

NEW LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

CHRISTMAS 2011

Christmas Blessings to you All!



Why the Pope wore that 'Santa hat'

A few days before Christmas in the first year of his papacy, Pope Benedict wore a red velvet cap which was trimmed with ermine. Known as a "camauro," the old-fashioned headwear immediately earned the nickname the "Santa hat" for many people. Looking at the photo above you can see why.

Some people questioned why he seemed to be reviving a papal custom that had not been seen in many decades.

The pope answers the questions in a recent book.

“I wore it only once,” he said. “I was just cold, and I happen to have a sensitive head. And I said, since the camauro is there, let’s put it on. But I was really just trying to fight off the cold.”

The pope’s appearance in the cap caused something of a minor sensation in the media, which saw it as a kind of pre-Vatican II fashion statement. In the book, the pope said he hasn’t put it on since that day, “in order to forestall over-interpretation.”

Catholic Charismatic Youth Conference

Earlier this year saw the traditional Steubenville summer conferences. Below is a link for a summary of video highlights from the youth conference.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZO3cZ7_v5Qg&feature=related

It is noteworthy that the folks at Steubenville are taking conferences on the road and doing them in regional areas. For ourselves, there is usually a Steubenville Northwest conference somewhere in the region. A Portland priest, Fr. John Amsberry, is often one of the main speakers.

The 2012 Conference is in Spokane and is scheduled for July 27-29 at the Convention Center.



You can find more information at the website: <http://www.spiritusnw.org>.

Click on the bar “2012 Information” for further details. Feel free to browse their site which has lots of good information, photos, and links.

As you will see, the Holy Spirit is still moving among our youth!



Fr. Cantalamessa on the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The Baptism in the Spirit is not a sacrament, but it is related to several sacraments. The Baptism in the Spirit makes real and in a way renews Christian initiation. At the beginning of the Church, Baptism was administered to adults who converted from paganism and who, made on the occasion of Baptism, an act of faith and a free and mature choice. Today it is substituted instead by intermediary parents or godparents. In this situation, rarely, or never, does the baptized person ever reach the stage of proclaiming in the Holy Spirit "Jesus is Lord".

Until one reaches this point, everything else in the Christian life remains out of focus and immature. Miracles no longer happen and we experience what Jesus did in Nazareth: "Jesus could not perform many miracles because of their lack of faith" (Matthew 13: 58). The Baptism in the Spirit's effectiveness in reactivating baptism consists in this: finally man contributes his part -- namely, he makes a choice of faith, prepared in repentance, that allows the work of God to set itself free and to emanate all its strength. It is as if the plug is pulled and the light is switched on. The gift of God is finally "untied" and the Spirit is allowed to flow like a fragrance in the Christian life.

International News

Second Pan-African Congress of the CCR

The 2nd Pan-African Congress of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal took place in Yaounde, Cameroon in August. It gathered more than 6,000 participants from 30 countries, including 2,000 youth, 200 priests, 6 bishops and 2 cardinals, and was followed by a two-day evangelization rally that assembled 15,000 people at the main stadium of the city.

The speakers included Cardinal Peter Turkson (President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace at the Vatican), Bishop Yves Lesaux from France, Fr. Rufus Pereira

from India, Sr. Anna Mary Mukamwezi from Uganda, Dr. Edo Olutu from Nigeria, Mr. Jean Pliya from Benin and Mr. Oreste Pesare (ICCRS Director) from Italy.

They all repeatedly proclaimed the theme of the congress: “Africa Rise! Be Holy. Be authentic Apostle of Reconciliation and Peace”. It was proclaimed as an evaluation, a challenge, a prophecy, and a strong support for Africa. They stressed that the Lord has given to Africa the Church and the CCR as an opportunity so that life and love may speak louder than hatred and death.

The experience of Baptism in the Spirit was presented as a means to journey into holiness and fullness. People were encouraged to spread the Baptism in the Spirit wherever possible.

The conference was full of much praise and worship and wonderful singing.



