

The Flame

March / April 2024

Baptism in the Spirit Awakens Us to a New Experience of the Holy Trinity

By Fr. Emmanuel Mansford CFR

“Through his grace, the Holy Spirit is the first to awaken faith in us and to communicate the new life, which is to “know the Father and the one whom he has sent, Jesus Christ” (CCC 684).

Every year in the liturgical calendar we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This celebration takes place on the Sunday immediately following Pentecost. Theologically this is because with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, *“the Holy Trinity is fully revealed”* (CCC 732) and the doors to relationship with each divine Person are wide open. Frank Sheed describes this revelation of God’s *“innermost secret”* (CCC 221): “The closed circle is suddenly opened, the barrier is down and the whole vast inner life of God invites us.” The Holy Spirit’s coming leads us into all truth (Jn 16:12-13)—the truth of who God is as Father, Son and Holy Spirit—making it possible for us who are baptized to come to know and experience a living relationship with each Person of the Trinity.

And yet in practice, it seems for many Catholics that Trinity Sunday is one of those distant dogmas, a truth that often does not really affect my life in reality. Cardinal Ratzinger (who became Pope Benedict XVI), states that far from being something merely intellectual, “the teaching of the Trinity was not invented but results from

experience.” This experience of growing in relationship with the Trinity is where the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit has been so life changing for millions of people in the last fifty years or so.

Fr Cantalamessa summarizes this experience: “Whenever the Holy Spirit’s Baptism in the Holy Spirit awakens us to a new experience of the Holy Trinity presence is felt in a new and powerful way, for example in what is called baptism in the Spirit, those involved never fail to come to a new discovery of the Trinity. And that discovery is experiential, vital, and not any matter of abstract theology. Prayer becomes Trinitarian.” St. Irenaeus, the newest Doctor of the Church, speaks of this Trinitarian movement in our prayer, *“For those who bear God’s Spirit are led to the Word, that is to the Son, and the Son presents them to the Father, and the Father confers on them incorruptibility”* (CCC 683). Cantalamessa continues in familial terms: “We have the feeling that we have been accepted into a family, that the members of the family love us, and that they really are eager to introduce us to all the others.”

This experience of baptism in the Spirit often means that the grace of adoption received at Baptism comes alive and I am now able to relate to each member of the Trinity uniquely and concretely. The Father is experienced as he who cares

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Dear Readers of *The Flame*,

Pentecost was truly a transformative event. I liken the event to God throwing the switch. The foundation of the Church was laid. All the lights were put in place. The wiring had connected everything. The sound system was installed. Everything was ready to go...except there was no power.

When the Spirit came on Pentecost, God threw the switch. The Church lit up. The Church received its voice. Peter, with the one hundred twenty gathered in the Upper Room, was given new understanding, courage and love. By the Spirit he proclaimed that:

God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured it forth, as you (both) see and hear. For David did not go up into heaven, but he himself said: 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool.'" Therefore, let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'" (Acts 2:32-36)

The message of Pentecost is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit gave the Apostles the understanding of what just happened. The Spirit enlightened them, helping them to lay aside an earthly Kingdom for hope of a heavenly one. They would enter this Kingdom by a baptism of water and the Holy Spirit (John 3). They would live out the commandment of love entrusted to them by the King (John 13:34-35) by the power of the Holy Spirit. (see Colossians 1:8). They would withstand the opposition of those wed to this world by the boldness that the Spirit brought. (see Acts 4:13, 29)

Again, their message was simple, but profound. Jesus Christ died for our sins (Romans 5:8). On the third day He rose from the dead. He is now "Lord and Messiah" (Acts 2:36) and pours out the Holy Spirit on those who welcome Him.

As we enter these most sacred days of our liturgical calendar, let us pray to see the saving events of Jesus in the power and Person of the Holy Spirit. Often our minds and hearts are dulled by approaching the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in a routine and matter of fact manner. Yes, we know the story. Yet, if we really understood the importance of the death and resurrection of Jesus:

- that it is the fulfillment of God's plan
- that it is the central event by which we are saved
- that it reveals the depths of a love that can only begin to be understood in the Spirit
- that God chose to make the death of his Son necessary for our salvation

- and that our response of faith, gratitude and humility to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is proper and fitting...

if we understood what God has done for us in Christ, we too would be transformed.

