



# Reflections on 'The Greater Things'

July 2018

Volume XXXII Issue No. 7

*"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)*

## TAKING A SAINT ON VACATION By Kathryn Wilcox

Many people choose a current novel for their summer reading at the beach or while on vacation. There is an alternative choice that could change your life: reading the life story of a famous or not-so-famous saint.

I decided to sort my personal library and purge. Reading has been my escape since childhood so I enjoy a wide variety of genres. But as I sorted, I realized that the books I put back on the shelf were my Catholic and Christian books, many of which I had not yet read. I looked at the book in my hand; Therese of Lisieux, by Monica Furlong, 1897, Virago Press. I asked myself, "Therese, who are you really?" I opened her story. "She is a Saint," my mind noted. "Boring!" is what my critical nature assumed. "But the church declared her a Saint; and a 'doctor' of the Church?" "Ok Lord, you are nudging me. I will get to know 'The Little Flower,' as she has been called."

Therese, I discovered, had a difficult childhood in many ways. She was the youngest of nine children, born in January of 1873 to a mother who was quite ill. Zélie, her mother, was not even able to nurse her new baby, so Therese had to be sent to a neighboring town to live with a wet nurse in order to survive. At 18 months old, Therese was separated from the wet nurse and brought home where she loved and clung to Zélie; following her everywhere. The love between the two was a holy bond of mother and child. But Zélie's health deteriorated and she succumbed to breast cancer when Therese was only 4 years old.

The tiny child was devastated. Her mother's death put her into sobbing fits of depression and she withdrew; not letting anyone even look at her. She was blessed with four older sisters; and Pauline, then 17, took on the role of surrogate mother to Therese. Therese's family, including

her other sisters and the household servants, all loved her very much and pampered and spoiled her out of sympathy for her situation. She was not expected to make her bed or learn to sew or complete other household chores. This later came back to hurt Therese when she entered the convent; the mother superior thought her spoiled and was very hard on her.

Therese's childhood was as strict and disciplined as it was as pampered. Discipline was not lacking in the Martin household, especially for any disrespectful word or action against anyone or lack of diligence with studies. The children were taught that God was displeased with lack of virtuous and loving behavior. Pauline took her role of teaching her sisters seriously, especially religion and love of God. So Therese was raised in a home that put God first and she was taught that pleasing Him was more important than anything or anyone else.

As a young girl, Therese fantasized about becoming a Saint and wanted to do heroic things for God, just as Joan of Arc had done. Instead, after her conversion, she learned that all God wanted of her was her "Little Way" of how to live a virtuous life; to do all the little things of life well, and through that discipline, to please God. This revelation was her precious gift to all who read the autobiography of 'the Little Flower.'

Therese's childhood formed the basis for her relationship with God. She was taught that she could not get her way and through the proper discipline of her childhood, she learned to turn her strong will over to God. The more difficult her circumstances became, the more she turned to Jesus. No matter how badly she was treated by others in her convent, she turned to God. Her story could have easily been a tragedy, and in modern terms become an excuse for dysfunctional be-



**Saint Thérèse  
of Lisieux, O.C.D.  
Sacred Keeper  
of the Gardens  
The Little Flower**

havior with a very negative outcome. She could have labeled herself a victim and used it as an excuse to harbor anger, depression, and ill-will towards those who treated her badly. Instead, she forgave easily, saw all things as God's will, and prayed for those who mistreated her.

Her book, "The Story of a Soul," contains her intimate thoughts and reflections as she struggles and finds beauty and God's love through dark and difficult days. A friend told me that she cannot read this book without weeping at the beauty of the simplicity she finds in Therese's relationship with God. "Every person will find themselves within the pages of this book," she said.

God gives all of us free will. When I learned what Therese did with her life choices, I realized it is really very simple. As Therese said, "Holiness consists simply in doing God's will and being just what God wants us to be." Without spoiling the book for those who will read it, Therese saw herself as a 'little flower' in God's garden of souls. This 'doctor' of the faith takes what we often make complex and makes it divinely simple, beautiful, and easy to understand.

