1 Thes 4:3) (30)

The foundation of holiness is prayer and that is why the Pope is insisting that the pastoral plan be built on prayer. When prayer leads to holiness, the community engages in carrying out the will of God and takes seriously the universal call to evangelize. After all, the Church exists to evangelize (*Evangelli Nuntiandi*). Evangelization is the primary duty of the Church and is, in the end, the very reason for having a pastoral plan at all.

Put simply: Prayer leads to holiness and holiness leads to evangelization. Let's be open to offering our services to the Church to help her realize John Paul II's vision for the third millennium.

On a different note, I would like to extend my thanks to Fr. Bill Comerford who has served as our Director of Services for the past two years. Fr. Bill stepped in to help us after Fr. Peter Coughlin who had filled the position

previously was recalled to work in his diocese. Fr. Bill as well as fulfilling the duties of the Director of Services was also Secretary for the National Service Committee. Fr. Bill was especially effective as a member of the CCRSO Resource Team, a role which he has offered to continue being available for. Unfortunately for CCRSO we will not be able to fill the position of Director of Services for the next while. Our financial situation at the moment does not permit

us to make the monetary commitment required. We remain hopeful that things will turn around and the position will not have to be vacant for long.

May God bless you and all those that you love during this blessed Christmas season.

Yours in the Spirit,

Brian Sullivan, President, CCRSO †



COME BACK TO THE ROOTS: THE CHARISMS

by Peter Thompson

1. Charisms are gifts granted by the Holy Spirit

Why do we need to go back to the roots of the Charismatic Renewal, to speak again of charisms, their use and how they operate in our lives? Simply because if we are honest with ourselves, we realize that it is easy to forget how God has gifted us and to allow familiarity to breed contempt! To lose that zeal and hunger which the Lord could use and to allow the extraordinary charisms that the Holy Spirit has poured out on us to fall once again into disuse.

Remember when you first heard the gift of tongues operating in the prayer meeting, the beauty of the languages, especially the harmony of many singing in tongues, a heavenly language of praise to God. Remember when powerful prophetic utterances were given expressing the very thoughts of God. Remember the expectant faith in which we see the healing hand of our Saviour touching the sick and the infirm, restoring bodies to health. Remember in your prayer ministry having the expectation of receiving a word of know-ledge, words of wisdom, and discernment of spirits.

When was the last time a prophecy was given at your prayer meeting or the other gifts routinely manifested? Is the only extraordinary charism still operating the gift of tongues and even that, only for a few brief seconds? If this is so then we need to repent and earnestly implore the Holy Spirit to stir up our faith and zeal to be his instruments once again. If St. Timothy needed to be reminded by St. Paul to fan the flame and remember when hands were laid upon him (2 Tim. 1:6) how much more do we who so easily let the fire dwindle and

grow cold need to fan the flame and remember when hands were laid upon us to receive the Holy Spirit and receive the gifts that He so generously poured out upon us.

2. Charisms – gifts for all

St. Paul in 1 Cor 14:1, tells us to seek eagerly after love and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. *Earnestly desire*. This expresses a hunger that should be unabated. Why? Certainly not for our own glory, but because God has called us to be his instruments in

The charisms are not meant for a select few, but are given to all the faithful as the Spirit wills. They are meant to facilitate the building of the Kingdom of God

proclaiming the Gospel to all: to be witnesses of the truth which is Jesus, and his desire to empower his witnesses with charisms to facilitate the building of the Kingdom. Just read Mk 16:17: *These signs will accompany those who have professed their faith: they will use my name to expel demons, they will speak entirely new languages, they will be able to handle deadly serpents, they will be able to drink deadly poison without harm, and the sick upon whom they lay their hands will recover.*"

Here is a list of charisms meant for all believers confirming the message of the Gospel. Pope John Paul II, when he spoke to the 500,000 members of lay movements at Pentecost 1998, reminded the Church that the charismatic and the institutional were co-essential in the life of the Church. We in the Charismatic Renewal to whom so much has been given should be the leaders, in the very forefront of God's people using the charisms, both ordinary and extraordinary daily, in our prayer life and in the opportunities that God gives us daily to minister His love and power to those He has given us in our families and

communities.

