

# CHARISMATIC RENEWAL OFFICE NEWSLETTER

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## Mission Statement:



*Our mission is to help people respond to the call to conversion to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, to facilitate transformation through Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and to assist in the spiritual renewal of people and parishes.*

## FR. RANIERO CANTALAMESSA

*Preacher to the Papal Household*

### TO VISIT THE TWIN CITIES THIS FALL!

You will have several opportunities to hear him speak while he is here. Mark your calendar now and register for any or all of the events being held in the Archdiocese. Details and registrations forms available online or by calling.

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**THIS IS A**

**ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY**

**YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS !**

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## NATIONAL LEADERS' AND MINISTRIES CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE FOR  
CHARISMATIC RENEWAL IN THE U.S.

### "Power From on High for All Generations"

Special Track for PRIESTS & DEACONS on Friday p.m.

Special Track for YOUNG ADULTS all day Saturday

**Friday-Sunday**

**October 29-31, 2010**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel, St. Paul**

[www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org)

1-800-338-2445

*The local Renewal in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis (CCRO) is also sponsoring the following additional events with Fr. Cantalamessa.*

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

### DINNER WITH FR. CANTALAMESSA

**Sunday evening, October 31, 2010**

Crowne Plaza Hotel, St. Paul

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### A DAYTIME RETREAT ON THE HOLY SPIRIT "The Presence...The Promise...The Power"

**Fr. Cantalamessa and Fr. Tim Nolan**

**Monday, November 1, 2010**

Earle Brown Heritage Center

Brooklyn Center, MN

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The dinner and retreat are made possible by the local Catholic Charismatic Renewal Office and are, in part, intended to be fundraisers to support the ongoing operations of the CCRO. **Talk to your friends and gather a group to come and hear Fr. Cantalamessa.** Tickets can be ordered by downloading the order form off the website: [www.mncro.org](http://www.mncro.org), or by calling the office and requesting that one be mailed to you. *We thank you for your support.* Fr. Cantalamessa is an outstanding preacher and author! One of his most popular books, "*Sober Intoxication of the Spirit*", has become an international best seller. In preparation for his visit to our area and to introduce his writings to you, **ST. GEORGE BOOKS AND GIFTS in Blaine is making this book available at a 10% discount to CCRO members for a limited time.** Stop in or call 763-754-9777. You must ask for the CCRO discount – and it is only good for "*Sober Intoxication of the Spirit*" at this time.

*Editor's Note: The following article was originally printed in the January/February/March 2009 issue of Pentecost Today. It is reprinted here with permission.*

## *Walking in the Footsteps of Hope*

*By Fr. Larry Carew*

In November of 2007 I traveled as chaplain with a group of pilgrims as we retraced some of the “footsteps of St. Paul.” It was the second time I’d been given such a privileged opportunity. Over 10 years earlier, I’d been given a taste of Paul’s wanderings for just a few days tacked onto the end of a Holy Land pilgrimage. This time, however, in addition to stops in Ephesus, Corinth and Athens, I was able to visit even more places so dear to the Apostle, like Beroea, Thessalonica and Philippi.

During my earlier visit, Corinth turned out to be the place of my most memorable blessings. This last time, it was Philippi that would spring the most surprises.

First of all, allow me to briefly recall an episode from my original visit to Corinth. I’d just returned to the hotel after celebrating Mass amidst the ancient ruins. I’d preached on First Corinthians 13. Everybody appeared to be so blessed.

After we entered the hotel lobby, however, the atmosphere drastically changed. We learned of a mix-up about tips, expected from our pilgrims, for which they’d already paid. Our pious contingent suddenly became a surly mob.

Ninety minutes later, I was able to inform them at supper that the confusion had been cleared up. I was pleasant and polite about it on the surface, but underneath I was still so angry with them. As I returned to my room, I sensed the Holy Spirit’s conviction: 1 Corinthians 13, “love does not take offense.” It was now undeniable to me that my pilgrims weren’t the only sinners on the block!

