

# NEWS FROM THE WORLD

Please send news from your group, community or NSC to [newsletter@iccrs.org](mailto:newsletter@iccrs.org).

## Come to me, 2016

On 18 February, 2016 the youth of the CCR on 5 continents united their spirit once again in prayer. It is the 3rd time we organize this worldwide prayer event and we experience marvellous graces and a tangible, amazing presence of the Lord! We united in prayer for the conversion and Baptism in the Holy Spirit of all young people.

On this date we celebrated the 49th anniversary of the Duquesne weekend where 25 young people prayed for a new Pentecost and the Holy Spirit changed their lives. For feedback and pictures visit the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/youth.ccr>.

God is good! He invited us to come to his presence, be filled again with his power, and pray together again for a new Pentecost for all youth. We are thankful to God for his mercy and all the graces he poured out upon us during this event! Thanks be to God!

A short report on the Duquesne weekend celebration can be seen at: <http://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2016/February/The-Day-Catholic-Students-Were-Baptized-in-the-Holy-Spirit>. 🙏

### ICCRS FORMATION

Visit [www.iccrs.org](http://www.iccrs.org) or e-mail [formation@iccrs.org](mailto:formation@iccrs.org) for more information about our training programmes.



### LFI • Rome, Italy

■ 28 Aug. - 17 Sept. 2016

■ Contact: ICCRS Formation → [formation@iccrs.org](mailto:formation@iccrs.org)

ICCRS offers its VII Leadership Formation Institute programme. Students will be offered practical teaching and workshops on various aspects of the ministry within CCR. In addition, the students will go on several field trips in the eternal city of Rome. The school will be held primarily in English, but other languages will be made available depending on the number of requests.

Online registration is open on [www.iccrs.org](http://www.iccrs.org).



### LTC • Poland

■ 6 - 13 August 2016

■ Contact: Fr. Wojciech Nowacki → [wnowacki@odnowa.orgau](mailto:wnowacki@odnowa.orgau)

### LTC • Guadeloupe

■ 22 - 30 October 2016

■ Contact: Huguette BOQUE-OLANOR → [o.boque@only.fr](mailto:o.boque@only.fr)

The ICCRS Leadership Training Course, in partnership with local Charismatic realities, provides this week-long programme that will call and empower new leaders as well as strengthen and encourage current ones. The programme includes daily Mass, Eucharist Adoration and a time of Charismatic Praise and Worship, and teachings. There is also time for reflection, sharing and ministry.



### ITC • Indonesia

■ 2 - 7 December 2016

■ Contact: Steffanus Dinoto → [steffanus.dinoto@sukses-expamet.com](mailto:steffanus.dinoto@sukses-expamet.com)

New ICCRS programme of formation for the ministry of prophetic intercession.

## ICCRS International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services

The ICCRS Newsletter is an international publication released bimonthly in English, Spanish, Italian, French, Portuguese, German, Arabic and Romanian for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Its purpose is to provide information about the growth and development of CCR throughout the world, as well as the events organised by ICCRS.

Permission is granted to reprint an article from the ICCRS Newsletter as long as ICCRS is quoted as the source.

The ICCRS Newsletter is e-mailed freely. It can be posted to you for € 10 per year. In addition, the ICCRS Leadership Bulletin can be e-mailed for an annual subscription of € 15.

Begin or renew your subscription to the ICCRS Newsletter and the ICCRS Leadership Bulletin today!

You will receive the most current news and topics of discussion in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

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- Francis Edo Olotu, Nigeria
- Jean-Christophe Sakiti, Togo
- Endie Rahardja, Indonesia
- Claude Lopez, Australia (Advisor)
- Oreste Pesare, Italy (Director)

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Fanning the flame:

## **Keeping and spreading the fire through self-sacrifice**

■ **Most Rev. Francis Kalist**



“If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Mt 16:24). Christian Spirituality is deeply rooted in self-sacrifice; for we imitate Jesus. The Christological hymn in Philipians 2 tells us that Jesus emptied himself in a spirit of humility to accomplish his Father’s will (Cf. Phil. 2:1-11). Only by following Jesus in his self-sacrifice, one can keep and spread the fire of the Holy Spirit received in Baptism. I used to ask myself why our faith demands so much self-sacrifice. In what way is it helpful? Isn’t there another way to perfection? What will we attain by practicing self-sacrifice? When the whole world is focused on materialism and hedonism, why swim against the current? Self-sacrifice seems foolish because it brings about much inconvenience and pain; yet we know that those who practiced self-sacrifice became friends of God – temples of the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit used them powerfully. By being led by Christ’s Spirit each became another Christ.