I am glad I got this glimpse into Therese's life. I will be adding her book, "The Story Of A Soul" to my reading list and look forward to finding my own 'little way' with the help of Saint Therese. Take a Saint on vacation. Good reading abounds and there is a reason that these special people have all been given the significant status of 'Saint.' They have much to teach us if we open the books and open our hearts to how God continues to speak through them.

# THE LOVE THAT MAKES US ALIVE!

By Father Tony Gargotta (Diocese of Pittsburgh)

Over the years I have delivered many homilies explaining the Holy Spirit as the third person of the Trinity. But the reality is that it is a *living love*. It is a product of the love - the perfect self-giving love of the Father and the Son to each other - which *bursts forth* into a third person: the Holy Spirit. **The Holy Spirit, very simply put, is a 'living love.'**



On Pentecost, as the Holy Spirit filled those in the upper room, we love to recount the story of how the apostles are suddenly bold enough to proclaim the Word of God; the gospel. And they are able to speak in various languages for all to understand. This 'Holy Spirit' filled the apostles and the disciples (most likely the 11 + Mary + the 72 appointed in the Gospel by Jesus). We are amazed at that boldness and the complete lack of fear they had; amazed by the crossing of communication barriers through tongues and the lack of concern at possibly being arrested or killed; at how they were consumed with *living* the gospel and spreading it.

There are many accounts of the Holy Spirit filling believers in the New Testament. There are three that have particular importance. In this article, we are going to focus on the third one.

Pentecost was the first; obviously experienced by the apostles and disciples. A second account of Pentecost is found within Acts when many Jews (who already knew the true God of Abraham, Isaac, and

Moses) came to believe in Jesus as the Son of God and were also filled with the Holy Spirit. Just as in the first account, they become bold in proclaiming the gospel and also bold in love. They began praising God in their own language, in other languages, in praise and worship, and in tongues; all things today that we attribute primarily to the Charismatic movement, while most other Catholics shy away from these gifts. People think it is weird. But quite to the contrary, it was our first tradition of how to pray, how to have Mass, and how to worship God.

A third major event happens after the second. The third event is relevant to the Gentiles; the non-Jews; most of whom had false gods. A Roman soldier named Cornelius, a leader and a centurion in charge of other Roman soldiers, begins to believe in this 'Jesus' and prays; not necessarily knowing what he is doing. But God hears this prayer. An angel appears to him, telling him that *"his prayers and gifts to the poor had come up as a memorial offering before God"* (Acts 10:4). The next day, Peter has a vision having to do with non-Jews and goes to the house of Cornelius upon request. While Peter was still basically giving his opening statement about being a witness to all the things having to do with Jesus, Cornelius and those in his household were filled with the Holy Spirit and *"the circumcised believers who were with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God."* (Acts 10:35-36)

The scenario of *"speaking in tongues and praising God"* was common in the early church until at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. YET, we in the USA are very stiff! And our stiffness blocks the Holy Spirit of God from working fully in us. Another way to say it is that our stiffness blocks God's love

from flowing in us and through us.

Fifty-one years ago, there was a resurgence of the early Church's common practice of receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and as a result, praying and praising God in tongues. It was like the early Church; and it began here in Pittsburgh and spread worldwide to other Catholics.

Last summer was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the charismatic movement and there was a miraculous experience that happened here in Pittsburgh's North Park during the conference. But that is a story for another day. But let me assure you, the Holy Spirit was clearly alive in power last year at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in downtown Pittsburgh! Thousands of Catholics from all over the world gathered, proclaiming Jesus in the boldness of the Holy Spirit and praying and praising in tongues - just like we read about in Acts. And there were hundreds of reported healings of sicknesses, including blindness and deafness that were healed before our eyes! - Just like we read about in the New Testament. In 1981, the Bishop of Ann Arbor Michigan created a parish specifically to be charismatic and it has grown and has amazing fruit - just like we read about in Acts. Pope Saint John Paul the II prayed in tongues and loved praise and worship - charismatic prayer; the power that our 'stiffness' blocks in us.