Fast forward with me now to November of 2007—to the day before we visited Philippi. We’d just boarded the bus ready to visit Meteora, a breathtakingly beautiful panorama of

mountainous pillars, with monasteries or convents perched atop almost all of them.

I soon learned that Alexandra was not feeling well. She was our tour guide—a walking encyclopedia of Greek history and biblical knowledge. She was also a devout member of the Orthodox Church.

As we ascended a switchback road to visit one of the mountaintop monasteries, I kept sensing that I was getting an inspiration: *offer to pray over Alexandra for healing*. An opportunity soon presented itself and she graciously accepted.

Shortly afterwards, in the monastery chapel, Alexandra explained to us that most of the lovely frescoes and icons surrounding us were dedicated to the memory of the early Christian martyrs of Greece. She appeared to have completely recovered. But never once that day did she ever comment on how she was then feeling...until Philippi.

The following day, we drove right past the ruins of the ancient city. There, just beyond those ruins was a grove of trees overarching the edge of a river. It couldn’t have looked much different than the way it looked to Paul on the day he first met Lydia, his very first convert to the Faith on European soil, and baptized her in that river.

I decided to lead the pilgrims in prayer, right there at the river’s edge, asking that the flow of the holy Spirit’s love and power, first given us at Baptism, would now be renewed and deepened for each of us. I then proceeded to sprinkle them with holy water.

Alexandra suddenly surprised all by breaking the silence, as she blurted out the following words: “I must now give witness...” She then shared how I had prayed over her for healing on the previous morning, and she concluded with these words: “Only a few minutes after Father laid hands and prayed for me, all the discomfort and weakness left me and I’ve been fine ever since.”

Our next stop was at the very spot where Paul and Silas had been forced to undergo a mock trial, a

public flogging and a sentence of imprisonment. Directly across the street from that place, the ruins of the jail where those two saintly servants ended up converting their jailer to Christ (Acts 16) can be found.

Since I happen to be a part-time prison chaplain, I decided to spend a little extra time there to ask the intercession of Paul and Silas for two men in particular. One, I hadn't seen in over a year, the other for over five years. They'd been moved to other facilities, and once they are transferred elsewhere, chaplains are not allowed any further contact with them. I'd especially sought the prayers of Paul and Silas, who'd been unjustly imprisoned at this very location, because the two men whom I'd commended to them, I'd come to believe, had also been wrongly imprisoned. After having spent many hours with both of them in counsel and healing prayer, I'd become convinced of their innocence. As a result, I'd never felt free of the burden of needing to pray for them regularly.

Two days later I was back in the U.S. Even as I left the plane, I had the strangest feeling that my pilgrimage was not over. Back at the parish I found a message waiting for me. One of the men I'd just mentioned was seriously ill. He'd requested to see me. Regulations had been waived. The local warden had already approved my visit.

Eight days after praying for him in Philippi, there I was at his bedside. An hour later, the other man, whom I'd also prayed for there, spotted me in the corridor of the same prison. He dropped the books he was carrying, ran towards me and scooped me into a big hug. Much to my amazement I received permission, on the spot, to meet privately with him as well on that unforgettable afternoon.

We walk in the footsteps of St. Paul when we surrender our hearts to Christ, as he did on the highway to Damascus. We walk in his footsteps when we confess that we have failed to love with Christ's love and ask him for another chance. We walk in that saint's footsteps when we follow his

counsel to earnestly desire the spiritual gifts and then step out in hope-filled faith to use them. We walk in the Apostles' footsteps when we give public witness to the blessing Jesus has poured into our lives. We walk in his footsteps when we allow the sufferings of others to become our own, as we lift them before God's throne in intercession.