As a college freshman at Ohio State, I was part of a non-denominational bible study before I experienced baptism in the Spirit. My approach and understanding of the bible at that time lacked light. I hastily read the bible study texts in a less than devout manner. However, after baptism in the Spirit these very same words leapt off the page. They enlightened my mind and fed my soul.

As we enter these most sacred days, let us pray: *Come Holy Spirit! Bring light to my mind, love to my heart, boldness to my will as I ponder the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ my only true hope!*

St. Paul said, *For I am not ashamed of the gospel. It is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: for Jew first, and then Greek.* (Romans 1:16) There is power in the gospel! The Spirit makes this message transformative. It changes our destiny. In Christ, all things are made new (see 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Revelation 21:5) **Let us never let our faith be dulled by routine, distracted by the world or quenched by the discouraging words of our day.**

Jesus is Lord! We will never get bored! Trust Him!



In Christ,

Fr. Bob Franco

PS: I encourage you to participate in the upcoming CRM events. We are hosting a charismatic Mass with healing prayer on Friday, March 15 at St. John Vianney Parish in Mentor. (Our apologies for cancelling the Mass in January in North Ridgeville- 9 inches of snow that day!). We are also hosting Matt Lozano for an Unbound Conference on Saturday, April 6 at St. Peter Parish in North Ridgeville. More information is found in this issue of the Flame as well as the CRM website: www.crmweb.org.

THE FLAME IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CATHOLIC RENEWAL MINISTRIES FOR THE DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

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CATHOLIC RENEWAL MINISTRIES

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STRONGSVILLE, OHIO 44136

crmweb.org / (440) 944-9445

ONE BODY • ONE SPIRIT



SAVE THE DATE!

EVENT DATE

Saturday
July 27, 2024

Doors Open 7:45am, Close 9pm

St. Albert the Great Parish Life Center
6667 Wallings Rd, North Royalton, OH 44133

\$35 REGISTRATION
plus Lunch & Dinner options for purchase

EVENT ACTIVITIES

- Praise & Worship
- Morning Prayer
- Dynamic Teaching
- Saturday Vigil at 4pm
- Healing Prayer

Conference begins at 8:30am
with Praise & Worship
by Matt Fafrak

EVENT SPEAKERS



GRAESON DALL has a zeal and drive to awaken the universal church to the transformative love of the Holy Spirit. Ministering and speaking nationally on a wide variety of

topics, Graeson's heart burns for the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ, freedom in the Holy Spirit, and discovering God's original plan for our lives. Graeson earned his Bachelors in Theology from Benedictine College and currently resides in Des Moines, Iowa and works in ministry full time.



ALICIA HARTLE serves as executive director of *Pentecost Today USA* (the National Service Committee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the US) and is a founding member of

an ecumenical household, The Oakland Prayer Group, Abba's House, Unbound Pittsburgh-Greensburg, and Catholic Women's Fellowship ministries. Born into the fire of Renewal in the Pittsburgh area, she has worked in ministry and business development on local, national, and international levels. Knowing God and making Him known are her greatest passions.



REV. ROBERT FRANCO has been active in the Charismatic Renewal since he was 19 and states that his vocation flowed from it. He has

been the Bishop's Liaison for the Charismatic Renewal in the Cleveland Diocese since 1992. He served on the Fraternity of Priests Board of Directors as member, chairman, and editor of the Fraternity's Newsletter, *The Visitation*. He is currently the pastor of St. Peter and St. Julie Billiart parishes in North Ridgeville.



Check website www.crmweb.org for more details

call CRM: 440 944-9445 e-mail: crmleveland@gmail.com



Catholic Renewal Ministries Traveling Healing Mass

Friday, March 15th, 2024

St. John Vianney Chapel

Praise & worship begins at 7:00
Liturgy begins at 7:30 p.m.

St. John Vianney Chapel

7575 Bellflower Rd,
Mentor, OH 44060

All are Welcome!

Healing prayer teams will be available after mass for individual prayer, and there will also be a social after mass.

Come, Sing and Praise God with Joy in the New Year!

Contact CRM: 440-944-9445



Healing Prayer teams will be available after Mass for individual prayer.

crmweb.org

Prayer Group Information

Our Lady of Angels Prayer Group meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 – 9:00PM in the Primary Building of Our Lady of Angels School (behind Linus Hall) 3600 Rocky River Dr., Cleveland, 44111. Please phone Tom Stamper with questions or for more information 216-536-6495.

