

STIRRINGS of the Spirit

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

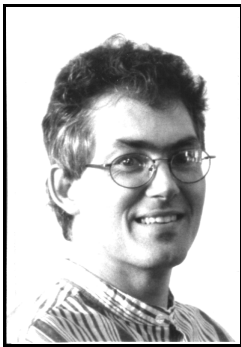
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Our mission is to promote and participate in the ongoing renewal of the Catholic Church, witnessing to the reality of Jesus Christ and the love of the Father, under the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, exercising the charisms received through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

From our President

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!



The close of one year and the ushering of the next is always a good time to reflect on the past with thanksgiving and to look forward to the future with hope.

As I look back on this past year with CCRSO, I realize that in some ways it has been a much different year than I expected. At the prayer group level, things seem to have continued as always. Many *Life in the Spirit Seminars* have been offered across the province, many hymns sung, many

prayers prayed. The Holy Spirit continues to gift us, to lift us and to reveal God's truth freeing us to praise, to worship and to adore Him. There is a trend slowly emerging in which prayer groups are evangelizing not only at the prayer group level but at the parish level when there is support from the clergy. The *Life in the Spirit Seminar* is the vehicle used for this evangelization, but as Pat Rodrigues indicates in his article in this edition of *Stirrings*, many different parish ministries can be involved in delivering the seminars. It looks to me like the work of the Spirit.

At the provincial level, the Lord has had us quiet our "doing" particularly with the summer conference. This past year is the first in decades in which CCRSO did not host a summer conference. This coming year will be the second. We have discerned that the Lord was calling us in a different direction with respect to the location, the venue and the program of this conference. In this past year we have also been reminded of the Pope's words, "Our doing must have its foundation in our being." At our meeting this past October, we decided that it was better to wait for a clear direction than to charge ahead doing our own thing for the sake of doing something. When we make the change, we want to get it right.

As Reta was preparing this edition of *Stirrings*, she sent me Margaret Schnarr's article on the "History of the Renewal" which had originally been written for *The Bread of Life* magazine, and the interview about the Burning Bush Initiative. In them I sense

another move of the Spirit. They may indicate for us the new direction the Lord would have us move in developing a "new program" for the summer conference. I would invite you to read Margaret's article and the interview with Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins about the Burning Bush Initiative. Then I would invite you to email me (briasull@enoreo.on.ca) about whether you agree with shifting the focus of the summer conference to adoration and intercession focussed on the renewal of the Church, Christian unity and the renewal of our society. I will bring your comments and suggestions to the next CCRSO Board of Directors meeting for discussion and further discernment.

I would also ask you intercede for your CCRSO Board of Directors. In quieting our "doing" the Lord has been busy forming our "being". As I look at our leadership team, this formation is happening in the midst of hardship for most of us. The CCRSO Board of Directors is made up of nine members. Three are experiencing serious sickness in their immediate family, three have lost their jobs, one has lost two loved ones. I am sure for all of us, these hardships (and those I have not mentioned) lead us deeper into prayer and surrender. This is good for our **being**. It purges, cleanses and purifies our intention and our will. We are confident that the Lord uses every ounce of suffering and every heartfelt prayer offered up to bring the greatest possible good to bear on the situation. It is the reality of this Love that allows us to be grateful and hopeful in the midst of the difficulty.

The Lord has given this word to sustain me and remind me why He is permitting the hardship.

"I shall pour clean water on you and cleanse you. I shall cleanse you of all your defilement and all your idols. I shall give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I shall take you heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I shall give you a new spirit and make you follow my laws being careful to respect all my observances. I shall give you the land promised to your ancestors. You shall be my people and I will be your God." Ezekiel 37:25-28

What will this year hold? For me it holds much promise.

Yours in the Spirit,

Brian Sullivan, President, CCRSO †

THE SPIRIT IS MOVING!

PARISH-BASED LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

by Pat Rodrigues

Have you ever stopped to consider what exactly is a *Life in the Spirit Seminar (LSS)*? To many prayer group leaders it is primarily a marketing tool to attract new members to the prayer meeting. In fact, a **LSS** is much more than that. Let's look at the definition I like to use when I am asked, "What is a *Life in the Spirit Seminar*"

A *Life in the Spirit Seminar* is: "A Catholic spiritual development process which was created more than 30 years ago. Its aim is to draw individuals into an intimate and unique relationship with God, by making them more aware of and open to the power and action of the Holy Spirit in their lives."

