

THE PARACLETE

*Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Catholic Charismatic Services
Archdiocese of Miami*



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PRAISE THE LORD! It is time once more to begin making plans for our annual Catholic Charismatic Conference. The Conference will take place on the weekend of September 25,26,27, 2009 at the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Airport Hotel, 1870 Griffin Road, Dania Beach, Florida. In the next few issues of the Paraclete we will give you all the information you will need so that you can make your preparations early. Pray for the success of the Conference. The theme this year will be:

“I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE”

JOHN 14:5

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THE POWER OF THE RESURRECTION

CHRIST IS TRULY RISEN - By Rev. Raniero Cantalamessa taken in part from The Word Among Us

Whose day is Sunday? The Lord's Day. Why is Sunday the Lord's Day? Because of the resurrection of Jesus. The resurrection of Jesus put a seal upon this first day of the week. This is what I want to speak about. The resurrection of Jesus is the most liberating, joyful message we can hear.

He is Alive!

Try to imagine the women who went to Calvary to see Jesus' tomb on Easter morning. They were so sad, so silent. But then, an angel appeared to them and asked, "Why are looking among the dead for someone who is living?" This question should be repeated over and over. Why are you looking among the dead for a person who is living?

The women were amazed, over - whelmed, frightened. Try to imagine these women bursting

into the upper room, saying to the apostles, "The Master! The Master! Jesus! He is alive! He is no longer among the dead! Angels- We have seen angels!" I am sure the apostles tried to calm them down, to make them speak one at a time. But already, just by looking at these women's eyes, they could perceive that something unheard of had happened.

From that moment, the news of the resurrection of Jesus started its course as a long, majestic wave which will pass through all the centuries until the end of the world. Nobody can stop this wave. Many princes and rulers have tried- first the synagogue, then the Roman Empire, and then Communist regimes. But the resurrection of Jesus is still being proclaimed.

Faith in the Resurrection

St. Augustine used to say, "The faith of Christians is the resurrection of Jesus." Everybody admits that Jesus died. It is a matter of history that Jesus of Nazareth was put to death. But not everybody believes that He was raised from the dead. Therefore, the faith of Christians is the resurrection of Jesus. When you proclaim the resurrection of Jesus, you proclaim at the same time that He died for our sins.

The great thing about the death of Jesus is not the fact that He died, but that He died for our sins. The resurrection of Jesus is the seal the Father put on the life, the death, the words, and the deeds of His Son, Jesus Christ. The resurrection of Jesus attests that God was in favor of this man, who was killed for our sins.

In the Orthodox world, there is a very beautiful tradition. When people meet each other, especially at Easter time, one person says to the other, "Christ is risen." And, immediately, the other answers, "He is truly risen."

At the beginning of the Bolshevik Revolution, there was a public debate in a Russian city between an atheist and a Orthodox priest. The atheist speaker stood up and spoke against the resurrection of Jesus. When he was done, he stepped down convinced that his arguments could not be disputed. Then, the Orthodox priest came to the platform, looked at the crowd and said, "Christ is risen." And all at once, everyone shouted, "He is truly risen!" With that, he left the platform.

Raising the Dead

Now, it is not enough to believe in the resurrection of Jesus and rise from the dead ourselves. We must raise the dead - which is a little more difficult. Do you find this statement strange? Open the gospel and you will see a very beautiful phrase of Jesus. When He sent the apostles out He said, "Heal the sick and raise the dead" (Mt. 10:8). Do you think that Jesus had in mind only a few people - only a few saints - who could raise the dead? No. He meant every Christian.

So, how can you raise a dead person today? Perhaps you and your husband or wife had an argument and you never really reconciled. Well, you can raise the dead by reconciling, by embracing and saying, "The future will be different; let us put the past behind us." You may have an elderly person in your family, who is living in a nursing home, and this person may feel alone, isolated. Try to find time to visit, to comfort this person, to assure him or her of your love. You can raise the dead!

Tell My Disciples

There is one last reflection that I want to share with you. What do we do once we have heard again this message of the resurrection of Jesus? We must share this message. Jesus Himself said to the four women who went to the tomb, "Go quickly and tell my disciples that I am alive" (Mt. 28:10). Just think: They became the first evangelizers.

Now why did Jesus say, "Tell my disciples" and not "tell everybody?" I think this contains a message for us. We must start by re-proclaiming the resurrection to Jesus' disciples, His forgetful disciples, to nominal Christians who are baptized

but no longer go to Mass or don't care about any Christian practice. We must start bringing this message to our very close friends and our families.

This is not something that only priests can do. At the end of the Mass, we used to say in Latin, *Ita missa est*. One translation - which we are more familiar with - is, "The Mass is ended." But, in Latin, *missa* can also mean "mission," or "commission." So, at the end of each Mass, this message can resound, "Now is the moment of commission. Go and tell the people." I have noticed that the simplest and most common way to win a person to Jesus is just to invite him to some group prayer or to a bible study. It is difficult sometimes to share with a person the full message of the faith you have. But you can say, "Come with me; it won't do you any harm. If you like, you can stay. If not, you can leave."

There is a beautiful Negro spiritual song, which says, "There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin- sick soul. There is a balm in Gilead to heal the wounded soul." In ancient Israel, Gilead was very famous for its perfumes and balms. So what does this mean "there is a balm in Gilead to heal the wounded soul?" Today, Gilead is the church, and the balm is the Holy Spirit. So, we can say, "There is a balm in the church, which heals the wounded soul. Come freely."