Do we listen to St. Paul's instructions to those who gather for prayer in that we should come prepared? (1 Cor 14:26-33). Have we prepared our hearts to listen to the prompting of the Holy Spirit before we come to the prayer meeting? Do we have a prophetic word, an inspired prayer, a new song, a Scripture passage that has inflamed our hearts and ready to share? Are we willing to speak boldly for the glory of God and the building up of the body?

3. To build up the Body of Christ

They are at the service of charity which builds up the Church: St. Paul's 12th chapter in 1 Cor., and the quotation from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* §2003, remind us as to the purpose of the charisms of the Holy Spirit. Charisms, whether ordinary or extraordinary, are meant for the common good, for building up the body of Christ. They are vital if the Church is to grow and function properly. Consider the human body – I may be without sight or hearing or may have lost the use of a limb. None of these will kill me yet I am impaired, hampered in my abilities to function fully. Certainly we see remarkable people who experience physical disabilities of various kinds, but God created us to have our various faculties so that we could function and care for ourselves and others.

Likewise the body, the Church, may not be manifesting the charisms of the Holy Spirit. If so, certainly she will not die: God has promised that nothing will destroy His Church. However, without the charisms she is severely impaired in her ability to make Christ known and effectively to spread the Gospel. We need the charisms if we are to function effectively. They are the power tools of evangelization opening the hearts and minds of man to receive the grace of the Holy Spirit and come to faith in Jesus Christ. They help those who have embraced Christ to grow in faith and hear the Lord speaking to his people. They bring healing and mighty miracles to fortify the body of Christ, encouraging the faithful to put absolute trust in the Lord of all.

Charisms are not optional aids to the people of God, but necessary for the whole body. Neither are they meant for a select few but are given to all the faithful as the Spirit wills so that the Church, a living body, may operate in the power of God. St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Ephesians, to draw our strength from the Lord and His mighty power (Eph 6:10), and also that there is immeasurable scope for God's power at work in those who believe.

4. Not marks of holiness

Charisms are meant for all Christians. We see this as the norm for all who follow Christ, but they are not in themselves marks of personal holiness. To speak in tongues does not denote that the person has made it spiritually or is better than

the person who does not manifest that gift. Catholic teaching does not embrace the belief that proof of baptism in the Holy Spirit is the manifestation of speaking in tongues. St. Paul puts this into context in 1 Cor 13 where he reminds us that without charity we are a noisy gong, a clanging cymbal, telling us that the gifts will cease for they are meant for a time and place: but these things will last, faith, hope and love and the greatest of these is love.

This does not mean that we should not desire the gift for they are powerful tools in the building of the Kingdom. We, like craftsman who learns to use his tools with wisdom and skill, need to learn how to operate effectively in the power of the Holy Spirit.

5. Use them or lose them

Throughout the centuries since Pentecost, the Church has seen great movements of the Holy Spirit. In the book, *Christian Initiation and the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, evidence from the first eight centuries*, by Kilian McDonnell and George T. Montague, the authors lead us through the evidence of Church writings showing how the baptism in the Holy Spirit was the norm in those early centuries. So what happened? The gifts fell into disuse and periodically God has stirred up His Church calling forth renewal to inflame the body once again. Are we in danger so soon after this new Pentecost of seeing the gifts of the Spirit dwindle once again? It rests with each one of us to fan the flame and use the gifts regularly. Why do we wait for the weekly prayer meeting to pray in tongues, or to think about what the Lord desires to say to His people? Tongues should be a daily part of our prayer life. 1 Cor 14:4 reminds us that he who speaks in tongues builds up himself. We need building up daily, so use this gift every day.

