

# IGNITE



in us the fire of your love

Volume 17, Number 2

Spring 2002

## *The New Springtime: a Call to Holiness and Communion*

by Cardinal Ivan Dias, Archbishop of Bombay

Our Holy Father notes in the apostolic letter, *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, two important words for the new springtime. The first is that God is renewing his universal call to holiness. And the second is that what the world needs today is a spirituality of communion.

The Holy Father says: "The gift of holiness is offered to all the baptized. But the gift in turn becomes a task which must shape the whole of Christian life: 'This is the will of God, your sanctification' (1 Thess. 4:3). The time has come to re-propose wholeheartedly to everyone this high standard of ordinary Christian living: the whole life of the Christian community and of Christian families must lead in this direction" (no. 31,31).

This quest for holiness means that all the treasures which the Lord has given to his church must be beautified. They are like gems in the crown of the church. The more they are made to shine, the more the crown shines. We have so many precious treasures. I would like to mention three main ones.

The first treasure is the most blessed Eucharist - God himself present, body, blood, soul and divinity in our midst. This should be the center of our spiritual life because Christ is the source of all sanctity. In our Renewal, if we want to be really filled with the Holy Spirit, we must not only go to the word of God, but to see that the word of God and our prayer life lead us to God himself.

The second treasure is the Blessed Virgin Mary. I want to tell you three phrases which St. Louis de Montfort, a great lover of Mary, had to say. And these are coming true as a part of the New Springtime. "As Jesus came the first time through the mediation of Mary, so he will come the last time through Mary." Mary will prepare the way for Jesus' second coming. He also said, "Mary is the compass which points always to Jesus. " And the third statement is "Mary is the magnet that attracts the Holy Spirit." We pay attention to this because all of us want to be Spirit-filled and Spirit-led.

The third treasure is our Holy Father, the Pope. I thank God for having kept his magisterium, someone who speaks with authority in his name and gives his teachings. I suppose you know this story but I will repeat it.

There was a battle ship on the high seas, on a very dark night. As it was sailing on the sea, the watchman noticed a light that was coming straight toward the ship. So he raised the alarm. The captain came up immediately and saw this light coming in his direction and indicated to the officer to send a signal. "I am the captain. Alter your course ten degrees starboard." The reply came, "I'm only a second officer. Alter *your* course ten degrees starboard." So the captain was angry and told his signal officer to send another message. "I'm a battleship, so change your course ten degrees starboard immediately. promptly. I am the lighthouse." And the reply came, "I am the lighthouse."



Let us thank God that he has kept his lighthouse in our midst, the one who can tell us when we are right and when we are wrong, and what is our direction.

## Annual Tri-Diocesan Leaders' Meeting

The Pastoral Center at Douglaston, welcomed about 250 participants from the three dioceses to a Leaders' Day on March 16.

After a time of prayer and praise, Tom Scheuring of LAMP ministries broke open key thoughts from the Holy Father's letter, *Novo Millennio Ineunte*. Small groups shared about what they had heard and encouraged one another in prayer.

Fellowship continued during a delicious luncheon, followed by the afternoon session which included a second presentation by Tom, and a brief time of sharing and prayer.

The day closed with a joyful celebration of the Liturgy, with multi-lingual music and our celebrant, Msgr. Joe Malagrecia speaking as always, in English, Spanish and French (Creole).

Copies of the Holy Father's Letter were available in English and French (Spanish still being reprinted).

Contact NY CRO for English copies of the Pope's

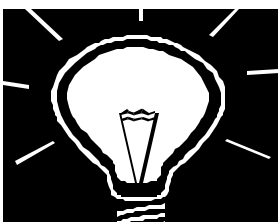
### ***In This Issue...***

- New Springtime & Tri-Di..... P. 1
- News Notes.....p.2
- Conferences.....P.3
- Calendar .....P.4
- Plus -Leaders' Insert

I always think of ourselves a light bulbs, because we are supposed to be the light of the world. But as you know, every bulb has wires inside that are inter-connected. And then they are connected to the transformer and the generator. As Catholics, we must have all these wires well placed, united with the transformer which is the church and through the transformer to the divine generator which is God himself.

