



The TRUMPET

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services

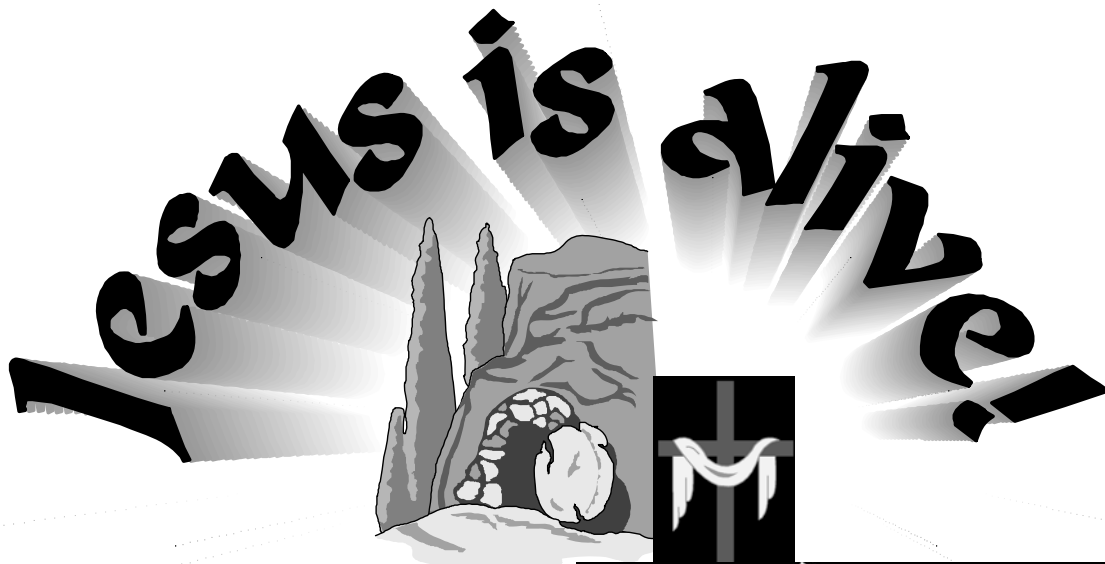
Newsletter

The Mission of The Trumpet is to glorify God by nourishing our intimate relationship with our Lord, encouraging greater openness to the action of the Holy Spirit, and promoting more open sharing of our faith experience of Jesus and the gospel.

Diocese of Rockford, Illinois

Web site: <http://www.dpsrfd.org/CCRS.htm>

April/May/June 2007



You will do even greater things

John 14:12

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The Trumpet

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YOUR OFFERING IS LOVE

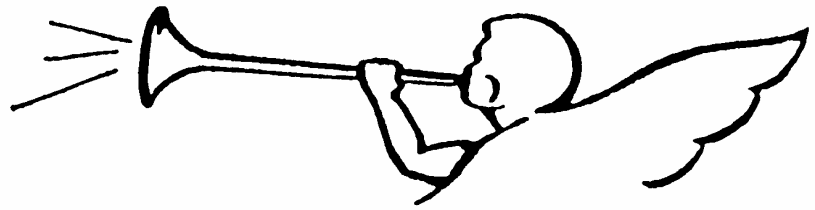
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Like shouting from the mountain tops let's ...
Blast forth that ...



JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ ...

On the cover we joyously proclaim "Jesus is alive!" as we see the empty cross and tomb. Then we see Jesus in a rowboat. He invites us to "Jump in!" and he will row us across the lake. It is very peaceful to be a passenger in Jesus' boat. Then we cry "Come Holy Spirit." The Spirit comes with fire and power and we are told, "You will do even greater things."

When the editorial staff met for this issue, we were told prophetically to "look into my eyes" and "see the depth of my love." We were asked, "Why don't you turn to me in your troubles?" God invites us to call on Him for He is with us, and His arms are open wide to receive us. The words *semper fidelis* (always faithful) came to mind and then were explained, "If mere man can take care of you, how much more your heavenly Father can take care of your needs." Finally, the following words were spoken, "You need to ask more, my children. You do not ask often enough. I stand ready to help you. I stand ready to gift you. My presence is my gift to you. You will find me in the stillness, my children. You will also find me in the places where it is noisy and chaotic. You will find me anyplace and anywhere."

After prayer, the editorial staff discussed the images and words we received. We perceived a message of God's great love for us and for all. We also perceived the message that we need to become more intimate with God, connect to Him and walk with Him. Then we need to get out of our comfort zone and reach out more.