Pray for a new tongue and pray also for interpretation of tongues. When there has been an interpretation of tongues with someone knowing the language spoken, it has caused a profound boost in faith to those present. Immerse yourself in Sacred Scripture, especially the prophets and the Gospels. In this way one takes on the mind of Christ and is able to hear the prophetic prompts of the Spirit. Then come prepared to speak your prophecies so that the faithful may receive the words of encouragement and exhortation that God desires to give. Use the gifts when the opportunity arises, praying with the sick child, counseling the confused, instructing the ignorant, rebuking the sinner. When we operate in the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, the gifts of the Holy Spirit should be there to assist us in God's work. †

Peter Thompson is from Edmonton. He is one of 14 council members of *International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS)* which is based in Rome. This article was reprinted from the May-June 2003 issue of the ICCRS Newsletter.

CCRSO MEMBERSHIP LIST

For the convenience of prayer group leaders who should know who their CCRSO representatives and Bishop's Liaisons are, 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 the 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: elaine.smith@ccrso.org

Member Delegate

Donald E. Smith, 330 7th St. W., Cornwall, ON N6J 2Y5. Phone: 613-932-3543. E-mail: don.smith@ccrso.org

Diocese of Hamilton

Bishops' Liaison

Rev. Paul Voisin, CR., 49 Blueridge Ave., Kitchener, ON N2M 4E2. Phone 519-745-7301. E-mail stfrankw@sentex.net

Member Delegates

Reta Lienhardt, 24 Nine Pines Rd., Kitchener, ON N2E 1L4. Phone 519-743-2836. E-mail: riehardt@porchlight.ca

Estelle Meunier, Unit 9 - 205 Highland Cresc., Kitchener, ON N2M 5L6. E-mail: estelle_meunier@hotmail.com

Diocese of Hearst

Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Fr. Leo Papineau, P.O. Box 700, 48 Hollywood, Smooth Rock Falls, ON P0L 2B0

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

E-mail: liturgy@romancatholic.kingston.on.ca .

Member Delegate

Pauline Lacey, 215-2075 Battersea Rd., R.R.#1, Glen Burnie, ON K0H 1S0. Phone 613-544-5268

Diocese of London

Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Vince VanZutphen, St. Peter's Seminary (U.W.O.), 1040 Waterloo St., London, ON N6A 3Y1. Phone 519-434-5873. Office Phone: 519-432-1824. Fax: 519-432-0964. E-mail: vzutphen@uwo.ca

Member Delegate

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

Archdiocese of Ottawa

Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Joseph Muldoon, c/o Good Shepherd Parish, 3092 Innes Rd., Ottawa, ON K1W 1C8. Phone 613-824-4394; fax 613-824-9127

Diocese of Pembroke

Bishop's Liaison

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

Member Delegates

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

Michael Joyce, 314 Dominion St., Renfrew, ON K7V 1H4. Phone 613-432-9989; at work fax 613-432-7463

Diocese of Peterborough

Bishop's Liaison

Frances Killen, 236 Hartley St., Peterborough, ON K9H 5K5. Phone 705-742-0136. E-mail: vkillen1@cogeco.ca

Member Delegates

Catherine Offierski, 561 Weller St., Peterborough, ON. Phone 705-876-7387.

Mary L. Porter, 125 Ridgewood Rd., Peterborough, ON K9J 1P2. Phone 705-740-0452. E-mail: cmporter@cogeco.ca

Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie

Bishop's Liaison

Brian Sullivan, 745 Kells Rd., R.R. 1, Powasson, ON P0H 1Z0. Phone 705-724-1035. Fax same as phone number, but call first. E-mail: briasull@enoreo.on.ca

Member Delegates

Cindy-Lee Sullivan (address and phone numbers same as for Brian Sullivan above). E-mail: briasull@enoreo.on.ca

Mr. Terrance J. Shannon, 191 Wembley Dr., Sudbury, ON P3E 1N4. Phone 705-673-8273. E-mail: terrence.shannon@sympatico.ca

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

Kas Pelc, 28 Lakeside Lane, Corbeil, ON P0H 1K0. Phone 705-776-2191. Fax 705-474-0582. E-mail: cana1@sympatico.ca

Diocese of St. Catharines

Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Donald Lizzotti, St. Thomas More Church, 6548 Dorchester Rd., Niagara Falls, ON L2G 5T5. Phone: 905-356-7533. Fax: 905-356-9087. E-mail: djl@cogeco.net.

