



B.C. Renewal

(formerly B.C. Charismatic)

Serving the Catholic charismatic renewal in British Columbia

Spring 2024

Come and meet Jesus!

Gathering in the Spirit set for August in Kelowna

Last year's featured speaker at the annual Gathering in the Spirit in Kelowna is returning this summer by popular demand.

Pauline Dumas McGrath of Ottawa, a facilitator with Encounter School of Ministry, will speak at the week-long event, Aug. 11-16 at St. Elizabeth Seton House of Prayer.

Theme for the gathering is Come Encounter the Lord. The supporting scripture is Luke 19:10, "For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost," and the message is "Jesus has a plan for you. Be transformed, receive His joy."

The gathering will begin Sunday, Aug. 11, with registration at 5 p.m. and outdoor Mass, overlooking Okanagan Lake, at 6. The week ends with lunch on Friday, Aug. 16. There will be daily Mass, evening prayer activities, and an opportunity for confession. All events are at Seton House except a healing Mass, which will be held Thursday evening at a local parish.

Cost is \$675, including meals and accommodation at Seton House, or \$325 for commuters, also including meals. Fee is \$75 per day for those not attending daily.

To register, or for more information, contact Denese Espeut-Post, registrar for the gathering, at ndccrs.treasurer@shaw.ca.

"I am very excited for this year's Gathering in the Spirit, as we welcome back Pauline as our keynote speaker," said Loree Renwick, co-ordinator of the gathering.

"Pauline's gentle but persistent manner, together with her desire that all would have an encounter with the Lord, is a recipe for a truly

special week, Pauline helped us to see that with the Lord there are no limits, and to trust Him wherever He may lead us."

Dumas McGrath is a graduate of the Encounter School of Ministry, previously attended Catholic Bible College of Canada, lived two years with the Madonna House Apostolate, and received hands-on training in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

She is active in her home parish, St. Maurice in Ottawa, as assistant to the team lead of evangelization, discipleship and outreach; co-ordinator and teacher for confirmation preparation; and a member of the Maranatha prayer ministry team.

She says it was in her training at Encounter School of Ministry that she learned to lead others to partner with the Holy Spirit to activate them in His gifts and bring God's love to others, often with signs and wonders following.

Her presentation includes not only instruction and personal testimony, but also extensive hands-on exercises. At last year's gathering she focused strongly on the charismatic gifts of prophecy and the closely-related "word of knowledge," and during the exercises the participants sought and used those gifts.

She also said we are not limited to asking God's help from here on earth, but can also declare our prayers from His presence in the heavenly throne room, and in His power.

"You can live exactly the same way Jesus did on earth, filled with the power of God," she said.

—Richard Dunstan

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Archbishop salutes Life in the Spirit

[This sermon was delivered at the 31st annual celebration of the beginning of Life in the Spirit Seminars in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. The Mass and reception took place Feb. 9 at Immaculate Conception Church in Delta, the home parish of seminar organizer Lennie David.]

By MOST REV. J. MICHAEL MILLER
Archbishop of Vancouver

Dear brother priests and deacons, brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus our Lord:

It's a great joy for us to be gathered for this Eucharist to express our gratitude to the good Lord for the now 31 years of the Life in the Spirit Seminars in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. At the same time, we are also celebrating the 31st anniversary of the faithful and zealous Immaculate Conception Prayer Group, which was one of the first fruits of that initial seminar.

Our special thanks are due – and I'm sure you all join me in this – in expressing our gratitude to the tireless Lennie David, and to all those who have worked with her over the years, including our priests and deacons. Through the seminars and prayer groups, together they have reaped an astonishing harvest, for which we must raise our hands and voices in praise for all the good Lord has brought about because of their apostolic zeal.

Leading others into a deeper and more personal relationship with Jesus is a primary work of all the baptized: "to make disciples" as Jesus ordered His disciples just before He ascended into Heaven. Thank you, dear friends, for taking this command to heart. Moreover, you have also been the instruments in helping countless men and women to live with greater awareness and more intentionally the gifts that the Holy Spirit has poured out on them. You have accompanied this great unleashing of spiritual energy that has brought so many graces to our Archdiocese.