Yesterday (in the aftermath of tropical storm Allison in Houston) we learned how a big city in the largest country in the world can remain powerless when the electricity goes out. But I think the Lord is telling us, precisely in view of this new springtime, "See what the world

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S p i r i t.



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"

Finally, dear brothers and sisters, the church tells us that the new millennium must be a millennium of communion. What does that mean? It is a communion where all sectors of Christian community - bishops, clergy, religious, lay faithful - become more actively involved together in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. Finally, a communion where charisms and institution blend together harmoniously for the greater glory of God.

We cannot live separately as communities of persons for ourselves. We must live for God, for the Father who is Father of all- the good and the naughty, the just and the wicked. We must enlarge our hearts to make them as large as the heart of God himself. That is a challenge for us. If we keep our hearts tightened, the new springtime will be aborted.

Today the Lord has quickened many lay pioneers, associations, communities, movements like Catholic Charismatic Renewal, and has put them by the side of the bishops, priests, deacons and the religious, to proclaim together and forcefully the good news of Jesus Christ. Let us all take stock of our responsibility and say "yes" to this call to communion.

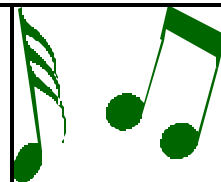
I have a dream that the church in this nation, which is so vibrant and so blessed by God in so many ways, will respond generously to God's universal call to holiness and maintain a harmonious blend between charismatic and institutional dimensions, both of which are

co-essential in the church of Jesus Christ. I pray with expectant faith and with the help of God's Holy Spirit that this dream will come true and will enter into a new Pentecost in the United States of America and will make it a light to the nations and the glory of God's holy people. God bless America!

*Adapted from a talk at the National Conference, Houston, 2001  
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## NEWS NOTES



- The 35th Anniversary Prayer Group Directory for the Archdiocese of New York is ready. Copies are \$2.00, add \$1.00 for shipping. Every group should have a copy for contacting neighboring groups when you have events, or to give information to people interested in Charismatic prayer meetings. If you know of a new group, please contact this office.
- The Council of Ecclesial Movements will sponsor a day for leaders on April 13. This committee strives to connect the various movements in the Archdiocese and offer the unique gifts of each group in service to local parishes. As part of the ongoing work of the committee, Cardinal Egan will meet with the existing committee of twelve and a small number of leaders from each of the movements sometime in the Fall. Please keep the work of this group in your prayers.

**Seminar Days at the  
House of Prayer, Scarsdale**

May 18, "Expecting New Fire"

Sr. Nancy Kellar

June 29, "Anger, Depression, Low Self-Esteem," Sr. Gloria  
DeArteaga

July 27 - Emotional Healing for Women,  
Sr. Nancy Kellar

9:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Call for reservations:

914-723-0533 2 days before event

*"Alive in the Spirit" Seminar*

*Continuing growth in  
Christian maturity*

Wednesdays - 8 P.M.

May 1-8-15

St. Mary's Church

23 South High St.

St. Vernon, NY

Call 914-961-4671

**A Workshop - "The Fire Within"**

A Time of Teaching on Intercession,  
Spiritual Warfare and Healing

**Mother Nadine Brown**

Intercessors of the Lamb Community

Friday, May 3, 2002 - 7:30 P.M.

Sat. May 4, 2002, 9:15 A.M. - 3 P.M.

**St. John Church, Saugerties**

Call Msgr. Bill Williams for information / regis-  
tration - 845-246-9581

## 2002 TRI-DIOCESAN CONFERENCE

October 26, 2002

9:00 A.M. - 6:30 P.M.

Christ the King School, Queens

Theme: "We Want to See Jesus" John 12:21

Featured Speaker:

**Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM, Cap.**

Preacher to the Papal Household

Multi-Lingual Sessions, Workshops, Liturgy

Registration forms will be mailed out this summer

Save  
the  
Date!



