



B.C. Charismatic

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of B. C. newsletter

Spring 2020

Pentecost is on!

CHARIS plans worldwide online celebration Saturday May 30

Charismatic events have been cancelled in many locations by the coronavirus, but our Pentecost celebration for 2020 will be going ahead on a worldwide scale.

CHARIS, the newly-created world body for the Catholic Renewal, will hold an on-line celebration Saturday May 30, the vigil of Pentecost, via its YouTube channel.

The event will begin at 1 p.m. in BC (2 p.m. in the Mountain Time Zone; 10 p.m. Rome time). The full program will be published the week before the event. More information is available at the CHARIS website, <https://www.charis.international/en/pentecost-2020/> along with a video invitation from CHARIS moderator Jean-Luc Moens and an important message in preparation for the celebration from Father Raniero Cantalamessa, preacher to the papal household and ecclesial assistant to the CHARIS international service of communion.

COVID-19 lockdown puts events on hold

As British Columbia struggles to get the coronavirus pandemic under control, most scheduled charismatic events have been cancelled or postponed.

Among the postponements is the annual Vancouver archdiocesan conference, which had been planned for Sept. 18 and 19 at Pacific Academy in Surrey, with Andi Oney and Fr. Mark Cherry as speakers.

"We will see how the Lord will lead," said Lennie David, vice-chair of Vancouver Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services.

The usual Pentecost Sunday celebration in Victoria will not be held this year.

As of this publication, no decision had been made on the annual Our Lady of Pentecost Gathering in the Spirit, planned for Aug. 9-14 at St. Elizabeth Seton House of Prayer and St. Charles Garnier parish in Kelowna. Jim Murphy, former president of International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services, was scheduled to return as speaker following his extremely successful appearance at last year's gathering.

Spring 2020 newsletter going out by email only

Due to the disruption of prayer meetings, conferences, and Masses by the coronavirus pandemic, this issue of *BC Charismatic* will be distributed by email only.

Please feel encouraged to forward it to anyone on your contact list who might be interested.

The format has also been altered for email transmission. I apologize for glitches and other inconveniences.

We hope it will again be possible to produce the fall newsletter in print form for distribution via prayer groups, special events, and parishes.

*Blessings,
Richard Dunstan, editor*

Tongues of angels fill fall BC conference

By RICHARD DUNSTAN

Patti Mansfield hadn't planned on talking about the gift of tongues at the 202 Catholic Charismatic Conference in Vancouver, but apparently the Holy Spirit had different plans. So she ditched one of her scheduled speeches, and half an hour later close to 800 Catholics were praising God in the "tongues of angels" of 1 Corinthians 13:1.

Mansfield has been one of the brightest stars of the Catholic charismatic renewal from the day it began in 1967, and at the 2017 Golden Jubilee celebration she was seated next to Pope Francis before a crowd of 50,000 at the Circus Maximus in Rome. On Labour Day weekend she was featured speaker at the Vancouver conference along with Bob Canton, who returned for a second year with his healing ministry. The conference, co-sponsored by Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of BC and Vancouver Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services, was held Aug. 30-31 at Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond.

Mansfield, now of New Orleans, was a 20-year-old student at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh when she attended a retreat with a student Bible study group in February of 1967. The students were looking for personal experience of the Holy Spirit as described in the book of Acts and 1 Corinthians, and Mansfield was one of the first to find herself suddenly overwhelmed by the love and mercy of God, prostrate on the floor of the retreat centre chapel. The retreat is considered the beginning of the Catholic charismatic renewal, which now numbers more than 100 million participants worldwide.

Earlier in the retreat, Mansfield had written "I want a miracle" on a sheet of notebook paper. "I didn't know the miracle would be the largest ecclesial movement in the Church today," she told the audience Friday night.

On Saturday morning, the conference program said she would be speaking on "The Spirit and the Bride Say 'Come,'" but she told the audience they could find that talk on the Renewal Ministries website; the Spirit was urging her to speak about tongues, the best-known and most controversial of the gifts of

Vancouver conference

the Holy Spirit exercised by charismatics. The gift is defined as speaking or praying in a language not known to the speaker; in most cases it is not a known human language at all, but sometimes it may be a human language known to someone else who is present, or it may have a meaning which can be discerned by someone present who has the gift of interpretation of tongues.