In the Gospel, Jesus says to remain in His love as He remains in the Father's love. And when we live in His love, we will bear much fruit. The Holy Spirit is the love poured forth to the Son from the Father. The Holy Spirit is the love poured into us by Jesus. Just as a plant cannot bear fruit without the juices of the plant flowing through the stems, branches and leaves; and our own organs cannot do their job without our blood; we cannot bear much fruit without the Holy Spirit flowing through us, who

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## A SPIRIT OF DETACHMENT By Amy Mosbacher

*The eternal Father to Catherine: I give spiritual consolation in prayer, now in one way, now in another. But it is not my intention that the soul should receive this consolation foolishly, paying more attention to the gift than to me.*

*~The Dialogue of St. Catherine of Siena*

After the dryness of Lent, how wonderful to come to the exuberance of Easter and Pentecost and Corpus Christi, when churches are alive with flowers and their scent, bright colors and glorious songs of praise. Isn't it exciting when our prayer seems this way as well; when after some dryness, God grants consolations of the Spirit again and our prayer is filled with images or feelings of hope and love? It IS wonderful to feel these warm consolations during prayer. It's tempting to want our prayer to be like this always, because we tend to feel like we're actually praying and drawing close to God only when we feel these consolations. While consolations are wonderful, they are not God and the absence of them does not reflect that God is not hearing us. Consolations are only sparks thrown off from the much larger fire. But should we be content with sparks? Or seek the much larger fire?

Sometimes we get caught up in wanting an experience every time we pray and are

disappointed when it doesn't happen. Then we know we've become attached to the gift. The same thing happens with thoughts that aren't prayer. If we get caught up in reliving the memory of a situation and dwell on the joy or sorrow it brought, we're living in the past and can't continue in today. Recall that the name of God is "I AM Who Am" and Jesus is the great "I am." (Jn 8:24 NIV). His very name focuses us on the moment. He is not in the past or in worrying about the future. He is in the present moment. There are times when a good memory might help us get us through a current trial, but holding onto the memory longer than necessary can mislead us. When a strong memory pops up during prayer and we don't try to refocus, but willingly dwell in the memory, it is a distraction and we must be aware of that and not be more attached to the memory than we are to focusing on God. When we are focused on unhealthy attachments they can become a hindrance even outside of prayer. Very common are over-affections to material objects like food, books, music, even to people, schedules, or our own way of doing things, just to name a few. We're happy when we have them, distraught when we don't; delighting in a memory or nursing mental grudges, or maybe watching TV or running to food for comfort. Our souls become a roller

coaster of emotion with no peace. God isn't reflected in a soul that is not tranquil. Jesus said, "My peace I give you" (Jn 14:2 NIV). By holding onto lesser things we prevent God from purifying our souls and bringing us into union with Him.

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see" (Heb. 11:1 NIV). God is mysterious and often hidden, and we understand Him in bits and pieces as the Holy Spirit reveals aspects of God to us. But if we become attached to what we think we know about God, then we block ourselves from the Holy Spirit revealing greater truths of the nature of God. All that we can ever know, bright and glorious as it may be, is never the full revelation of our infinite God. People who recognize this cry out, "It's not enough! The world is not enough, will never be enough!" Paul said this also. "Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" Phil 1 20-21 (RSV). These souls renounce all the pleasures society offers, the delights of the natural world, and embrace a simple lifestyle, seeking more of God and turning away distraction. Some people are even called to the monastic life; leaving behind almost all

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## THE LOVE THAT MAKES US ALIVE! - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

By Father Tony Gargotta (Diocese of Pittsburgh)

are the Body of Jesus. Not only can we not bear fruit, but we will also be isolated from the love of God.

