



# 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

July/August/September 2007

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

**Open your hands  
and your heart to the Holy Spirit**



**Come Holy Spirit**



**What are my gifts?  
What do you want me to do  
for you with my hands?**



**Am I good soil?**  
(see Matthew 13:3-30)

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## The Trumpet

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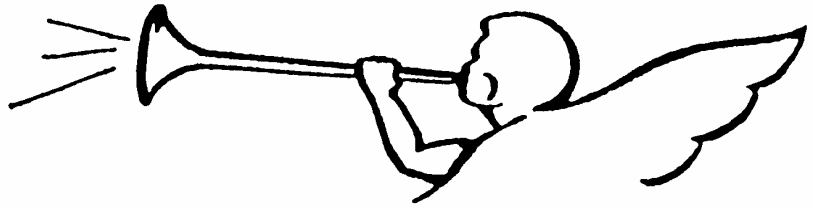
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Like shouting from the mountain tops let's ...  
Blast forth that ...



## JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ ...

On our cover, we are invited to open our hands and our hearts to the Holy Spirit. God is calling us to service, but He wants us to discern the service that is His will for us. We invite the Holy Spirit to come into our hearts afresh that we may be reborn and renewed as at our baptism. He comes as the water, wind, fire and oil and fills us with the love and power of God, so we may love others as He loves us. (The staff meeting preparing for this issue opened with prayer and a word from the Lord about how much he loves us.) We are invited to examine ourselves: "What are my gifts?" and "Am I good soil?" as we ask God, "What do you want me to do for you with my hands?" We believe God is calling each of us to greater love and service, and He wants to empower us to use our unique gifts, because "the master has need of it" (see Matthew 21:3).

My article is a more in-depth study of the theme of our cover as I ask, "Where Does God Want Me?" Then Ron follows with his article, "There's More – There's So Much More." We are being called into new territory, and Jesus is calling us to evangelize our world. Nita Neu has again given us a meditation to ponder, followed by articles by Mary Barclay, "God Is In Control," and Louise Hall, "Service." Finally, in "Popular Devotions," Kate Elliott defines and describes several ways to "pray constantly."

We are again witnessing new moves of the Holy Spirit across the United States, but these moves look different than 40 years ago or in our more recent experience. People are coming together to pray; they are coming together in various groups (Marriage Encounter, Cursillo, Why Catholic? etc.); and they are asking for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. We are seeing new prayer groups spring up in our diocese. God is doing something new and we don't want to miss Him. We need to be open and led by the Holy Spirit so we can "catch the wave" and not be left behind. Our prayer is that we may all be fully yielded to the Holy Spirit.

May you have a blessed and fruitful and refreshing summer.

Yours in Christ,  
Linda

# Where Does God Want Me?

By Linda Daniel

Come Holy Spirit and lead us in the path we are to go. Show us where to go and what to do to further the work of your master plan.

When Jesus was about to enter Jerusalem in triumph, as we celebrated on Palm Sunday, he told his disciples to go into the village and commandeer a donkey with the explanation, "The master has need of it." (Mt 21:3ff) This donkey has a special purpose in the master plan of God. That purpose was to carry Jesus into Jerusalem, and then its special calling was apparently complete. Jesus is calling us to fulfill our purpose in his great master plan, whether that purpose involves our everyday lives, a special one-time calling, or a continuing call to step out in service as the apostles did.

Each of us has unique gifts and we are called to be available at all times to be used by God. In order to fulfill our purpose, we must be open and tuned in to the work of the Holy Spirit. What is the work of the Holy Spirit? In 1 Corinthians we are told that the Holy Spirit:

- reveals his wisdom to us and scrutinizes all matters (2:10)
- helps us recognize the gifts he has given us (2:11)
- teaches us in wisdom, helping us to interpret spiritual things (2:12)
- washes, justifies, and consecrates us in Jesus (6:11)
- dwells in us (6:19)

Acts says that the Holy Spirit speaks to us and directs us (13:2) and assigns work to us (20:28). The Holy Spirit gives us fellowship (2 Cor 13:13). Jesus called the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth who dwells in us and is with us always (Jn 14:16-17). We may not be aware beforehand of our purpose in a given situation, but the Holy Spirit will guide us when we are fully yielded to him.

In the Old Testament (Gen 37-47), Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers. This was a great humiliation for Joseph, but God used it to set the stage for Joseph to fulfill his purpose in God's plan. St. Luke wrote the book of Acts, and he joined Paul's missionary team in Troas (Acts 16). "Before Luke arrived, the mission was floundering. After Luke arrived, the door was opened to bring the gospel to Europe for the first time. Luke is never mentioned in *Acts* as performing any noteworthy service. He is simply 'with' Paul (see 2 Tm 4:11).

