

NOVEMBER 2021

"I must
proclaim the
good news
of the
kingdom
of God"

Catholic Charismatic Renewal
serving the Church

Good News



The newsletter of the
Catholic Charismatic Renewal.
Melbourne, Australia.
www.ccr.org.au

CHARIS Australia Retreat 'Renewing the Vision'



Dear Friends in Christ,

As we look towards the journey of Advent and the time of preparation leading us to Christmas so to do we in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal begin to prepare ourselves for new possibilities to proclaim Jesus Christ and anticipate a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. On Thursday 25 and Friday 26 November, from 7.30pm to 9pm (AEST), CHARIS Australia will host our first online retreat "*Renewing the Vision*".

Many people have had a sense in prayer that this is a season of new beginnings. Please join us as we enter into a time of preparation and renewal. All are welcome.

Visit the CHARIS Australia website www.charisaustralia.org.au for further information.

Registration is essential.

Yours in Christ,
Shayne Bennett,
CHARIS Australian
Co-ordinator



For enquiries about Catholic Charismatic Renewal, its events or prayer groups visit the:

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Good News

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The deadline for the next issue of *Good News* is
Thursday 20 January 2022.



***Give me revelation about the meaning of your ways so
I can enjoy the reward of following them fully. (Ps. 119:33)***

How many of us have resisted turning to *Psalms* 119 because it is so long? Even though I love the *Psalms* and they are my 'go to' scriptures, I have been guilty of avoiding this lengthy song of praise. Over these months of lockdown, I have chosen to greet the day by sitting with one stanza each week and allowing the beautiful images to penetrate my heart, and as the verse above says - *give me revelation*. I have come to love this Psalm and have learned that it excels and outshines all of them. It has taught me that the doing that matters is born out of being. The past few months have been filled with anguish as I have watched my young nephew struggle with the extreme pain of Peritoneal cancer. Through sitting reflectively with this Psalm God has enlarged my heart as I have surrendered him to "thy will be done".

With 176 verses, this is the longest psalm as well as the longest chapter in the Bible with the theme being the prayer of one who delights in and lives by the Torah, the sacred law. Ancient readers, however, would have found this psalm utterly compelling because it makes bold claims about how to live a happy life and have a healthy heart.

Why would a poet write in this way? Even the early Hebrews had to learn their alphabet. *Psalms* 119 was a creative way for them to learn because the structure comprises of 22 stanzas, each starting with a different letter in the Hebrew alphabet. Each stanza has 8 verses with two lines each. There is a tradition in the Eastern Orthodox Church that King David used this psalm to teach his son Solomon both the Hebrew alphabet and the "alphabet of the spiritual life."

Charles Spurgeon liked this Psalm so much, he said, "we might do well to commit it to memory." That's a tall order for a Psalm that has 176 verses!

He also had this to say about it from his *Psalms* 119 commentary: "As those who drink the Nile water like it better every time they take a draught, so does this Psalm become more full and fascinating the oftener you turn to it."

David Powlison, (Christian author) observes, "Psalm 119 is actually not about the topic of getting Scripture into your life. Instead, it is the honest words that erupt when what God says gets into you. It's not an exhortation to Bible study; it's an outcry of faith... ***Psalm 119 is the thoughtful outcry that rises when real life meets real God.***" (*Speaking the Truth in Love*, page 14). In this context I have come to appreciate verse 33 - *Lord don't allow me to make a mess of my life!* (*Passion trans*).

The song "Thy Word" by Amy Grant is based on one of the most memorable verses from this beloved Psalm, verse 105 which says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (*KJV*).

This long poem begins with a double blessing,: "Happy are those who" (*verses 1-2*), sometimes translated "blessed is the one who" (*NIV, KJV*). This same blessing appears a number of times throughout the Psalter and Proverbs. It also forms the basis for the beatitudes in *Matthew 5*. The psalmist exhorts readers to walk in the law, for this way of life is the key to happiness and blessedness.

Be blessed as you reflect on Psalm 119 and allow it to change your life.

WE DEFEAT EVIL BY PRAISING AND THANKING WITH JESUS



By FR PAT COLLINS CM

When we seem to face implacable silence and darkness, we need to thank and praise God, knowing that He will vindicate us as He vindicated Jesus, says Fr. Pat Collins.

For me, one of the most significant effects of Baptism in the Spirit was a sense that Christ had walked through the skin of my body to live within me.

That sense of the divine indwelling has profound implications. As paragraph 521 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: "Christ enables us to live in him all that he himself lived, and he lives it in us."

That means that Jesus continues his prayer to the Father, in and through us, the members of his mystical body on earth.

In this reflection, I want to say that when we thank and praise God, we are united by the power of the Spirit with the thanksgiving and praise of Jesus.