Mansfield said she didn't get the gift of tongues at the Duquesne retreat. But at one of the prayer meetings that grew out of the event, Mansfield, a French major, heard her friend David Mangan praying in perfect French, a language he did not know. She decided she wanted to pray in tongues too – "if the gift of tongues would help me praise God when I had run out of words, it was a very valuable gift of prayer." So she knelt before a crucifix in the university chapel, with her mouth open, and told God she wasn't getting up until she prayed in tongues. Eventually, she made a few "ugly, guttural sounds," but then, yielding with upraised hands, she began singing a beautiful song in tongues.

And that's pretty much what happened to the conference audience, too. Mansfield asked those who hadn't prayed in tongues before to be open to the gift, and those who had the gift already to be open to a tongue other than the one they are used to. Soon the hotel ballroom was full of singing and praise in tongues.

Mansfield said three things hold us back from praying in tongues: ignorance ("what good is that?"), human respect ("what will people think?"), and laziness.

She said she had been afraid the gift would overtake her and embarrass her, but that didn't happen. She said once we have yielded to tongues, we can pray or stop praying in tongues whenever we want, and can pray loudly, softly, or even under our breath. In addition to praise, she said, tongues are useful for intercession when we don't know how to pray.

Canton, originally from the Philippines, came to the United States in 1973 and now lives in Stockton, California. He was baptized in the Holy Spirit in 1984 and has led a healing ministry since 1950, travelling to 51

countries. He is a former member of International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (now superseded by CHARIS).

Canton said the Holy Spirit gives us power in our lives, including the power to make the blind see and the deaf hear. "What are you doing with the power?" He asked. "If all the people in this room will do all these things, the world will never be the same."

Canton, who led a lengthy healing ministry at the 2018 conference at Broadway Church in Vancouver, had less time and space to work with this year, but he prayed for women who have had miscarriages or abortions and

for people suffering from partial or complete blindness, and then led prayers for a long list of ailments for the whole congregation. For any who were healed, he said, "see your doctors. Let your healing be verified by your doctor."

Several people reported healing from partial blindness. One woman had been almost totally blind in her left eye due to macular degeneration. "God bless you," she told Canton after prayer. "I could see your shadow. Now I can see your face. You did what doctors couldn't do." "Jesus did it," Canton replied.

Stir it up! The 'big grace' of baptism in the Holy Spirit

By PATTI GALLAGHER MANSFIELD

My dear friend, Father Jim Ferry, told me about one of the shortest and most powerful testimonies he had ever heard concerning the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. It came from the lips of Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, the preacher to the Papal Household. Father Cantalamessa said simply this: "I had two lives; one before the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and one after."

And it's just that simple and that powerful! The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is meant to be a life-changing experience. As my friend, Fr. Harold Cohen, SJ, puts it: "At the age of 40, I knelt down and asked some college kid to pray over me for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. All I felt was foolish. But my life has never been the same since. 'Life begins at 40' describes it for me."

I heard that a theology professor laughingly told his student she was going to give them a sophisticated theological description of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. "Take out your pens and write this: *It's a big grace!*" While there *are* real theological descriptions of this "big grace," most of us who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit aren't equipped to give them. But what we *do* have is an experiential knowledge of a new power, a new peace, a new joy in the Lord. Catholic Christian life is different than before.

I have some friends who came up with a wonderful analogy to describe the Baptism in the Holy Spirit from a recent experience in

their lives. For years they'd noticed that the parts to their used care were unusually expensive. Then one day they earned that this vehicle had within it a police interceptor engine, more powerful than they'd ever imagined. A few weeks later, my friend was on the road alone when a seedy looking character in a truck pulled up alongside her car at a red light. For miles he kept tailing her close, then taunting her by pulling next to her. She felt uneasy and threatened until it dawned on her that she had within that car the very power she needed. All she had to do was use it. When the light turned green, she floored the gas pedal and that police interceptor engine propelled her to safety. Her taunter's truck was a tiny speck in the rear view mirror in no time flat. Sweet victory!

When she got home and told her husband, a light went on for him. "It's just like we experienced with the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. The power was there all along." And he was right.

You see, we already have the Holy Spirit within us by virtue of the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. But we need to have that power unleashed. When we pray to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, we're asking for a release of the power already present. When we're open to a new fullness of the Spirit's power, we have more of God's grace operating in and through us. We're filled with joy and want everyone to know the reason

why. It's God! As St. Paul writes in Ephesians 3:20, "Glory be to him whose power (that's the Spirit) working in us can do *infinitely* more than we ask or imagine."