UPCOMING EVENTS

John Michael Talbot

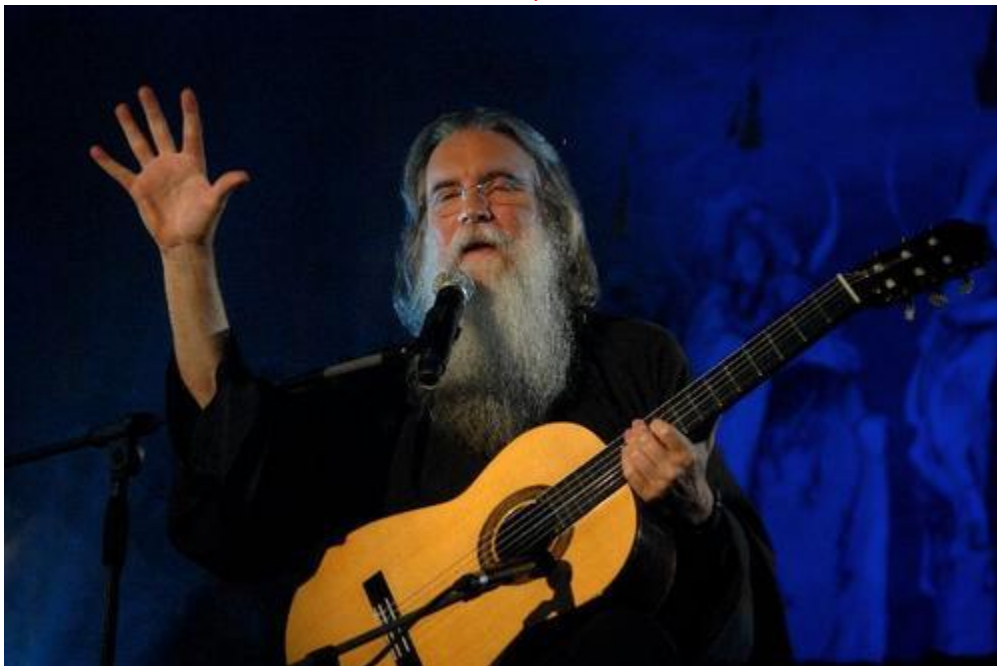
In Concert

Sunday, February 19, 2012 at 3.00pm

Jacoby Auditorium

Umpqua Community College

Tickets \$8.00



Prayer & Praise Gathering

Monday, February 20, 2012 starting at 7.00pm

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Roseburg, Oregon

For further information contact Greg Johnson at 541-430-4734 or 541- 672-1616, or email him at greg@gstiles.com.

John Michael Talbot

Three Evening Mission

EXPERIENCE SPIRITUAL RENEWAL
Sacred music, teaching and prayer

Wednesday February 1 to Friday February 3, 2012

7.00-8.30pm.

St. Anne Catholic Church

1131 NE 10th St.

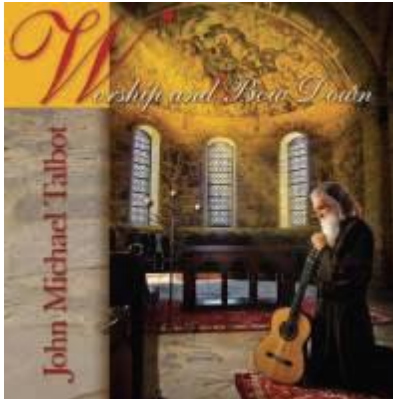
Grants Pass, OR 97526

Contact Dave and Terri Currie at 541-476-0322 for more information

In the 70's, Talbot was part of a successful country rock band, Mason Profit, who shared the stage with groups such as The Byrds, Pink Floyd, and The Grateful Dead. But, one evening, he experienced the emptiness of such a lifestyle and began asking if there wasn't more to life. Soon thereafter, he began searching and found that only in Christ was found true meaning and salvation.

Deeply inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, he turned his life around along with his music and began serving the Lord in the ministry of music. He has since become one of the most loved Christian Recording Artists with 53 albums, a respected author with 24 books and the Founder, General Minister, and Spiritual Father of the Brothers and Sisters of Charity in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Talbot desires to change the lives of people and direction of institutions by helping people return to God.



“I sense a hunger for spirituality because our values are crumbling and, God help us, even our churches and communities are falling apart but God is raising us to new life in Christ if we will but accept it” – John Michael Talbot.