My hope is that the Life in the Spirit Seminars will continue to be offered throughout the Archdiocese, indeed in every parish. They are truly kerygmatic occasions, opportunities for the very heart of the Gospel. In fact, kerygma needs to be the centre of all evangelizing activity. It is

Life in the Spirit anniversary

radically trinitarian. "The fire of the Spirit is given in the form of tongues and leads us to believe in Jesus Christ who, by His death and resurrection, reveals and communicates to us the Father's infinite mercy." (Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 164)

The seminars stress this first proclamation, which must ring out over and over again: "Jesus Christ loves you; He gave His life to save you; and now He is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you." It is called "first" "not because it exists at the beginning and can then be forgotten or replaced by other more important things. It is first in a qualitative sense because it is the principal proclamation, the one which we must hear again and again in different ways" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 164) and announce in every seminar.

The centrality of the kerygma calls for stressing those elements which are most needed today: it has to express God's saving love which precedes any moral and religious obligation on our part; it should not impose the truth but appeal to freedom; it should be marked by joy, encouragement, liveliness and a harmonious balance which will not reduce preaching to a few doctrines which are at times more philosophical than evangelical." (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 165)

"They make it possible for people to encounter the living Jesus, in his word and his Spirit, and at the same time to experience his Church as a welcoming environment, a place of grace, reconciliation and rebirth." (Pope Francis, Address to a Meeting Organized by CHARIS [Catholic Charismatic Renewal International Service], 4 November 2023) This is why I encourage you to make these seminars more widely available, even in our smallest and most remote parishes.

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Faith: Journey and destination

By LYNNE WILLIAMS

I identify as a cradle Catholic, one to have been blessed to have the Baltimore Catechism as a teaching foundation. The 1960s was a time of social upheaval. Challenged by new social norms and youthful immaturity, I began to question my Catholic beliefs. I pondered, "Is there a God? What is the meaning of life?" Thus began a lifelong journey of faith.

The path, long and winding, has finally become straight, because God's love for me, and mine for Him, has become the most important thing in my life.

Faith is a supernatural gift from God. Only by God's grace and mercy do we arrive at a place of genuine faith. Faith is twofold: Trust in the *word* of God, and trust in the *person*, Jesus, who by His words, works, and life bears witness to the truth.

Continuous surrender, prayer, and persistence are essential to personal growth and maintenance of faith. "The... righteous (will) live by faith." (Rom. 1:17) When challenged, pray as St. Augustine, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief," or as the apostles, "Lord, increase our faith!" (Luke 17:5)

As Christians, our faith is meant to grow; life's trials provide opportunities for growth. "The testing of your faith produces endurance." (James 1:3) During difficult times, St. Paul exhorts us to "Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong." (1 Cor. 16:13). Faith is our protection, "take the shield of faith ... to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one." (Eph. 6:16)

Popes St. John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and Francis, have entrusted the Catholic Charismatic Renewal to *renew* the church. At the recent Nelson diocese leaders' retreat, we were challenged to refresh our vision. After long discussions, and with help from the Holy Spirit, we discerned a new vision statement. Picture walking into your parish church, 25 to 30 years from now, and seeing "The Church renewed by the Holy Spirit, every heart fully alive in Christ's love."

How will we arrive at this point? For others to wake up, we need to wake up and get moving.

For the sake of our families, friends and the whole of humanity, we need to act with haste under the power of the Holy Spirit.

My friends, we have work to do. Life in the Holy Spirit is for everyone. Jesus said, "Go into the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:15-16) We do not want to see our loved ones and others condemned. We have a duty to save, to proclaim the good news, to evangelize. "Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves." (James 1:22)

Jesus said to them, "...For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and *nothing will be impossible* to you." (Matthew 17:20)

Many of you will not feel comfortable or capable of becoming an evangelist, but with a strong faith, a desire to learn, and God's help, you can and will be able to do this. Faith does not depend on the wisdom of people, but on the power of God. (1 Cor. 2:5)

At a recent conference, Father Trevor Nathasingh said, "The work of the Church never ends. We are the Church. There is no vacation. Jesus promises us that if we come to Him, we will find rest, and He will renew our strength, not that we can quit working." The faster we realize that we all need to play our part, the faster will be the harvest. There is an urgency to harvest souls, especially the souls of our loved ones. This is the work of the Holy Spirit, done by people renewed in the Holy Spirit.