This definition speaks to the most basic desire of all Christians i.e. intimacy with the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Renewal has been given this wonderful gift but instead of sharing it with all God's people, more often than not we have reserved it for the fortunate few who happen to attend our prayer meetings. Finally, the Holy Spirit is awaking us to the true realities of this precious gift.

Over the past year, four parishes in the Toronto area have sponsored **LSS** for their parish communities and presently three others are working on plans for similar seminars in the Spring. In the meantime, we have heard that the Archbishop of Vancouver has appointed an individual to organize and coordinate **LSS** in parishes within that Archdiocese and to date more than 30 *Parish-Based LSS* have been held in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Similar seminars are also being held in Montreal and the Atlantic Provinces. Obviously the Spirit is telling us that we should look beyond the needs of our own prayer groups and give all God's people the opportunity to grow in intimacy with Him, through the power of the Holy Spirit: in other words, via *Parish-Based LSS*.

So, what is a *Parish-Based LSS*? Simply put, it is much more than a **LSS** organized and run by the prayer group with invitations extended to members of the parishes via flyers, brochures or inserts in the parish bulletins. A *Parish-Based LSS* is a parish event, approved, endorsed and actively supported by the Pastor of the parish. In this respect, it is really no different from the RCIA program or the Marriage Preparation course, both of which form part of regular parish activity.

The Organizing Committee of a *Parish-based LSS* is made up of representatives of the various parish ministries: Knights of Columbus, CWL, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers etc., plus one member of the prayer group. There is a

balance created in such an approach because the strengths of the various parish ministries are put to best use. Not only that, but each of the parish ministries involved is taking ownership for what happens and are more likely to encourage their fellow parishioners to take part. This approach allows the program to be driven by the parish and not just the prayer group.

The Speakers are selected by the Pastor/Organizing Committee from a list of approved and anointed speakers, usually from outside the parish and include as many clergy as possible. Music could be provided by the parish music ministry and the various parish ministries would undertake responsibility for activities such as setting up the chairs, refreshments, registration, advertising, etc. The prayer group would provide Intercessory Prayer and Small Group Discussion Leaders. The prayer group member who would sit on the Organizing Committee, or another prayer group leader, would be the one to coordinate the weekly sessions.

As far as the involvement of the Pastor is concerned, he would be expected to give his full support to the undertaking by (1) actively promoting the **LSS** via the church bulletin and by announcements from the pulpit (2) giving the first talk in the series on "God's Love" (3) convening the initial meeting of the Organizing Committee and (4) approving the list of speakers and all other major decisions of the Organizing Committee. In other words, while most of the actual work is carried out by the Organizing Committee and other volunteers, nothing is done without the blessing of the Pastor and he is free to participate in as many meetings of the Organizing Committee as he pleases. It should also be noted that the program can be run at little or no cost to the parish (except for providing a venue in which to hold the seminar), as all other expenses can be recovered by collecting a registration fee from the participants.

While a *Parish Based LSS* is truly a parish event, we look to the prayer group leadership to make the initial approach to the Pastor. May I suggest the following:

- (1) Upon reading this article, call together a meeting of your Core Group, pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit, then discuss it among yourselves.
- (2) If you decide to approach your Pastor to host a **LSS** for your parish but need help in doing so, please contact me at 905 - 877 - 0579 or e-mail at patrod@aztec-net.com. I will be happy to coach you on the best way of approaching your Pastor and, where possible, I would even be prepared to accompany you to a meeting with him.

- (3) If he is receptive, I may also be able to assist with the formation of the Organizing Committee and will work with the committee to bring the project to fruition.
- (4) Finally, if your Pastor is reluctant to open the LSS to the entire parish and you would like to organize one for your prayer group but need help in doing so, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would like to mention here that a small group of prayer group leaders in Kitchener have been working on a “**Parish-Based Life in the Spirit How-To Manual**” and hope to test it out in the next few months and have it available for whoever would like a copy.

My Friends, Jesus commanded us to go forth and make disciples of all people. What better way to do so than by offering everyone the opportunity to get to know the Living Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit working in their lives. May God bless you and prosper all your works. ✠

Pat Rodrigues lives in Halton Hills (west of Brampton). He is Treasurer of CCRSO and coordinator of the Resource Team. He is also a member of the ATCR, the Archdiocese of Toronto Charismatic Renewal service team.