My friend, Fr. Cohen, saw a description of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit while preparing a glass of chocolate milk one night. A fellow Jesuit held out a glass of milk and Fr Cohen poured in some Hershey's chocolate syrup. Naturally, all the syrup went straight to the bottom of the glass. Fr. Cohen said to his friend, "you've got to stir it up." Then it dawned on him. That's the Baptism in the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit is already present, poured out, so to speak, but you've got to stir it up. If it's not stirred up, the Hershey's syrup remains at the bottom and the milk is without flavour. But if you stir it up, a transformation takes place—everything tastes better than before.

How greatly our Lord is longing to grant us a fresh outpouring of His Holy Spirit. Listen to His promise from Scripture: "And I tell you, ask and it shall be given you; see, and you will find. Knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. What father among you if his

son asks for a fish will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those that ask Him! (Luke 11:9-13). *How much more! How much more!* Our heavenly Father will not deny His Holy Spirit to those who ask.

This "big grade," this "poice interceptor engine," this "chocolate syrup"—the Baptism in the Holy Spirit—is available to everyone! Ask Jesus to be Lord and Master of your life. Ask your Heavenly Father to release within you the power of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' name. Ask others to lay hands on you and pray for the charismatic gifts to begin to flow through you to build up the body of Christ.

Please, Please, I beg you, don't miss out on this grace, the power, the refreshment waiting for you in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit! Ask and you shall receive!

(Reprinted with the author's permission from *Everyday Holiness*, Amor Deus Publishing, 2014)

New chair for B.C. charismatic service committee

Richard Dunstan of Victoria has been named chair of Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of B.C., succeeding Flo Reid. Reid, of Cranbrook, chair since 2012, stepped down from the chair and the committee in December.

Loree Renwick of Nelson, chair of Nelson Diocese Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services, will replace Reid on the committee.

Dunstan, 71, has taken on the chair for approximately 18 months, and says his priority during his term will be the recruitment of a younger generation of leaders.

Dunstan joined the B.C. committee in 1999 and was previously chair 2007-2012, succeeding Father Don Wilson of Kelowna, the pioneer of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in B.C.

Originally from California, Dunstan has lived in Canada since 1972 and has been a Canadian citizen since 1977. Raised Presbyterian, he joined the Catholic Church in 1970 and was baptized in the Holy Spirit in 1982. He is a retired newspaper reporter and editor and university teacher, and is editor of the *B.C. Charismatic* newsletter.

Get international charismatic news from CHARIS Magazine

CHARIS Magazine, a publication of the newly-created CHARIS international service of communion for the Catholic charismatic renewal, is available free for the asking. Email info@charis.international with your name, country, email address, and language of choice.

Here are the links to the first three issues: <https://is.gd/O8lmYS> <https://bit.ly/2pT0Dm6> <https://bit.ly/2vow8qK>

Prophetic words from 2019 Gathering in the Spirit

Prophetic words delivered at Our Lady of Pentecost Gathering in the Spirit, Kelowna 2019 and discerned by the word gift team

Do not be afraid. I come to be with you. I come to live my life in you. I come because I love you. I come because I need you. Do not be afraid.

Jesus says, Come, come to Me. I have opened my heart to you. Come, my precious ones, open your hearts to Me. Open it completely and let Me in. I do not want to stand on the threshold. I want to come into your heart and be with you.

I come because I love you. I come because I need you. Do not be afraid.

Ever since the conference began, I have been seeing a white horse in vision and the black horse. Revelation 6:1 – Then I saw the Lamb break one of the seven seals and I heard the four living creatures say in a voice that sounds like thunder, “Come.” Immediately a white horse appeared and the rider on it was holding a bow. He was given the victor’s crown and he went away to go from victory to victory.”

When he broke the second seal, I heard the second animal shout, “Come.” And out came another horse, bright red and the rider was given this duty to take away peace from the earth and set people killing each other. He was given a huge sword.

When he broke the third seal, I heard the third animal shout, “Come.” Immediately a black horse appeared, and its rider was holding a pair of scales. And I seemed to hear a voice shout from the four animals and saying, “A ration of corn for a day’s wages and three rations of barley for a day’s wages but do not tamper with the oil or the wine.

The Lord gave me this on my heart: “My children, the world, they are starving. I have come to shake My fold for there is no time to waste. My people are starving. They are hungry for the Lord, but they are running everywhere else but to Me. And you are here to proclaim My body and My blood to the world within your midst.