The last verse of this song says, "If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't preach like Paul, go home and tell your neighbors that Jesus died for all." So, is this too difficult? Go home and tell your neighbors that Jesus died for all!

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May you be drawn to a deeper relationship in the Lord during this Lenten Season and may the risen Jesus fill you with the knowledge of His unconditional love and mercy. May you and your loved ones experience a blessed and holy Easter Season.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fourth Monday- Mass and Healing Prayer
7:30 PM - St Bernard Church
Celebrant - Rev. Robert Richardson

Every Tuesday - Prayer Meeting
7:30 PM - St Bernadette Church
7450 Stirling Rd, Hollywood

First Tuesday- Mass and Healing Prayer
8:00 PM – Nativity Church - Hollywood

Every Wednesday- Prayer Meeting
7:30 PM - St Bartholomew Church

First Thursday - Mass and Healing Prayer
8:00 PM - Nativity Church
Indian Community

Third Thursday - Praise, Worship And
Benediction
7:30 All Saints Church - Chapel
Deacon Joe Tollis

Third Thursday - Bilingual Healing Mass
8:00 PM - St Stephen Church

First Friday - Mass and Healing Prayer
8:00 PM – Nativity Church Shrine
Filipino Community

First & Fourth Fridays
8:00 PM - All night Adoration
St Stephen Church, Hollywood

March 7 - Day of Renewal
Catholic Charismatic Office
3600 SW 32 Blvd, Hollywood, FL
9:00AM to 3:00 PM
Speaker - Deacon Michel Duchaussee
954 - 961- 1856

March 16 – Life in the Spirit Seminar
St Bernard Church - 7 weeks
Mondays at 7:00 PM

March 17- Mass and Prayers for Healing
7:00 PM - Rosary 6:30 PM
St Maurice Church-Chapel
Celebrant - Msgr Kenneth Schwanger

March 23,24,25, Mission with Mass at 7:00
PM
St Bartholomew Church
8005 Miramar Parkway, Miramar, FL
National & International Speaker
Mr. James “Butch” Murphy

April 14- Life in the Spirit Seminar
St Maurice Chapel - 7weeks
Tuesdays 7:00 PM

September 14 - Growth Seminar
St Bernard Church - 7 weeks
Mondays at 7:00 PM

September 25, 26, 27, 29th Annual Catholic
Charismatic Conference
Hilton Ft Lauderdale Airport Hotel
1870 Griffin Road
Dania Beach, Florida 33004

ATTENTION

Because of the increased cost of printing and postage, we regret to have to tell you that this office will now have to ask for a minimum of \$5.00 per year to cover the cost of your “Paraclete” newsletter. For those of you who already send contributions specifically for the “Paraclete”, we sincerely thank you. For those of you who have not, we ask you to prayerfully consider sending in your donation. We firmly believe that this newsletter should continue to proclaim the truth of the Gospel and provide you with information concerning up – coming events.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

March

1. Gn 9:8-5; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15
2. Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31- 46
3. Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15
4. Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11: 29-32
5. Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12
6. Ez 18: 21-28; Mt 5:20-26
7. Dt 26: 16-19; Mt 5:43-48
8. Gn 22:1-2, 9a,10-13,15 - 18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk: 9:2-10
9. Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
10. Is 1: 10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
11. Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
12. Jer 17: 5-10; Lk 16: 19-31
13. Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
14. Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
15. Ex 20 1:17; 1 Cor 1: 22-25; Jn 2:13-25
16. 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30
17. Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35
18. Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
19. 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13,16-18, 22
20. Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
21. Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14
22. 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2 4-10; Jn 3:14-21
23. Is 65: 17-21; Jn 4:43-54
24. Ez 47:1-9,12; Jn 5:1-16
25. Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
26. Ex 32: 7-14; Jn 5:31-47
27. Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2,10, 25-30
28. Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53
29. Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33
30. Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8:1-11
31. Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

April

1. Dn 3: 14-20, 91-92,95; Jn 8:31-42
2. Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8: 51-59
3. Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42
4. Ez 37: 21-28; Jn 11:45-56
5. Mk 11:1-10; Isa 50:4-7; Phil 2: 6-11; Mk 14:1-15: 47
6. Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11
7. Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
8. Is 50: 4-9a; Mt 26:14-25
9. Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21
10. Is 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42
11. Gen 1:1-2: 2; Gen 22:1-18; Ex 14:15-15:1; Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Bar 3: 9-15, 32-4: 4; Ez 36:16-17a,18-28; Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7
12. Acts 10:34a. 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9
13. Acts 2: 14, 22-33; Mt 28: 8-15
14. Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18
15. Act 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35
16. Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48
17. Acts 4: 1-12; Jn 21: 1-14
18. Act 4:13-21; Mk 16 : 9-15
19. Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31
20. Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8
21. Acts 4: 32-37; Jn 3: 7b- 15
22. Acts 5: 17-26; Jn 3: 16-21
23. Acts 5: 27-33; Jn 3: 31-36
25. 1 Pt 5:5b- 14; Mk 16: 15-20
26. Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2: 1-5a; Lk 24: 35-48
27. Acts 6: 8-15; Jn 6: 22-29
28. Acts 7: 51-8:1a; Jn 6: 30-35
29. Acts 8: 1b-8; Jn 6: 35-40
30. Acts 8: 26-40; Jn 6: 44-51