Our articles begin with my summary of the talks at the Amazing Grace Conference. Then, in his article, "We Can Only Imagine," Ron contemplates what it might be like in heaven. In "Be Still, and Know That I Am God" we have some poetic meditation from Nita Neu. Finally, Kate Elliott recalls the Angel of God prayer and examines our beliefs about angels in her article titled "Guardian Angels."

Our prayer is that we may all proclaim joyfully that Jesus is alive and jump in the boat with Jesus. He wants to take us places and empower us with his Spirit to do even greater things than he did on earth. We can trust him and turn to him in our time of need, because he loves us so much and is just waiting for us to ask so he can provide for our needs.

Yours in Christ,
Linda

Amazing Grace Revisited

By Linda Daniel

Leader: Praise the Lord Jesus Christ!

Response: Now and forever!

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Response: Praise the Lord Jesus Christ!

So began our conference, “Amazing Grace,” in celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Charismatic Renewal in the Catholic Church. Forty is a significant number in Scripture. The Israelites wandered forty years in the desert, and Jesus was tempted in the desert for forty days. We were told that forty is the initiation into a new thing (Deuteronomy 2:7).

The conference began Friday evening with two speakers who were part of the original weekend retreat at Duquesne University when the Holy Spirit fell on them in power. Dave Mangan, the first speaker, talked about reading Acts 1:8. The word power in the original language is the same root word for our word dynamite, so his question was, “Where’s the dynamite?” During the retreat he had the idea to renew their confirmation vows as we renew our baptism vows at Easter. God’s question to him seemed to be, “Why not now?”

Patti Mansfield was the other speaker Friday night. She said that she had expectant faith as had Dave. She remembered the song “Come Holy Ghost” being the theme song of the weekend, and she said that on studying the lives of many saints, this song was significant in their lives. Patti asked us, “Are you ready to be a fool? There is a cost to Pentecost.” She also quoted the song, “Though none go with me, still I will follow. No turning back.”

On Saturday, Fr. Tom Forrest, CSSR, spoke about what’s ahead. The fruits of the Holy Spirit were the first thing he emphasized. They are the key to heaven and there is nothing better or more important. He told us to think big, think really big for the God who did all this for us. We need big power and we have it in the Holy Spirit.

Ralph Martin was the next speaker. He said that if you are alive, God has a mission for you. Each day when you get up you should ask, “How can I serve you today?” It doesn’t matter how old or young you are, God has a mission for you.

Ralph then looked at the Renewal in the Catholic Church. He said, “When the church gets desperate enough, they decide to try God.” Pope John XXIII called for Vatican II. It was a call for God to renew the Church. Pope Paul VI was the first to say

that the Charismatic Renewal is a chance for the church. Pentecost is primarily the Holy Spirit being poured out in abundance. He is the sanctifier; he makes people holy. The charismatic gifts work the best in saints, and there is a profound link between holiness and evangelization. The universal call to holiness is closely linked to the universal call to mission. In prayer, the contemplative and charismatic styles are two aspects that go together. The Holy Spirit is one. Missionary ardor for holiness is the contemplative in action. The fullest tradition of the church is contemplative charismatic.

Sr. Nancy Kellar, SC, also spoke Saturday morning. She said that the promises of the Holy Spirit are promises for renewal and conversion and healing. A blessing of the healing is that we came to know a Father in heaven who is loving and kind and compassionate. A fruit of the Charismatic Renewal is the blessing of praise. The Lord is challenging us in the Renewal to carry and embrace the cross with courage. We need to embrace the fire of purification and face the challenges of unanswered prayer and disunity, so we can attain holiness. He shows us the vision on the mountain top, but the food grows in the valley. We need to be aware that there is a promise for communal renewal; “You are my people.” We are called to “preserve the unity which has the Spirit as its foundation” (Ephesians 4:3), and we need to claim the promise of being one. Self-centeredness is sin in the community. We need unity of mind, heart, vision and purpose in the group. The power of the Holy Spirit is given to us for holiness, unity, ministry and mission. The promise for mission and ministry is dynamite, but we are still playing with little sparklers. We have good news and the more we let the Lord use us, the more He will refresh us and empower us.