Jesus’ self-sacrifice is self-emptying. The Christological hymn mentioned above helps us understand this concept better. After exhorting us to, “Have this mind among you, which was in Christ Jesus” (v 5) then it explains the mind of Christ, “Though he was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men” (v 6-7). What does self-emptying mean here? It means God became incarnate in a much less dignified human form, embracing all its limitations. The self-emptying of Christ further advances in the following lines, “And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross” (v 8). This means that he obeyed his Father’s will of being crucified, like a cursed man, losing the status of a dignified

man. The author of life had to die. The source of all blessings had to become a curse. From this we conclude that our self-sacrifice is not only rooted in self-emptying but also in humility and obedience. This attitude of Christ was pleasing to his Abba, “Therefore God has highly

exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name... to the glory of God the Father” (v 9-11).



The Spirit allows us to see the self-emptying of Christ a step further by looking at the Holy Eucharist with great devotion. Here Christ even abandons his human form to take up a much lesser form of bread and wine (i.e. inanimate matter), losing even the human dignity he had.

To have more insight into this way of Christian life we turn to the Blessed Virgin Mary. She undoubtedly followed the path of self-sacrifice by allowing the Spirit of God to work in her to bring us salvation by saying, “Behold the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38). Her submission to the will of the Heavenly Father brought Jesus to the world—her self-sacrifice brought heaven to earth. At the Annunciation the angel greeted, ‘Hail Mary, full of Grace’; because she, through her self-sacrifice, emptied herself and by the work of the Spirit became the Mother of God. Inspired by this self-sacrifice of Jesus and Mary, the saints too understood that only through self-sacrifice one can empty himself and make room for the Spirit to work freely in and through him. Fr. Rufus Pereira, a leader in the Renewal in India was a man of self-sacrifice. Cyril John, an active leader in the Renewal in India and abroad, is another great example of a person that keeps and spreads the fire through self-sacrifice.

In conclusion, we must then understand, ‘Keeping and spreading the fire through self-sacrifice’ is not a new thing in our faith, but it is the only way to attain perfection. The Blessed Virgin and the Saints attest to this. We too can attain such perfection by following the way of self-sacrifice; for when we practice self-sacrifice there will surely be an outpouring of the Spirit, who will transform our lives. We will become Spirit-filled and Spirit-led people who can keep and spread the fire through self-sacrifice. 🙏

# What does a Catholic Charismatic look like – would you recognise one?

■ Jean-Christof Sakiti



Today more than 120 million people have experienced the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, an actualization of the grace of Pentecost. On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples of Jesus, and changed everything in their lives (Cf. Acts 2: 1-4).

The impact of Pentecost in the lives of early Christians :

- They praised the Lord through the Holy Spirit which had revealed the greatness of God to them.
- They announced the Gospel with conviction.
- The Lord confirmed the proclamation of the Gospel with signs.
- Their life had become a light for others.
- They loved each other and they shared their belongings.

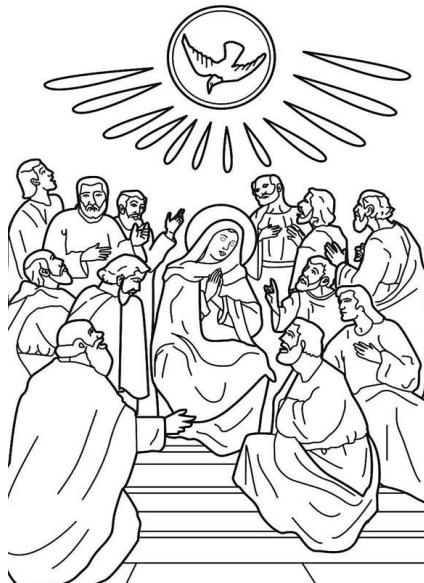
The emerging Church was the Holy Spirit at work in the life of Jesus' disciples. But Christians did not remain faithful to the Spirit they received. The Lord therefore raised the grace of the Renewal today in order to restore them. We find Charismatics in prayer groups and communities.

## What characterizes a Catholic Charismatic?

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit:** this is the fundamental reference of a Charismatic. It is a personal experience of the Holy Spirit living and working in us. A Charismatic is one who, having realized that he is not on fire with the Holy Spirit, requests prayer for a reawakening of the grace of Baptism.

**Praise:** the Baptism in the Spirit leads to a personal encounter with Jesus. The one who encounters the Risen and living Jesus is filled with joy and praise as the apostles were when the Holy Spirit descended upon them.

**Conversion and the journey towards holiness:** the Baptism



in the Spirit creates in man the thirst for God and loathing for sin. As in the case of a friend who, after he joined a prayer group, burned all pornographic magazines and other objects related to his previous life of sin. These steps of conversion are followed by a commitment to seek the glory of God in all things (Cf Col 3, 17).

