



# Reflections

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Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center

February 2018

## SPIRIT OF THE PYTHON By Kathy Wilcox



When we are baptized in the Holy Spirit, we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. One of the least understood and used is the gift of Discernment. Simply put, discerning of spirits means to spiritually see and understand what the Holy Spirit sees and understands, and to understand what demonic spirits are doing as they impact our earthly realm. So, how can we know that demonic spirits are interfering in our own or our loved one's lives? And how can we protect ourselves from the enemy?

I just got into an enlightening book: **THE SPIRIT OF THE PYTHON** by Jentezen Franklin. The author explains that Satan is indeed a snake, more specifically, a python. This snake is one of the most feared kinds, not only because it can grow to as long as 17ft, but also because of the way it captures its prey. It sneaks up quietly, encircles the quarry, and slowly squeezes the breath and life out of its victim. The author believes that the "spirit of python," named in Acts 16:16 (also referred to as divination), can be squeezing the spiritual life and breath out of us, and doing it so slowly, that we are not aware of the cause of the turmoil in our lives that this spirit creates. How do we "discern" that we are under attack?

### Signs of the 'spirit of python'

**1. Loss of spiritual desire:** Is our heart no longer on fire for God? When we are baptized in the Holy Spirit, we are like David when he said in Psalm 63:1: "O God, you are my God; early will I seek you, my soul thirsts for you." Losing our desire for God does

not happen quickly; it is a slow turning away, allowing the world to be more important. What is the first thing we turn to when we wake; is it the word of God and prayer or our phone or TV? *Prayer and the Word are spiritual foods which maintain the spirit of the living God within us.* By keeping us from these resources, the python weakens us, leaving us vulnerable to temptation while we do not even notice. It is a slow, imperceptible transition from hot to lukewarm.

**2. Physical fatigue:** When we are physically fatigued, it is easier for Satan to move in and overwhelm us. Lack of sleep, using drugs, or even too much alcohol weakens both our body and our soul. We have to protect our mind, soul, and body from things that weaken us and may allow the python to move in and squeeze the physical and spiritual life from us. We can feel hopeless, and even thoughts of suicide can enter our minds.

**3. A barrage of negative thoughts:** Our eyes and ears are entry points into our minds, and when we are constantly exposing our minds to negative thoughts and information, we can become obsessed with negative thinking with the assistance of the spirit of Python. The Bible says that the battle is spiritual, and that sin starts in the mind. Know your enemy. *"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up*

*against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ"* (2 Cor 10:3-5). We must guard our thoughts as the gateway to our mind - our eyes and ears - so that things of the world cannot use negative thoughts and temptations against us.

There is much more on this topic, and in next month's newsletter, we will continue by discussing how to effectively pray against these demonic attacks. But for now, it is critical to stay spiritually strong with prayer, praise, reading the Word of God, and guarding and protecting our mind and bodies from the enemy of our souls!

Acts 16:16 YLT, *"and it came to pass in our going on to prayer, a certain maid, having a spirit of Python, did meet us, who brought much employment to her masters by soothsaying."*

<sup>1</sup>With an oracular spirit: literally, "with a Python spirit." The Python was the serpent or dragon that guarded the Delphic oracle. It later came to designate a "spirit that pronounced oracles." Oracular spirit: literally, "with a Python spirit." The Python was the serpent or dragon that guarded the Delphic oracle.

<sup>1</sup>(Footnote taken from: [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com))

Reference used: Franklin, Jentezen. (2013). *The Spirit of the Python: Exposing Satan's Plan to Squeeze the Life Out of You*. Lake Mary, Florida: Charisma House.