In conclusion, let us pray that the Holy Spirit will empower us to be *fire* to the people, that He will plant a burning desire in us to do the work of renewing minds and saving souls. Lord, increase our faith as we surrender our lives to You and to Your purpose of salvation. In your mercy, remake us in Your image, so that we will always strive to do Your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son. Amen.

[Talk given at Nelson diocese Zoom prayer meeting. See also following pages.]

Getting ready to step out in faith

By MAUREEN WATSON

We have heard many times that we are called to partner with God in His plan for the salvation of the world, and if we believe that and act on it, we will listen carefully and act quickly to do as He asks. When we surrender to this power of God already at work in us, we will see and do amazing things through Him who lives in us. Do we believe the word of God that says "I can do all things through him who strengthens me"?

At the Gathering in the Spirit last year I came away with something I hadn't thought much about before: until Jesus was baptised and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, he was not performing miracles or doing extraordinary things. But after He received the Holy Spirit He began His ministry in a powerful way. This is the same Holy Spirit given to us. In John 16:7 Jesus said to His disciples, "I tell you the truth: it is better for you if I go, because if I don't go the Helper (Holy Spirit) will not come to you."

He also said to them, "very truly I tell you, whoever believes in Me will do the works I have been doing, and even greater things, because I am going to the Father." We could rephrase this to say "whoever has faith in Me will do what I have been doing."

So... how do we get to that place where we have the faith to do what Jesus did and what the disciples did after they received the Holy Spirit? Jesus said to His disciples, "if you have faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mountain 'move from here to there,' and it will move." Jesus was telling them that they didn't need an abundance of faith; they just had to act with what they had.

I think one of our obstacles to having this kind of faith is wanting to see the whole picture before we step out, and I don't think that is possible. Even Mary had no idea how things were going to come together when she said "let it be done to me according to Your word." That's faith in action: "God, I trust that You know what You're doing." I think even Jesus had glimpses of what was going to happen; when He sent His disciples to prepare for the Passover meal he said "go into the city and a man carrying a water jug will meet you. Follow him." And you know what? They did, even though they couldn't see it all.

Think for a minute about the fact that the people of Israel were left to wander for 40 years in the wilderness because they didn't have the faith that they could defeat the enemy, as God said they could. That gives me a whole new perspective on trusting to do what God says

Are we willing to trust and move even if we don't see the big picture?

I think as we do our faith will grow. One thing we learned at the Gathering was how to listen and trust that it is Jesus speaking. I know there are some here today who don't think God speaks to them, but we did a number of exercises and I think we all came away with a new assurance of God speaking to us and through us.

The second thing we learned and practiced was declaring instead of just praying. I think this is very helpful because it is a way of saying I believe that this will be done. It has built my faith.

Example: "Lord Jesus, my daughter is ill and I'm asking you to help her" vs "Lord Jesus I declare and I believe that my daughter is a child of God, that You love her and want what is best for her. You know exactly what she needs. So I entrust her to You and I know You will meet her every need."

The Lord gave me this word recently: "Speak the word of God over My people for their building up...many are floundering in discouragement and despair. They need hope."

Isaiah 41:10 says "Do not fear: I am with you; do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My victorious right hand."

I declare I will not fear, for God is with me.

I declare I will not be anxious, for He is my God.

I declare that God will strengthen me and help me.

I declare that God will uphold me with His victorious right hand.

I declare that I have the gift of faith, and it is as big as a mustard seed; therefore, I can do the things Jesus did, and even bigger things, because He is with me.