Pope Benedict, in his encyclical letter on Christian hope, draws our attention to yet another saint named Paul, another heavenly beacon of hope—a Vietnamese martyr of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Paul Li-Bao-Tin. This latter day Paul had also decided to write a letter from his imprisonment: "I, Paul in chains, for the name of Christ, wish to relate to you the trials besetting me daily, in order that you may be inflamed with love for God and join with me in his praises, for his mercy is forever... In the midst of this storm, I cast my anchor towards the throne of God, the anchor that is lively hope in my heart" (*Saved in Hope*, 37).

Casting the anchor of hope... Hope is a boundless supply of energy that heaven supplies. We have to decide to plug into it and then go on to let it carry us forward. ■



*Fr. Larry Carew is the Bishop's liaison to the Charismatic Renewal for the diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Fr. Larry has been working in the healing and prison ministries for some time and has authored materials for use in these areas.*

### ***Is Jesus Calling You Closer?***

SEE, HEAR, EXPERIENCE AND WITNESS THE LOVE OF GOD THROUGH HIS HEALING POWER

## **SILENT HEALING RETREAT**

*Fr. Antony Thekkanath, V.C.  
and Fr. Martin Paul, V.C.*

**Thurs., September 30 – Sun., October 3, 2010**  
Camp Friendship - Annandale, MN

**There is still time to register and attend but you must call today!** Contact Zoya 651-230-3243 or Maripat 651-739-1220, or go to [www.frbillusa.net](http://www.frbillusa.net).

*Check our website for a brochure.*

Upcoming Events

Healing Masses

**September 2** – Thursday: **St. Luke’s Church**, Clearwater. 6:00 pm praise & worship; Mass at 6:30pm. Reconciliation available 6:00-6:30 pm. Fr. Jacob Yali, celebrant. *Info: 320-558-2124.*

**September 7** – Tuesday: **St. Peter’s Church**, No. St. Paul. (SPECIAL NOTE: ST. PETER’S WILL NOT HAVE A HEALING MASS THIS MONTH, due to a parish dedication anniversary Mass with Bishop Piché, which will take place at 6:30pm. Bishop Piché will speak after Mass. All are welcome.)

**September 9** – Thursday: **Holy Name of Jesus Church**, Hopkins. Rosary 6:30; Mass 7:00pm. - Fr. Jim Livingston. *Info: Teresa 763-553-1343.*

**September 20** – Monday: **Lumen Christi**, Cleveland & Bohland Aves. (Highland Park), St. Paul – Rosary 7:10; Mass 7:30 pm. Celebrant: Fr. Jim Livingston. *Info: Jack 651-699-7098 or Anita 651-690-2553.*

Life in the Spirit Seminar

Monday evenings: **Sept. 27—Nov. 8.** Sponsored by the St. Francis Prayer Group at Lumen Christi, St. Paul (Highland Park) – Rosary at 7:00pm; Seminar: 7:30-9:00pm. *To register, call Jack 651-699-7098 or Anita 651-690-2553.*

Save the date

**SEPTEMBER 17-19** – *Friday-Sunday* – **Retreat for Married Hispanic Couples** – Camp St. Croix – *For more information call Maria at 651-695-0238.*

**SEPTEMBER 18** – *Saturday* – **Companions In The Heart of Jesus** – A Mini-Retreat for Women - Church of St. Paul, Ham Lake (chapel) – Mass 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. retreat begins. Morning consists of praise and worship, talks, journaling, prayer time. *For more information call Margaret at 763-767-3159 or Mary at 763-434-6707.*

**OCTOBER 1 & 2, 2010** – *Friday/Saturday* – **Weekend conference with Fr. Bill Halbing** – sponsored by New Life Ministries and St. Albert’s prayer group – St. Albert’s Church, Minneapolis – [www.NewLifeCRM.org](http://www.NewLifeCRM.org)

Your ongoing donations are needed and appreciated to help keep the office operating. Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support. God bless you.

Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa  
Coming to the Twin Cities!  
details inside....