

Newsletter Issue of Jan, Feb, March 2009

SPIRIT AMONG US
CHARISMATIC NEWSLETTER
DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY, WI

Liaison's Message: As the newly appointed Liaison of the Bishop for the Charismatic Renewal in the Green Bay Diocese, wanted to take a moment to introduce myself. I'm Fr. Art Cooney, a Capuchin Franciscan priest on staff at Monte Alverno Retreat and Spirituality Center in Appleton.

This September I celebrate 40 years of experiencing the grace of a New Pentecost that we call "Baptism in the Holy Spirit." That grace has changed my life and yours. I am assured of Bishop Ricken's support of us in this Spiritual Renewal and look forward to working with you to bring this grace into the heart of the Church, so that Jesus may be ever more known and loved and that His People may experience the peace, forgiveness, healing, and new life that is ours through His cross and resurrection.

In His Spirit,

Fr Art

from Karen Wautlet:

"Lead me Lord, lead me Lord, by the light of truth, to seek and to find the narrow way.
Be my way, be my truth, be my light, my Lord, and lead me Lord today."

These are the words of a song we sing in Church often, and I pray daily that I may truly follow. As we grow deeper in our walk with the Lord, hopefully we come to "know" His path for our lives. For me, I am grateful that somewhere in my spirit, I have learned (most of the time) to "know" where God is leading.

That is why there is no question that He was leading me away from leadership in the Charismatic Renewal. After twenty years, that is hard. I have met and been involved with so many of you - you who have helped me to grow in my spiritual journey. There are so many memories that I will cherish the rest of my life. In early December, I submitted my

resignation as your liaison to Bishop Ricken and the Service Committee. I am thrilled, and the Diocesan Charismatic Renewal is so blessed, to have Fr. Art Cooney as your new liaison. Fr. Art has so many years of involvement in all levels of charismatic renewal, locally to internationally. What a blessing he is for the Diocese of Green Bay!!!

You may be wondering what I will be doing with all my “spare time.”? I have accepted an appointment as Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of Holy Name Retreat House on Chambers Island. There are 14 trustees, and our mission is to “save” the retreat house! Many of you have been on retreat there, and know what a “hidden gem” – one of a kind – location it is to experience the Lord in our lives. Please help us by signing up for a retreat, (the annual Charismatic retreat is June 12–14,) and invite everyone you know to make a retreat on Chambers Island to experience this “little slice of heaven” right in our own backyard. You can also volunteer to help, or make a monetary donation if you are able.

Lead us all, Lord, on our journey to our heavenly home, and everlasting life with You!!

In His Spirit,
Karen Wautlet

(Karen has been a faithful, enthusiastic leader for the Charismatic Renewal here in the Green Bay Diocese and as a State and National leader. She has set a sound foundation and has been a role model for us all. Karen, we will miss you, but we send our prayers with you as you follow His path. God bless you and yours!)

Diocesan Leaders’ Gathering:

An invitation was extended to all leaders, past, present and future, to attend a Leadership Gathering Saturday, January 24, at Bona Hall on the Diocesan campus. Forty-three people responded, and were treated to a day filled with inspiring and challenging messages, time for group sharing, a delicious lunch, and mass with Bishop Ricken.

DVDs of talks by Jim Murphy and Michelle Moran given at the Nashville Leadership Gathering were viewed, followed by the opportunity to share what we heard and how we felt it applied to our own lives, our prayer groups, and to the Church at large.

The theme of Nashville was Hope, and we heard that resound again, to offer encouragement for each of our own lives, and for our ministries. A highlight of the day was re-connecting with other leaders in the Renewal, sharing concerns and suggestions, and being inspired as a group through the dynamic talks. Several people commented how good it was to be able to come together to receive such good teaching, at an accessible location and for a minimal cost (free will offering!) The need and desire for gatherings like this several times a year was well attested. Mass with Bishop Ricken was another highlight of the day, as he shared his respect and encouragement for the Renewal. He related parts of his own journey while in Wyoming, and the ever present challenge to move in Gods will; doing each day no more and no less than what the Lord requires of us, and in His timing, no sooner and no later than He desires. At the informal luncheon and hospitality time, the Bishop expressed his hope that the prayers of the Renewal be directed to an awakening of a hunger for the Eucharist in the Diocese, and for an increase in vocations. The day seemed to fly by, with much packed in to the time we spent together.

Those wishing for a summary of the responses from the sharing sessions may receive them by calling the DCRC office and requesting a copy. The DVDs of the Nashville talks are also available to borrow, and are well worth listening to. Hope is alive and well in the Green Bay Renewal, as we took another step across the line to confirm our commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ!

