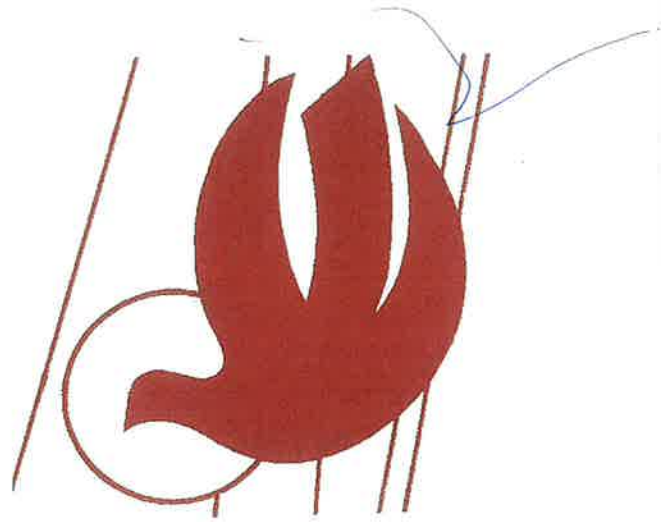


A  
Six-Day Renewal  
of  
Faith Mission



- Where?** St. Sebastian Church, Middletown, Conn.  
**When?** Sunday, Nov. 7 to Friday, November 12, 1976  
**Covering?** Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist and Anointing  
**Purpose?**
- To appreciate JESUS CHRIST as your Personal Lord and Savior
  - To *Strengthen* your Faith
  - To see how SPECIAL YOU are
  - To UNDERSTAND WHY God loves you so much
  - To allow the HOLY SPIRIT to Touch your life
  - To find the PEACE JESUS PROMISED to those who OPEN and GIVE themselves to Him.

**SIX DAY MISSION OF FAITH:** Each talk will be given twice each day for your convenience. Opening talk Sunday evening ONLY, at 7:00 p.m. Talks on Monday through and including Friday at 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. The Mission will be given by Father Ray Introvigne with Father Zenon Smilga and Father Adam Pupsys.

- Sunday, Nov. 7:** *"What the World Promises and What God Promises."*  
Benediction.
- Monday, Nov. 8:** *"Experiencing God's Presence and Caring."*  
Reconciliation, Benediction, Renewal of Baptism.
- Tuesday, Nov. 9:** *"Experiencing the Power of The Holy Spirit."*  
Benediction and Renewal of Confirmation.
- Wednesday, Nov. 10:** *"The Parish Community and The Eucharist."*  
Understanding and Celebration of Eucharist.
- Thursday, Nov. 11:** *"God Wants To Heal Us."*  
Communal Anointing and Prayer For Healing.
- Friday, Nov. 12:** *"Prayer — The Key To Heaven On Earth."*  
Holy Hour, Benediction — Film following in hall.

JESUS came that we may *know* and *experience* the love God our Father has for us. JESUS wants to *change* your life. Can you trust Him enough to know that this change will bring a *greater joy* and *meaning* to your daily life? Will you make the Mission and allow Him to show you how???

*"Do not save riches for yourself here on earth, where moths and rust destroy, and robbers break in and steal. Instead, save riches for yourself in Heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and robbers cannot break in and steal. FOR YOUR HEART WILL ALWAYS BE WHERE YOUR RICHES ARE."*

MATTHEW 6:19-21

## Prayer and Good Works = The Key

Reading the Scriptures, one cannot fail to be impressed by the evident importance of prayer, whether it be that which is recommended and practiced by the great prophets and kings of the Old Testament, or by God's own Son in the new dispensation.

How many times we are told that Our Divine Lord went off to a quiet place by Himself to pray! He prayed at critical moments in His life. Before entering upon His public ministry (Lk 4,1-2), before choosing from among many disciples those who were to be His twelve closest collaborators (Lk 6,12-16), prior to so many of the miracles He performed, especially those which were of particular importance in testifying to His Divinity (Jo 11,41-42), prior to His suffering and death on Calvary (Mt 26,36-46), Christ prayed.

