

NEW LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

SUMMER 2010

Healing Mass with Fr Bill Adams

Father Adams is the Spiritual director of “Follow Me Ministries”, a television production ministry in Huntington Beach, California. Fr. Bill also does parish missions throughout the U.S. and abroad. In the past he served as the Provincial of the Redemptorist Order, Western Province, and as president of the Southern California Renewal Communities in the Los Angeles Archdiocese. Fr. Bill was ordained in 1963 and has been active in the Charismatic Renewal since 1972.

Approximately 150 people attended the healing Mass at St Rose parish on Friday July 16. Fr Adams was the main celebrant. He was assisted by Fr Peter Smith, Fr Charles Wood, and Fr David Shaw. The music was led by Daniel Oberreuter of the group *Thirsting*, assisted by his fiance Letisha, and by Sheila Stewart. Jay De Sousa provided the overhead projection of the songs. Jackie Morgan organized the prayer teams. Some folks came from as far as Albany for the Mass.



People awaiting the start of the healing Mass

After 15 minutes of praise and worship, Mass began. Fr Adams focused everyone with an inspiring exhortation at the beginning of Mass, and built on it in his homily. After the conclusion of Mass, he and the prayer teams prayed with people. Fr Adams encouraged everyone to come forward not with just a specific need, but with a desire for all that God wanted for our lives. Each of the priests was joined by two or three prayer group members and prayed as a team with those seeking prayer.



St Rose interior

Many people were prayed with, some more than once. The Holy Spirit seemed to be powerfully present. In fact, Fr Adams commented on the strength of peoples' praise and worship, prayer, and openness and participation. A number of people rested in the Spirit. Several healings have been reported, both physical and also inner healings. Most people seemed blessed at the opportunity, even if it was on a sultry summer evening.

One person attending observed "I had no idea so many people would be in the church!! What a beautiful Mass. Everything was very meaningful and I know that everyone there loved being there! I loved your church, the Mass, the music - everything. Thanks for initiating Friday night, all in our group just loved it and spoke about it all the way home!"

Many thanks to all those who worked on the Mass, to those who came, and to Fr Adams who was willing to take time out of his vacation to do this. If you were blessed or healed in some way please let us know. Those blessings inspire the faith of the rest of us.



Fr Bill Adams inspired and preaching up a storm!

Fr. Cantalamessa on the Baptism in the Spirit

This is a summary of an article by Fr Cantalamessa in Good News magazine.

The baptism in the Spirit was a chance the Lord gave me to ratify and renew my Baptism. For most of us, Baptism is a bound sacrament. That means that while we have received Baptism in the Church, the Church gave it in the hope that at some point in our adult life we would confirm our 'I believe' in a personal, free act of faith. Until there is this act of faith in the life of a Christian, Baptism remains a bound sacrament. Baptism allows us to receive Holy Communion, but it also reveals why there are so many inactive Christians, passive and lacking any power. Jesus promised power to his believers, power enough to cast out demons and convict the world. Why, then, are we so powerless?

To live no longer for ourselves but to live for the Lord, we need the Holy Spirit. There is no real deep renewal in our Christian lives unless we open ourselves, and allow the Holy Spirit to come

into our lives. He waits for us to open the door. When we speak about Pentecost, we speak of opening the window. We are all longing for an overwhelming experience of love. Then came Pentecost. The account of that momentous day tells us that the possibility exists, that we can experience the warm, overwhelming love of God. This experience is open to those who accept the Holy Spirit, who ask for the Holy Spirit. A Father of the Church used to say, "What the Holy Spirit touches, the Holy Spirit changes." When the Holy Spirit touched the Apostles, we see that He changed them dramatically

The heart of the Gospel is the cross of Jesus Christ: "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross everyday and follow Me." (Luke 9:23) [To renounce oneself 'is to disown oneself as the centre of one's existence'.] What the world needs is to have a personal relationship with Jesus as Saviour and Lord. We [Catholics] have developed such a huge heritage of doctrine that we don't realise this is too much for a person who does not yet know Jesus, who doesn't understand who Jesus is. Be sure that people come to know Jesus, a living Jesus -- not just doctrines or theories

From *Good News*, www.ccr.org.uk/archive/gn1005/g02.htm

We pray that Pentecost may not only be an event of the past, at the very beginning of the Church, but that it may be today, indeed now... Let us pray that the Lord may bring about the outpouring of his Spirit now, and recreate his Church and the world.