# PROPHECY REPORT

Given at Son of God Prayer Group, 12/20/2017, word given by: Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol, PhD

“Seek an *encounter* with the Living God! Because it takes an *encounter* with the Living God to truly change us. It is the ONLY THING that has the power to completely and utterly transform our lives and us. Coming into the presence of the Living God will change our very DNA. It will take a human heart, with a human capacity for love, and it will transform it into a Godly heart that has the love of the Living God poured into it; capacitating each person who EARNESTLY seeks Him to be able to love with the love of God! We do not love with the love of God. Unless our hearts *break* over the things that break God’s heart, we cannot say that we love with His love. Until our hearts are filled with His love for every person (yes, this is possible), we do not have His heart. Until we look at the world with His eyes, with hearts that mourn over sin and the ways that we have forsaken Him, yet with a driving love to reach out in love to that fallen world; until our hearts are FILLED with the joy of the Lord at the things that fill Him with joy, we do not have His love. “But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first,” (Rev 2:4). As was the admonition to the church at Ephesus in Revelation, (Rev 2:1-7), we can be *doing* everything right. We can hate evil and test every spirit. We can be patient and persevere. But if our motive is not driven by passionate love of Jesus (we can recall what it is like to first fall in love with someone and the lengths we will go to in order to please that person and just *be in the presence* of the person we love), then what we are doing may be good, but it is not all that the Living God seeks of us. Return to your first love. Do what you did at first. “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you,” (James 2:17). “And you shall seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13). You will find Him!

## BE TRANSFORMED BY AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE LIVING GOD

By Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol, PhD

As stated in the prophecy above,  
we have the opportunity to be

**TRANSFORMED  
by an ENCOUNTER  
with the Living God!**

How exciting is this?! God is inviting us and telling us, that as we seek Him earnestly (we put our relationship with Him in its proper place and reverence Him appropriately), He will meet us in the spiritual tent of meeting, just as He met Moses, and we will see His glory and we will be transformed by it. Whenever Moses came out from the tent of meeting, after being in the Lord’s presence, his face shined so brightly that he had to cover it with a veil. The glory of the encounter with the Living God was not just reflecting off of Moses, it was radiating from him! He had been in God’s presence and had soaked up the rays of His glory as one absorbs the rays of the sun. Being in God’s presence changed Moses. He looked physically different as he came out from the tent.

Moses was one of the great Old Testament prophets; even his physical remains were holy. Maybe this is why “the devil contended with St. Michael over the body of Moses.” (Jude) The devil likes to profane anything that is holy. But “God Himself buried the body of Moses... even to this day where no one knows where he is buried” (Deuteronomy 34:5-6). The devil wanted the body of Moses and St. Michael responded with [paraphrase] “you know that ain’t gonna happen.” “The Lord rebuke you!” And God rebuked the devil and took the body of Moses and hid it. The devil was not permitted to carry out any evil plans for the body of Moses. Even the body of the prophet, the “servant of God,” who had had so many encounters with the presence of the Living God, was holy and was protected by God Himself.

Hmmm... As I resist the urge to digress into “that sounds pretty Catholic,” the point is that we must seek what Moses sought. We must seek to encounter God and be transformed! Paul had an *encounter* with the *Liv-*

*ing God* on the road to Emmaus and he was forever changed. Paul was a Jewish master theologian. He knew the Law of Moses inside and out. And so it is all the more powerful when it is Paul who compares Moses and the old Covenant with Jesus and the New Covenant. “We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away,” (the glory faded as Moses was not in the Lord’s presence),... “And we all, who with *unveiled* faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with *ever-increasing* glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit,... the *light* of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God,” (2 Cor 3:13, 18 and 4:4. Emphasis added). Have you not seen people who radiate God’s glory from within as Moses did? The people who shine from their constant encounters with Him and from being more and more transformed into the image of our Savior?

*Continued on page 3*

## BE TRANSFORMED BY AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE LIVING GOD — CONTINUED

By Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol, PhD

The people who radiate His love and when you get into their presence, you can just feel it? I long to always see what they see; I long to see His face and to feel His glory being absorbed into my very essence; I long for my heart to break at everything that breaks His heart and to feel joy at what brings Him joy; to have my being filled to overflowing with HIS being and to be transformed by an *encounter* with the *Living God*. Our calling in life will never be lived to its fullest potential until we have this encounter and allow Him to transform us into His image.