Luke quietly used his spiritual and natural gifts, and that led to an open door. Luke was chosen by God to play this role (see Jn 15:19)." (*One Bread, One Body*. May 12, 2007. Presentation Ministries, Inc. Cincinnati, Ohio)

In the parable of the mustard seed, Jesus compared the reign of God to a mustard seed (Mk 4:30-32). This tiny seed grows into a large shrub that birds can nest in. It is important to realize the value of the plant to the birds of Palestine. In the middle of the day the birds need refuge from the heat of the sun. "The shade of the mustard plant is no luxury. It is a necessity in the unbearable heat." (*God's Word Today*. June 2, 2007. Bayard Publications. New London, Connecticut)

"The parable of the mustard seed tells us that gifts of tremendous value can result from an effort that is rather small. A smile toward an elderly person in the check-out line, a phone call to a friend in the throes of grief, a few minutes with our child in the midst of a busy day can all seem to be slight actions of no particular consequence. Yet their impact depends upon the need of the recipient, and that need can be overwhelming. To an elderly person struggling with depression, to a friend close to despair, to a child yearning for affirmation, our small actions can give life.

"Before we decide that our efforts are too small to matter, we should consider how many people around us are struggling with issues we will never fully understand. They are counting on our insignificant actions to give shade to their lives." (*God's Word Today*)

We each have a part to play in God's plan, whether it is as someone who is seen in a place of prominence, as someone who is the "glue" that holds the rest together, or as someone who gives refreshment or respite to the struggling people we encounter. We in the Charismatic Renewal have been given special gifts. "More will be asked of a man to whom more has been entrusted" (Lk 12:48). Jesus told the rich young man, "There is one thing more you must do" (Mk 10:21). "Jesus repeatedly calls us to take one more step. ... Since we have received more, so we are expected to do more. ... The Lord is calling us to break new ground (Hos 10:12), to go where we've never gone before, (*Continued on Page 5*)

## **“There’s More – There’s So Much More”**

As my wife, Carole, and I recently were flying at 37,000 ft. altitude somewhere over Tennessee or Kentucky on our way to visit our daughter and her family in Jacksonville, Fla., I was reading an article in Pentecost Today, the quarterly publication of the National Service Committee of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. In Ralph Martin’s article “Prophecy,” he quoted a gifted lady, Kathryn Kuhlman, who had written the inscription above, the title of this article.

It echoes, or is echoed by, Sister Nancy Keller’s words in some of her talks these past two or three years. She’s from New York, so if you’ve heard her say it, you heard it as “There’s Moah, Always Moah.” I love hearing her say it and love the hope and excitement that wells up each time she says it. Her words are insightful, wise and exciting ... and true.

The National Association of Diocesan Liaisons held its annual Spring Conference and Theological Symposium in Cleveland a few weeks ago, in April. The theme this year was “Forty Years of Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Where Do We Go from Here?” The resounding answer given us by all three of our speakers that week, Aggie Neck, Charles Whitehead and Peter Herbeck, was “OUT.” Out where? Out to bring souls to Jesus Christ.

And why should we do that? Why should we move from our hard-fought-for comfort zones into the risky area of changing lives? Because there’s more – more of Christ – for them and for ourselves.

“But I’m not comfortable with evangelizing” you (we) may say. So what? Get over it! (Kind of harsh isn’t it? Sorry.) If someone hadn’t loved us enough to evangelize us, we wouldn’t know the love of Christ through the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Do we love enough to help open that door for others?

So where do we evangelize? And how? The three presenters say “to the unchurched,” but I’m not so sure where that is, whether it’s on the inner-city street corners, in the shopping malls, at our work places or (hold your ears) in the pews next to us at Mass.

The fact is, no matter where we or anyone else happen to be in our walks with Christ, there’s MORE of him available to us. And we need to actively share (spread) that message wherever we go, whenever we can.

Oh, yes, and the three speakers also were of one voice in insisting that effective evangelization cannot take place except through the gifts of the

Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

When we receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, we fall more deeply in love with, get more excited about, Christ. You did and so did I. And excited people want to tell others, and then others get excited and tell even more about how much more he has for them. And the excitement “snowballs.”

Go out? Spread the good news? Get excited? I think so. And where do we find huge numbers of people who are hungry for “more” of him? In our homes, at our workplaces, in the stores, on the street corners and (hold your ears again) in the pews. But it helps to do this work through the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and we can do it more effectively using the empowerment of the gifts the Holy Spirit has given us.