Praying Against The Power Of Evil

Recently, I have been praying fervently against the power of evil, which is attacking someone I know.

In spite of my best advice, and many, many prayers, absolutely nothing has moved. It has been very discouraging. It is as if the devil is mocking me and the person I am praying for and saying: *Your trust in God is misplaced, you are useless and worthless; I am in control-why don't you admit it?*

When Jesus was facing the powers of evil, and asked for help in the Garden of Gethsemane, he didn't seem to receive any. God was silent. Nevertheless, we are told that, at the last supper, *"He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me' (Lk. 22:19). Mt.26:27 adds: 'Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you.'"*

With good reason Joachim Jeremias said in his *New Testament Theology*, "We may suppose that thanksgiving dominated the life and prayer of Jesus." As Jesus headed towards his definitive confrontation with the powers of evil, he thanked God, in anticipation of vindication and blessing.

Praying With Jesus On The Cross

When he was hanging on the cross in exterior darkness, and a spiritual cloud of darkness enveloped his own soul, Jesus spontaneously recalled the words of *Psalms 22:1: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"*

Although he had been able to drive out evil spirits in the past, it seemed as if the powers of evil were finally in the ascendancy and irresistible.

I sometimes imagine that the evil one was saying in mocking tones to Jesus as he died in ignominy. *"He calls blest the destiny of the righteous and boasts that God is his Father. Let us see whether his words be true; let us*

find out what will happen to him in the end" (*Wisdom 2:16-17*).

Some people believe that, when Jesus quoted the words of *Ps 22:1* they were an expression of despair. This is not true.


"Express Our Unconditional Trust In Prayers Of Thanks And Praise"

As Albert Gelin has stated in *The Psalms Are Our Prayers*, it is quite likely that Jesus continued to pray the rest of the psalm quietly in his heart. If so, he went on to say: *"In the congregation I will praise you. You who fear the Lord praise him!... Revere him, all you descendants of Israel! For he has not despised or distained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help... those who seek the Lord will praise him"* (*Ps 22:22-26*).

When we seem to face implacable silence and darkness, we need to thank and praise God in the belief that, just as God the Father vindicated Jesus who trusted in him, so, sooner or later, he will vindicate our cause as we express our unconditional trust in prayers of thanks and praise.

Just as the matador steps aside from the charge of a raging bull and stabs him with his sword, so we will avoid the attack of the evil one by utilising the red cape of thanks and praise and wounding him with the sword of the prophetic word, which we receive from God and wield on Christ's behalf.

Used with permission CCR UK. Picture by Andy Drozdziak.



**Eternal Rest Grant
Unto Them O, Lord...**


In these last months the Lord has taken home some of our group family. Please pray for them as I am sure they will continue to intercede for CCR.

Anne Commadeur
St Monica's Prayer Group, Moonee Ponds

Sr Eileen Jones PVM
Sacre Coeur Prayer Group, Murrumbena

Bryant Di Niese
Body of Christ Prayer Group,
(was Vermont) now Ringwood North

Cathy Staynes
wife of Damien Staynes,
Cor et Lumen Community,
England



Advent Reflections

We reflect on our lives and realise our inadequacies. But we do not remain focused on ourselves, for Advent calls us to look joyfully to God, who is coming to complete His salvation. So, we turn again to God's grace, for we can never ourselves be ready. May our holy mother Mary help us to ponder the wonders of God as she did. Use these reflections and prayer to help you draw closer to God and his love for you. (Editor).



Advent is an *attitude of anticipation*. The entire season prepares us to allow Christ into our hearts, sometimes in ways far different from other times when we celebrate the “excitement of December.” Many people want everything about this season to stay the same year after year: the same carols, the same schedule for giving gifts, even food prepared in the same way. Fine. Consistency does give consolation to the heart. But another truth tells us that each year *ought to be different*. We are not the same. We are faced with different responsibilities, moved by different insights, changed (or charged) by circumstances we didn’t have before, challenged by fresh opportunities and different memories, equipped with increasing or diminishing capacities for coping with all these variations. So we never “Advent” in exactly the same way.

Christ is preparing to come to us this Christmas in a way that suits who we are—and how we are—*this* year. On the Sundays in Advent (from the gospels in this year’s readings), our Lord speaks to us with words meant to sustain us for the coming week. I suggest using these prayers as your grace before supper, at least on Sunday night. The eight days before Christmas celebrate the people close to that first Christmas. By reflecting on how Christ’s love came to them, we can embody their graciousness and ask their help as we live our Advent. It is important, of course, to be gracious as we welcome Jesus who never changes. For twenty centuries, as God-infant and Godman, he has never varied in the genuineness and hopefulness of his offer of love. The message of his Christmas story is constant and always with us. Of this much, we are sure.