CCRSO MEMBERSHIP LIST

The following is a list of CCRSO member delegates and Bishops' liaisons for each diocese in Ontario. The membership list is made up as follows: one person is appointed in writing by the Bishop of each diocese to act as a liaison person. . Also one person is confirmed in writing 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 or the liaison member for said Diocese.

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Bishop's Liaison

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Bishop's Liaison: To be announced.

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Archdiocese of Kingston

Bishop's Liaison: To be announced.

Member Delegate: To be announced.

Diocese of London

Bishop's Liaison

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Bishop's Liaison

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A HISTORY OF THE RENEWAL

By Margaret Schnarr, Kitchener

Roots are very important. Ask anyone who has spent countless hours tracing and recording the history of a family tree. We have a need to know who our ancestors were, how and why they came to be in certain places and why they took a certain course of action. Without our genealogy we have a sense of loss or of something missing: it connects us with our history, with the family members who have gone before and with their hopes, aspirations and dreams. We also have a spiritual history. The Church has a history and so does the Renewal. Over the years, through teachings, reading and attending conferences, I had learned much about the Renewal, but I had never heard of the particular chain of events outlined below. They moved my spirit and left me with the feeling that we had touched on something of great importance. Indeed these events are a cornerstone of the history of the Renewal.

In 1993, through a miracle of grace, I found myself in Assisi, Italy, at the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services Conference. Here, in this rarified spiritual atmosphere, we gathered with over 1,000 delegates from all over the world, to praise God, to break bread together, to study His word, and to learn more about the wonders the Holy Spirit was doing all over this earth as the 20th century was drawing to a close. It was a unique and marvelous opportunity to appreciate the universality of the Catholic Church and the Renewal movement the Holy Spirit had stirred up within her. It was here, in the waning years of the 20th century (which has become known as the century of the Holy Spirit), that I learned how the Holy Spirit over 100 years ago, at the close of the 19th century, prepared the Church for a new manifestation of God's power. "*See, the earlier things have come to pass, new ones I now foretell; before they spring into being, I announce them to you*" (Is 42:9). These words leapt in my mind as I reflected on the events that Patti Gallagher Mansfield related to us one beautiful September day in a tent erected on the Rocca Maggiore, high above the little town of Assisi.

The story begins with a little nun, Sister (now Blessed) Elena Guerra, who lived in the small town of Lucca, Italy, in the latter half of the 19th Century. She had a deep devotion to the Holy Spirit and was the foundress of the Oblate Sisters of the Holy Spirit. She received many deep insights from the Holy Spirit and between 1895 and 1903, was inspired to write 12 letters to the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIII (pope from 1878-1903) exhorting him to foster devotion to the Holy Spirit in the Church by renewed preaching and inviting the faithful to discover how to lead a life in accordance with the Spirit; she also called for

prayer for the renewal of the Church. The Pope recognized God's call in these messages from the humble nun and in 1895, he wrote a letter, *Provida Matris Caritate* requesting that the entire Church take part in a solemn novena to the Holy Spirit between the feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost for the "reunion of Christendom." This initiative resulted in a less than adequate response so Sister Elena began to form her own prayer groups or "Permanent Cenacles." She prayed for renewal of the Church, Christian unity and a renewed society. Her desire was to see the whole Church unite in constant prayer, as did Mary and the apostles in the Upper Room while they awaited the coming of the Holy Spirit.

"Pentecost is not over," she wrote, "It is going on continually in every time and every place, because the Holy Spirit desires to give himself to all men and all who want him can always receive him, so we do not have to envy the apostles and the other believers; we only have to dispose ourselves like them to receive him well and he will come to us as he did to them. Oh if only . . . unanimous and fervent prayers could be raised to heaven in every part of Christendom, as they were in the cenacle in Jerusalem for a rekindling of the fire of the Divine Spirit."

True to his promise to do all he could to honour the Holy Spirit, Pope Leo XIII on May 9, 1897, published an encyclical on the Holy Spirit, *Divinum Illud Munus*. Towards the end of this letter he reiterated: "Wherefore, we decree and command that throughout the whole Catholic Church, this year and every subsequent year, a novena shall take place before Whit-Sunday, in all parish churches, and also, if the local Ordinaries think fit, in other churches and oratories" (p. 13). Again, this initiative met with a poor response, especially among the church leaders.