I promise you, THERE’S MORE! Sister Nancy promises you, THERE’S MORE! Jesus promises you, THERE’S MORE! The Holy Spirit promises you, THERE’S MORE! Pray for it. Go after it. It’s a pearl of immeasurable price available to us and to millions of others around us.

Let’s love enough to pass on that message to as many as the Holy Spirit leads us to so that we can build an army of people living and loving with the excitement of a personal, close, relationship with the savior who continually fills us with more of himself. †

**Blessings,  
Ron**

### **Karl Puskas-Freepport**

Karl, with his wife, Cetty, was a faithful example of persistence and commitment as prayer group leaders and prayer warriors. They led the small charismatic prayer group in Freeport for quite a number of years. The group was never large in numbers, but was always prayerful, and gathered every week even though there may have been only two people there. At other times the group may have consisted of 8-11 prayer warriors.

Karl died May 19 after struggling for several months to recuperate from a stroke, and from other complications that arose.

If we were to be able to ask Karl today what message he would give us from his heavenly home, I’m sure he would echo Sister Nancy’s call, “There’s More, so much More” available with Jesus! We pray for Cetty and for Karl’s entire family, and thank them both for their faithfulness.

# Meditation

*I see Jesus in a white robe ascending into Heaven. He is not alone. He has his arms around his children, taking them with him.*

Thank you, Jesus, for taking my place on that cross, and not giving me what I deserve.

Jesus, friend of sinners, help me.

Jesus, you are the bright and morning star, equal to none in brightness. Shine your light on me that I may see, that I may shine.

*I see Jesus sitting on the ground, playing marbles with some children. Jesus, friend of children everywhere.*

Thank you, Jesus, for taking me in your strong arms and loving me, consoling me, strengthening me to go on.

When your Spirit asks me to do something, there can be no excuse. Single in purpose.

*When you are cold, you turn up the heat, or snuggle up under a blanket, or grab another blanket. I want none of my children to be cold. When you are hungry, you go to the fridge, out to your garden, or to the grocery store. I want all of my children well fed.*

Jesus, just to sit in your presence is such an honor for me, one I do not deserve, but embrace to the fullest.

Jesus, thank you for loving me – I mean really loving me. Show me the ways I can share your love with others.

*Learn how to pray. Pray according to my word and what I have told you.*

You were just a baby, and yet, the Son of God.

Jesus, thank you for bidding me come. Such an honor and a privilege that my King should think of me at all, much less summon me.

I love your holy presence.

Holy One of Israel, I love you.

*If you really knew of the depth of my love for you, you would rejoice more in your Savior.*

*I want for you to know me, and to delight in me, as I delight in you.*

*I am your Creator, creating you in love, and gifting you with every good and wonderful thing.*

**Nita Neu**

## Where Does God (Continued)

to cross over into faith-territory where we will find ‘conviction about things we do not see’ (Heb 11:1). Our relationship with the Lord cannot be stagnant for long. It is either growing or dying. If we’re walking by faith and not by sight (2 Cor 5:7), we are continually breaking new ground (Mi 2:13). If we don’t walk into the unknown with Jesus, we will walk away sad, having chosen to be left behind (Mk 10:22).” (*One Bread*. May 28, 2007) We must ask Jesus what “one thing more” we are being called to do. We may also need to ask what “one thing more” we are to remove from our lives. Then we can all say: Come Lord Jesus!

“Give new signs and work new wonders;  
show forth the splendor of your right  
hand and arm;

Give evidence of your deeds of old;  
fulfill the prophecies spoken in your  
name,

Reward those who have hoped in you,  
and let your prophets be proved true.

Hear the prayer of your servants,  
for you are ever gracious to your  
people;

Thus will it be known to the very ends of  
the earth

that you are the eternal God.”

(Sir 36:5, 14-17)†



### Signs on local churches:

KMart isn't the only saving place.

It wasn't the nails that held him to the cross –  
it was love.

# God Is In Control

By Mary Barclay

God is in control of our lives whether we know it or not. Just when we even think we are in control He will show us we are not. You have no doubt experienced a day when there is nothing on your agenda, and you plan to perhaps do some shopping, visit a friend, or whatever your plan is, when the phone rings, and the person on the other end needs your help with a task that will take up most of your day. There it is, God is calling you to help this person, for He has planned your day for you, so you, of course, say yes to God; you will be available to help that person.

Of course, if you work every day, your week is already planned out for you, unless you become ill and must stay home until you are well enough to go back to your job. Then there are those who are mothers of small children, and their day is taken up with taking care of their children, as well as household duties. Now there's a situation where plans can change from minute to minute. As all of us mothers know, we must be ready for anything in our day where small children are involved.