We need the Holy Spirit as much as the Apostles and early believers did. The Spirit is in us through the sacraments. We only have to live in that love. It is our free will to decide how much we will surrender to the Holy Spirit. Will we remain 'stiff' or be brave enough to be swept into the Gift of Jesus and the Father to us? Will we welcome this same torrent of the Living Waters flowing from the Holy Spirit that engulfed the Apostles and early believers and changed them

forever? The choice to surrender is ours.

When we *allow* ourselves to live in that love of the Holy Spirit, we will be on fire! A fire so big it will feel like our chests are on fire from the inside (I tell you this from experience). We will pray like never before! We will speak boldly, yet lovingly about Jesus! We will hear God directing our lives' decisions and activities. We will convert people without even trying just as Peter did! We will build the Kingdom we pray about! We will break through barriers, whether it is a language

barrier or hardness of hearts. We will cure people of their illnesses; physical, mental and spiritual! And we will truly be one with Jesus in heaven forever.

Open your hearts to the love of God; the Holy Spirit - and live in ways you have never experienced, both here and in eternity.

For information on  
National Catholic  
Charismatic Renewal visit:  
<http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org>



**BREAK EVERY CHAIN  
GREATER THINGS BEAKFAST**  
T.A. Walkiewicz and Dr. Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol  
Continue to discuss issues related to recognizing and  
combating demonic influences.

**St. Joseph's Center (behind the church)  
147 West 24th St, Erie**

Saturday, August 25, 2018 Promptly 9:30 AM  
Praise and Worship, Prayer Teams

Register by 8/22/18, \$8.50 by calling T.A. at (814) 833-9717

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

Registration Form - page 5

**COME TO JESUS  
ADORATION WORSHIP CONCERT**

**St. Joseph Bread of Life Church  
147 West 24th St, Erie**

Worship by Jaci Phillips, Brianna Erdman and friends with special guest,

Erie Philhamonic violinist, Louis Nicolola

Exposition and Benediction by Fr. Johnathan Schmolt

Friday, September 7, 2018 7 PM - 9 PM

Free Will Offering to Support Erie Charismatic Renewal/Word of Life Center

**HEALING MASSES (SPIRIT-FILLED)**

**Sponsored by Son of God Prayer Group Holy**

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

Tuesday, August 7, 2018 6:30 PM (Worship 6:15)

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 6:30 PM (Worship 6:15)

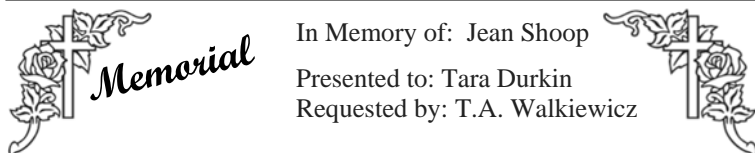
**ANNUAL GREATER THINGS CONFERENCE**

**St. Joseph Bread of Life Church  
147 West 24th St, Erie**

October 13, 2018 9 AM - 3:30 PM

Lunch Included - Scholarships Available

Details to come in the August Newsletter



In Memory of: Jean Shoop

Presented to: Tara Durkin

Requested by: T.A. Walkiewicz

The Word of Life Board of Directors would like to share the exciting news that Fr. Johnathan Schmolt has been appointed to a five year term as WOL CCRC liaison to the Bishop regarding WOL Renewal activities.

Fr Johnathan has been part of our Board of Directors for the past couple of years and we were thrilled when he returned to the Board last month following an illness. We stand back in amazement as we watch God's plan for the Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Erie continue to unfold.

We thank God for His faithfulness to us and for the blessing of Fr. Johnathan. God has given us such a love for Fr Johnathan and we know that, as soon as you meet him, you will love him also. Please extend your love and a warm welcome to Father Schmolt!