But it is also important that Jesus learn to be sure of us. We must let him recognise us when he comes this year. We must let him know who we really are and what our inmost hopes are. We need to learn again the humility of the Child of Bethlehem. And we need his Mother to teach us how to love ...and how to be able to be loved back.

By PASSIONISTS OF THE HOLY CROSS PROVINCE, PARK RIDGE IL. © ISAIAS POWERS.

A Prayer for Advent

Precious Lord, as I embrace this Advent Season, please open my eyes to see the great value and blessing of Your Incarnation. Help me to discover Your hidden presence in this world and within my own soul. I desire to see, understand, and experience the profound effects that Your Incarnation has on my life, and I desire to receive those effects more fully this Advent. May I become a sanctuary in which You dwell so that I, like Your dear Mother, may bring Your presence into the world. Come, Lord Jesus.

Beginning Advent

What are the key first steps to enter into Advent?

We can all slow down. We can all breathe more deeply. We can all begin to trust that this will be a blessed time. Then, when we let ourselves be who we are, and hear the Scriptures, we can begin to quietly pray, "Come, Lord, Jesus." We might expand that prayer, in quiet moments of our days ahead, "Come into my life. I trust you don't mind if it is still messy. I believe you love me because I need your love. I don't fear you can't find the way to my heart. Come and fill me with peace and the love only you can give." Some of us will want to open our hands on our laps or hold up our arms in the privacy of our rooms and say out loud, "Come, Lord, Jesus, come into this house, into my family, into our struggles. Come and heal us and give us join again. Come and unite us and let us experience, each in our own way, a bit of the joy you are offering me now." And, before a single decoration goes up, we have prepared for Christmas' message with the foundation of faith, with the mystery of Advent's gift. God wants to be with us. Advent is letting God's will be done in our hearts and in our everyday lives.

Getting in Touch with Myself

One of the best ways to prepare for the very special season of Advent is to "get in touch with ourselves." It may sound odd, but one symptom of our contemporary lives is that we can often be quite "out of touch" with what is going on in our very own hearts. We are about to begin our Advent, right at the time our Western culture begins Christmas preparations. It is a busy time, and our heads are filled with details to remember. It is a time of emotional complexity that is part of this holiday season - with all of the expectations and challenges of family and relationships: who we want to be with and who we struggle to be with. So, our hearts are a bit tender, if not completely defended from experiencing anything deeply. We are about to hear some very powerful and stirring readings from Isaiah, the Prophet. We will re-enter the ancient tradition of a people longing for the coming of a Saviour. We may remember the days of our childhood when we longed for Christmas to come, because it was a magical time of receiving gifts. As adults, we have to ask ourselves: "What is it I long for now?". The answer won't come easily. The more we walk around with that question, and let it penetrate through the layers of distraction and self-protection, the more powerfully we will experience Advent.

The Two Parts of Advent

Part 1: up until 16 December

While most liturgical seasons have the gospel as their main focus, during the first weeks of Advent, the Church gives us daily readings from the prophet Isaiah. With the eyes of faith, these foretell the coming of the Messiah. Rather than a continuous gospel narrative familiar to us for most of the year, this part of Advent offers a wide variety of gospel readings that support the first reading of the day.

After almost two weeks of Isaiah readings, we hear the foretelling of a Messiah from other prophets from the Hebrew scriptures - in Sirach, Numbers, Zephaniah and returning to Isaiah. With each passing week, the prophets speak more clearly of the coming of a Saviour. In reading the first reading, for the first part of Advent, we listen to the anticipation, expectation, hope and promise.

In listening to the second reading, we listen for the fulfillment or connection with the gospel.

Part 2: 17-24 December

In these last eight days before Christmas, the relationship between the reading's changes. Now the gospel brings us to our celebration of Christmas. The gospels are taken from the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. Each of these days, the first reading is taken from the Hebrew scriptures, and chosen to match the gospel. In many cases we can imagine Matthew or Luke having the first reading open on their desks while they wrote the gospel. So, we can read the gospel first and then read the first reading. The sense of anticipation and fulfillment builds as we read the story of the preparation for Jesus' first coming into this world for us.

Am I Too Defended for Advent?