For those of us who are retired, and looked forward to our retirement during our working years, when retirement day comes, we say to ourselves, "Now I can do what I want to with my day." WRONG! God has other plans for us. We all know, as soon as people in our communities find out we are retired, the phone starts ringing. Suddenly, we find we are involved in more than one church ministry, community organizational ministry, etc., and find that if we had a job, we wouldn't have time to work! If we don't watch out, we can become so involved in all of our community volunteering, that we suddenly find we don't have time to take care of the needs at home. That is when we need to find a happy medium in our volunteer work. I am involved in our church St. Vincent de Paul ministry, and have found that being a vincentian is being open to the needs of others at any time you are called by another vincentian to go on a visit to a client. The rule is to go with someone else, never go alone. Even though being a vincentian means being available and on call, it can be very rewarding.

As we become closer to God we begin to recognize His will for us, and not so much our own will, even though he gives us the free will to say yes or no to what he asks of us. I have found that volunteering in anything can be a blessing, because it gives us the opportunity to be Jesus to someone else, and that can make us feel blessed ourselves.

Our advocate, the Holy Spirit, is with us helping us to do his will, and Jesus has no hands but ours, to do his work, so we need to be in tune with our God, so that when He calls, we can say "Speak, your servant is listening" (1Sam 3:10).✠

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## Service

By Louise Hall

In May my granddaughter graduated from college. Part of the commencement speakers' message was the importance of serving others. It reminded me of the message I heard in the sixties when I graduated from college. Hubert Humphrey was the speaker and there were many similarities in both messages to graduates. I had not thought about this message since, but I realize the message has been in my life. The emphasis for me is serving God through helping others. Isn't that why we were created? "To know, love and serve God" were teachings I learned in grade school.

It is amazing how many areas in life need dedicated volunteers. When I was a young mother, I found myself called to help set up a preschool. When my children were in CCD classes, I felt called to teach. More recently I heard the call to start an Elizabeth Ministry program in our church. How does God call us to use our talents? Some people avoid the call to serve. Others think as they age that they can quit serving. Others use retirement as a time to find new ways to serve. Each person needs to ask, "What is right for me?"

In Galatians 5:13-14, St. Paul exhorts us: "For you were called for freedom, brothers. But do not use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh; rather, serve one another through love. For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Later he tells us "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self control. Against such there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ (Jesus) have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit." (Verses 22-25)

As we nourish our soul with words of the bible, let us be like a gardener, who looks for the perfect spot to plant a small flower or sow some seeds. The opportunities for following the Holy Spirit can be limited by complacency. If we abide in the Spirit, we will nourish our prayer life through group or private prayer, attendance at Mass, reception of the sacraments and reading scripture. Thus we will continue to open our hearts to ways of serving our God.✠

## Popular Devotions

In 1Thessalonians 5:17, St. Paul writes, “Always be joyful, pray constantly, and for all things give thanks.” (*New Jerusalem Bible*) How can we pray constantly? The Catholic Church assists us in this endeavor by providing a wonderful banquet of various prayer styles, types, and forms. The many popular Catholic devotions available to us are included in these forms of prayer. Litanies, patron saints, scapulars, and attendance at Mass on the nine first Fridays are just a few ways we can participate in these devotions and recharge our prayer lives.

Litanies are a form of prayer using a series of petitions with a fixed response, such as “Lord have mercy” or “Pray for us.” The litany that many of us are familiar with is the Litany of the Saints, which is the oldest litany in the church. It was mentioned in the 4<sup>th</sup> Century by St. Basil and used by Pope Gregory the Great in 590 in thanksgiving after a plague in Rome had ended. There are many other popular litanies using the name of Jesus, the Blessed Mother, and the Holy Spirit. It is possible to gain a partial indulgence with the recitation of some litanies such as the Litany of the Precious Blood. Using different litanies in our prayer time is a beautiful way to call upon the intercessory power God has given us in the Communion of Saints.

In the first centuries of the church during times of great persecution, Christian men and women would risk their own lives to rescue the bodies of the Christian martyrs and give them a decent burial. Very often, wealthy Christians would bury the martyr in the family mausoleum. The martyr would then be thought of as that family’s special patron saint. At our baptism we were given a saint’s name as our patron saint or perhaps we have adopted a particular saint as our favorite saint. As part of your spiritual reading, take time to read the history of your patron or favorite saint. Find inspiration for your prayer life from his/her example. And remember to ask for this saint to intercede for you and help you on your road to sainthood.