Christ promoted prayer among His followers as well. Some evils are driven out only by prayer and fasting (Mt 17,20). To Peter, "Pray, lest you enter into temptation" (Mt 26,41). We ought to pray (Lk 18,1). Especially did Christ call upon the Apostles and His followers to pray both privately (Mt 6,6), publicly and together. When you pray, say "*Our Father. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation. Deliver us from evil*" (Mt 6,7-13). The whole Last Supper was a prayer of praise and thanksgiving, which Christ urged His Apostles to repeat without end. "Do this in memory of Me" (Lk 22,19), He said, and they did precisely that.

In the Acts of the Apostles we read that Christ's followers gathered together to share prayer and to break the Bread of the Eucharist (AA 2,42). Almost every epistle in the New Testament begins with a prayer and urges the people to pray. And we note that prayer of petition is not stressed but rather the people are urged to "praise the Lord", with hymns of adoration, thanksgiving and repentance for sin.

The instructions of Christ to pray, and the practice of Christ and His Apostles with regard to prayer, constitute a description of what Christ wills His Church to be. Through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist, we are called to be one spiritual and moral person with Christ. We are to be the Body of Christ, His people, His Church. Constituted as such by Sacrament and prayer, we are to go forth, whether as individuals or groups, to be Christ to the world (Constitution on the Church). If Christ was never too busy to pray privately and with others, never too pre-occupied to meditate quietly or pray vocally, so we should pray.

Our life as Christians begins with faith in God, hope in His promises, and it flowers in charity which is the only proof that the love of God truly reigns in our hearts. Today we see many evidences of individuals and groups who inspire us by their active charity, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, welcoming the stranger, visiting those who are sick and in prison (Mt 25,35-36). But still not nearly enough. After twenty centuries of Christianity, we find that the Spirit of God, as revealed to us in Christ, has not swept the world as it first promised, gathering all men into that body of saints that St. Paul saw possible, a union of minds and hearts that would finally bring to the world the truly heavenly state of justice, love and peace, which the life and love of Christ could produce in the world, if only we and others could be convinced to trust fully in Him and in His ways.

Love God and your fellow man sums it all up. Pope Paul VI, speaking at the Third International Congress of the Catholic Renewal of Parish Life, said:

"We are pleased to see signs of this renewal: a taste for prayer, contemplation, praising God, attentiveness to the grace of the Holy Spirit, and more assiduous reading of the Sacred Scriptures . . . The poor and needy and afflicted and suffering across the world and near at hand all cry out to you, as brothers and sisters of Christ, asking for the proof of your love, asking for the Word of God, asking for bread, asking for life. They ask to see a reflection of Christ's own sacrificial, self-giving love, love for His Father and love for His brethren . . . Beloved sons and daughters, with the help of the Lord, strong in the inter-cession of Mary, Mother of the Church, and in communion of faith, of charity and of the apostolate with your pastors, you will be sure of not deceiving yourselves. And thus you will contribute, for your part, to the renewal of the Church. Jesus is Lord! Alleluia!"



# Spiritual Renewal Services

Diocese of Norwich

**PROCLAIMING JESUS CHRIST IS LORD**

## What Is A Prayer Meeting?

Please read from the New Testament 1 Corinthians, Chapters 12, 13 & 14.



**A "Prayer Meeting" is a weekly gathering of Christians** to give praise, thanks, honor and love to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. It's a time we gather in community, to praise God on a one-to-one basis, as the Holy Spirit moves us.

**A prayer meeting is not a discussion club**, a therapy session, or a time for counseling. We come to give our full attention to Jesus — through the help of the Holy Spirit (who will teach us all truth).

**A prayer meeting has 2 purposes:**

1. To praise, worship and honor God.
2. To build up the Body of Christ (as brothers and sisters).

**What is the content of a prayer meeting? (See 1 Cor. 14: 26-33)**

Opening prayer; time of praise & worship; singing; prophecy (God speaking through someone); tongues (in song as well); interpretation of tongues; scripture reading; teachings; testimony; sharing.

**How long do the prayer meetings last?**

Usually a minimum of 1½ hours.

Matthew 26: 40 "How is it that you were not able to watch with me for one hour?"

**Do I have to raise my hands and pray like others do?**

No — you should pray as you feel comfortable — as if you were alone with Jesus. Pray as you feel comfortable, but also respect others — the way they pray and feel comfortable.

**Do I have to say "praise the Lord, alleluia, etc.?"**

No — you do not have to say or do anything you are not comfortable with. Just keep open to the Holy Spirit and pray however you wish — just PRAY.