**† SUNDAY**

**Shalom in Jesus Prayer Group**

In home, DuBois, PA

6:30 PM

Rick Kenawell

(814) 375-0328

**Acts II Community**

St. Julia Church, Erie, PA

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

Jack Heintzel

(814) 838-1325

**† 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., Erie Pa

3:15 pm (before Mass)

Mary Lou Peterson

(814) 866-5678

**River of Life PG**

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

2nd & 4th Monday evenings

7:00PM

Amy Mosbacher

(814) 724-6104

**† TUESDAY**

**Son of God Prayer Group**

Holy Rosary Church

2701 East Ave.

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**

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



# A SPIRIT OF DETACHMENT

By Amy Mosbacher—Continued from Page 3

worldly pleasures in order to seek God alone and to pray for the world to know God.

However, if our way of life is in the world then practicing detachment is all the more necessary. How often during prayer do our thoughts wander, remembering something that happened earlier? We need to keep control of our thoughts as much as humanly possible "taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ." (2 Cor. 10:5 NASB) And if unwanted thoughts pop into our heads, we need to just acknowledge them and then let them go, refocusing on God. If we discipline ourselves, God, through the Holy Spirit, will supply what we can't do on our own. It's not our minds that concern God so much as our hearts. Prayer has to do with love more than words.

"For He can well be loved, but he cannot be thought. By love he can be grasped and held, but by thought, neither grasped nor held. And therefore, though it may be good at times to think specifically of the kindness and excellence of God, and though this may be a light and a part of contemplation, all the same, in the work of contemplation itself, it must be cast down and covered with a cloud of forgetting." The Cloud of Unknowing, (author unknown). Then, just like the apostles were behind locked doors and the risen Jesus came and stood in their midst (Jn. 20:19), so too, God will enter our souls, which have been sealed against attachments, and give us His peace. In this way He draws us further into the fire of His love, that mystical union that we were made for.

*"You are a garden locked up,  
my sister, my bride;  
you are a spring enclosed,  
a sealed fountain."*

Song of Songs 4:12

*When the soul has passed through the doctrine of Christ crucified, with true love of virtue and hatred of vice, and has arrived at the house of self-knowledge and entered therein, she remains, with her door barred, in watching and constant prayer, separated entirely from the consolations of the world."*

~The Dialogue of St. Catherine of Siena~

## Break Every Chain Greater Things Breakfast

Saturday, August 25, 2018 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

\$8.50 w/breakfast  
\$5.00 without breakfast  
(Scholarships Available)  
St. Joseph's Center  
147 West 24th St. Erie, PA

Worship Leader: Jaci Phillips  
Prayer teams available



**"We are more  
than conquerors  
through  
Him who loved us!"  
Romans 8:37**

Jesus shed His Blood so that we are not victims of the enemy, but the strong and mighty army of the Living God!

Building on the previous breakfast, Jaci Phillips, PhD and TA Walkiewicz will discuss in greater depth spiritual issues that affect people, objects, and dwellings. Time will be provided for you to ask questions of the panel regarding spiritual issues.

**Registration Form - - - Register by August 20, 2018**

**Break Every Chain—Greater Things Breakfast**

Location: St. Joseph's Center, 147 West 24th St. Erie, PA

Saturday, August 25, 2018 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sign in from 9:00 AM - 9:25 AM

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

**Break Every Chain  
Greater Things Breakfast**

COST—\$8.50 w/breakfast

\$5.00 without breakfast

(Scholarships Available)

**Please make check or  
money order payable to:**

**Word of Life**

**Mail payment to:**

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

# A DEFICIT OF MIRACLES

By Michael H. Brown (Spiritedaily.com)

Did you ever wonder why there is such a dividing line and often a gulf between those who tack toward the supernatural, to the supernal, and those who take a more this-world, solely from-the-book, ritualistic-only perspective? You run across this constantly: Catholic and Christian organizations, websites, and news organizations that won't touch anything that hints of, let alone is imbued by, the miraculous. Baffling as it may be (since Jesus's ministry was built around miracles, peaking with His Resurrection), two terms may explain the chasm best:

“supernaturalists”

“cessationists.”