From the book of Haggai (2:3b, 4b-9), “How is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How do you see it now? Does it seem like nothing in your eyes? But now take courage, says the LORD. But take courage, all you people of the

land, says the LORD, and work, for I am with you. This is the pact I made with you when you came out of Egypt. And My Spirit continues in your midst. Do not fear. For thus says the LORD of Hosts, One moment, yes, a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all the nations and the treasures of all the nations will come in and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts. For Mine is the silver and Mine the gold, says the LORD of hosts. Greater will be the future glory of this house than the former. And in this place, I will give peace.”

When I woke up this morning, I saw in my midst a vision of Mary with a basket of flowers. And the scripture, when we were here praying, I saw it again. And it was confirmed again. And I got this, it’s Luke 15:31-32. The father says, “My son, you are with me always, and all I have is yours. But it was only right that we should celebrate and rejoice because your brother was dead and has come to life. He was lost and is found.

And after our prayer session I saw Mary again in a beautiful vision, dancing and throwing out her flowers over us.

This is from Isaiah 59 (19-21). “Those in the west shall fear the Name of the LORD and those in the east His glory. For it shall come like a pent-up river which the breath of the Lord drives on. He shall come to Zion a Redeemer to those of Jacob who turn from sin”, says the LORD. “This is the covenant with them that I, Myself have made”, says the LORD. “My Spirit which is upon you and My words which I have put into your mouth shall never leave your mouth nor the mouths of your children or the mouths of your children’s children from now on and forever,” says the LORD.

We declare that word. We declare that word for our families. We declare that word, that very word that our children and grandchildren will receive that gift of faith, that word of the Lord. We declare it over our families. We declare it over our communities. We declare it over our country and our Church. We grasp that word and we say it is true. We stand on it. The word this morning said, My word will not come back to Me empty, and so we grasp that word and we hang on to it. We say yes, amen.

I just want to share with you a couple of scriptures from Isaiah that were given to us. As we

were beseeching the Lord on behalf of our families and our children and situations we do not know how to deal with. First one is from Isaiah 42 (20-24). "You see many things without taking note. Your ears are open but without hearing. So it pleased the LORD in His justice to make His law great and glorious. But this is a people despoiled and plundered. All of them trapped in holes, hidden away in prisons. They are taken as booty with no one to rescue them – as spoil with no one to demand their return. Who of you will give ear to this? Who will listen and pay heed? Who will demand their return?"

Isaiah 49 (23c-25). "And you shall know that I am the LORD, and those who hope in Me shall never be disappointed. For thus says the LORD, can booty be taken from a warrior? Can captives be rescued from a tyrant? Yes, captives can be rescued from a tyrant and booty taken from a warrior. For those who oppose you, I will oppose and your sons I will save.

Lord, we are claiming those words, here in this assembly. We are claiming them today and we are claiming them for ever day in the future, for every situation where our children and our loved ones are being held in bondage by the enemy, by our enemy and Your enemy, Lord. And we believe that You will rescue, that you will save. These are your children, Lord. They are Yours and they are ours and we love them. And we demand their return in the mighty name of Jesus Christ who is the Victor, who has won the battle. They belong to You Lord not to the enemy.

Let us claim this word.

Yesterday evening at our prayer gathering, as I sat in the back, and watched each person come up, I had a beautiful sense of this church being a magnificent meadow filled with wild flowers, with butterflies flitting with ease and God the Father sitting in the midst of this meadow with His children playing around Him. We were those children and each of us as He waited with His arms outstretched would come running to Him and leap into His arms. And He would lift us up. He would place His cheek upon our cheek. He spoke to our hearts. And then we would run off to play some more and the next one would come and leap into His arms. We were the ones leaping into His arms.

Last night I also got this scripture that I am going to read for today. Philippians 4:4-7: "I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord. I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone. The Lord is very near. There

is no need to worry. But if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving and that peace of God which is so much greater than we can understand will guard your heart and your thoughts in Christ, Jesus."

Jesus, our Lord in His healing capacity is within this place. And the Lord is urging me to say just to be open to what He is going to do for you during this time. Be open.

Maria left today to go to Vancouver, but she shared with me today an image that she had. The Lord has just planted it back in my heart with a word. What she saw was Jesus offering her His Heart. And His Heart was beautiful and healthy, full of ... throbbing with good blood. And when she took her heart and went to give it to Him, it was all shredded.