Member Delegates

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

Norman Gauthier, 199 Commercial St., Welland, ON L3B 5Z5. Phone: 905-732-3573

Diocese of Thunder Bay

Bishop's Liaison

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

Member Delegates

Deacon Victor St. Croix, 649 Lakeview Dr., Kenora, ON P9N 3P6. Phone 807-468-7654. E-mail: jstcroix@voyageur.ca

Anna M. Femiak, 215 West Walsh St., Thunder Bay, ON P7E 4W7. Phone 807-577-2727. E-mail: jfemiak@home.com

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: sjcor@ntl.sympatico.ca

Member Delegate

Richard Piquette, 806-19 Preston, Timmins, ON P4N 7Z2. Phone: 705-268-3180. E-mail: [rickyp@ntl.sympatico.ca](mailto:ricky@ntl.sympatico.ca)

Archdiocese of Toronto

Bishop's Liaison

Rev. Mr. Carlos Nogueira, 14-9900 McLaughlin Rd. N., Brampton, ON L6Y 4Y3. Phone 905-455-6521. Fax: 905-454-0876. E-mail: cy2j@rogers.com

Member Delegates

F. Patrick Rodrigues, 26 Chopin Cresc., Brampton, ON L6Y 2S1. Phone 905-459-2500. E-mail: fprod@rogers.com

Cecilia Nogueira, 14-9900 McLaughlin Rd. N., Brampton, ON L6Y 4Y3. Phone: 905-455-6521. E-mail: cy2j@rogers.com

Hilda Martin, 47 Gloucester Gr., Toronto, ON M6C 2A2. Phone: 416-781-0733. E-mail: martin0733@rogers.com

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

Brian Sullivan, President

Rev. Mr. Armand Danis, Vice Pres.

Patrick Rodrigues, Treasurer

Elaine Smith, Secretary

Donald Smith

Rev. Mr. Victor St. Croix

Kas Pelc,

Rev. Fr. Don Lizzotti

Frances Killen

CCRSO Southern Ontario Holy Spirit Conference Committee Chairperson: To be determined.

CCRSO Eastern Ontario Holy Spirit Conference Committee Chairperson: Don Smith, 330 7th St. W., Cornwall, ON K6J 2Y5. Phone: 613-932-3543. E-mail: don.smith@ccrso.org

CCRSO Northern Ontario Holy Spirit Conference Chairperson: Brian Sullivan, 745 Kells Rd., R. R. #1, Powasson, ON P0H 1Z0. Phone: 705-724-1035. E-mail: briasull@enoreo.on.ca

Youth and Life in the Spirit Seminars

by Cindy-Lee Sullivan

We just finished another successful or should I say grace-filled retreat for 100 teenagers in our barn here at Sacred Way Farm. (Thanks for the prayers) All of our retreats , whether for grade 7&8's, for confirmation, or for older youth consist of the basic gospel message which can be summed in the *Life the Spirit* seminars. We change the name, and the packaging but the message is the same. "God's Love" becomes "His Awesome Love." "Salvation" becomes "The Gap"; "New Life" becomes "No God No Peace – Know God Know Peace," get the picture? In adult retreats we have talks and discussion groups. In youth retreats you set up games, ice breakers, loud music, shorter talks (never forgetting the meat), and a skit or two to drive the point home. Expect the evenings or weekends to be loud and the kids excited. If you need to, bring in youth ministries that specialize in youth ministering to youth. (for example, our ministry *YEO, Youth Evangelizing Others, Youth to Youth* from Michigan or *Net Canada*, to name a few.) If you have adults who are willing (this may go under the category of brave or crazy) take a group of youth on a retreat and then begin setting up your own ministry. It is awesome to see youth fully alive.

This morning I had 100 teenagers in our barn who looked like they thought we were crazy for jumping around and singing a few actions songs ("Days of Elijah," "Big House" and "Trading my Sorrows" – good for starters). But as the day went on and they experienced God's awesome love, His forgiveness through the sacrament of reconciliation and the hope of a New Life they began to rejoice as only youth know how. Before they left on their buses the barn was rocking with them all jumping up and down like you would see at a rock concert, only their focus was Jesus! What an awesome God we serve!