**Supernaturalists** have an affinity for signs, healing, apparitions, and stigmata. They see a constant interplay between the natural and supernatural, between nature and spirit.

**Cessationists** are those who seem to believe most miracles stopped with the Book of Acts or *Revelation*.

“My claim is that most contemporary American evangelical Christians only pay lip service to the supernatural whereas the Bible is saturated with it,” wrote Roger Olson, a professor at Baylor University, in a commentary called “Embarrassed by the Supernatural?” “To a very large extent we American evangelicals and Baptists have absorbed the worldview of modernity by relegating the supernatural, miracles, scientifically unexplainable interventions of God, to the past (‘Bible times’) and elsewhere (‘the mission fields’).”

“This is obvious in how we react to illness among ourselves. We pray for the sick—that God will comfort them and ‘be with them’ in their misery. We pray that God will give their doctors skill as they treat them. But

we avoid asking God to heal them. We avoid any mention of demons or demonic possession and strictly shun exorcism as primitive and superstitious—except when Jesus did it. We look down on churches that anoint the sick with oil and pray for their physical healing.” And when we do, pews empty. People want to *feel* the Helper.

While valid in many ways — and often prudent (going strictly by the book, delving only into the past) — it is not always easy to reckon non-supernatural with certain passages:

## JOHN 14:12

*“I can guarantee this truth:  
Those who believe in Me  
will do the things that I am doing.  
They will do even  
greater things because  
I am going to the Father.”*

## JOHN 14:25

*“The helper, the Holy Spirit, whom  
the Father will send in My Name,  
will teach you everything. He will  
remind you of everything that I  
have ever told you”*

## MARK 16:17

*These signs will follow  
those who believe:  
In My Name they will  
cast out demons; they will  
speak with new tongues...”*

Did those “charisms” disappear after the first century? Or is the fading trend away from the active supernaturalism a product of the French Revolution and “Enlightenment” (Rationalism): the Church afraid of being labeled as “superstitious” as scientism has swept in as a competing belief system? (“Fading” because the young are more inclined toward the supernatural; they reject churches that reject the miraculous; a recent poll showed “Millennialists” believe more on the afterlife than do “Baby Boomers.”)

“In many evangelical circles there’s almost a skepticism toward the miraculous or a downplaying of the supernatural out of this sense of wanting to set themselves apart from the excesses we’ve seen in some circles,” explains one Protestant theologian. And excesses there are: from false apparitions to gnostic-like charisms.

But, inside and outside Catholicism, it is being recognized that the pendulum has gone too far. It comes down to something very simple: if Jesus were here in physical form today, would He still be healing — laying on His Hands, curing the infirm, raising the deceased, resurrecting, then appearing to His disciples — or would He be roaming from town to town with a blackboard full of theological exegesis and philosophy?

## Prison Outreach Ministry

**Word of Life is in need of  
donations to cover expenses  
related to our  
Prison Outreach Ministry.**

We have recently held two Life In The Spirit Seminars at the Albion and Cambridge Springs prisons. God moved in power and healed wounds and changed lives.

Word of Life is completely dependent upon your donations to spread the fire of the Holy Spirit in the Diocese of Erie.

If you wish to send a contribution, checks can be made payable to:

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

**Donations  
are greatly  
Appreciated!**

## 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)*



By: St. Teresa of Avila

St. Teresa of Avila, Doctor of the Church, described the gift of tongues in her outstanding book, Interior Castle. Saint Teresa of Avila (not to be confused with *The Little flower, St Therese of Lisieux*) was a nun in 16th century Spain, and a close friend of St. John of the Cross, another Doctor of the Church. In Interior Castle, chapter 6, sections 11 and 15, she writes:

"Amongst these favours, at once painful and pleasant, Our Lord sometimes causes in the soul a certain jubilation and a strange and mysterious kind of prayer. If He bestows this grace on you, praise Him fervently for it; I describe it so that you may know that it is something real. I believe that the faculties of the soul are closely united to God but that He leaves them at liberty to rejoice in their happiness together with the senses, although they do not know what they are enjoying nor how they do so. This may sound nonsense, but it really happens.