In conclusion, he wrote, "And now our mind and heart turn back to those hopes with which we began, and for the accomplishment of which we earnestly pray, and will continue to pray, to the Holy Ghost. Unite then, Venerable Brethren, your prayers with ours, and at your exhortation let all Christian peoples add their prayers also, invoking the powerful and ever acceptable intercession of the Blessed Virgin." On January 1, 1901, the Holy Father invoked the Holy Spirit on the Church in the new century with the age-old hymn, *Veni Creator Spiritus*, "Come Creator Spirit."

The Burning Bush

In a fast forward to the present day, Blessed Elena's desire for constant prayer cenacles has a new impetus. On May 29, 2004, Pope John Paul II, invited members of the

Renewal in the Spirit, a branch of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Italy, to attend a solemn celebration of Vespers on the eve of Pentecost at St. Peter's in Rome. He wrote: "I invite all the faithful, particularly members of the *Renewal in the Holy Spirit*, to participate in this prayer vigil to invoke upon ourselves and the entire Church, an abundant outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit."

Twenty thousand people came in response to the Pontiff's invitation. In his homily, the Holy Father said: "I encourage the initiative known as 'Burning Bush,' promoted by the *Renewal in the Spirit*. This involves perpetual adoration, day and night, before the Blessed Sacrament; it is an invitation to the faithful to 'return to the Upper Room.' So that, united in contemplation of the Eucharistic Mystery, they may intercede for full Christian unity and for the conversion of sinners. I warmly hope that this initiative will lead many to rediscover the gifts of the Spirit, whose original source is Pentecost."

Members of *Renewal in the Spirit* see the connection between the exhortations of Blessed Elena Guerra and the call of Pope Leo XIII for a perpetual novena, and this latest invitation from John Paul II to return to the "Upper Room."

With our modern-day technology, especially the Internet

we have a far greater advantage when it comes to spreading the word throughout the world than did the Church in Pope Leo's day. The above message from the Holy Father was circulated world-wide in a few hours so that at celebrations of Pentecost the very next day, many people were able to respond and "invoke upon ourselves and the entire Church, an abundant outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit." May we respond as generously to his call to constant prayer.

I am so grateful to Patti Mansfield Gallagher. Much of the above information is from my notes of her talk in Assisi and from her book, *As by a New Pentecost*. This is a marvelous story of God's grace; it is a history of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and as such should be a treasured part of our heritage. At Assisi, Patti issued her own call. She asked that we pray the *Sequence Prayer* for Pentecost every day and challenged the clergy to take to heart the words in Joel 2:17. The very least we can do as members of the Renewal is to join with one another each day and cry out, "Come Holy Spirit." †

This article first appeared in the January 2005 issue of *The Bread of Life Magazine*. It is used here with permission. Margaret Schnarr lives in Kitchener and is a frequent writer for the magazine.

MORE ABOUT THE *BURNING BUSH* INITIATIVE

The following is part of an interview with **Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins**, who was privileged to receive the vision of the *Burning Bush*. This account was first published in the Special July-August 2004 issue of the ICCRS Newsletter which is published in Rome.

The *Burning Bush* initiative is a call to help the people of God to return to the Upper Room in adoration and intercession—to experience a Pentecost not only of a moment or a day, but a permanent Pentecost, according to the intuition of Blessed Elena Guerra who, at the end of the 19th century, urged Pope Leo XIII to lead the Church back to the Cenacle/Upper Room of Jerusalem, for the Church to be enlightened again and again and burn like a Burning Bush. It is a response to Pope John Paul's Apostolic Letter, *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, "As this millennium begins, allow the successor of Peter to invite the whole Church to make this act of faith, which expresses itself in a renewed commitment to prayer." This return is not a return in nostalgia, looking for the beginning experiences of the CCR, but with a servant's heart, a maturity, a heart knowing what it is to experience the power of the Spirit and His gifts in prayer, in united contemplation of the Eucharistic mystery.

How it began

During Easter week in Rome in 1997, at a European Catholic Charismatic leaders' meeting held in the chapel of the *Renewal in the Holy Spirit*, my heart was impregnated with the *Burning Bush* vision of a "return to the Cenacle in adoration and intercession." In this chapel... I would spend nine months as the vision deepened and expanded, grasping that this vision was for all, beyond the boundaries of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, a call to the whole Church, to all Christianity.