[From Nelson diocese Zoom meeting. See also Page 6]

Hope: A blessing and a joy

By ROY MacINTYRE

"May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ... enlighten your innermost vision that you may know the great *hope* to which he has called you." (Eph 1:18)

In this series we are continuing with the three theological virtues, Faith we covered in the fall, Love we will do in the spring and this winter series is on Hope. In this first talk on Hope, I intend to take the perspective of Hope as a virtue and how important it is in our lives in these days.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 1812: The human virtues are rooted in the theological virtues, which adapt man's faculties for participation in the divine nature: for the theological virtues relate directly to God. They dispose Christians to live in a relationship with the Holy Trinity. They have the One and Triune God for their origin, motive, and object.

CCC1813: The theological virtues are the foundation of Christian moral activity; they animate it and give it its special character. They inform and give life to all the moral virtues. They are prudence or wisdom, justice, fortitude or courage, and temperance or self-control.

CCC1817: **Hope** is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit. "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful." "The Holy Spirit ... He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life (Titus 3:6-7)."

St. Paul makes it clear what hope is in Romans 8:23-25 when He says, "...we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for, the redemption of our bodies. *For in this hope we were saved.* Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."

CCC1818: The virtue of hope responds to the aspiration to happiness which God has placed in the heart of every man; it takes up the hopes that inspire men's activities and purifies them so as to order them to the Kingdom of heaven; it keeps man from discouragement; it sustains him during times of abandonment; it opens up his heart in

expectation of eternal beatitude. Buoyed up by hope, he is preserved from selfishness and led to the happiness that flows from charity.

CCC1819: Christian hope takes up and fulfills the hope of the chosen people which has its origin and model in the *hope of Abraham*, who was blessed abundantly by the promises of God fulfilled in Isaac, and who was purified by the test of the sacrifice. "Hoping against hope, he believed, and thus became the father of many nations" (Romans 4:18).

CCC1820: Christian hope unfolds from the beginning of Jesus' preaching in the proclamation of the beatitudes. The beatitudes raise our hope toward heaven as the new Promised Land; they trace the path that leads through the trials that await the disciples of Jesus. But through the merits of Jesus Christ and of his Passion, God keeps us in the "hope that does not disappoint." Hope is the "sure and steadfast anchor of the soul ... that enters ... where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf." Hope is also a weapon that protects us in the struggle of salvation: "Let us ... put on the breastplate of faith and charity, and for a helmet the hope of salvation." It affords us joy even under trial: "Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation." Hope is expressed and nourished in prayer, especially in the Our Father, the summary of everything that hope leads us to desire.

CCC1821: We can therefore hope in the glory of heaven promised by God to those who love Him and do His will. In every circumstance, each one of us should hope, with the grace of God, to persevere "to the end" and to obtain the joy of heaven, as God's eternal reward for the good works accomplished with the grace of Christ. In hope, the Church prays for "all men to be saved." She longs to be united with Christ, her Bridegroom, in the glory of heaven:

"Hope, O my soul, hope. You know neither the day nor the hour. Watch carefully, for everything passes quickly, even though your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one. Dream that the more you struggle, the more you prove the love that you bear your God, and the more you will rejoice one day with your Beloved, in a happiness and rapture that can never end." (St. Teresa of Avila, *Excl.15:3.*)

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We can declare God's words – in His power

By MAUREEN WATSON

The words Jesus spoke and the words of scripture are words that have the same power as the words that caused the world to be created when God spoke. They are true and they are trustworthy, and by faith we can declare them in a way that reinforces our faith and our hope. How do we do that?

Take the words "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you: not as the world gives, give I to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27

First, we can press in, asking the Lord: what are You saying to me in these words right now? But a declaration would be something like this. "I declare and I believe that Your peace is my gift from You in every circumstance. No one can take that peace from me, so there is no reason for me to be troubled or afraid in... [whatever is troubling us or trying to steal our peace]."

Often times we are troubled about our children or our grandchildren, so how can we turn that prayer into a declaration.

I think we can first ask God to give us His word, and write it down, so that when we are tempted to worry or doubt we can declare that word and build our faith and our hope

The gospel today said "He was astonished at their lack of faith."

