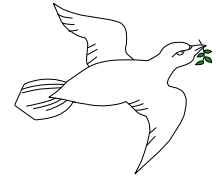


IGNITE



in us the fire of your love

Volume 19, No.3-4

Fall/Winter 2004

PEOPLE WITH A VISION by Charles Whitehead

The Scriptures tell us the Father has a plan for us - we are called to know, love and serve Him through His Son, Jesus Christ. (Eph. 1.) That relationship will be the cornerstone of our lives, but how should it affect the practical day-to-day things? As I look around I see so many good things I could be doing, but clearly I can't do them all. So which of them does the Lord want me to do? Where does he want me to commit my time and energy? The answer is what I mean when I talk about having a vision for my life. It means knowing what God wants for me - what he would like me to do with my life. It begins in a personal way and as I put it into practice it will affect every decision I make. I need a clear vision if I am to serve the Lord effectively and so does every group and organization in the Church.

Although a vision is something spiritual it will be worked out in practical ways. The Lord's plan for me will always take into account my circumstances. If I am married with a family and a job, the Lord keeps this in mind! He also knows the type of person he created, what point I have reached on my spiritual journey, where I need to be healed and to change and what gifts he's

already given me. He knows my strengths and weaknesses even better than I do myself, but he wants me to maximize my potential. So when I have His vision it will give me a sense of purpose and direction. I'll be able to assess the priorities and values in my life instead of just responding to the demands placed on me by other people. Without a vision I'll tend to follow the latest novelties, probably lose my way (Prov. 29:18), and become critical of those who don't share my ideas. But with a vision I'll know what God wants for me and be

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confident He'll. equip me for the tasks He gives me, It may require patience and perseverance, but if we're faithful in prayer and wait upon the Lord the vision will come. (Hab. 2:2-3).

The Charismatic Renewal has something very special to give to the life of the Church: the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. It's not an end in itself, but it's the beginning of a new and more effective life of service and ministry which will take many

Council of Eccl^sial Movements plans Spring 2005 event

Members of the CEM began planning for a spring event to be held at St. Helena's Church in the Bronx. The date is Saturday, May 21, 2005, and the theme is "Celebrating Diversity in Unity." We will be inviting representatives of several ethnic groups to join in the planning for this event.

Included in the celebration will be reference to the Year of the Eucharist, which begins in October 2004 and will continue until the Fall of 2005.

As part of our effort to make the various ecclesial movements better known, we recently attended 5:30 P.M. Sunday Masses at Holy Child Parish, Staten Island, and Holy Trinity, Manhattan. Following the Mass, we met with parishioners in the lobby and offered materials and information about each of the movements.

different forms. so the Renewal has produced a rich harvest of visible fruits - Prayer Groups, Covenant Communities, Evangelization 2000, and more. The list is impressive. The Lord has given the vision for these initiatives to individual men and women, but it's important to remember that we all have the same roots and are all working to extend the same kingdom.

While each of us has a clear responsibility to be faithful to our own vision, we ought not to become critical of what others are doing just because it's different. There's no place in God's plan for narrow minded people, or for personal empire builders. His vision recognizes our individuality, but requires cooperation with others.

There is nothing wrong with having goals in our lives - things we want to achieve. The problem is that God is often left out of the planning process. We make the plans and then ask Him to bless them! It's easy to understand how this happens. I say Jesus is Lord, but in fact I restrict His influence. Some areas are spiritual, but I've decided that others need a more practical approach and I look after those myself. Of course, I know it's wrong to divide my life into the spiritual and the practical, into His hands and mine. So I need to change the way I think and make Jesus Lord of every part of my life. I need His vision for everything - for myself, my family, my work and the groups to which I belong. Then the goals will be His, not just mine and I'll be better able to work out my vision alongside all the others in the Church. But if this is to happen without conflict, it will require better relationships with others and changes in some of my attitudes.

I often meet people who think that anyone who doesn't share their particular vision must be wrong. But the Lord has always given many different visions - look at the rich variety of the religious orders. The gifts and service may be different (1 Cor. 12:12-30), but we're all sharing in a common mission to live the gospel and make disciples of all the nations. We're not called to live and work in isolation. We are all part of a community of faith and my vision will fit into a much wider one. If I do my part and encourage other people to do their part, the Church will be more effective. We want to know God's overall vision for His people, so we need to know the Scriptures. Then to help us play our part in putting the vision into practice we must also understand what the Church teaches - particularly in the documents of the Second Vatican Council and the subsequent Apostolic Exhortations. They will help us see how all our smaller parts fit together into the work and vision of the whole body - the universal Church.

So let's be supportive, encouraging, and speak well of the many others groups, organizations and movements in the Church. Let's keep our relationships strong, our love flowing and commit ourselves to praying and working together. Then we'll see even more fruit and the Kingdom of God will be extended on many fronts. But for this to happen we need first to have our own identity - to know what the Lord wants for each of us. We need to do things as He does them. We all need to be people with a vision - His Vision!