**Wherever you are,  
do not think that He does not  
have MORE for you!  
He ALWAYS does.  
He is the Jesus!  
He is the Living God!**

So where to begin, right? Well... we in this country, by a vast majority, do not have the first clue about how to seek God *earnestly*. We *fit* Him in. We fit Him into our many, many distractions. Most Christians would prefer to turn the TV on for an hour rather than spending an hour seeking the Lord in prayer. In fact, it doesn't even occur to most of us to spend time seeking just to be in His presence. Most people have no idea that there is MORE. That God Himself

wants to POUR more onto us and into us! Many just have no idea what to ask for or how to pray for it. A good start is to make time for Him and take time for Him. Seek to be with Him as you would seek to be with a person you are madly in love with. Pour your heart out to Him. Ask with the heart of a child. Tell Him that you want this. You want Him! As much of Him as a person can be filled with without exploding! Tell Him that you are seeking an *encounter* with the *Living God*; that you want your relationship with Him to be based not on head knowledge, but on a heart that is filled to overflowing with Him and His love. Tell Him your faults and what holds you back. Ask for the help of the Holy Spirit's grace in order to work on your weaknesses and even to have *the desire* to desire Him more. Take time to read His Word; when you love someone, you hang on every word they have to say! He will speak to you! Spend time just sitting in His presence, like lovers who pass the time just staring into each other's eyes. We *all* need to be transformed, "with ever increasing glory," to allow God to take us to the next level of intimacy [glory] with Him. I think we get to a place of being comfortable with where we are OR we just don't realize that God is ALWAYS calling us more deeply into Himself. When you ask Him for this ENCOUNTER, and earnestly

seek Him, *He will meet you*. Because we could not possibly love Him more than He loves us and because we could not possibly seek Him more earnestly than He seeks us. "But God demonstrates His love for us in this: That while we were yet still sinners, Christ died for us," (Rom 5:8). "This is love: not that we love God, but that He first loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins," (1 Jn 4:10). He's in love with us! Fall deeply in love with Him! Make it your 2018 spiritual goal. Choose your Lenten sacrifices to give up the things that hold you back from Him. There is a reason that He is called "the Bridegroom." That is the level of intimacy He feels for us and the level of intimacy He seeks from us. "Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first," (Rev 2:4). Earnestly seek Him in an *encounter* with the *Living God* as your first love and let Him transform you forever. Amen! Alleluia!

Grow  
in Christ



### EMAIL VS. U.S. MAIL

We are beginning the process of setting up the option to offer the newsletter through email. This will also help greatly with the expenses, but we will continue to offer the newsletter in either option. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email, please contact the Word Of Life Center via [wolccrc@eriercd.org](mailto:wolccrc@eriercd.org) to let them know your preferences. Please include your name, your physical mailing address, your phone number, and your email address with "NEWSLETTER" as the subject.

You can also contact us via the email above or the office phone number [\(814\) 824-1286](tel:8148241286) to add someone who would like to receive the newsletter. This newsletter can also be copied to put in churches or shared with others.

Thank you!



## **SPIRITUAL GIFTS WORKSHOP**

**Location: TBA**

Facilitators: Pat Montefiori and Jacqueline Phillips

Friday, May 11, 2018 6-9 PM

Saturday, May 12, 2018 8:30 AM-3:30 PM

## **GREATER THINGS BREAKFAST**

**St. Joseph's Center (behind the church)**

**147 West 24th St, Erie**

Saturday, March 10, 2018 8:30 AM

Lisa Stark, Testimony on Deliverance

Praise and Worship, Prayer Teams

Register by 3/7/18, \$8.00

\*You may register on event day without breakfast included (\$5.00)

Register by calling T.A. at (814) 833-9717

## **PANEL DISCUSSION ON DELIVERANCE AND OCCULT**

**With Fr. David Poulson, T.A. Walkiewicz, and**

**Dr. Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol**

**St. Joseph's Center (behind the church)**

**147 West 24th St, Erie**

Saturday, August 25, 2018 Promptly 8:30 AM

Praise and Worship, Prayer Teams

Register by 8/22/18, \$8.00

\*You may register on event day without breakfast included (\$5.00)