Scapulars, which were very popular in the 1950’s, are now making a come back among young people. The scapular was originally a work garment that could be put on over the head and shoulders to protect the tunic. It is now two pieces of material with a holy picture or short prayer attached by two strings or ribbons, worn around the neck and under a shirt or blouse. Tradition tells us that one of the most famous scapulars; the Brown Scapular of our Lady of Mount Carmel was given by our Lady to St.

Simon Stock in 1251. Those who wear this scapular have a special devotion to our Blessed Mother and as with any scapular the wearer tries to reflect the virtues, prayer life, and love of God that the scapular signifies.

The First Friday devotion is “the customary observance of the first Friday of each month, encouraged by the Church, based on a promise made to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-90), that special favors such as the grace of final perseverance would be given to those who receive Holy Communion on nine successive first Fridays.” (*Pocket Catholic Dictionary*. John A. Hardon, S.J.) It is said that those who observe this devotion will not die without receiving the Last Rites of the church. I can attest to this because my brother, who as a young man made the nine first Fridays and who later in life had left the church, did through the grace of God receive the last sacraments the day he died.



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## Faith in God

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Devotions are indeed a help in our prayer life and can lead us closer to Jesus in the Eucharist.

“Popular devotions of the Christian people, provided they conform to the laws and norms of the church, are to be highly recommended, especially where they are ordered by the Apostolic See. ... But such devotions should be drawn up that they harmonize with the liturgical seasons, accord with the sacred liturgy, are in some way derived from it, and lead the people to it, since in fact the liturgy by its very nature is far superior to any of them.” (The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. #13. Vatican Council II)†

**Kate Elliott, DRE**  
**Holy Spirit Church, Roscoe**

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**Catholic Charismatic Prayer Groups – Diocese of Rockford**

**AMBOY, IL**

\* St. Patrick Church  
 Sundays – 6:30 PM – (815-857-2264)

**AURORA, IL**

\* St. Rita Church  
 Mondays – 7:00 PM (630-466-4168)

\* Sacred Heart Church (Spanish)  
 Saturdays – 8:00 PM (630-898-0564)

\* St. Therese Church (Spanish)  
 Saturdays – 7:00-9:00 PM  
 (630-801-9822) (630-585-0438)

**CARPENTERSVILLE, IL**

\* St. Monica Church (Spanish)  
 Fridays – 7:00 - 9:00 PM  
 (224-210-8133)

**DEKALB, IL**

\* St. Mary Church  
 Wednesdays – 7:30 PM (815-756-3835)

\* St. Mary Church (Spanish)  
 Tuesdays – 7:00 PM (815-756-4125)

**ELGIN, IL**

\* St. Joseph Church (Spanish)  
 Wednesdays – 7:00 PM  
 (847-289-9280)

**FREEPORT, IL** (temporarily dormant)

**HARVARD, IL**

\* St. Joseph Church (Spanish)  
 Wednesdays – 6:30 PM (815-943-6654)

**HUNTLEY, IL**

\* St. Mary Church  
 Wednesdays – 7:30 PM (847-669-6041)

**McHENRY, IL**

\* Church of Holy Apostles  
 Tuesdays – 7:30 PM  
 (815-363-2898)

\* Church of Holy Apostles  
 Magnificat Prayer Group  
 Thursdays – 9:30 AM (except summertime)  
 (815-363-5585)

**ROCKFORD, IL**

\* St. Bridget Church – Parish Center  
 Tuesdays – 7:30 PM (815-654-8420)

\* SS. Peter & Paul Church (Spanish)  
 Saturdays – 7:00 PM  
 (815-316-8564)

**SANDWICH, IL**

\* St. Paul Church  
 Thursdays – 7:30 PM – Parish Center  
 (815-498-9623)

**ST CHARLES, IL**

\* Private Home  
 Most Sundays following 10:30 Mass  
 (630-584-9374)  
 (Call to confirm day and location)

**STERLING, IL**

\* St. Mary Church – Parish Center Chapel  
 Thursdays – 7:00 PM (815-625-0736)  
 (Call for summer schedule)

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
 of the Charismatic Renewal  
 Diocesan Charismatic Mass (English)  
 July 15, 2007 – St. Mary, Huntley  
 Praise 2:45 p.m. – Mass 3:00 p.m.**

**Diocesan Healing Service  
 Thursday, 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**

**Diocesan Day  
 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
 with David Mangan  
 September 22, 2007 – 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
 St. Mary Parish Center  
 Sterling, IL**

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

**21<sup>st</sup> Annual Charismatic Conference  
 “The Transforming Power of the Holy Spirit”  
 July 20-21, 2007, Peoria Diocese  
 Information: (309) 636-9622**