## *Celebrate! 35 years*

***National Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference***

September 13-15, 2002

David Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh

The 35th Anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal is upon us! The celebrations of our 25th (1992) and 30th (1997) anniversaries were anointed times of great blessing and joy! The Bishops' Committee, Association of Diocesan Liaisons, Ethnic Committees on Charismatic Renewal and others are joining with the National Service Committee to plan a momentous event in 2002 to thank the Lord for 35 years. Call or visit our website to receive your invitation for our 35th Anniversary Conference.

website: [www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org) phone: 1-866-NSC-CONF

# MINI-CALENDAR

Staten Island Conference, varied events, call 718-987-8175...

... "Alive in the Spirit Seminar", dates to be announced

... "Life in the Spirit" Seminar, May 18, more information to follow.

... Healing Mass, 3rd Tues., 8 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 40 Poplar Ave., Call Nanie, 948-2049

... Healing Mass, 2nd Tues., 8 p.m., O.L. Star of Sea, 5371 Amboy Rd., Call Rita, 984-4144

... Healing Mass, 3rd Sat., 8 p.m., O.L. of Mt. Carmel/St. Benedicta, 1235 Castleton Ave., Call Victor 494-1860

... Weekly Mass - Wednesdays - Lamb of God, Mt. Manresa, 9 P.M. (following 8 P.M. prayer meeting)

... May 31 - Annual Unity Night, Holy Child Church, Fr. Tom Devery

St. John the Baptist P.G., 210 W. 31 St., Healing Mass, third Tuesday, other events, call 212-213-9150

Manhattan... O.L. of Peace Prayer Community, 237 E. 62 St., NYC, 212-838-3189... call for current events

House of Peace, 718-547-3230... call to verify times, dates,

... First Saturday Healing Mass, 1:30 Pm, O.L. of Victory Academy Aud., 565 N. Bway, Dobbs Ferry

... Tuesdays at Noon, Healing Services at the House of Peace, 1291 Allerton Ave., Bronx

... Fr. Zlatko Sudac, Healing Mass, Fri. May 3, 7:30 PM - Immac. Conc. Church, 754 Gunhill Rd., 718-653-2200

St. Elizabeth Seton House of Prayer, Scarsdale, 914-723-0533...

... Saturday Brunch - 9 AM - 12:30 PM - Theme from JP II's Letter on the New Millennium

April 20 - Sr. Mary Benedict, "Contemplation of the Face of Jesus"

... Thursdays, 9:30-2:15 - Charismatic Prayer, Mass, Lunch, Scripture Sharing (ends June 13 until Sept.).

... Three Saturday Seminar Days - see page 3 for details

Northern Westchester/Putnam Vicariate Cluster - Mary Jane -914-737-4286 for general info

... Cluster Prayer Meeting, April 25, 7:45 PM, St. Patrick's, Yktn Hts. Janie Normile, "God's Grace is Sufficient"

... Healing Mass, April 18, 8 PM, St. John, Mahopac, call Eileen, 845-628-5393

... Healing Mass, Msgr Joe Martin, May 16, 7:30 Praise, 8 PM Mass, St. Patrick's, Yktn Hts. Call 914-248-7456

... Healing Mass, Fr. Ken Jesselli, St. John's, Mahopac, 8 PM, call Eileen, 845-628-5393

... Cluster Prayer Meeting, Thurs., July 18, 7:45 P.M. Fr. Sorgie, St. Patrick's, Yktn Hts.

Rockland Cluster meets first Monday of the month, 8:15 p.m. Call 914-623-6503 for location

Ulster Healing Masses, Music at 7 pm, Mass at 7:30 pm, Call for dates/locations 914-626-7477...

... "The Fire Within," May 3 & 4, St. John Church, Saugerties, call 845-246-9581-see p. 3

See the "Out & About" column of Catholic New York for more current information on events.

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