SS. Cosmas and Damian Charismatic Prayer Group meets every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in the church gathering area under the Holy Spirit Dove. To contact us, or be on the prayer group email list call 330-310-2595 or send email to: dennycarleton@sbcglobal.net

Holy Spirit Prayer Group meets in the Fairlawn and Akron area. For information about dates, times and locations, please call Jim McGuire at 330-612-5969.

The Holy Spirit Prayer Group of St. Mary Church in Hudson is a Charismatic Holy Spirit led prayer group that meets the first and third Saturdays of each month year around. We meet from 10am to 11:30 am in the chapel. For further information, please contact us at email address: HealingPrayers@stmaryhudson.cc

The Living Word Healing Prayer Ministry at St. Ambrose Parish in Brunswick meets face to face on the first and third Tuesdays of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in our Chapel.

The Bukas Loob sa Diyos (BLD) or in English - Open in Spirit to God (OSG), is a Filipino Catholic Charismatic Covenant Community. For more information, please contact Rudy and Fe Fontilla at (440) 403-5719 or email: rudyfontilla1975@yahoo.com

The Community of Praise Prayer Group meets at St. Paul Catholic Church, 241 South Main St., North Canton, OH 44720. For more information contact Don and Rosemary Pfiffner at 330-499-9371 or email: pfiffner67@gmail.com

VISIT US ONLINE: crmweb.org

For other Prayer Group information

2024 Conference Prayer

Holy God, graciously grant us our prayer that we become one body, one spirit. In thanksgiving we come today to give you praise and adoration with the heavenly host for the gift of salvation and your church.

Holy Spirit pour out your gifts upon those attending this conference and strengthen us today and in the days to come. Encourage and inspire us through the teachings today that we use the gifts you bless us with to spread the love of Christ in the world.

May the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be glorified throughout the world through the Immaculate Virgin Mary. We ask all this in the name of your son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

CRM and Prayer Group Events

The Holy Spirit Prayer Group of St. Mary Church hosts an in-person Healing Prayer Service on the first Sunday of each month, except in July and September of this year. For those months the service will be held on the second Sundays. The service will be held in the chapel from 12:30-1:30 pm.

We encourage you to submit all prayer requests to the email: healingprayers@stmaryhudson.cc. St. Mary Church is located at 340 N. Main St., Hudson 44236, Tel: 330-653-8118.

Our prayer teams will be available to pray for the healings of your body and spirit. Fr. Larry will, depending on his availability, offer an anointing for those seriously ill, preparing for surgery, or weak with aging.

The Living Word Healing Prayer Ministry at St. Ambrose Parish in Brunswick offers a monthly Healing Prayer event which takes place in the Church after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on the third Saturday of every month. Healing prayer ministers are available to offer prayer for spiritual, emotional, or physical healing. Please join us so that the Spirit of God can touch you with healing love!

Holy Family Healing Prayer Group (Stow) offers Healing Prayer after masses the second weekend of the month (Saturday 5:00 PM, Sunday 7:30 and 9:00 AM masses) and after Tuesday and Friday 8:00 AM daily masses. Prayer teams will meet you in the back of the church. If you are unable to attend one of the masses, we offer homebound private prayer. Private prayer for physical, inner healing and Unbound can be scheduled by calling 330-686-0017. Jesus is Alive! Come experience His healing power.

Holy Family Healing Prayer Group (Stow) Classes are in session and are FREE. We meet weekly on Mondays, 10:00 -12:00 and 6:30 - 8:30 PM, in the prayer room in the back of Holy Family Church, 3179 Kent Rd, Stow. Learn your Identity as a Child of God, Hearing God's Voice and total Healing of the Body, Mind and Spirit. Come, join us and learn about the transforming love of God. For information, please call Mary at 330-686-0017 or email cusack435@gmail.com.

Catholic Renewal Ministries' Traveling Healing Charismatic Mass for March will be held at St. John Vianney Chapel on Friday, March 15th, 7:00 pm. Praise and worship will begin at 7:00 and the liturgy will start at 7:30. Healing prayer teams will be available after mass for individual prayer, and there will also be a social after mass. The church is located at 7575 Bellflower Rd., Mentor 44060. For more information, please contact CRM at 440-944-9445. Come, Sing and Praise God with Joy in the New Year!