Register by calling T.A. at (814) 833-9717

## **EVENING WITH OUR LORD**

**St. Joseph Bread of Life Church**

**147 West 24th St, Erie**

Worship and Adoration

Friday, September 7, 2018 7-9 PM

Free Will Offering to Support

Erie Charismatic Renewal/Word of Life Center

## **ALPHA PROGRAMS (WITH BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT)**

**St. Joseph's Center (behind the church)**

**147 West 24th St, Erie**

March 7, 2018-May 30, 2018

Wednesdays from 6 PM-8:30 PM

and Starting August 22, 2018

Wednesdays from 6PM-8:30 PM

Register by calling (814) 452-2982

## **THE GIFT SEMINARS (LIFE IN THE SPIRIT)**

To Be Announced

## **HEALING MASSES (SPIRIT-FILLED)**

**Sponsored by Son of God Prayer Group**

**Holy Rosary Church, 2701 East Ave, Erie**

Tuesday, May 8, 2018 6:30 PM

Tuesday, August 7, 2018 6:30 PM

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 6:30 PM



## **† SUNDAY**

**Shalom in Jesus Prayer Group**

In home, DuBois, PA

6:30 PM

Rick Kenawell

(814) 375-0328

**Acts II Community**

St. Julia Church

West Lake Rd. & Powell Ave.

6:30 PM

Jack Heintzel

(814) 838-1325

**Holy Crown of Thorns Prayer Group**

First Sunday of the month

749 Bean Farm Rd, Sheffield, PA

1:30 PM

Lil Herbstritt

(814) 986-3206

## **† MONDAY:**

**Disciples of the Holy Spirit**

St. Mary's Church Annex

139 Church St., St. Marys, PA

6:00 PM

Mary Ellen Frank

(814) 781-3904

**St. Andrew Chapel (formerly Leopold Center group)**

Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Rosary

1116 West 7th St.

3:15 PM (before Mass)

Mary Lou Peterson

(814) 866-5678

**River of Life PG**

2nd & 4th Monday evenings

St. Bridget Ch., Rm.4, Meadville, PA

7:00 PM

Amy Mosbacher

(814) 724-6104

## **† TUESDAY:**

**Son of God Prayer Group**

Holy Rosary Church

2701 East Ave., Erie PA

7:00 PM

Pat Montefiori

(814) 823-3968

## **† FRIDAY:**

**Light of the World Community**

In Home Prayer Meeting

Call for location

1:00 PM

T.A. Walkiewicz

(814) 833-9717

## **† SATURDAY:**

**God's Holy Love**

Holy Redeemer

11 Russell St, Warren PA

10:30 AM

Virginia Baker

(781) 217-1683

## **CONTEMPORARY MASS**

Every Sunday 11:00 AM

St. Joseph Church /

Bread of Life Community

Children's Liturgy of the Word

## **PERPETUAL ADORATION**

Bread of Life Chapel

St. Joseph Community Center

## **ST. JOSEPH NOVENA**

Every Wednesday 7:00 PM

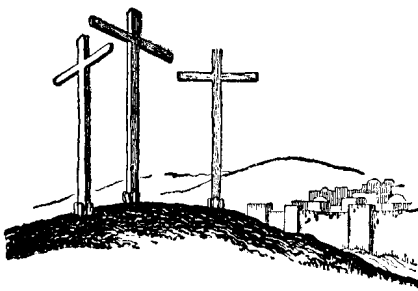
St. Joseph Church / Bread of Life Community

## DO YOU SUFFER WELL? By Elaine Sinnott

I recently read a beautiful devotion on what it means to suffer well. It hit me hard because I have in no way, shape, or form been suffering well lately.

My youngest son who just turned one has been teething and *not* sleeping through the night. I've been so exhausted and every time I'd hear him cry those 2-3 times in the middle of the night, I'd huff and puff and whine on my walk to get him. Thinking back on it, I have no idea how I thought that would help the situation. It only wakes my sweet husband who's been working nonstop to make ends meet and take care of his family. And I'd also have a terrible outlook the next morning if I didn't sleep at all and I'd be grouchy with my older children.

**My Savior died on the cross for me and I can't handle a few sleepless nights?**



And I've been irritated with that same sweet husband lately and he has been aware of it. I've made sure of that. I've been angry when he comes home from work and sits down on the couch to look through his phone while I clean dishes, get kids ready for bed, pack his lunch for work the next day, get his coffee ready, etc. *Why does he have to be so lazy?* I'd think to myself. This poor man has been working his butt off for our family and I can't give him some time to decompress and finally relax for the day? Sure the help would be nice, I admit it, but as a stay-at-home mom, I do get a break every day. That beautiful hour or two called nap time. My husband doesn't get that.