**Brotherly love:** life in the Spirit arouses concern for others. Charismatics give their time and money to help others. I have known Charismatic students who saved their pocket money to pay for the education of their brothers and sisters.

**Evangelization:** the fire of the Spirit which burns in them, impels Charismatics to

proclaim the Good News everywhere: in markets, streets, at home, in prisons, and in the workplace.

The tangible signs of God's love for men go along with evangelization: conversion, healing, and liberation from evil forces. During an evangelization that we conducted, a young man who had an abortion project was moved. He gave up this idea and gave his life to Jesus.

The Charismatic has a constant concern for his formation—to get to know Christ and the Church better. This is why he takes part in retreats, conferences and formation sessions.

The commitment to serve the Church: those who have had this experience of the Renewal commit to serving others in the Church: catechesis, assistance to the sick, guiding children, etc. To this end, there is to be also noted a good collaboration with the pastors of the Church.

The grace of the Renewal should not be taken for granted. Walking in the footsteps of Jesus is constantly saying "yes" to being his friend with all it implies in self-denial, openness to others, and commitment to being a living stone in the Church, the Body of Christ. 🙏



Stay updated about the event of the

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL  
*Golden Jubilee 2017*

[www.ccrgoldenjubilee2017.org](http://www.ccrgoldenjubilee2017.org)



CCR-Golden-Jubilee-2017



CCR\_GJ2017



# Marcos Volcan

## ICCRS VICE-PRESIDENT (FROM BRAZIL)



I was given the grace of being born into a traditional Catholic family that, from my early years, handed down to me the Christian faith.

In 1981, I was getting ready for my first communion. There was in our Parish church a Charismatic prayer group. At that time my parents had the experience of attending a Cursillo and they were very much involved in the Parish life. The whole family, including my four siblings, was invited to participate in the prayer group.

It was a beautiful experience: the singing, the prayers, and the teachings on the Word of God, deeply impressed us. Since then we have always been involved in the CCR. I believe that it was then, on that night of prayer, that everything began, with a gentle touch of the Holy Spirit.

About 7 years later, that experience had a renewed impetus, while I attended a retreat during the Carnival season. In those February days of 1987, I felt a new call to serve the Lord, I had a personal encounter with Jesus and I consciously surrendered to him. The Word of God touched me deeply; there was a new awareness of God moving in my life.

Since then I became involved in youth evangelization, and devoted my time to youth prayer groups and formation, taking on various roles of service in the CCR. Currently I am a member of the National Service Committee in Brazil and of the ICCRS Council. I strive to be faithful to that first experience, seeking to always respond, whenever I am called to serve. As parents, my wife Sandra and I have endeavored on the Christian formation of our three children: Davi (our 18-year-old son), Raquel (our 13-year-old daughter), and the youngest Mariana (our 10-year-old daughter). They are very active in the CCR, which also demands from us time and energy to accompany them in their activities, but they make us remember with joy the time when we were young, and we praise God for the new generation of Charismatics.

About my spiritual reading: I read a lot and am very interested in evangelization on the Internet. However, there is a book that has built me up and has been with me for several years: "Come Creator Spirit – meditations on the Veni Creator" by Father Raniero Cantalamessa. Highly recommended!

I realize that the CCR is, above all, a grace, a work of the Holy Spirit. At the same time, we who have been baptized in the Spirit, have the mission to make him more and more loved and known. If we let the move of the Spirit, which is greatly missionary—lead us to proclaiming Jesus—guide us, while seeing attentively where he is leading, and we strive to follow him, we will better allow this grace to work freely in and through us! This, on our part, also implies creating necessary human structures, but they should be simple, focused on service, and preferably not personalistic. I believe that, in this way, with these principles in mind, the CCR will continue to bear much fruit, and be an opportunity from God for many people. 🙌

### ICCRS Products

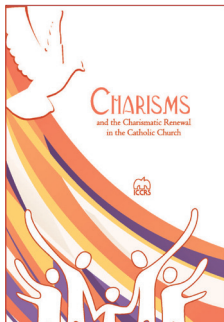
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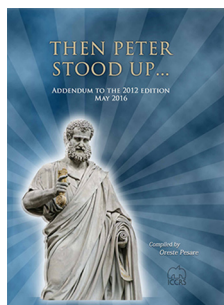
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### CHARISMS

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### ADDENDUM TO THE BOOK THEN PETER STOOD UP...

This booklet contains the speeches of Pope Francis to the Charismatic Renewal from 2014 - 2015

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The texts are generally translated from English into Italian, Spanish, French, German, and Portuguese.

For more information visit [www.iccrs.org](http://www.iccrs.org)