Catholic Renewal Ministries will host an Unbound: Freedom in Christ Conference on Saturday, April 6, 2024. Matt Lozano will be here in Cleveland to present the conference sessions. He is the director of training for the Heart of the Father Ministries.

Unbound is a ministry of freedom and healing that helps us to release the Power of the Gospel into our lives. We all have areas in our lives where we don't experience freedom. These can be patterns of habitual sin, addictions, negative thoughts, resentments, and other forms of spiritual difficulty. Jesus came to set us free by breaking the power of sin and revealing the love of God. At the Unbound: Freedom in Christ Conference, you will learn how to unlock your prison doors by using the Five Keys to Freedom. The conference involves times of prayer and worship, insightful teaching, and personal ministry from our ministry team. This conference will equip you to cooperate with God as He sets you free.

On Saturday, registration and continental breakfast will start at 8 am, and the program begins at 9 am and ends at 4:30 pm. The conference will be held at St. Peter Parish, 35777 Center Ridge Rd., North Ridgeville 44039. Attendees can attend Mass at 8:00 a.m. at St. Peter Church, if they wish.

Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 25, 2024. Here are the details:

- **Early bird, Postmarked by March 1, 2024: \$75** per person, includes continental breakfast and lunch
- **Postmarked by March 25: \$85** per person, includes continental breakfast and lunch
- **April 6: at door: \$85**, no lunch provided
- **Clergy: \$25**
- **Seminarians and Religious: Free**

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL.

PayPal registration is available on the CRM website: www.crmweb.org, or you can use the form on the flyer in this Flame, with your check made out to Catholic Renewal Ministries. For more information, call the CRM phone number at 440-944-9445, Marge Zampino, 216-990-0919, Mary Cusack, 330-687-8843, or send all your questions to email: crmunboundconference2024@gmail.com.

Please share this information and the attached flyer with the members of your prayer group, family members and friends. Thank you for helping us spread the word about this program that can help each of us become the person God created us to be.

Catholic Renewal Ministries invites all to our annual Pentecost Mass Celebration on Sunday, May 19th. Mark your calendar now to join in as we pray, in power, for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit. More information about this event will be provided in the May/June Flame and on the CRM website: www.crmweb.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

All are invited to attend Catholic Renewal Ministries' 41st Annual Conference to be held on Saturday July 27, 2024 at St. Albert the Great Parish Life Center, 6667 Wallings Rd., North Royalton 44133. This year's theme is "One Body One Spirit". Guest speakers will be Alicia Hartle who serves as executive director of Pentecost Today USA (the National Service Committee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the US), Graeson Dall, a national speaker who ministers with zeal and drive to awaken the universal church to the transformative love of the Holy Spirit, and Fr. Bob Franco, the Bishop's Liaison for Charismatic Renewal in the Cleveland Diocese. Matt Fafrak will lead us in contemporary praise music throughout the day and evening. Visit the CRM website: www.crmweb.org, for more information as it comes available.

Please save the date and get the word out to your friends and family. Come, as we praise and exalt Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit and celebrate this year of Eucharistic Revival.

(Continued from page 1)

for my needs and provides for me as his child. Jesus as the Son is my older brother who has saved me and walks with me through life, showing me how to live in dependence on the Father. The Holy Spirit is the Advocate guiding and inspiring me, convicting me of sin and leading me to repentance so that I can experience mercy and the grace of ongoing transformation.

As we reflect theologically on the role that baptism in the Holy Spirit has in our world today, we see its vital importance as a grace that helps us to know God personally as he is, three distinct Persons sharing one divine nature. This experience of God as One and three calls us to reflect his life of Communion in our fractured and broken world, endeavoring by his grace, despite our various differences as unique individuals, to live in greater unity with one another. At the beginning of the Millennium, St. John Paul II called all believers to be renewed in living out this Trinitarian

mystery: “A spirituality of communion indicates above all the heart’s contemplation of the mystery of the Trinity dwelling in us, and whose light we must also be able to see shining on the face of the brothers and sisters around us” (Novo Millennio Inuente #43). In essence the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost leads us to living a life of Communion.