**Jesus offered Himself for *me* so why can't I offer myself or my time for my husband?**

Again, not suffering well at all.

If I can't suffer well, what kind of example am I to my husband, my children, my friends and family? Definitely not a Christ-like example!

**We become like Christ through our suffering. The Holy Spirit assists us to be like Christ and to suffer well.**

In the devotion I mentioned earlier, St. Paul talks about suffering in Colossians 1:24 and it is a passage that really makes you think:

*"I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church."*

Jesus calls us to be like Him. He voluntarily suffered for you. And me. He modeled suffering for us. He showed us on that Cross how to handle the suffering we encounter each and every day. Suffering is what brings our character out. How we handle suffering says a lot about us to others.

***He showed us how to love.***



When I snap at my child with impatience or condemn my friend for gossiping about me or nag my husband for not doing enough around the house, I am not choosing Christ.

***Not even close.***

People spit in Jesus' face as he carried their sins on His back. They threw rocks at Him when their sins were too much for our dear Jesus to carry any longer as He fell to the ground, crushed under the weight of their sins on that Cross. Under the weight of *our* sins.

Did He spit back? Did He curse? Did He get impatient or throw rocks back at them? No. *He loved them!* Every single one of them. The people with the rocks are often us.

This is my goal: to do what Jesus did and "take up my [small] cross daily" and follow Him. To stop being so offended, to stop judging people, to stop responding impatiently to those beautiful tiny little souls God put into my care, and to stop making my husband feel like dirt for not meeting all of my needs while not taking his needs into consideration.



Newsflash: everyone is human. This world is full of darkness. Therefore, people will sometimes let us down, disappoint us, make fun of us, and we will suffer from these 'rocks.' It's how we handle those inevitable truths that determine whether we will get beyond being just a 'believer' in Christ and strive to be a 'disciple' of Christ *who strives daily to truly be like Him.*

I want to be the example Jesus calls me to be, not just write about it. I want to suffer well.

***Will you join me?***



# HE WILL ACCOMPLISH IT

By Amy Mosbacher

## **“LORD, SAVE ME FROM MYSELF.”**

This prayer has likely been found on the lips of everyone, saints and sinners alike. Paul prayed it. *“For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me”* (Rom. 7:15-20). Paul’s words perfectly relate the battle each one of us faces: the battle between the flesh and the spirit. Our will versus God’s will. The prayer, “Lord save me from myself,” acknowledges that, like Paul, if left to our own devices, sin would quickly overtake us. It is a prayer that humbly recognizes that we cannot attain salvation on our own, even though we, by nature and due to pride, have difficulty giving up control. But humility reminds us that things go better when we allow God to be in control.

It’s rather comforting to know that no matter how many mortifications or good works we do, none of it will gain our salvation. Jesus did that for us on the Cross. However, what He does need from us is our cooperation for sanctification; for growth in holiness. The most basic step in overcoming sin is whether we will choose to accept the salvation He offers. But this is where the battle begins, not ends.

## **“Yes!” we cry. “I accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior!”**

Then comes the hard part. “What? It’s not just a free pass? There’s more?” Yes, beloved brothers and sisters, there is more. Saying it is one thing, but will we choose to live it? Will we walk it?

To simply make the statement about accepting Jesus, but then live as though He doesn’t exist, is called hypocrisy. It is similar to standing before a judge and accepting all the benefits of being a U.S. citizen and then breaking every law of the land. Consequences follow. We have to try to our best to accomplish what we’ve committed to doing, even when we don’t fall. Again, Paul knew our battle. *“I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?”* (Rom. 7:21-24).

*“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven”* (Mt. 7:21). Paul knew this and we know this. But if we start to focus on our failures, then we are putting our eyes on ourselves and taking our eyes off of Jesus, who offers hope and assistance through the Holy Spirit. When we look to ourselves, then we may start to think, “I need to do such-and-such mortification to make it right again,” and we start focusing on our efforts, as if we can reach Heaven on our own. While fasting is a powerful and important spiritual practice, and we need to do it for spiritual reasons, nothing we do based on our efforts without God will ever gain victory over the flesh. God did that for us: *“May the God of peace 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”* (1 Thes. 5:23-24). And going back to Paul, he shows us the only way to gain victory in this battle that lasts a lifetime. *“Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!”* (Rom 7:25).