May His Majesty often grant us this kind of prayer which is most safe and beneficial; we cannot acquire it for ourselves as it is quite supernatural. Sometimes it lasts for a whole day and the soul is like one inebriated, although not deprived of the senses; Compare with this what has been said in the fourth chapter of

this Mansion, nor like a person afflicted with melancholia, Melancholia here as elsewhere means hysteria. in which, though the reason is not entirely lost, the imagination continually dwells on some subject which possesses it and from which it cannot be freed. These are coarse comparisons to make in connection with such a precious gift, yet nothing else occurs to my mind. In this state of prayer a person is rendered by this jubilee so forgetful of self and everything else that she can neither think nor speak of anything but praising God, to which her joy prompts her...

What can make us happier? And may all creatures unite their praises with ours for ever and ever. Amen, amen, amen!"

### Testimony

**We would love to hear from you!**

Do you have a testimony of how  
God is working in your life that  
you would like to share?

Email it to: [wolccrc@eriercd.org](mailto:wolccrc@eriercd.org)  
Attention: Jaci Phillips

### Life In The Spirit Seminar at St Patrick's Church

In April, three members of the WOL Board of Directors assisted at a Life In The Spirit Seminar at St Patrick's Church in Canonsburg, PA.

We were honored to be a part of this Seminar, which included 95 participants, half a dozen Spirit-filled priests giving talks, and about 20 team members. The people freely and enthusiastically worshiped, even though many songs were new to them. Several people making the seminar were people who had been very active in the Charismatic Renewal in the 70's and were seeking a 're-infilling' and to get re-involved.

Most impressive were the young people who were on the team and the priests who gave powerful talks on the importance of receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Their personal stories of how it brought their faith to life reflected that the Holy Spirit is drawing our priests into the full power and love of the Holy Spirit. One of our goals for traveling to assist with the Pittsburgh Diocese LIS was to start to begin to get our next door neighbor diocesan renewals more familiar with each other so that we can build each other up and grow by sharing our experiences.

All of us who went were so extremely blessed to see God moving in His people!

### WORD OF LIFE HIGHLY RECOMMENDS TAKING 10 MINUTES TO LISTEN TO FR LARRY RICHARDS' PENTECOST HOMILY. HE WAS ON FIRE!

[https://thereasonforourhope.org/homilies/  
May202018-FeastofPentecost/](https://thereasonforourhope.org/homilies/May202018-FeastofPentecost/)

### PROPHECY REPORT

"Call to Me and I will show you great and mighty things,  
which you do not know." (Jer 33:3)

*Pat Montefiori*

"Just one drop of the precious shed Blood of Jesus  
is what it takes to save your soul!"

*Fr. Larry Richards Homily  
on the Feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus.*

"God is gathering together what has been scattered.  
God is replanting withered vines."

*Jaci Phillips*

# Word Of Life

Catholic Charismatic  
Renewal Center



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# Reflections

## on 'The Greater Things'

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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.

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

### CHIEF EDITOR

Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol, PhD

### EDITORS

Elaine Sinnott; Amy Mosbacher

### FORMATTING

Loretta Swartwood

Volume XXXII

Issue No. 7

*"Come to Jesus!"*

**Adoration  
Worship  
Concert**

Sept. 7, 2018  
7-9 PM  
St. Joseph's Church  
Fr. Schmolt presiding



*But the hour is coming,  
and is now here,  
when true worshipers  
will worship the Father  
in Spirit and truth;  
and indeed the Father  
seeks such people to  
worship him."*

*John 4:23*