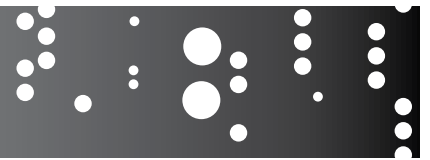
All of these traumas and states of inner disturbances and defences can make entering into Advent very, very difficult. So, what do we do if we find ourselves identifying with this defensiveness in any way? Is there hope? There is always hope! This is a season designed by our God to offer hope. Images from Isaiah, the prophet, offer hope to a people in the darkness and gloom of political captivity in Babylon. It is all language that offers us hope to believe that the coming of Jesus into our world is all about our personal liberation from whatever captivity we are in, whatever darkness or discouragement envelops us. If we can read this prophetic announcement with an open enough heart to hear it as addressed to our personal situation, then Advent has begun in us. It is simple. It involves imagining that God can do this. We don't need to know how, to rationally figure it out, to begin to have evidence, or figure out how those who hurt us will pay for what they did. All we have to do is listen to how "good news" sounds in our ears. If a tiny bit of our hearts longs for this to be true, if even one image here or one phrase stirs something in us, then we are letting our defences down enough to let the Holy Spirit in. And God's Spirit can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. If we can put down our guard enough to imagine that this season - these four weeks - could help us know God's love for us more deeply, could help us hear about the first coming of our Lord into this world, so that we can be opened to accept his coming into our hearts these days, then grace has entered in beyond the defences and Advent has begun in us. Read these words slowly. If possible, begin by praying a simple prayer: "Come, Lord Jesus, Come and touch my heart. Come and be with me during Advent. Let your Word make me defence-less before your love."

Advent as I Consider the World Situation

God of comfort, these times seem so uncertain, so scary. The world seems darker than it has in the past and I am less sure of myself. Maybe that's a good thing; maybe now I am turning to you with a realisation that I need you so much more and that my life is not in my own control. Let me not forget all of those around the world who are frightened at this moment. Help those who are victims of terrorism and war. Be with those who have lost so much in the past year. Hold us all in your loving arms and let us be comforted by the strength and peace you want so much to offer us through the birth of your son, Jesus. Thank you for the many gifts you offer us.

By CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY'S ONLINE MINISTRIES

ARE YOU ANNOYED BY DISRUPTIONS?



Once a man went to see a friend of his who was a professor at a great university. However, as they sat chatting in the professor's office, they were continually interrupted by students who came knocking at the door, seeking the professor's advice about something or other. Each time the professor rose from his chair, went to the door, and dealt with the student's request. Eventually the visitor asked the professor, 'How do you manage to get any work done with so many interruptions?'

'At first I used to resent the interruptions to my work. But one day it suddenly dawned on me that the interruptions were my work,' the professor replied.

That professor could have locked himself away and devoted his time to his own private work. In that way he would no doubt have had a quieter life. But being the generous and unselfish person that he was, he couldn't do that. Instead, he made his work consist in being available to his students. It was no surprise that he was greatly loved by the students. And it was no coincidence that he was one of the happiest and most fulfilled professors on the campus.

Unselfishness is never easy. Yet at certain times it's easier than at others. It's easier when we are able to plan our good deeds— when the deed is of our own choosing, and we happen to be in the mood, and it causes us the minimum inconvenience and disruption. At other times unselfishness is particularly difficult: when the deed is not of our own choosing, when we don't feel in the mood, and when it is sprung on us at an awkward moment. In such cases we have to forget ourselves and set aside our feelings and our plans. A real sacrifice is involved.

An act of kindness is judged, not so much by its importance, but by the disruption it causes in the life of the one who does it. It's a great test of people when, at the drop of a

hat, they put aside their own plans to help another person.

It's a consolation for us to know that Jesus too had to cope with interruptions. He too had his plans upset. Matthew's Gospel (9: 18-26) tells us that he was in such demand that he and his apostles scarcely had time to eat. However, at some point he decided that enough was enough, and took the apostles off to a quiet place for a break.

This time he wasn't thinking of himself but of his apostles. They had just come back from the mission on which he had sent them. He saw that they needed a rest. So he decided to take them off to a quiet place.

The carers too need to be cared for.

However, things did not work out as planned. The people followed them. How did Jesus react? Far from getting annoyed, he received the people. This tells us a lot about the kind of person he was. He was moved with pity for them. He saw that they were leaderless. The official teachers had no time for the ordinary people. But Jesus had time for them. This is why they flocked to him.

Caring is never easy. Some people are willing to care a little, provided they are in the mood and it's not too inconvenient and doesn't upset their own plans. But to care as Jesus did, when it does upset one's plan's - that's the real test. Parents do it all the time. How many times they have to get out of bed at night to see to a child?

All of us are capable of caring. The need for caring people is great. Neglect is widespread in our society. There are many people in our world who are like sheep without a shepherd. Examples like victims of war, bullying, violence, injustices. Then there are those who are marginalised, refugees, people addicted to gambling, pornography, drugs, alcohol – people we tend to judge instead of helping. When we care we are living the Gospel.

Good can come out of interruptions. They prevent us from becoming totally preoccupied with ourselves. Selfishness is a kind of prison. Love, on the other hand, sets us free. Dom Helder Camara puts it like this:

Accept surprises that upset your plans, shatter your dreams, give a completely different turn to your day and – who knows? – to your life. It's not chance. Leave God free to weave the pattern of your days.