Fr. Emmanuel Mansford, CFR is a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal, living at St. Michael’s Friary, Paterson, NJ. He currently serves as the Director of formation for the friars. His Masters thesis written during seminary was entitled “*Baptism in the Holy Spirit: Examining the Catholic Perspective.*”

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CRM Volunteer Opportunities

The Catholic Renewal Ministries Service Committee is looking for volunteers who would be willing to usher at the various events during the year including Charismatic Masses (usually on Friday nights), Healing Services, special events, and the annual Conference. You would not be required to serve at every GSC event during the year but would be called upon to serve as an Usher for various events at your convenience. Prayer groups please ask and encourage your members if they would help out in this ministry of service. If you are willing to Usher, please send your name, e-mail address, and/or phone number and what prayer group you are associated with. Even if you are not currently attending a prayer group, please consider helping out with Ushering.

Thank you,

Carolee and Rich Zentkovich
Prayer Group Coordinators
Usher Ministry
My cell: 440-221-8169
cjzentkovich@gmail.com



WANTED - GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Catholic Renewal Ministries is looking for a few new members for the General Service Committee. We meet once a month, usually the third Monday of the month, to discuss plans and events for the Renewal. Members are encouraged to provide ideas for the growth of the Renewal in the Cleveland Diocese, and to provide help as needed. Current committees are: Conference, Prayer Groups, Healing, Hispanic, Program, Music and Word Gifts.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Ken Posavad at 440.319.9646 or kposa@sbcglobal.net

UNBOUND: FREEDOM IN CHRIST CONFERENCE!

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

EVERYONE IS FIGHTING AN INVISIBLE BATTLE:

- negative thoughts, secret sins and unhealthy relationships
- destructive habits, idols and false identities
- resentments and bitter wounds that never seem to heal

*What if you could reach out and touch God's love,
and never be the same?*

UNBOUND MINISTRY RELEASES THE POWER OF JESUS INTO WOUNDED HEARTS.

Unbound is a ministry of freedom and healing that helps us to release the Power of the Gospel into our lives. We all have areas in our lives where we don't experience freedom. These can be patterns of habitual sin, addictions, negative thoughts, resentments, and other forms of spiritual difficulty. Jesus came to set us free by breaking the power of sin and revealing the love of God.

At the Unbound: Freedom in Christ Conference, you will learn how to unlock your prison doors by using the Five Keys To Freedom. The conference involves times of prayer and worship, insightful teaching, and personal ministry from our ministry team. This conference will equip you to cooperate with God as He sets you free.

LOCATION:

St. Peter's Parish
35777 Center Ridge Rd.,
North Ridgeville, OH 44039

SCHEDULE:

Doors open at 8:00 AM

Program begins at 9 AM (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM)

Presenter: Matt Lozano,
Director of Training -Heart of the Father Ministries

*If you wish, attendees can attend Mass at 8:00 a.m.
at St. Peter Church.*

REGISTRATION:

One-Day Unbound Conference on Saturday, April 6, 2024 at St. Peter's Parish. We will provide a continental breakfast and lunch, included in the cost. **Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 25, 2024**

- **Early bird Postmarked by March 1, 2024: \$75** per person, includes continental breakfast & lunch
- **Postmarked by March 25: \$85** per person, includes continental breakfast & lunch
- **April 6, at the door: \$85**, lunch not provided
- **Clergy: \$25**
- **Seminarians and Religious: FREE**

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL
Register ONLINE via PayPal at CRMweb.org or below:

Name

Address

Phone Number

Printed Email Address

By U.S. mail, send check to:

CRM c/o Marge Zampino
2747 Vincent Drive, Seven Hills, OH 44131

UNBOUND
HEART OF THE FATHER

For more information, call CRM: **440-944-9445** or
Marge Zampino: **216-990-0919** | Mary Cusack: **330-687-8843**

crmunboundconference2024@gmail.com



The Flame

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MISSION STATEMENT: Catholic Renewal Ministries is the officially designated office for charismatic renewal activity in the Diocese of Cleveland that unites all prayer groups under the authority of the Diocesan Bishop and his appointed delegate to the renewal. Catholic Renewal Ministries, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and in the power of Pentecost, fulfills the command of Jesus to evangelize all people, to make disciples of everyone, to accept the challenge of the gospel and to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord of their lives.