If you are feeling called to begin working with youth, pray lots and then take the plunge, you will be glad you did!

Cindy-Lee Sullivan
Director of YEO (Youth Evangelizing Others)
745 Kells Road
Powassan, ON P0H 1Z0
email yeo_mom_sullivan@hotmail.com †

CCRSO RESOURCE TEAM REPORT

During the last week of September, the Resource Team conducted a Fall Mission at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Kapuskasing, Ontario. It was facilitated by two deacons from the Diocese of Thunder Bay: Armand Danis and Victor St. Croix.

It was a four-day mission which evolved around Pope John Paul's Apostolic Letter, "*The New Millennium*" (*Novo Millennio Ineunte*). A different teaching was presented each night: (1) Witnesses to Love, (2) The Spirituality of Communion, (3) Vocation of the Laity: Instruments of God, and (4) The Luminous Mysteries and the Light of the World. After the teaching on Tuesday night a healing service was held and the sacrament of reconciliation was available to those wanting forgiveness.

However, the Mission was not confined to the church only. On Monday morning, the students of St. Patrick's School, Grades 4 to 8, were invited to the church hall and took part in an interactive session with Deacon Armand. Before they returned to school, they were given a luminous rosary along with a pamphlet on how to pray the rosary. Most of the children were seen leaving the church wearing their rosary around their neck.

On Tuesday morning a team consisting of Deacons Armand and Victor, and a representative from the Ministry

of the Sick visited sick and elderly parishioners in their homes. On Wednesday morning, the team, with the assistance of Fr. Fern, visited the hospital and nursing home. Many people were prayed over, received blessings and felt the healing power of the Holy Spirit. For these parishioners, who are no longer able to come to church because of their circumstances, this outreach re-connected them to their faith community.

On Wednesday evening, the last night of the Mission, a Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated. The theme was "The Light to the World." Fr. Fern began with the message that Pope John Paul gave to the youth at World Youth Days in Toronto. The lights in the church were dimmed and the Mass began with a candle-light procession with everyone participating.

It was reported by the organizers that this mission brought the parish together as a *family* in a faith community, as God's love was manifested in His people.

For more information regarding the CCRSO Resource Team and the services which they can provide, contact Mr. Pat Rodrigues, Resource Team Coordinator, 26 Chopin Cresc., Brampton, ON L6Y 2S1. Phone: 905-459-2500; email: fprod@rogers.com †

Submitted by the A/C Diocesan Renewal Team

The diocese continues to be blessed through the efforts of our new bishop and Diocesan Youth Ministry Co-ordinator and Organizer of events for Young Adults. Bishop Paul-Andre Durocher appointed Marilyn Bergeron to formally extend the ministry she was previously providing as a volunteer in the diocese. Marilyn has brought together teams of people to carry out some much-needed ministry.

Journey to the Father 2004 is planned for St. Raphael the weekend of July 16-18, 2004. Confirmed speakers for this Steubenville-style High-School-Age Catholic Youth Conference include Bishop Paul-Andre Durocher, Fr James McManamy, Fr Stephan Pouliot, Marilyn Bergeron, Youth Worker; Charity Andrzejewski and Josh Sullivan, *NET*; and Peter VanKampen, *LifeTeen*. Music Ministry by Sam Zettel and the *Mustard Seeds*. Info/Registration forms are available from CCRSO's Don or Elaine Smith at 613-932-3543 or signmeup@journeytothefather.ca

This past Fall saw young adults gather for six consecutive Sunday evenings to hear Bishop Paul-Andre discuss important areas of the Catholic and Christian journey. He made a point of addressing their many questions about their faith experiences. The bishop made it abundantly clear that foundational to the Christian life is a relationship with the living God. CCRSO's Don and Elaine Smith accepted to serve on the team of Animators for the events, with Don also serving as Sound Technician each week.