And I hear the Lord saying, "I know that your hearts are broken. I know that your hearts have been shredded by pain, and by suffering and by worry. But I am holding out to you My Heart. Ask me, I will heal your brokenness. I am the Healer and I need your hearts to be whole that you can complete the work that I have for you. You are my people. You are the remnant that I have set apart. And I want you to be whole and healthy and happy.

After Communion, as I was praying in this morning's Mass, I had a vision of a bright golden chain, necklace I guess. And right in the middle was a red heart. And as I looked and tried to discern what that might be, all of a sudden, another heart that was all in shreds, it was like muscle shreds came on to that red heart. So, I believe that was a confirmation of what Maria had seen as well.

Zechariah 2:12-17-... "He whose glory has sent me here as regards the nation that despoils you: "Whoever touches you, touches the apple of My eye. See now, I have raised My hand over them to be plundered for their slaves." You shall know that the LORD has sent me. "Sing, rejoice, daughters of Zion, for I am coming to dwell in the middle of you." It is the LORD who speaks. Many nations will join the LORD on that day. They will become His people, but He will remain among you and you will know that the LORD has sent me to you. But the LORD will hold Judah as His portion in the Holy Land and again make Jerusalem His very own. Let all mankind be silent before the LORD, for He is awaking and is coming from His holy dwelling.

... I saw the Lord descending on us in a cloud. And the cloud was hovering over each one of us. And it reminded me of Moses; Moses was the only one who could stand to see God's face, but the rest of them were led by the cloud. And the cloud is hovering over each one of us today, telling us when to move and when to stop, when to go and when to remain.

(Inaudible) ... you are Mine, you're the one.

As we were singing in tongues, I went into the little garden in my heart. Jesus is holding my hand. He is holding my hand in the garden of my heart and He says to me, "Come, let's go to the water, let's go to the beach." It was an ocean and, "Come, come on the water, walk with me." And I went along with Him. We were holding hands. And the message as we walked on the water ... (unclear...) My Son. Water is, water is her mark... you see people are afraid to walk on the water with Me. But it is more firm to walk with me on the water. And then He stopped and said, Hear the word, the word was being spoken a minute ago. And the saint was just being comfortable with Jesus on the water, standing on the water.

Comment: Walking on the water with Jesus is firmer than walking on dry land alone.

This is from First Thessalonians (5:16-24): "Rejoice, always, pray, pray without ceasing. In all circumstances, give thanks for that is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything, retain what is good and refrain for every kind of evil. May the God of Peace Himself make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful, and He will also accomplish it."

When Moses sent the 12 into the land that the Lord had told them He was going to give them, they came back saying the giants are too big. We could never take this land. The giants are too big. And I think that this week the Lord has been telling us that there is a land in front of us, a land that he has promised, a Church that He has told us that is filled with His glory. But we need to go to that land. We need to go and do what we have been told to do. We need to go and make disciples of all those that

we talk to. We need to be willing to share the Good News everywhere that we go. And we don't want to say the giants are too big. The battle has been won. Jesus is the victor. We need to accept that and believe that with all of our hearts that this battle has been won. There will be storms, there will be storms, but Jesus will be with us in the storm. We need to go and take possession of the land. The Lord said to Joshua, and is saying to us today, "Have I not commanded you to be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid. Do not be dismayed and discouraged for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

You have marched to save Your people, to save Your own anointed. You have beaten down the wicked men. There the firm foundation to the Rock. For the fig tree is not going to blossom nor will there be any fruit on the vine, the yield of the olive will fail, the field afford no food; the sheep will vanish from the fold, nor will there be any cattle in the stall. But I will rejoice in the LORD. I will exult in God my Saviour. He makes my feet as light as a doe's, he sets my steps on the heights. (JB Habakkuk 3:13, 17-19)

So, whoever is in Christ is a new creation. The old things have passed away. Behold, new things have come, and all this is from God who has reconciled us to Himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely God is reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting their trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. So, we are ambassadors for Christ as if God were appealing through us. (2Corinthians 5:17-20a)

I heard the Lord saying this morning, "Don't go away and think life will be as it was. Even if the vision has been slow to come, it is coming. Write it on your hearts and know that our God has an incredible plan for a future full of hope, for health and healing, peace and happiness, and courage, courage to go forth and to share what we have heard this week. This is a call that the Lord is printing on each of our hearts. "You must share My love, My people, you must. The world is dying. Your friends are hungry and starving. Feed them. Have courage as you go forth from this place, for you are not alone.

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