**Is a prayer group a parish organization?**

No — a prayer group is made up of individuals that get together weekly as a family for the purpose of giving Jesus the praise He deserves. The first and primary purpose of all prayer is to praise and honor the God who created us and who gives us all the gifts and blessings we enjoy each day.

**What are the spiritual gifts we pray for? (See 1 Cor. 12, also 13 & 14)**

Wisdom; knowledge; faith; prophecy (2 Peter 1:20-21); discernment of spirits; tongues (Acts 2:4); interpretation; healing (Acts 5:12-16); miracles (Acts 2:43).

**Is the "Baptism In The Spirit" a new sacrament?**

No — it is merely a RELEASE of the POWER of the Holy Spirit already within US — helping us to appreciate Jesus, the Bible, our daily prayer life, our faith, etc., in a deeper way.

**Do we have to speak at a prayer meeting?**

No — the ones that speak, prophesy or read are usually moved to do so by the Spirit (John 14:26 "the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything, and make you remember all that I have told you").

**What is "testimony"?**

Telling how the Lord is working in your life. One's testimony should be short and to the point. Nothing can deaden a testimony more than rambling and irrelevant detail. Make it "short and sweet."

**How can I grow spiritually?**

Attend the prayer meeting each week, read from the Bible at least 15 minutes daily, talk to the Lord throughout the day and take time to listen to Him (through prayer). Short courses will be offered as time goes on, as a "Life In The Spirit Seminar" (7 weeks), a "Foundations Course" (8 to 10 weeks), Scripture Courses, etc.

### **Who can give a teaching at a meeting?**

A teaching is reserved to one who has cleared through the leadership or core group. This is to insure proper teaching.

### **Is a prayer meeting based on the Bible?**

Yes — Jesus said, "Where 2 or 3 are gathered in My name, there am I in their midst." (Matthew 18:19-20).  
1 Cor. 14:26; Acts 1:14; Acts 2:42; Revelation 3:20-21; Rev. 22:17.  
Covenant Community (one step further) Acts 2:46.

### **Why do we sing? (Colossians 3:16)**

Singing is a way of praying, praising and worshipping God. St. Augustine said, "he who sings prays twice." It should not turn into a songfest. We should PAUSE between songs, readings, prophecies, etc., and LISTEN. This is the time the Holy Spirit can talk to us. We need Silence to Reflect and allow the Spirit to Work.

### **Why do some greet others with a hug?**

This is just a sign of brotherhood. See 1 Cor. 16:20; 2 Cor. 13:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:26 and 1 Peter 5:14.

### **Is a prayer meeting like a Eucharistic Celebration (Liturgy or Mass)?**

Don't compare one with the other. The Eucharist is a reliving of the greatest act of love that ever took place upon earth — the Last Supper and Calvary combined (Jesus offering Himself to the last drop of blood for each of us). In the Eucharist we receive Jesus, body, blood, soul and divinity. In a prayer meeting Jesus is present as in the Mass, in the Scripture Readings, where 2 or 3 are gathered, in each other, in prophecy, etc., only we worship Him from an informal viewpoint rather than in a structured celebration.

### **Where can I read something on the Holy Spirit in the Bible?**

John 14:16 and 26; John 15:26; John 16:7 and 13; Acts 1:4 and 8; Acts 2:4, 17 and 38; Acts 4:31; Acts 5:32; Acts 8:17; Acts 10:44-48; Acts 19:5-6; Romans 5:3-5; Romans 8:1-17; 26-27; 1 Cor. 2:6-16; 1 Cor. 3:16; Galatians 5:16-26 and many others.

### **Is Satan Real?**

See Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8; Matthew 4:1-11; Matt. 8:28-34; 32; Matt. 10:1-8; Matt. 12:22-28; Matt. 13:36-43; Mark 1-4.

### **The importance of prayer and fasting:**

See Matthew 17:20-21; Matt. 21:22; Mark 9:29; Mark 11:22-26; Mark 14:37-38; Luke 6:12; Luke 11:1-11; John 8:42-47; Luke 4:1-2; Luke 6:12-16; John 11:41-42; Matt. 26:36-46; Acts 2:42.