"Understand, therefore, that the Lord your God is indeed God. He is the faithful God who keeps His covenant for a thousand generations and lavishes His unfailing love on those who love Him and obey His commands." Deuteronomy 7:9

"I declare and I believe that my children and grandchildren are Your beloved children. They belong to You, and I can trust You for their salvation, for Your word says that You will be faithful for a thousand generations to those who love and obey You." **[From Nelson Zoom meeting]**

HOPE: A BLESSING AND A JOY

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"I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power in us who believe." (Ephesians 1:15-19)

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

This is our hope in the face of world events, the state of the Church today and our personal weakness, sin, disappointment, failure, suffering, betrayal, rejection, persecution, poverty, sickness, bereavement and loss. We are more than conquerors (Rm 8:37) in Christ Jesus, who give us the HOPE of glory and joy eternal.

Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

We not only need to keep hope in our hearts to endure the trials and difficulties of this life, but we can to be hope to others, so that seeing the hope we have and the joy in this hope, they too will be encouraged in hope to trust God and to look forward to the glory and joy of being united face-to-face with our merciful God. So, we can say with St. Paul, "I count these present sufferings as not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." (Rm 8:18)

So, hope, a theological virtue we receive in our baptism, is given to strengthen our spiritual life and the other virtues to help us live a joyful and fruitful existence looking for the eternal union with God, where eye has not seen, nor has ear heard nor have our minds conceived what God has prepared for us to love Him.

May Mary, our life, our sweetness and our hope, encourage us to look forward to this glory promised to us by her Son, Jesus. Amen!

[From Nelson Zoom meeting]

ARCHBISHOP SALUTES LIFE IN SPIRIT SEMINARS

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The Life in the Spirit Seminars are often a transformative experience that becomes a turning point in a person's life. A turning point: after a seminar, people change course! Nonetheless, the seminars are only a beginning, like a fire that burns very intensely but risks dying out unless it is continually nourished. In our world, so often dominated by a secularized culture which encourages and promotes models of life without God, faith can be sorely tested, and can even be stifled and die. Thus we see an urgent need for in-depth and continuing formation. There is so much need today for mature Christian men and women who are conscious of their baptismal identity, of their vocation and mission in the Church. (Cf. St. John Paul II, Homily, Vigil of Pentecost, 30 May 1998).

It's precisely for this reason that the Life in the Spirit Seminars need to be followed up by suitable methods of ongoing formation that can fan into flame the graces received and encourage ever more growth in faith and prayer, the moral and sacramental life, the practice of charity and fostering the Church's mission.

We are blessed that so many opportunities exist in our archdiocese for such formation, whether in person at one's parish, at the pastoral centre, or online through such initiatives as FORMED and Franciscan at Home.

I urge those of you who have lived the experience of "baptism in the Holy Spirit" to deepen your discipleship and holiness by taking advantage of these offerings. As the Holy Father just said this past November at a meeting organized by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal International Service: "It should not be taken for granted that once someone has received baptism in the Spirit that he or she is already fully Christian. The path to holiness always involves growth in personal conversion and in the generous gift of oneself, a gift to Christ and to others, not merely in a sense of spiritual consolation." (Address to a Meeting Organized by CHARIS, 4 November 2023).

The Holy Father has referred to the presence and activity of the Catholic charismatic

movement as a "current of grace." I join him in making that assertion, since it applies to what has taken place in our archdiocese since the 1990s. So, once again, I say to all of you: "thank you, thank you" for welcoming the Holy Spirit into your hearts and your communities, letting the radiance of His light shine upon you.

The Spirit of Truth

Now, for a moment, I would like to reflect on the Holy Spirit's action in guiding the Church and each one of us to the Truth. As we heard in the Gospel proclaimed by Deacon Dileep, Jesus Himself told His disciples: the Holy Spirit "will guide you into all the truth" (Jn 16:13), since He Himself is "the Spirit of Truth" (cf. Jn 14:17; 15:26; 16:13).