Jim Murphy talked about experience. We need to become aware of our experience and our conversion. God will give people the experience, and they’ll spend the rest of their lives working to understand what happened to them. Experience is a defining moment, a reference point to reflect on, to cherish and to hold on to. Experience is a reservoir to draw back and recall what God has done. In the Old Testament God told people how to process the experience. 1. Write it down. 2. Tell your children/pass it on. 3. Put it on your calendar and make it a feast day. Human beings have short memories and need *(continued on page 5)*

We Can Only Imagine

As I get older, I know that I need to keep using my entire being to praise the Lord, but it's easier to sit back and float through prayer without exerting any physical energy to do that. There are many ways to praise him, but the Scriptures are clear that the early people of God used every means available to give him the glory and honor that he deserves. Read the Book of Revelation; there we get a sense of what heaven will be like and I find little in that book to indicate that heaven is a quiet meditative place. On the contrary, it seems to be a place of extreme joy, of trumpet blasts, timbrel and dance, of the heavenly hosts shouting Glory!, Glory!, Glory! and falling down in worship of the lamb who was slain. Sounds a lot like many charismatic prayer meetings, doesn't it?

The excitement in the presence of Jesus in heaven seems to go far beyond quiet meditations, and into a level of joy and exuberance that we do not know of here on earth. I suspect there is also quiet meditation too, but how many fans at a football game can sit quietly when the main attraction is so exciting? Jim Murphy taught us on our retreat a couple of years ago that genuine contemplative prayer must eventually well up and explode into exuberant [vocal] praise, and genuine exuberant praise must always draw us deep into our quiet interior where the origins of deep worship reside. (I believe his words were slightly different than mine, but you get the idea.) Being in the presence of Jesus goes way beyond complacently sitting still. Thank God we've been able to experience that *Glory* both when we've been vocal and quietly meditative.

In the fall of 2002, we attended the Association of Diocesan Liaisons' Theological Symposium in Baton Rouge, La. The theme of the symposium was *Prayer and Ecclesial Maturity: Worship in the Spirit*. That's where we first heard Jim explain his concept of the "Charismatic vs. Contemplative channels of prayer."

We heard a song there that most of us at the symposium had not heard before. But you have surely heard of it by now: ***I Can Only Imagine***
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Listen to (pray through) the words of the song in an atmosphere of worship and be open to bursting into joyous praise.

*"I can only imagine what it will be like, when I walk by
Your side...*

*I can only imagine, what my eyes will see, when Your Face
is before me!*

I can only imagine. I can only imagine.

*Surrounded by Your Glory, what will my heart feel?
Will I dance for you, Jesus? Or in awe of You, be still?
Will I stand in Your presence, or to my knees will I fall?
Will I sing 'Hallelujah!?' Will I be able to speak at all?*

I can only imagine! I can only imagine!

*I can only imagine, when that day comes, when I find
myself standing in the Son!*

*I can only imagine, when all I will do, is forever, forever
worship You!*

I can only imagine! I can only imagine!"

What will it be like for us? What will it be like to be *surrounded by HIS glory*? Will we *dance for Jesus* or simply be in such *awe of HIM* that we will be *completely still*? What form will our praise take?

Will we *stand in HIS presence*, or *collapse to our knees* under *HIS* power? Will we be able to praise and worship him at the top of our lungs; will we *sing 'Hallelujah'*? Will we *be able to speak at all*? We will be praising, but how?

We can only imagine what heaven will be like, but we know it will be glorious! Surely, it will be far beyond anything we have experienced here on earth. Yes, we can only imagine as we look forward to finding out how we will respond to His Majesty!!

And by the power of the Holy Spirit we can actually practice, right here on earth, by merely stopping long enough to pray with the words of a truly inspirational song and using all the faculties the Lord has given us to *experience* him and his majestic, loving presence.

Won't you take the time to gather with friends and enter into his presence together? And take time to let him use you to help others imagine too, to help them share in his glory for themselves.

I can imagine, can you? I hope so. ☩

Frank Schlezes April 6, 1918 – Dec. 26, 2006

Frank was truly a man of God, a radical Catholic for Jesus, a committed leader in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and a good friend. He was instrumental in the success of the Charismatic Conferences the diocesan Charismatic Renewal sponsored and was always available and anxious to help out, no matter what he was asked to do. He and God had a special relationship of love. We will always miss his smiling face and ask the Lord's blessings on Vicki and Judy, and on his whole family. Frank doesn't have to imagine any more; he knows for sure.