What should be the response to this call?

This world-wide call challenges the CCR to go beyond what is so often our normal scope of prayer ... to incessant adoration where we may intercede by means of the Spirit with great fervor for the renewal of the Church, full Christian unity and the conversion of sinners, a renewal of society and thereby "a renewal of the face of the earth."

As one example: the European CCR National Service Committees have linked together in a united effort for a Pentecost Novena (promoted night and day, where possible) for these intentions for Europe. May the Lord multiply many more promoters like *Renewal in the Spirit* so that this initiative may spread worldwide, thereby responding to the Holy Father's prayer for us, "That your communities and the entire Charismatic Renewal will put out into the deep of prayer in order to put out into the deep of mission."

Editor's Note: The National Service Committee of the United States in response to Pope John Paul's call to a return to the Upper Room, have planned a "Prayer Summit for America" in Miami the weekend of May 13-15, 2005. The weekend will not be a typical conference but "40 Hours of Prayer" for Pentecost.

Let us take it upon ourselves to also respond to the *Burning Bush* initiative and return to the Cenacle in adoration and intercession. †

DIOCESAN NEWS

DIocese of Hamilton

On October 23, 2004, *Jesus, the Good Shepherd* prayer community hosted a Day of Renewal. Very Rev. John M. Sherlock was the speaker for the event and he focused on the three latest letters of Pope John Paul namely “*The Church and the Eucharist [Ecclesia de Eucharistia]*,” “*The New Millennium [Novo Millennio Ineunte]*,” and “*The Rosary of the Virgin Mary [Rosarium Virginis Mariae]*.” All three of his talks were enlightening and made one want to read these letters and take them to heart. In his last talk on the Rosary, he led the participants in praying the new Mysteries of Light and included a scriptural line with each Hail Mary. People found this method of praying the rosary very effective and the Bishop left a copy of all the mysteries of the Rosary with his own scriptural notations with the organizers of the day with the intention that they be copied and distributed to those who wished to have a copy. Consequently, a booklet containing all four mysteries of the Rosary with Scripture passages was produced.

On November 6th, a diocesan leadership meeting was held in Kitchener. Several of the prayer groups in Hamilton Diocese were represented. Pat Rodrigues, Treasurer of the CCRSO was invited to come and speak about doing “parish-based” *Life in the Spirit Seminars*. Pat has some experience in this area as he helped set up three or four such seminars in the Archdiocese of Toronto last year, and there are plans for more. Pat’s role has been to meet with the parish priest and the parish council and explain the goal of these Seminars: which is *not* to recruit new members to a prayer group, but to bring parishioners into a new relationship with the Father and Son through the power of the Holy Spirit. He gives a very persuasive presentation and is adept at answering any questions and reservations which the pastor or his council might have. If there are any prayer groups who would like to know more about “parish-based” *Life in the Spirit Seminars*, Pat would be happy to be of help.

Also, during this diocesan leadership meeting there was a lengthy discussion period regarding days of renewal, how many in a year, likes and dislikes, suggestions for future days, topics and themes. The comments this discussion generated will be useful for future planning.

A Spring Diocesan **Day of Renewal** will be held on **Saturday, May 14, 2005** at St. Paul’s Church in Burlington. The theme for the day will be “*The Healing Presence of Christ in the Eucharist*,” and the speaker will be Father Graham Keep from London Diocese, who is becoming a renowned international speaker. More details to follow. †

The *Association of Christian Therapists*, Hamilton Chapter will be hosting their 17th Annual Presentation on Saturday, February 12, 2005. The location will be Holy Cross Croatian Parish Hall, 1883 King St. E., Hamilton, and will begin at 9:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m., with Holy Mass at 5:00 p.m. Fr. Joseph M. Scerbo will again be the speaker and his theme will be “*The Gift of the Eucharist*.” Registration \$30.00; after January 38th, \$35.00. Lunch \$7.50, if desired. For more information call Jenny at 905-335-6902; or Joan at 905-662-2061.