Bishop Paul-Andre was also the main presenter at separate workshops on Liturgical Music Ministry for Adults as well as for Youth and their mentors. Don Smith presented teachings to the youth on Copyright Licencing as well as Contemporary Worship Resources. As a result of the music workshops, the first of two regional groups are being formed to help young people with musical abilities to learn to use their gifts for the service of the church. The desire is to form a similar group in the rural area of the diocese. Opportunities are being sought by the Co-ordinator of Youth Ministry for these youth to periodically serve at Sunday Masses and special events.

For the new year, activities such as the first **CCRSO Eastern Ontario Holy Spirit Conference** are in the works. The Board of CCRSO is committed to bring to the other regions of the province the Hamilton-type experience so many of us have enjoyed. The first regional event is meant particularly to service Alexandria/-Cornwall, Ottawa and Kingston (arch)dioceses and will no doubt draw Catholics from south and east of the borders as well. The Hamilton committee is taking a well-deserved break this year. All are welcome, but advance registration is strongly advised. Please see the back page of this issue for details. †

On the weekend of February 20-22, 2004 a *New Life Retreat* will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 49 Blueridge St., Kitchener. This retreat will be facilitated by Gary and Margaret Mellor of Ottawa, and hosted and assisted by members of prayer groups in Kitchener.

The *New Life Retreat* is similar to a Life in the Spirit Seminar but in an expanded version. It places emphasis on a Catholic context by having the participants renew their Baptism and Confirmation, and in the course of the weekend each of the participants are prayed with for a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit in their lives. For more information, contact Estelle Meunier at (519) 745-1936. Or E-mail: estelle_meunier@hotmail.com.

Continuing with a plan to form an Inner Healing Ministry in the area, on Saturday, March 27, 2004, Mary Ann Crosland of Oakville and Pattie Matheson, Burlington, will address the topic of "Looking at the Impact of New Age on Inner Healing." This workshop will also take place at St. Francis Church in Kitchener. †

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

In the first issue of STIRRINGS (October 1997) our President, Brian Sullivan, said: "It is hoped that this newsletter will give a voice to the Charismatic movement within the Catholic Church in Ontario ... that it will be a way for us to communicate with each other about how the Lord, through the power of the Holy Spirit is bringing renewal to His Church. This can happen only if there is participation by all the dioceses in Ontario."

So again, I would urge CCRSO members, Diocesan Service Committee members, and leaders of prayer groups to not hesitate to send me information, no matter how small and insignificant it may seem to you. Send us notices of Days of Renewal, Life in the Spirit Seminars, Growth Seminars, etc. Or, if your event fell between issues of *STIRRINGS*, send us an account of how it went. Our readers are interested in what other prayer groups are doing. That's the whole purpose of this newsletter.

Also I would like to remind prayer group contact people who receive this newsletter that it is not intended for them only but for the leaders and other interested people of your prayer group. Therefore we would encourage you to make copies and pass them on. If copying is inconvenient for you we can send you bulk mailings at 30¢ per copy plus mailing. Just contact me

Mrs. Reta Lienhardt, Editor

24 Nine Pines Rd., Kitchener, Ontario

Phone: (519)-743-2836

E-mail: rlienhardt@porchlight.ca



Celebrate Jesus

Eastern Ontario Holy Spirit Conferences



Anointed Speakers!

Fr. Don Lizzotti
CCRSO Resource Team
& Retreat Master

**Bishop Paul-Andre
Durocher WYD &
Nat'l Catholic Mission**



Brian Sullivan
CCRSO President



Marcel Dion
Lay Evangelist



Saturday April 24, 2004
St. Joseph Catholic High School - Cornwall
Adults - Theatre-style Auditorium
High School Youth - Gymnasium



Message shared via
Skits & Mime

Advance Registration Recommended:
\$15 Adult Conference
\$8 High School Youth Conference
webmaster@ccrso.org or 613-932-3543

Two Awesome Worship Teams!



Signing for the
Hearing Impaired

Day Includes Mass & Worship Concert

**Brought to you by CCRSO
and local Diocesan Renewal Teams**