These thoughts and comments were contributed by one of our priests who wishes to remain anonymous.

Why include Catholic Charismatic Renewal in your Will?

As you know CCR relies entirely on gifts from individuals to continue its mission.

We ask you to please consider a gift to CCR when you make your will or update it. Making a gift to CCR can be as simple as adding a codicil to your existing will. You may use this or a similar statement:

*"I/we bequeath ...% of my/our estate to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Committee,
101 Holden Street, North Fitzroy, Melbourne, Victoria, 3068."*

Please let us know if you have included us in your will so that we can properly thank you.



Healings and miracles accompanied the ministry of Jesus and the apostles. Many of our saints also performed miraculous deeds – some of them numbering more than what Jesus himself did. What does this mean for our ministries today?

The Church today should still minister with signs and wonders even to a greater degree than what we presently experience. But why do we not see the miracles that Jesus and the saints after him performed? Perhaps it's because we do not ask for them enough. Jesus made it clear that we have to persevere in prayer if we expect to get answers.

We also have to have expectant faith. This is very different from presumption. Expectant faith is rooted in the promises that God has made to us – promises of the Holy spirit; promises that we will do things greater than what he has done; promises that he will accompany us until the end of time.

In our sophisticated world governed by money, science, and all sorts of ever-changing technology we have developed an almost pathological dislike for admitting that we are not in control – and this is precisely what miracles shout out from the roof tops. Many people don't want God intervening in our world because it means they have lost control over events in their own lives. This challenges our sense of self-sufficiency and ultimately, the aspiration that we want to be God ourselves.

We should live our lives relying fully on God, for he is our Creator and our Redeemer and deserves our obedience and love.

These thoughts and comments were contributed by one of our priests who wishes to remain anonymous.

Re-Generation - Unmasked Freedom

By GUDRUN PHILIPS



Deeply embedded in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal mission is the understanding that our youth are the future of the Church. The flame of the Holy Spirit, so eager to burn in the hearts of the young, seeks labourers to kindle His truth afresh in each generation.

The Lord summoned His workers, and the call was obeyed. A small group of young adults joined with established CCR leaders to form a youth-based movement called *Re-Generation*. The objective was not to replace existing Parish youth groups but rather to serve as a broader umbrella ministry, connecting young adults across the state, through discipleship and faith-enriching events and programs.

The name *Re-Generation* was prayerfully selected to inspire great renewal amongst young adults in modern times. In a culture desperate to eradicate the name of God, so entrenched in fear, confusion and disorder, the Lord made it known that He wants to prepare young hearts for

a powerful spiritual rebirth; to make rich and fertile the soil of this generation.

For the first event, the Holy Spirit decided on the theme of pornography. A prevalent issue amongst the young; this was an area in which the Lord wanted to pour His light. Unmasked Freedom was the name He chose; an invitation to the spiritually isolated to emerge from hiding, be washed clean from shame and walk in the freedom of a Christ-focused life. The event deliberately coincided with the weekend of Halloween to make known that His grace is the antithesis of darkness.

The Lord mercifully brought forth speakers and artists to reveal different aspects of His heart. Counsellor John Parmentier spoke with great depth and insight on the physiological, mental, spiritual and social effects of pornography. The live Q & A session via Zoom Webinar chat gave listeners a wonderful opportunity to further unpack John's expertise. Brother James Yu shared a personal testimony about overcoming pornography addiction, which touched many with its honest simplicity. Young musicians Kyle and Kyra Correja lifted spirits with praise and worship, using their gifts to sing for the Lord and lead all in adoring our King. The stirring poem delivered by writer Elizabeth Etta pierced the airwaves, powerfully speaking to the collective human condition of sin and the liberation that comes only from Christ.

We offer thanks to our Almighty Father for blessing this event; His generous hand always extravagant in provision. We give Him glory and trust that this ministry will bear fruit according to His divine will. After a successful first session, we hope that this is one of many to come. *Re-Generation* is still in its exploration phase and prayerfully navigating its next mission. The possibilities are as limitless as God's love; and we wait in bold expectation for Him to demonstrate His wonders. We ask you to join us in prayer so our Lord might send more young leaders to contribute their time and talents to develop and expand this exciting new ministry.

Come, Holy Spirit, ignite us. Amen.





Praise God for Prayer Groups

I have been attending the Catholic Charismatic Renewal prayer group in Keilor Downs on Wednesday evenings for some 7 months. These prayer meetings are regularly held on a weekly basis at St Mary MacKillop Catholic Church in Keilor Downs. The prayer group leadership has organised many wonderful speakers that has resulted in substantial growth in our understanding of scripture and in particular the Holy Spirit.