Diocese of Sault Ste Marie

Edward Twentyman reports that a *Life in the Spirit Seminar* which was facilitated by St. Mary’s Prayer Group in Sault Ste Marie resulted in many blessings. Over 50 people registered at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church. A follow-up in the form of a “Growth in the Spirit” series is being planned.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3rd, a special celebration is being planned which will include a guest mission speaker.

Sudbury Region

The Fall Conference sponsored by *the little Servants of Christ the King* prayer community in Sudbury was a tremendous blessing to all who attended. Fr. William (Bill) Halbing’s presentations were unforgettable! As a follow-up a *Life in the Spirit Seminar* will be offered in January 2005 for all those who responded to his “altar call” indicating they wanted to grow in their personal relationship with the Lord. Father Halbing will be returning to Sudbury on the weekend of August 19-21, 2005, to preach another retreat.

On New Years Eve, the Vigil of Mary the Mother of God and World Day of Prayer for Peace, members of the prayer group gathered at Our Lady of Hope Church from 9:00 p.m. to midnight for prayer, praise and song.

The prayer community is again holding a special Lenten mission for five Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon, beginning on Saturday, February 12 and continuing each Saturday until March 12. The talks will be based on Pope John Paul’s letter, “The Church and the Eucharist.”

An 8-week *Inner Healing Course* is planned for Monday evenings beginning March 28th until May 16th. It will take place at Villa Loyola in Sudbury. †

DIocese OF PEMBROKE

There seems to be a new stirring within the diocese as two new groups have started meeting regularly. Bishop Richard Smith is encouraging the groups to resume leadership meetings, which have not been held for many years. Youth groups, such as *The Edge* and *LifeTeen*, are active in the Diocese and are attracting many young people.

Bishop Smith is giving a series of two-day missions to each zone of the diocese. The focus is on Pastoral Planning within the perspective of a personal relationship with Jesus, with emphasis on the Eucharist –this being the Year of the Eucharist. †

DIocese OF THUNDER BAY

Armand Danis reports that Sr. Briega McKenna and Fr. Kevin Scallon will be in the diocese the week of June 5th giving a priests' retreat, and on Saturday, June 11th they will facilitate a day of reflection for the community. The theme will center on the Eucharist, and the bishop has expressed his wish that it be clearly a diocesan activity.

One of the parishes in Thunder Bay will be beginning a First Friday event starting in February which would include Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and prayers for healing.

Similarly, the pastor of another parish has asked Armand Danis to give a presentation instructing people on how to pray for healing. This instruction would take place over three evenings. This same parish will also be starting an "Alpha" Course in this new year and it will appropriately be followed up with a *Life in the Spirit Seminar*. †

VISION OF LOVE MINISTRY

Danny Nelson reports that in November the *Vision of Love* ministry band captured 2nd place in the band category of the International Festival of Religious Song. About two dozen entries from various styles of music, in addition to feature attractions such as Fr. Stan Fortuna of the USA, and Magda Aniol of Poland performed during the festival's three days. *Vision of Love* came first in the English group category, but second in the overall cultural groups. †

IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Robert L MacDougall, S.J.

Many of us will remember Fr. Bob as the host and director of the *Food for Life Television Ministry* from 1984 to 1990, when the program was taken over by *The Companions of the Cross*. He was also a well-known speaker in Catholic Charismatic circles from about 1977.

Fr. Bob was a commissioned officer in the RCAF during World War II. When his plane was shot down over the English Channel, he was captured and imprisoned by the enemy in Denmark. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross by King George VI. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1950 and was ordained as a priest in 1961. He had an interesting and varied career as a priest, serving as Director of the Catholic Rehabilitation Centre in Toronto, Vice-President and Rector at St. Mary's University in Halifax, Chaplain at Stoney Mountain Penitentiary in Winnipeg, and Co-Director and Chaplain of the John Bosco Residence for Boys in Orillia.

Fr. Bob passed away in Pickering on Sunday, December 26, 2004 at the age of 81 and in his 55th year as a member of the Society of Jesus. †

LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY, 2005

Saturday, April 9, 2005 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building, 255 Front St. W.

With Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, Peter Herbeck

Alex Jones and Johnette Benkovic

Separate YOUTH EVENT for youth 12-20

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The next issue of **STIRRINGS** will be the April issue. Please send diocesan submissions to Reta Lienhardt, Editor, 24 Nine Pines Road, Kitchener, ON N2E 1L4; or e-mail rliehardt@porchlight.ca.

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