Here in British Columbia we are living in a time and place in which people are rather skeptical of truth that goes beyond their own opinion. Indeed, they speak of "my" truth and "your" truth, not "the truth," as Jesus did. So, we fall into relativism, sometimes almost unconsciously, which is the tendency to consider nothing definitive and to think that truth comes from consensus.

The question arises: does "the" truth really exist? What is "the" truth? Can we know it? Can we find it? Here springs to my mind the question of Pontius Pilate, the Roman procurator, when Jesus reveals to him the deep meaning of His mission: "What is truth?" (Jn 18:37,38). Pilate cannot understand that "the" Truth is standing in front of him; he cannot see in Jesus the face of the truth that is the face of God. And yet Jesus is exactly this: the Truth that, in the fullness of time, "became flesh" (cf. Jn 1:1, 14), and came to dwell among us so that we might know

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Zoom meetings coming back in May

Nelson Diocese Renewal Service Committee will resume its Thursday online prayer meetings in May. Theme for the month is love, following on earlier sessions covering faith and hope.

The meetings will take place on Zoom at 1:30 p.m. Pacific time May 2, 9, and 16, with prayer and praise, teaching, small group breakout rooms, and intercessory prayer. All are welcome, from any location in BC and beyond. For the link, email lore.renwick@gmail.com.

Videos of talks from previous sessions, going back to 2020, are available on the committee website, <https://www.holyspiritbaptizer.com/>

ARCHBISHOP SALUTES LIFE IN SPIRIT SEMINARS

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it. The truth is not grasped as a thing; the truth is encountered. It is not a possession, it is an encounter with a Person. (Pope Francis, general audience, 15 May 2013).

St. Paul teaches that “no one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit” (1 Cor 12:3). It is the Holy Spirit Himself, the gift of the Risen Christ, who enables us recognize the truth. It is the “Paraclete,” namely, “the One who comes to our aid,” who is beside us to sustain us on this journey.

So how does the Holy Spirit act in our life and in the life of the Church in order to guide us to the truth? First of all, He recalls and impresses in the heart of believers the words Jesus spoke, engraving them in our hearts so that they become within us the criterion for evaluation in making decisions and for guidance in our daily actions.

Then, as Jesus promised, the Holy Spirit guides us “into all the truth” (Jn 16:13). Not only does He guide us to an initial encounter with Jesus, Truth in person, but He also guides us “into” the Truth; that is, he leads us into an ever deeper communion with Jesus, giving us a more profound knowledge of the things of God.

We cannot achieve this by our own efforts. Unless God enlightens us from within, our Christian life will be superficial. (Cf. Pope Francis, general audience, 15 May 2013)

As we continue our Eucharist this evening, when the Holy Spirit transforms our gifts of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of

Jesus Christ, let us thank the good Lord for having poured out this Spirit in our archdiocese through the gift we have received of the Life in the Spirit Seminars and parish prayer groups. As the Church has prayed from her beginning, when the disciples, together with Mary, awaited the promised Paraclete, so we too cry out this evening in joyful acclamation: “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and kindle in us – Your people here present this evening in Immaculate Conception church – the fire of Your love.”

Set your phone for prayer!

Global 2033 is a Catholic initiative (with ecumenical connections) to evangelize the world for the 2,000-year anniversary of Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection, in 2033.

Supporters of this plan are setting their cell phone alarms for 8:33 p.m. (2033 on the 24-hour clock) for a brief daily prayer for its success. The suggested prayer is “May Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven. Come Holy Spirit. Veni Creator Spiritus.”

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editor Richard Dunstan

308-225 Belleville St.

Victoria BC V8V 4T9

email: rccharismaticbc@gmail.com

website: bccharismatic.ca

Catholic Renewal Services of B.C.

Nitz Baylon, Vancouver, 604-202-2998

Richard Dunstan, Victoria (chair), 250-477-4700

Cheryl Groves, Prince George, 250-632-1664

David MacIntyre, Victoria, 250-383-9955

Loree Renwick, Nelson, 250-354-7223

Janet Tng, Vancouver, 778-998-8098

Frans van der Woning, Kamloops, 250-851-5751

Lynne Williams, Nelson, 250-489-1702