Reprinted from ICCRS Newsletter

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NEWS

- The John Michael Talbot concert on September 10 at JFK H.S. was a great spiritual and musical success, largely due to the hard work of the Diocesan Service Team...but it left this office with a sizeable debt. If you had hoped to attend and were unable, please consider sending a donation to CRO to help eliminate the deficit.
- The Leaders' Insert enclosed with this issue was written by Mark Nimo. Mark will be one of our main speakers at the next Tri-Di Conference. See notice on p. 3.
- In this Year of the Eucharist, look for articles and homilies on the Eucharist.
- Check these websites for up-to-the-minute Catholic information and resources:
 - catholiccharismaticny.org
 - creighton.edu (daily Mass reflections)
 - Vatican.va
- Please remember in your prayers long-time leader of St. Barnabas Prayer Group, Bredhe Stallard, who died recently. Bredhe was an enthusiastic supporter of the work of the Holy Spirit and a regular donor to this office. Many will miss her.

**P.G.
Q/A
Column**

Our group is weak in the opening praise time of our prayer meeting. How can we foster more vigorous praise?

Perhaps the group needs some good teaching on the gift of praise, especially praise in tongues.

If the members all praise and worship in tongues, then the music leader needs to begin the prayer meeting with a series of energetic praise songs, leading

from one to another, usually in the same key, to foster continuity. At the end of that series of songs, a strong voice - either praise leader or music ministry leader - must continue to lead the group in praise, moving from praise in English, to using the gift of tongues in song, allowing the Spirit to move everyone in praise. It helps if the music ministry plays softly (in the key of the last song) to support the praise, and senses the natural ending of the praise time. Music leaders may resume with another song, perhaps more worshipful than

exuberant so that the group moves into a worship mode. In all of this, participants need to pray in strong, audible voices, blending together, no one voice dominating. As the meeting progresses, there should be other times of song, strong praise, use of tongues, and times of silence from which the prophetic word will often come forth.

Send your questions to the CRO - answers will be given as space allows.

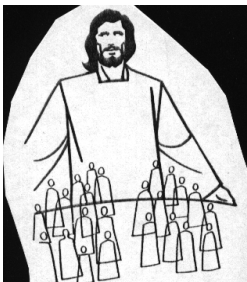
Albany Diocese presents
Two events with Fr. Richard McAlear

- Friday, Oct. 22, 7 P.M.
A Charismatic Liturgy
- Saturday Oct. 23, 9 AM - 3:30 PM
A Teaching Day & Healing Service
Both at St. Edward the Confessor
Clifton Park, NY
Call 518-371-7911 or 518-371-6843
E-Mail: DcnJMGRIGAITIS@aol.com

IN MANHATTAN!!
An evening of music, worship and adoration
with

Jim Cowan in Concert
with Mary and Michele Cowan
October 30, 2004
7 P.M.

Blessed Sacrament Church
152 West 71 St.
Call 212-877-3111



SAVE THIS DATE!!

**NOTE CHANGE
OF DATE & LOCATION**

Tri-Diocesan General Conference
Saturday, April 16, 2005 9AM - 6 PM
at Bishop Ford H.S. Brooklyn, New York

Theme: "I am the Vine, You are the Branches" (*John 15:5*)

- ✦ **Featured Speaker: Mark Nimo from Ghana, W. Africa**
Former member of the ICCRS Council & Youth Minister
- ✦ **Healing Service - Linda Schubert, author; also has**
National and International Ministry of Healing
- ✦ **Music and Workshops in English, Spanish and French (+Youth Workshop)**
- ✦ **Tri-Lingual Closing Mass - Msgr. Joseph Malagrecia**

Pre-Registration: \$15; at-the-door: \$20 — Lunch: \$5 (Pre-Reg. Only)

MINI-CALENDAR

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

...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)

Events for 2004 will appear in the next issue of Ignite.

S.I. website: <http://siconf.tripod.com>

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

Bronx...Day of Teaching, Sat., Oct. 16, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM, Fr. Mark Ikeke, Immac. Conc. Church, 754 Gun Hill Rd.,

Hope Healing Ministry, 12:30 P.M., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, St. Mary Church, Mt. Vernon, 914-664-5855

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

...Thursdays of Prayer, 9:00 AM Mass until -2:00 PM

...Nov. 13, Sat. Brunch, 9:00 AM Mass until 12:30 PM, "Healing the Whole Person"

...Nov. 20, Sat. Brunch, 9:00 AM Mass until 12:30 PM, "Life in the Spirit for Youth"

...Dec. 11, Sat. Brunch, 9:00 AM Mass until 12:30 PM, "Renewing Faith in the Eucharist"

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

...Oct. 28, St. Patrick's Parish Center, Yorktown Hts., Fr. Larry Paolicelli

...Nov. 6, Life in the Spirit Seminar, Sat., 8:30 AM to 5 PM, Mass, St. Patrick's Church, Yorktown Hts.,

...Nov. 8, Healing Mass, 8 PM, Holy Rosary, Hawthorne, call Anne, 914-769-4067

...Nov. 11, Healing Mass, 8 PM, St. James the Apostle, Carmel, Fr. Michael Greco, call Laura 845-225-2531

...Nov. 18, Healing Mass, 8 PM, St. Patrick's, Yorktown Hts., Fr. Pio Mandato, call Mary Jane, 914-737-4286

...Dec. 9, Healing Mass, 8 PM, St. John the Evangelist, Mahopac, Fr. Tom Byrne, call Eileen, 845-628-5393

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

...Healing Mass, Wed., October 13, 8 PM, Fr. Michael Palazzo

Ulster Healing Masses, Music at 7 pm, Mass at 7:30 pm, Call 914-626-7477

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

or log onto the new NY Charismatic Renewal website: catholiccharismaticny.org

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