Pope Benedict to the Bishops of the Synod for Africa, 2009.

End of Year for Priests Celebrations: A Charismatic Celebration!

The week concluding the Year for Priests had a charismatic dimension. The final vespers on Thursday evening and the final Mass on Friday morning, both with Pope Benedict, drew 15,000 priests, 700 bishops, and 100 Cardinals. During the week between 5,000 and 9,000 priests attended events at St Paul Outside the Walls. There were other events too.

On Tuesday, ICCRS (International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services), sponsored a gathering at the basilica of St John Lateran. Over 500 hundred priests attended this event, including our own Fr Gary Zerr, pastor of St Edwards parish in Keizer, Oregon. The schedule included presentations by Bishop Joe Grech, Fr Tom Forrest, and Sr Briege McKenna and Fr Kevin Scallon. There was a concluding Mass presided over by Cardinal Peter Turkson.

Bishop Grech reflected on the prayer, preaching, and poverty of St Francis. Fr Forrest inspired everyone with his experience of living his priesthood in the Spirit. Sr Brieger and Fr Kevin led all present through a very deep time of ministry. She also shared a stirring prophetic word for all present.



Over 15,000 priests attended the final Mass at St Peter's Basilica

Just as the Lord himself was conceived and born of the Holy Spirit so the Church must be conceived and born of the Holy Spirit. Only through this creative act of God can we enter into God's activity, into the divine action, and cooperate with him.

Pope Benedict to the Bishops of the Synod for Africa, 2009.

Pope Benedict on Baptism and the Holy Spirit

Pope Benedict recently encouraged the faithful to rediscover the beauty of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. He said the Holy Spirit is like a waterfall able to purify all hearts. He gave his

traditional Sunday greeting shortly after finishing the celebration of Mass for the feast of Pentecost.

The Pope noted that Pentecost was an ancient Hebrew feast that became a Christian feast as a result of the Holy Spirit coming upon Mary and the disciples in the Upper Room 50 days after the Resurrection. "In effect, Jesus' whole mission was aimed at giving the Spirit of God to men and baptizing them in the 'bath' of regeneration," the Pope said. "This was realized through his glorification, that is, through his death and resurrection: Then the Spirit of God was poured out in a super-abundant way, like a waterfall able to purify every heart, to extinguish the flames of evil and ignite the fire of divine love in the world.

"The Acts of the Apostles present Pentecost as a fulfillment of such a promise and therefore as the crowning moment of Jesus' whole mission. After his resurrection, he himself ordered his disciples to stay in Jerusalem, because, he said, 'In a short time you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit'; and he added: 'You will have the power of the Holy Spirit, who will descend upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all of Galilee and Samaria unto the ends of the earth.'"

Pentecost is "in a special way, the baptism of the Church who undertakes her universal mission beginning from the streets of Jerusalem with prodigious preaching in the different languages of humanity." "In this baptism of the Holy Spirit the personal and communal dimensions -- the 'I' of the disciple and the 'we' of the Church -- are inseparable. The Spirit consecrates the person and at the same time makes him a living member of the mystical body of Christ, participant in the mission to witness to his love."

The Pope said "In my message for World Youth Day 2008, I invited young people to rediscover the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives and, therefore, the importance of these sacraments. Today I would like to extend this invitation to everyone: Let us rediscover, dear brothers and sisters, the beauty of being baptized in the Holy Spirit; let us be aware again of our baptism and of our confirmation, sources of grace that are always present.

"Let us ask the Virgin Mary to obtain a renewed Pentecost for the Church again today, a Pentecost that will spread in everyone the joy of living and witnessing to the Gospel."

Edited from Zenit

Future Events of Note

Healing Mass with Fr Michael Barry in Kelso, WA

Location: Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 2200 Allen Street, Kelso, WA 98626

Date: **Wednesday September 1, 2010**

Time: 7.00pm (Praise and worship starts at 6.45pm)

Further Info: www.archdpx.org/ccr/Flyers/Fr_Barry_Event.pdf

Life in the Spirit Seminar at St Anne's in Gresham

Location: St Anne's Catholic Church, 1015 SE 182nd Ave, Gresham, OR 97233

Date: **Monday evenings, September 13 through October 25**

Time: 7.00-8.45pm

Further Info: www.archdpx.org/ccr/Flyers/LIS_St_Anne.pdf