Ann Radtke, Service Committee

Have You Ever Considered Spiritual Direction?

Spiritual Direction is a specialized ministry in the church. It is a graced way of serving another believer, helping the other to grow in intimacy with God, to live out the consequences of this intimacy. The focus of a spiritual-direction relationship is the directee's experience of God, and the communication that happens between God and the directee.

My name is Sarah Neal and I am a member of St. John the Baptist Parish and People of God Prayer Group. I completed the Spiritual Direction Training Program at Our lady of Divine Providence School of Spirituality in

Clearwater, Florida in June of 2004. I recently retired after 30 years of teaching and felt the timing was right to serve others through the ministry of Spiritual Direction. I have chosen to do this through the Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Center and will have some openings. If you are interested and would like more information, you may contact the Renewal Center at 920-405-1960.

Sarah

(Sarah is the newest member of the Service Committee. Her focus on the committee will be healing ministry. Welcome, Sarah!)

HEALING PRAYER

Throughout our lives, there are times when we need healing prayer. There are teams available to meet with individuals to pray with them through a healing journey.

To schedule prayer or for more information, call
Roseann (920-434-6057) or
Joan (920-499-4616)

Spirit In Wisconsin:

Members of the leadership teams from each of the Diocese gathered on Feb 20 and 21 in Waukesha at the Schoenstatt Retreat Center to pray and discern what the Lord is doing and what He wants us to do as Charismatic Renewal in our State. The prophetic messages challenged us to be the people of love and zeal that we have been called to be in our church and in society. There was a strong call to unity and surrender as we place all in the arms of our God.

There's some good stuff happening this year in Wisconsin. Youth 2000 will be in Madison March 20 to 22 at the O'Conner Center. While they minister, members of the Charismatic Renewal will be in the adoration chapel praying for the event.

The Superior/LaCrosse folks offer a one-day Life in the Spirit Seminar and a 12-week school of prayer.

They are planning a Pentecost conference.

Milwaukee is planning a Tent Revival for June 19 and 20 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. It will be an ecumenical, evangelistic outreach with bands, speakers, and something for youth and children. The theme: Come To Jesus! This is a huge undertaking, so if anyone has a desire to lend a helping hand, they would be most appreciative. Phone CCR Milwaukee: 414-482-1724 or ccr@archmil.org.

Together We Pray:

You can be part of a vision for the CCR in every nation to unite in prayer. Let us weave a dense global “net” of prayer which will be continuous, night and day, during the nine days before Pentecost. This is an invitation to return to the “Upper Room of Jerusalem”, waiting in one heart and in constant prayer (Acts 1:12-14), becoming “burning bushes” in adoration and intercession.

As we enter into prayer through this novena, we join with others throughout the world who are connected to the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS) in the Vatican. ICCRS serves the Charismatic Renewal throughout the world and that includes each of our prayer groups, communities and parishes.

We’ve enclosed a copy of the Burning Bush Pentecost Novena and encourage you to pray the prayers either individually or as a group during the 9 days preceding Pentecost. What a great way to prepare for the Birthday of the Church and be united in prayer with our brothers and sisters throughout the world! (for a copy of the novena, go to www.wvccr.org and click on Pentecost Novena)

2009 Pentecost Celebration May 30:

Please mark your calendars as we prepare to celebrate Pentecost! We will celebrate with Liturgy at Monte Alverno Retreat Center at 4:00 (music begins at 3:30). Our liaison, Fr. Art Cooney, will be the celebrant. What a great opportunity to officially welcome him as our new Liaison. After the mass there will be a soup supper served by the staff at Monte Alverno. See

you there!

Diocesan Charismatic Renewal of Green Bay, WI FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR 2008

INCOME:

Donations \$8,887
Programs 3,754
Books & tapes 225
Interest 7
Total Income \$12,873

EXPENSES:

Programs 2,144
Rent 5,317
Outreach 842
Insurance 122
Postage 813
Copies 1,129
Supplies 512
Books & Tapes 863
Phone 683
Meetings 160
Music 170
Total Expenses 12,755

Net Income \$ 118

Thanks to all who contributed in any way: our monthly donors, prayer groups, program attendees, office volunteers and those who sent offerings. We humbly praise God for your generosity and continued support. We pledge to be good stewards.

Judy Goolsbey, Office Manager

SPIRIT AMONG US is a publication of the Diocesan Service Committee,
DCRC, 1227 13th Ave, Green Bay, WI (920-405-1960