### **What should I keep in mind when attending prayer meetings?**

- Come at least 4 or 5 times before making a judgment. It takes that long to understand how the spirit is working.
- Pray as you feel comfortable (let others do the same).
- Praying alone we are easily distracted; we support each other at a prayer meeting.
- Pause between songs, readings, teachings, to allow the Spirit to work.
- Don't concentrate on others — concentrate on Jesus and YOU.
- All ages are welcomed — we are all children of God (grammar school to senior citizens).
- Prepare for the meetings through prayer and sacrifice.
- Don't be afraid, you are with friends. Don't let the evil one discourage you.
- You will experience the "fruits of the spirit" as you progress (Galatians 5:22; see also Gifts, 1 Cor. 12).
- If you do not have an opportunity to speak or share at the meetings - you may do so after the meeting with others during the coffee hour.
- If you have any questions please don't leave until you get an answer. We love you — and together we love God — and HELP EACH OTHER AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

*"Praise, Honor and Glory are Yours, Lord!"*

### **St. Paul, Philippians 1:9-11**

Finally, "My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you may always recognize what is best. This will help you to become pure and spotless and prepare for the Day of Christ when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God."

### **For Information, Contact:**

Spiritual Renewal Services, Diocese of Norwich, P.O. Box 6, 325 Main Street, Norwich, CT 06360

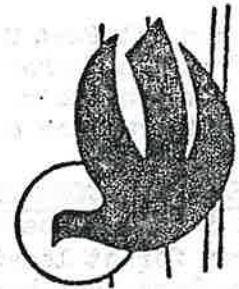
# Norwich Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Services

All Hallows Church, 130 Prospect Street, Moosup, CT 06354

Telephone: (203) 564-3709

December 1977

## DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER



Proclaiming  
"JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!"

"Best Wishes And Prayers For A  
Very Merry Christmas  
and  
A Joyous New Year !"

(St. Luke 2:1-21)

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KINDLY READ, ANNOUNCE AND POST THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION



- CHARISMATIC RENEWAL CENTER OPEN HOUSE - January 4, 1978 (9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.)  
We are praying for our own building to be used as a Renewal Center and House of Prayer. Until this becomes a reality we will rent rooms at God's Gift House, 323 Main St., Norwich, Connecticut. Please invite your members to our OPEN HOUSE. Coffee and donuts will be served. A center is necessary for many reasons -

  - central base of operations
  - place to hold courses, Bible classes, etc., available to the entire diocese - in a central location
  - book store and literature center
  - a central location to begin developing diocesan ministries
  - a place to come for prayer and to be prayed with
  - etc.

WE WILL NEED VOLUNTEERS at least 5 days a week to staff the center. Please ask your people what days or evenings they would be available and send their names to Mrs. Robert Allard 178 Cliff Street, Norwich, Connecticut 06360. Please try to do this by December 28th.
- THE DECEMBER LEADERS MEETING has been cancelled because of the holidays.
- MIKE WARREN OF CHANNEL 8 has asked me to be one of his guests on Thursday, December 22 at 12:00 noon. Please keep this in your prayers.
- THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL TEAM will meet on Wednesday, December 28, at 7:00 p.m. at the Charismatic Renewal Center, God's Gift House, 323 Main Street (2nd floor) Norwich, Conn.

Team members are	Sister Helen Bonin	Windham County
	Brother Martin Slattery	New London County
	Pauline Turner	New London County
	Mary Allard	New London County
	Chris Chamis	Middlesex County
	Bill Wierzbinski	Middlesex County
	Al Parrow	Tolland County
	Romeo Gagnon	Tolland County
	Father Ray	

The Pastoral Team is planning to attend a Retreat Weekend together at the Hope Community in New Jersey, January 13,14,15. Please keep them in your prayers.
- PARISH PRESENTATION ON THE CHARISMATIC RENEWAL will be given at St. Mary's Church, New London on January 10, 7:00 p.m. The public is invited. Encourage any of your people to attend who would like an explanation of what the Renewal is all about.
- There will be a CONNECTICUT STATE WIDE LEADERS MEETING on Saturday, January 28, from 9:00 a.m.

to 5:00 p.m. at East Catholic High School, Manchester, Connecticut. Bert Ghezzi and Jim Savnar from Ann Harbor will speak on Leadership. Because of the limited number of seats we will be given a quota. This information will be sent out in the January Newsletter. This meeting will replace our regular January meeting.

