



WORD OF LIFE PRESENTS
A 'GREATER THINGS' LUNCHEON

"LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS"

The Renewal's Call in the Midst of the Church Crisis

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019

9:30 AM - 1 PM

**ST. JOSEPH/BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY
CENTER**



Guest Speaker David Mangan, one of the Duquesne students who was at the Ark and the Dove when the Holy Spirit sparked the Catholic Charismatic Renewal 52 years ago. David will speak on his experience that day and on reaction and response to the Church in crisis.

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<https://www.eriescd.org/wordoflife/Greater-Things-Luncheons.html>

Registration form for Word of Life Event: "Light in the Darkness" Greater Things' Luncheon

Name (Print): _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Please send registration form and enclosed event fee to the Word of Life Office (make check payable to **Word of Life Center**):

Word of Life Charismatic Renewal Center
St. Mark Catholic Center
429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16514

***If registration fee is a hardship or for questions, please contact Joan at: (814) 616- 5735 or wolccrc@eriescd.org.**

**\$10 EARLY REGISTRATION FEE BEFORE OCT. 10, FEE INCREASES TO \$12.50 BETWEEN OCT. 10-16.
REGISTER AT DOOR ON DAY OF EVENT FOR \$7.50 WITH NO LUNCH INCLUDED.**



Reflections on 'The Greater Things'

October 2019

Volume XXXIII Issue No. 08

"Amen, Amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." (John 14:12)

"LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS" GREATER THINGS LUNCHEON

Dear Reflections On the 'Greater Things' readers,

In lieu of a formal October edition of the 'Greater Things' newsletter, Word Of Life (WOL) CCRC has made the decision to focus attention on the October 19th 'Greater Things' Luncheon entitled **"Light In The Darkness, The Renewals Call in the Midst of the Church Crisis."** We are bringing special attention to this event because of its timeliness.

It is apparent that there strong emotions related to the current abuse crisis. It is also apparent that there have been loving responses and some *less than loving* ways of responding, that have created division rather than healing. Throughout this crisis, we must remember our calling to "Let all you do be done in love". The Renewal recognizes that many people continue to have difficulty processing the events of the past 18 months. While we are incredibly, lovingly, and eternally grateful for the many ordained ministers within the Renewal, from its inception by God alone within the Adoration Chapel of the Ark And The Dove 52 years ago where several students from Duquesne University were sovereignly 'Baptized in the Holy Spirit,' the Charismatic Renewal has been comprised primarily of the laity. We desire to see healing in the whole Church. But this event is geared towards laity speaking to laity.

It is quite impossible to count the number of Catholics who have experienced the Baptism in the Holy Spirit since inception in 1967, but the national leadership has estimated it to be well over 300,000,000. The Life In the Spirit Seminars, including 'The Gift' which is endorsed by Pope Francis and which is used by WOL CCRC, are life changing events for countless people throughout the world who have attended the seminars. The seminars, while not advocating emotionalism or sensationalism, have taken people from living a faith that is in their head to living a faith that is in their hearts as well. It has taken people from reading wonderful stories in the Bible, to integrating those stories into their lives, by recognizing that *we* are meant to also live in the grace and power of the Holy Spirit in the same manner as the early Church. **Our speaker, David Mangun, will give his first-hand account of what really happened that weekend in the Adoration Chapel. Come and hear how God moved!**

Blessed Elena Guerra, founder of the Oblate Sisters of the Holy Spirit, penned a dozen letters to Pope Leo XIII, imploring a renewal of preaching on the Holy Spirit. She exhorted the Holy Pontiff to invite the faithful to rediscover life lived in the Holy Spirit. She called for, not just renewal within the Church, but a "renewal of the face of the earth." She was a mystic and wrote that "Pentecost is not over... because the Holy Spirit desired to give Himself to all men, and all who want to receive him can always receive him, so we do not have to envy the apostles and first believers; we have only to dispose ourselves like them to receive him well, and he will come to us as he did to them." As a result, the Holy Father wrote an encyclical on the Holy Spirit, the formal Pentecost Novena was instituted, and the entire 20th Century was dedicated to the Holy Spirit by the Pontiff on 1/1/1900. Recognizing the importance of the Holy Spirit as it was revealed to her, Blessed Elena continually desired to see the whole Catholic Church set on fire with the Holy Spirit. Pope Saint John XXIII, who was a personal witness to a Catholic village who was sovereignly baptized in the Holy Spirit and lived out the Book of Acts for nearly 900 years famously prayed "Renew Your wonders in our day, oh Lord, as by a new Pentecost." We say "AMEN!"

We are living in an era in which the power of the third person of the Trinity is needed, possibly more now than ever, to both protect and heal the Body of Christ, which is all of us. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth, because it is the Spirit of Jesus. The power of Holy Spirit heals. The power Holy Spirit delivers. The power of the Holy Spirit even raises the dead ("Do you not realize that the same Spirit that raised Jesus Christ from the dead resides in you?"). It is only the hope we find in Jesus Christ that comes through the power of the Holy Spirit, that has any power to bring 'light in the darkness.'

Word Of Life CCRC extends a personal invitation to you to come and be renewed by David's testimony and to listen to him talk about our necessary response to the Body of Christ.

We can't wait to hear David Mangan and we know that you will be blessed by him also.

By Ron Riggins

Jesus prayed for our unity: “that they may all be one” (Jn 17:20-21). And in the Nicene Creed we profess our belief that the Church is one.

The motto in Alexandre Dumas’ novel *The Three Musketeers* reflected a commitment to unity: *un pour tous, tous pour un* (“one of all, all for one”). But then Frank Sinatra sang what seems to be today’s motto: “I did it my way.” A casual glance reveals the cost of today’s self-focus – a critical spirit, unwillingness to agree, verbal abuse, and disunity.

The “culture of disunity” has even permeated the Catholic Church and the larger Body of Christ. St. Paul addressed divisions among the Corinthians, encouraging them to be of the same mind and purpose (1 Cor 1:10). He encouraged the Ephesians to use spiritual gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ so that the Church could grow in fullness in the unity of those who believe in Christ (Eph 4:11-16).

CHARIS [the National Catholic Charismatic Service Center] captures the unity preached by Jesus and later by St. Paul, as Pope Francis sees baptism in the Holy Spirit as an opportunity for the whole Church. He expects those of us who have experienced this current work of grace to work together, using our diverse gifts, for unity in the Renewal and ecumenically in the Body of Christ for the benefit of the whole Church.

So here’s our challenge: Let’s commit to the spirit of unity, embracing the Prayer of St. Francis.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Lord, let unity begin with me.

Spirit Filled Healing Mass

Sponsored by Son of God Prayer Group

Holy Rosary Church

2701 East Avenue, Erie

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

6:30 PM Worship 6:15

Prayer Card

Enhancing Unity

“Rather, living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, with the proper functioning of each part, brings about the body’s growth and builds itself up in love.”

Ephesians 4 15-16

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Word Of Life

Catholic Charismatic
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The office is generally open limited hours.
Please call before coming.

The purpose of this newsletter is to proclaim
the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to provide
teaching, news and calendar of events, which
help to foster Catholic Charismatic Renewal
throughout the Diocese of Erie.

This newsletter may be copied to put in
churches or shared with others.

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