**Blessings,
Ron**

Amazing Grace (Continued) something to get them through the hard times. Conversion is letting the experience have its full effect. Five things will help us in our conversion. Patience; persistence; be willing to pay any price; keep your eyes on the prize (Don't focus on the storm, you will lose your balance and fall. Keep looking up.); and rely on God's providence.

Babsie Bleasdel reminded us that we are the dwelling places of God; our hearts are the tabernacle; and God has no favorites. She said that it is in the debris of your life that you find your gifts and the truth about God's love for us. Then you can lead others out.

David Thorp said that waves of mercy have been and are being poured out. There are hurdles to get past in spreading the good news of Jesus within the church to wake up those who are participating from habit. We need to think of these as opportunities, and we need to get past thinking "we are the solution" and dig in and love the people of our parish.

Prophetic words were spoken:

- "I gave you the gifts of Apostles and you used them to form prayer clubs."
- "You wait and you wait and you're making me wait."

Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap, spoke Saturday evening. He said that we should not stay in the past. We can remember and celebrate, but we must look ahead. Pope Paul VI said that the first need of the church is the Holy Spirit – the church needs a perennial Pentecost. Pentecost is the love of God being poured into the hearts of the Apostles. The Apostles (and we) were completely changed. They ceased being self-centered and started being Christ-centered; they ceased living for themselves and started living for Christ. The Charismatic Renewal brings the rediscovery of grace. The first fruit of Pentecost, the most important fruit, is to proclaim Jesus. We need a new outpouring of the power of the Holy Spirit to correct how Jesus is being presented. The fire needs to be kept burning (Leviticus 6:13).

Bishop Sam Jacobs addressed the question, "How can we work together toward more unity with the institutional church?" He said that this question begins with a bias and perceived conflict. There is no conflict with the teachings of the church. The problem lies in the human beings who exercise the gifts – hierarchical and charismatic. He listed six points to answer the original question:

1. Unity
2. Fidelity in obedience (always under authority)
3. The role of priests is to oversee the use and discernment of the charismatic gifts

4. The gifts are for the upbuilding of the Body of Christ and must be part of the ordinary life of the church
5. There must be a healthy balance between the hierarchical and charismatic gifts
6. At the heart of the balance of the hierarchy and the balance of charisms is love.

Sunday morning began with Aggie Neck. She said that the yoke of the evil one has been broken. God has given us everything we need to live a glorious life. A real leader is one who says, "I'm going that way, follow me," not one who just gives directions. We need to look at people and not say, "They're lost," but say, "Christ died for them."

Fr. Richard McAlear, who is in a healing ministry, said that our mission is to keep Christ in the church, to keep the message Jesus centered. He used the story of the Good Samaritan as a comparison. Jesus is the Samaritan and we are the innkeeper. Jesus heals the people and then tells us to take care of them. If we expend more in ministering and discipling them than he has initially given us, then he will make up the difference. We need to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit and seek holiness above anything else. We are to continue on the way until we have received the full maturity of Jesus Christ in God the Father.

Fr. Francis Martin said that the future of the Renewal is intimately bound to the future of the church. When we are faithful to Jesus and the gifts, we begin to experience the reality of the gifts and we are filled with joy, and we grow in holiness. We are called to maturity, being part of the one Christ. The purpose of the Charismatic Renewal is to so permeate the life of the church that the church becomes the sacrament of mercy. If we want to evangelize, they have to see Christ in us. Listen to the Holy Spirit and he will drive you to great happiness and a willingness to sacrifice yourself.

Finally, at the closing Mass Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap, said that the resurrection is the big bang. When we go home, we must say, "Christ is risen," if not verbally, then in our eyes and demeanor (joy, peace, etc.). There are two resurrections: of the body on the last day and of the heart. The heart resurrection must take place every day – discouragement, sin, etc. is a death in the heart – Jesus' resurrection brings joy, peace, etc. We must also raise other people from heart death. There is a balm (ointment, Holy Spirit) in Gilead (the church). Jesus needs love, gentleness, kindness, and beauty, especially accompanied by simplicity and modesty, to spread the gospel.

Go and spread hope!✠

Be Still, and Know That I Am God Psalm 46:10

Inner silence ~ a sacred, holy place, because you are graciously there, inside of me, where I can come anytime, as you beckon me.

The silence, such a wonderful gift, to be enjoyed: the calm, the peace, no clutter or intrusions there.