During a recent lockdown in Victoria, our prayer meeting was held on Zoom. During this prayer session there was a presentation on some of the steps to improve our Christian lives. After concluding the steps, the presenter decided to pray for the group in attendance.

One of the Words of knowledge was for an individual who had a sports knee injury. I immediately thought that this could be referring to me as I have had an issue with my left knee for some time. I had a badly torn medial meniscus from constantly playing tennis. I had an operation nearly two years ago, but it has never quite healed. When going for walks, this part of my knee would gradually become painful and would remain so until I was able to rest.

Following the healing prayer, I went for two long walks over the coming days with no pain. I also played tennis for approximately 1.5 hours, again with no pain. This has remained pain free until recently when I had another minor injury with the same knee. However, this subsequently subsided with a little rest.

I am thankful to the Lord Jesus and his healing power and for the prayer group. No one had any idea of my situation and I do believe it was the intervention of the Holy Spirit that took away the pain from my left knee.

Regards and God bless,
Joseph Camenzuli



Testimony from Pentecost Sunday Mass CCR

As all those who attended our CCR Pentecost Mass this year would affirm, the Lord Jesus Christ's presence and power was certainly felt by all. It was a powerhouse of prayer and the Spirit most certainly was moving amongst us. I thank

God for gracing the prayers with the charisms.

At one stage during the healing prayer time, Fr. Wahid Riad had a Word of Knowledge about someone being healed of the tongue. It's not a part of the body one usually hears being healed, I sort of thought, hmm, never realising that this healing was for my sister Louiza. She has for a long time had an ache on the side of her tongue in the mornings and evenings. Most unusual. From the moment the Word was given, my

sister has not experienced any more pain or ache on her tongue. PRAISE GOD for His mercy. It doesn't end there though. When she went to the prayer team to be prayed for, barely had they begun to pray when another word was spoken. Three things were mentioned, all of which was exactly what my sister was concerned about, due to certain symptoms she is experiencing. Then the other person had a separate word which was linked to the condition which my sister was anxious about. From that moment, the anxiety left her, and since then she has had confirmation by a doctor, that the condition she feared is not present in her body.

As my sister rested in the Spirit for some time, I believe more than what we know has been healed. God was at work, is at work, and will be at work, and our job is to believe and receive. Blessed be the name of the Lord Jesus.

Christina Santalucia

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever

My son loves sport. From a very young age he had a football in his hands and loved running around the yard kicking goals. It was no surprise that he wanted to join the local community football club. For the last 14 years his father and I have had the joy of watching Daniel, now 22, play the game he loves - Australian Rules Football.

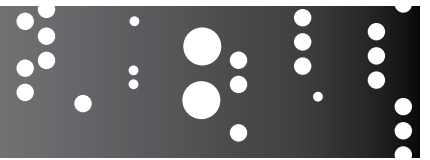
On the 1 May, Daniel was having the game of his life! Leigh and I were cheering him on along with a crowd of supporters that had gathered to watch the Saturday afternoon game. The smile on his face said it all... summer training had paid off!

In the last quarter of the game, minutes before the final siren, the sound of cheering for the Centurion Reserves who were in the lead by 14 goals suddenly stopped. Whilst on ball Daniel was involved in a passage of play that no parent ever wants to witness. Shouts of joy were replaced by agonising screams of pain. An opposition player went to kick the ball with full force and collected Daniel's leg instead. His left leg went from under him. Daniel had broken both the tibia and fibula.

Instinct told me to run to him and help. Every scream was a blow to my heart. I can't imagine the pain Mother Mary must have felt when she stood beneath the cross watching her son suffer, helpless to do anything about it.

No-one was allowed on the ground until the umpires had cleared the area. I was at the fence unable to breathe. I remember kneeling on the ground and asking God to help. Daniel's screams grew louder. Leigh tried to comfort me.

Trainers were quickly on the scene, but they had nothing to give Daniel for the pain. They did the best they could to make him comfortable and an ambulance was called. The players were in shock. The game was



abandoned. I saw a man run across the field and kneel close to Daniel's ear who then started speaking to him.

Later I found out that he was the president from the opposition team. Slowly, but surely the screams stopped. God had provided someone to help Daniel breathe and calm down. The man didn't leave his side the whole time. The first blessing.

Leigh and I were finally allowed onto the ground. We ran as fast as we could and knelt beside our distressed son. I continued to pray and reassure Daniel as best I could, fighting back tears. Unfortunately, the ambulance took one hour to arrive. It was the longest hour of our lives. Once the paramedics arrived they were amazing. They got to work to help stabilize Daniel and manage his pain before they moved him. Again, angels sent from God. They were so kind and calm. They even made Daniel laugh. Once Daniel was safely placed into the ambulance and on his way to the hospital we were able to breathe a little. We followed soon after in the car.