It’s an unbalanced two-way street: Jesus offers us salvation and His life: Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, and we offer Him our virtuous life. But because God knows our virtuous lives aren’t perfect and that, in the flesh we are weak, He assists us in developing virtue (the Fruit of the Holy Spirit) by pouring His grace and Holy Spirit out to us as we recognize our own inability to “do it on our own,” and as we look to Him and seek His assistance. “He is the author and finisher of our faith,” when we do our part and put our faith and effort into seeking Him and always asking the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to “save us from ourselves”. What He did for Paul, He is more than willing to do for us also. *“Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God,”* (Rom 7:4). Then when our time in this life is finished, we can appear before our Father in Heaven, not only as a child who knows her imperfections and weaknesses, but as someone who also trusts that the Father loves her immensely and wants her to be with Him forever. That’s the hope we have in Jesus. Praised be God for His mercy now and forever! *“Well done, good and faithful servant!”*

*“St. Augustine articulated this way: ‘God who created you without you, will not save you without you’ (Sermon 169, 13). Our salvation is up to God and us. God always says yes to our salvation. We can say yes and no.” ~Kevin Aldrich*

**WELL DONE,  
good and faithful  
SERVANT.**

*Matthew 25:21*

## By The Word of Their Testimony

*“But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.” (Revelation 12:11)*



### GOD DOES MIRACLES!

By: Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol, PhD

Sometimes they are small miracles and we may miss them; sometimes they are big. A very close friend asked for prayer for her niece who was pregnant. Over six months ago, when she had her first ultrasound, doctors said that the baby had a very rare and severe genetic disorder. Doctors could see physical deformities in the face and skull. The disorder was confirmed with amniocentesis. The mother was told that she HAD to have a medical abortion immediately; that this baby would never make it to term, and if she did, she would not survive after birth.

The baby had many problems, one being that she had no spleen. But the parents chose life. They chose to trust God, no matter the outcome. Even if it meant that their heart would break. Prayers went up from Son of God Prayer group and from many other

individuals and groups. The mother, who has a form of M.S., miraculously carried to term. The doctors were baffled.

We all said a novena to the infant Jesus during the 9 days leading up to induction of labor. The parents prepared for the fact that they may only be able to hold their precious baby girl for moments before she would be taken to heaven. But God had other plans. This little miracle was born right before Christmas. Not only was she alive, but she was even breathing on her own; she did not even need oxygen. The parents were able to see her for a few precious moments before she was whisked off to the neonatal intensive care unit for evaluation. They said she would be blind. She is not blind! They said that she was going to have severe physical deformities. She looks perfect! And to their utter dumbfoundment, this baby has a spleen that could not be seen on any of the numerous ultrasounds!

This is our God! He does the impossible. She was born. She is not blind. She has no deformities. And she has a spleen. Glory to God! This little girl and her family still have many challenges ahead of them so please pray for them. But to them, it could not be clearer that this child was God's gift and His plan all along.



*Little Miss Bailey Rose*

With a new year comes new things, and in this case, GREATER THINGS! As of March 2018, we will be changing the name of the newsletter from “Reflections” to “Reflections on the Greater Things”. The purpose of this change is to put a greater emphasis on the promise Jesus gave us through the power of the Holy Spirit:

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

The Holy Spirit is so alive, and Jesus wants us to become more and more alive through the Holy Spirit. This newsletter, as always, is a way to help us grow and to give testimony to the power of God. We want to bring a stronger focus to how God is working around us every day in order to uplift us, encourage us and to help us grow ever closer to our Lord Jesus.

We are excited for what God has in store!



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John 15:12-13

“My command is this:  
Love each other as I have loved you.  
Greater love has no one than this: to  
lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

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website: [www.wordoflifecrc.org](http://www.wordoflifecrc.org)

The office is generally open on  
Wednesday and/or Thursday only.

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.

**CHIEF EDITOR**

Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol, PhD

**EDITORS**

Elaine Sinnott, Amy Mosbacher

**FORMATTING/GRAPHICS**

Loretta Swartwood

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