Wrapped up in golden silence, to feel your arms around me, to feel the secure warmth of your love, to enjoy you, Lord God, as though there is nothing or no one else in all the universe, except you and me, the Maker and the one who is made.

The silence brings me to the place where I best understand who I am, and who you are.

The silence, a holy shroud, that comes up around me, enticing me into a longing look at you, dear Jesus. The silence, a respite against the harsh winds that blow outside of me. The silence, where I know all is well, and you, dear Lord, are still in charge.



To glimpse your splendor and power, drives me to my knees in profound adoration and awe, and I know I am forever changed.

The cold, strong, gusty winds I heard as a child, protected by my father ~ the wind reminds me of the power and fury of your Spirit.

The Holy Spirit of God, symbolized by a dove, the only way to fly!



A box of soft, fuzzy yellow chicks, wiggling and chirping, the newness and purity of life. Jesus, you are life.

Kings knelt at your feet when you were born. I kneel at your feet, my Savior and my God.

I sit and fan myself in the shade and shadow of your almighty presence, and I am refreshed and strengthened to go on, to follow you. Your presence is wonderful and satisfying like nothing else.

To know you, God is my delight ~ sustaining me and encouraging me to go on and follow you.

My sins have given me a death sentence, but you have rescued me.

Let your light shine on me and through me. You are my light and my salvation.

To know you is to love you.
Grow in holiness. Be holy as I am holy
I am your friend, and you have loved me well.
Could you not watch with me one hour?
They came and took you away, Jesus, because of me.
Hail, King Jesus, Hail! You are the King. You are King of heaven and earth, and I worship you, my God, my all.
Pilate released a prisoner who could go free, Jesus. You have released me and let me go free. On my knees I thank you for that.
What to do, what to do with Jesus. Each of us must decide on his own.
You carried my cross, my sins upon your shoulder.
You died in my place to show your love for me and save me.
I scarce can look at you, suffering for me. It moves my heart as I thank you over and over again.
We shall behold him.

EXIT sign ~ a way out. Thank you, Jesus, for providing me a way out.

Nita Neu



Guardian Angels

“To light, to guard, to rule, and guide” (Angel of God Prayer)

How often do we as adults recite the Angel of God prayer? We might teach it to our children and grandchildren, but rarely recite it for ourselves. However, if we realized the influence our guardian angel has in our life, we would certainly want to invoke that angel’s intercessory power. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that “The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture calls ‘angels’ is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of Tradition.” “From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. ‘Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life.’ Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and men united in God.” (CCC #328, #336)



How do we here on earth share in the company of the angels and how can we become more aware of our guardian angel? Our guardian angel helps us as the angel prayer states “to light, to guard, to rule, to guide” us. Guardian angels guide and illumine our minds. “They are communicators from God to human minds to enlighten them on the mind and will of God.” (*Meditation on the Angels*. Fr. John A. Hardon, SJ) Our guardian angels are channels of God’s grace. They continually behold God’s face in the Beatific Vision, therefore they can effectively assist us with our prayers. “The angels not only see God; they are deeply loved by God. Their power, therefore, as pleaders for us before God, is beyond human explanation. What we know by faith, however, is that their holiness as the angelic hosts makes them potent intercessors on our behalf. The more devoted we are to them and the more fervently we invoke their aid, the more of God’s blessings they will obtain for us who are living in the shadows of faith.” (Hardon. Page 126)

The primary function of our guardian angel is to help us get to heaven. In this way our angel can guard our thoughts and help us distinguish between good spirits and the evil spirits. Our guardian angels can help lift our minds from earthly matters to heavenly heights. In Exodus 23:20 it states, “See, I am sending an angel before you, to guard you on the

way and bring you to the place I have prepared.” (*New American Bible - NAB*) In Psalm 91:11-12, again we hear of angels guarding us on our way, “For God commands the angels to guard you in all your ways.” (*NAB*)

St. Thomas Aquinas, who is called “The Angelic Doctor,” has written that guardian angels are so important in God’s plan of creation that He has entrusted the whole universe to them. The sun, moon, and stars, all the animals, birds, and fishes have been entrusted by God to the care of the angels. When we behold God’s marvelous creation, we should always praise our Creator and also offer up a prayer to the guardian angels whom God has sent to the world and to us.

The Church helps us in our devotion to our guardian angel by:

1. Instituting the Feast of the Guardian Angels on October 2nd.
2. Formulating prayers to our guardian angels and to other angelic spirits.
3. Making devotion to the angels part of the Church’s liturgy.