I made some phone calls informing family of what had happened. One call I made was to Dominic. I asked him and Anthea and the CCR Community at St Peter the Apostle for prayers for our son. The next morning Daniel had surgery. A titanium rod and three screws were put in place to fix his broken leg. The diagnosis, 6 to 8 months' recovery. So began what we thought was going to be a very long road to recovery. But nothing is impossible for our awesome God.

Two weeks after the accident Daniel wanted us to return the wheelchair. He wanted to use crutches. One month after the accident, Daniel had to go back to the hospital for a follow up x-ray and consultation. A week before the appointment Daniel decided that he was not going to use crutches anymore. Dominic told me after praise and worship that weekend that Daniel's bones would fuse perfectly straight and that he would make a full recovery. Praise God!

On the day of his appointment at the hospital, Daniel limped into the surgeon's office unaided. Questions were asked about the whereabouts of the wheelchair and the crutches. Daniel smiled and said, "I don't need them. We returned them." Speechless the surgeon sent Daniel to have an x-ray. "That's amazing", exclaimed the surgeon. "The bones have already started to fuse with the rod. Not only that, but the bones are also straight!" Praise God! Daniel started intense hydrotherapy and weekly visits to the physio.

A couple of days short of the 3 month mark, I was at work when my phone buzzed. It was a message from Daniel, 'Look what I did today!' A video followed. I tentatively pressed play. I couldn't believe what I was seeing! Daniel jogging around the oval! Praise God! Another great blessing.

Daniel had an appointment back at the hospital for his 4 month x-ray on the 14 September. The surgeon was

once again left speechless. He compared the x-ray taken in June with the x-ray taken the day before the appointment. The difference was remarkable. Both the tibia and the fibula have all but fused completely! The surgeon said that Daniel was at least 2 months ahead with his healing and predicted recovery. He was so impressed by Daniel's progress that he told him that there was no need for him to return for further x-rays and appointments. I don't know who had the bigger smile, Daniel or the surgeon!

That evening we gave thanks to our Awesome God and rejoiced with our son. I contacted Dominic and gave him the wonderful news. I thanked him for the spiritual support and prayers. That Saturday I gave a testimony during our Praise and Worship service. Our God is awesome!

Dear Lord, thank you for watching over Daniel and journeying with him over the last 4 months. You are so good. You are the divine healer. We praise and thank you for restoring our son's body, mind and spirit. All glory and honour be yours now and forever. Amen.

With all my love, Connie.

I, Brenda Vieyra currently visiting Australia, want to provide this testament to God's Love and Mercy.

A year ago, I was admitted to Epworth Hospital, Richmond. My haemoglobin was very low and my organs shutting down. Doctors told my daughter that the chances of survival were negligible. However, before going to hospital I made my confession, received Holy Communion, in addition, I was being raised up in prayer around the globe including our KNK - Hoppers Crossing prayer family.

On receiving the sacraments, I was taken to the doctor who rushed me to the hospital. On arrival at the emergency department, I was incoherent and to survive I required dialysis. In my weakened condition, any treatment was impossible. I also had an infection between my toes which the doctors said they needed to amputate.

My children felt helpless, they surrendered me to our Lord. With blood transfusions, miraculously all organs started recovering. Two days later during the KNK Saturday prayer meeting in November 2020, there was a healing that Jesus' blood was flowing through the veins of a person who had a blood transfusion, my children claimed it for me. I was released from hospital ten days later.

A year later my health has recovered, my haemoglobin is better than ever, and my toes are healed.

All praise and thanks to our almighty and ever loving God. Everything is possible if we trust in Him.

JESUS IS ALIVE
HEALING MASS



CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MELBOURNE

Come and celebrate

JESUS IS ALIVE

HEALING MASS
SUNDAY 5 DECEMBER



Celebrated by **FR. WAHID**

3PM PRAISE & WORSHIP | **4PM** MASS
PRAYERS FOR HEALING AFTER MASS

**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH,
49 NICHOLSON ST, EAST BRUNSWICK**

ENQUIRIES 94866544

A WORD... FROM MIRIAM

By MIRIAM MARKIS



I don't know about you but I don't easily engage with strangers, especially when it's about evangelization. Although I'm much better than I used to be. Yet it's so vital that we all do evangelize and bring the Word of God and the hope that lies in Him alone to a suffering and mixed up world that we live in. Who knows what opportunities the Lord will place in front of us today!