7. PRAYER GROUP CORE TEAM - every prayer group should have a "core group or team" made up of about 5 or 6 members. This group gathers one day a week (independent of the prayer meeting) to pray for at least one full hour (for the prayer group members) followed by discussion of problems that have to be resolved concerning the prayer group. If you don't have time for this then you are not properly serving the prayer group. Those in leadership have a serious responsibility. Prayer is the key to praising God as well as overcoming Satan.

8. SUMMARY OF FUTURE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:

- February Retreat (17,18,19) entitled, "Jesus Is In Love With You," will be given by me at Immaculata Retreat House
- April 7,8,9, Retreat at Immaculata is filled
- Parish Mission of Renewal - Sacred Heart, Norwichtown, February 12-16

9. SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITY: The Sonship of Jesus

Just as the proper exercise of authority is epitomized by the role of the Father, so is submission epitomized by Jesus' ready obedience to his Father's will.

Jesus repeatedly declared his dependence on his Father and his submission to his Father's will. This is reflected in several passages from the gospel of John: "I can do nothing on my own authority" (John 5:30); "For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me" (6:38); "For I have not spoken on my own authority; the Father who sent me has himself given me commandment what to say and what to speak" (12:49); "I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father" (14:31); "My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work" (4:34).

God's gift of his Son shows us the Father's love. So too, the relationship between the Father and the Son shows us the importance of authority and submission. This relationship of authority and submission is a vital part of God's revelation to us through Jesus.

Subordination to headship is not merely a legalistic doctrine extracted from some obscure passages of Scripture. Rather, Scripture provides us with a living example of subordination, expressed in word and in deed. Jesus' birth, ministry, Gethsemane struggle, and death all give witness to a life wholly submitted to the headship of God.

Submission to authority should likewise characterize our lives as Christians. This is precisely what Paul has in mind when he urges us to follow the example of Jesus, "who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Phil. 2:6-8).

Clearly, there is no room in the kingdom of God for rugged individualism- usually just a excuse for rebellion. Some people spend their whole lives evading all authority, in an effort to preserve their freedom. But if we grasp the significance of Jesus' submission to his Father, and if we accept Jesus as our model in living the Christian life, we are compelled to follow his example by submitting to authority in our own lives.

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A good conscience is a continual Christmas. (Benjamin Franklin)

Let us continually pray for each other.  
A Blessed and Joyful Holiday Season to All,  
In Jesus, Mary and Joseph

*Father Ray*

Rev. Ray Introvigne  
Diocesan Director

In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart.

John Bunyan



## *Spiritual Renewal Services*



### *Who Founded Your Church?*

IF YOU ARE a Lutheran, your religion was founded by Martin Luther, an ex-monk of the Catholic Church, in the year 1517.

IF YOU belong to the Church of England, your religion was founded by King Henry VIII in the year 1534, because the Pope would not grant him a divorce with the right to remarry.

IF YOU ARE a Presbyterian, your religion was founded by John Knox in Scotland in the year 1560.

IF YOU ARE a Congregationalist, your religion was originated by Robert Brown in Holland in 1582.

IF YOU ARE a Baptist, you owe the tenets of your religion to John Smyth, who launched it in Amsterdam in 1605.

IF YOU ARE of the Dutch Reformed church, you recognize Michaelis Jones as founder, because he originated your religion in New York in 1628.

IF YOU ARE a Protestant Episcopalian, your religion was an offshoot of the Church of England founded by Samuel Seabury in the American colonies in the 17th century.

IF YOU ARE a Methodist, your religion was launched by John and Charles Wesley in England in 1744.

IF YOU ARE a Unitarian, Theophilus Lindley founded your church in London in 1774.

IF YOU ARE a Mormon (Latter Day Saints), Joseph Smith started your religion in Palmyra, NY in 1829.

IF YOU worship with the Salvation Army, your sect began with William Booth in London in 1865.

IF YOU ARE a Christian Scientist, you look to 1879 as the year in which your religion was born and to Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy as its founder.

IF YOU belong to one of the religious organizations known as "Church of the Nazarene," "Pentecostal Gospel," "Holiness Church," "Pilgrim Holiness Church," "Jehovah Witnesses," your religion is one of the hundreds of new sects founded by men within the past one hundred years.

IF YOU ARE Roman Catholic, you know that your religion was founded in the year 33 by Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and it is still the same Church.

*John 8:32 "--and the truth will set you free!"*

*"O God, I humbly beseech thee to teach me thy true religion, that leads to everlasting happiness, through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen."*