“There is no question that this devotion is founded on revealed truth. It is a matter of faith that the Church has universally and insistently promoted, that we give devotion to the angels as our guardians and protectors through life on earth to our angelic destiny in heaven.” (Hardon)

Angel of God Prayer

Angel of God, my Guardian dear,
To whom God’s love commits me here,
Ever this day be at my side,
To light, to guard, to rule, and guide. Amen✠

Kate Elliott, DRE
Holy Spirit Church, Roscoe



Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services
 Diocese of Rockford
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 Rockford, IL 61103

Web Site: <http://www.dpsrfd.org/CCRS.htm>

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Catholic Charismatic Prayer Groups – Diocese of Rockford

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p><u>AMBOY, IL</u>
 * St. Patrick Church
 Sundays – 6:30 PM – (815-857-2264)</p> <p><u>AURORA, IL</u>
 * St. Rita Church
 Mondays – 7:00 PM (630-466-4168)</p> <p>* Sacred Heart Church (Spanish)
 Saturdays – 8:00 PM (630-898-0564)</p> <p>* St. Therese Church (Spanish)
 Saturdays – 7:00-9:00 PM
 (630-801-9822) (630-585-0438)</p> <p><u>CARPENTERSVILLE, IL</u>
 * St. Monica Church (Spanish)
 Fridays – 7:00 - 9:00 PM
 (224-210-8133)</p> <p><u>DEKALB, IL</u>
 * St. Mary Church
 Wednesdays – 7:30 PM (815-756-3835)</p> <p>* St. Mary Church (Spanish)
 Tuesdays – 7:00 PM (815-756-4125)</p> <p><u>ELGIN, IL</u>
 * St. Joseph Church (Spanish)
 Wednesdays – 7:00 PM
 (847-289-9280)</p> <p><u>FREEPORT, IL</u> (temporarily dormant)</p> <p><u>HARVARD, IL</u>
 * St. Joseph Church (Spanish)
 Wednesdays – 6:30 PM (815-943-6654)</p> | <p><u>HUNTLEY, IL</u>
 * St. Mary Church
 Wednesdays – 7:30 PM (847-669-6041)</p> <p><u>McHENRY, IL</u>
 * Church of Holy Apostles
 Tuesdays – 7:30 PM
 (815-363-2898)</p> <p>* Church of Holy Apostles
 Magnificat Prayer Group
 Thursdays – 9:30 AM (except summertime)
 (815-363-5585)</p> <p><u>ROCKFORD, IL</u>
 * St. Bridget Church – Parish Center
 Tuesdays – 7:30 PM (815-654-8420)</p> <p>* SS. Peter & Paul Church (Spanish)
 Saturdays – 7:00 PM
 (815-316-8564)</p> <p><u>SANDWICH, IL</u>
 * St. Paul Church
 Thursdays – 7:30 PM – Parish Center
 (815-498-9623)</p> <p><u>ST CHARLES, IL</u>
 * Private Home
 Most Sundays following 10:30 Mass
 (630-584-9374)
 (Call to confirm day and location)</p> <p><u>STERLING, IL</u>
 * St. Mary Church – Parish Center Chapel
 Thursdays – 7:00 PM (815-625-0736)
 (Call for summer schedule)</p> |
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Diocesan Day of Renewal (Spanish)
April 14-15, 2007, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
St. Monica, Carpentersville
Speakers: Pedro Guzman, Ines De Viand,
and Jaime Saucedo
Mass Celebrant: Fr. Alejandro

Healing Service with Fr. Fernando Suarez
May 21, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
 Holy Family, Rockford
June 1, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
 St. Monica, Carpentersville

Diocesan Healing Service
Thursday, May 31, July 26, Sept 27
and Nov 29, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Cathedral of St. Peter, Fellowship Hall
1243 N. Church St, Rockford
 Sacraments: reconciliation,
 anointing of the sick & Eucharist
Information: 815-654-8420

40th Anniversary Celebration
of the Charismatic Renewal
Diocesan Charismatic Mass (English)
St. Mary, Huntley
July 15, 2007, 3:00 p.m.

Magnificat Breakfast, May 19, 2007
Crystal Lake, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
 Speaker: Diana Ferrante - Tickets: 815-455-2700

More information: <http://www.dpsrfd.org/CCRS.htm>