Often the presumption is that we've all got to be a version of Billy Graham or some such person that we might admire. I know a couple of people in my own prayer group who are just such wonderful evangelizers. I do admire them. They do it so naturally. Not with force but with a wonderful faith filled belief in the God who has transformed their lives and can ultimately transform others' lives too. One person is exuberant. The other gentle. The other is persuasive. All three with different personalities and styles. Yet all can engage so naturally with a person the Lord might put in front of them on any given day. Our personalities play such a great part in how we can evangelize. Yet no style is better but simply different. We are only called to be faithful to God's promptings and not be concerned about the fruits. It is God who makes things happen and grow.

As scripture says in *Romans 10:14-17 (NRSV)*: "**14** But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?

And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? **15** And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" **16** But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" **17** So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ."

As we come out into new found freedoms let us not forget that there are still many people who do not know the Lord and who, in the last couple of years, may have experienced loneliness, hardships and grief, etc. You may find that people are more open and willing to engage in conversation and every conversation can be an opportunity to give people food for thought. It might just be the lifeline they need.

I read in today what Jesus said to St Faustina in her book, *Trust: In St Faustina's Footsteps* the following quote:

"Today I am sending you with my Mercy to the people of the whole world. I do not wish to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to My Merciful Heart."

I'm trying to take these words to heart. Will you join me in taking them to heart also?"

RENEWING THE VISION

CHARIS Retreat for Catholic Charismatic Renewal



CHARIS
AUSTRALIA



THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER

- 7.30pm Praise & Worship
- 7.40pm Input: A Necessary Conversion (Shayne Bennett)
- 8.10pm Discussion in break-out rooms
- 8.30pm Feedback
- 8.40pm Adoration
- 9.00pm Summary & Closing Prayer

FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER

- 7.30pm Praise and Worship
- 7.40pm Input: Renewed by the Holy Spirit (Fr Ken Barker), Praise & Worship/Prayer Ministry for a deeper release of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit (MGLs)
- 8.40pm Testimonies: Ministry to the Poor (Ashan De Zoysa), Looking to the future (Ann Brereton), Outreach to Youth (Matt Humphreys)
- 9.00pm Summary & Closing Prayer

Visit www.charisaustralia.org.au for further information. Registration is essential.

MARK YOUR DIARIES...

Come and celebrate 'Jesus is Alive' Healing Mass

Sunday 5 December 2021

3pm Praise & Worship, 4pm Mass. Prayers for healing after the Mass. See page 10 for details.

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, 49 Nicholson St, East Brunswick

Be Supercharged by the Holy Spirit

Learn about the gifts of the Holy Spirit and their supernatural effect on our lives.

Friday 14 - Saturday 15 January 2022

Excellent speakers from the Servants of Jesus in Sydney.

Sunday 16 January 2022

Healing Mass where the gifts will be exercised. Free event.

A love offering will be taken up. Refreshments provided.

Register at CCR Centre, phone 9486 6544.

Renewal Day

An opportunity for fellowship with others and growth through teachings.

Saturday 20 November 2021

Come along and join in gathered worship and praise.

Refreshments provided.

CCR Centre, 101 Holden Street, East Brunswick.

Renewal Days for 2022

An opportunity for fellowship with others and growth through teachings.

Renewal Days for 2022 will be held in each region: **19 February - West, 21 May - North, 20 August - East, 19 November - South.** Venues will be notified. This will allow more people to attend who currently have difficulty in travelling.

Healing Masses	Time	Venue
Each Sunday	7.00pm, followed by Ministry	Holy Family, Doveton
First Saturday	2.30pm – 5.00pm Adoration followed by Healing Mass	St Peter's, 38 Guinane Ave, Hoppers Crossing
First Sunday	2.30pm	St Peter Chanel, Deer Park
	3.00pm Praise & Worship, 3.30pm Mass <i>Suspended until further notice</i>	St Christopher's Parish, 5 Doon Ave, Glen Waverley
	5.30pm Praise, Worship, Adoration 6.00pm Mass, followed by Prayer Ministry	St Marks, Fawkner
First Monday	7.00pm Praise, 7.30pm Mass	St Joseph's, Springvale
First Friday	8.00pm <i>Suspended until further notice</i>	St Anthony's Glenhuntly, Cnr Neerim Road & Grange Road, Glenhuntly
Third Wednesday	7.30pm	St Mary's, Castlemaine
Third Thursday	7.30pm Praise & Worship, 8.00pm Mass	St Thomas the Apostle, 251 Diamond Creek Rd, Greensborough North
Third Friday	7.00pm Mass, Adoration and Devotions to the Holy Cross <i>Suspended until further notice</i>	707 Holy Cross Parish, Caulfield South
Third Sunday	5.30pm	St Francis Xavier, Frankston
	5.30pm Praise, 6.00pm Mass	Good Samaritan Chapel, 1-29 Southern Cross Drive, Roxburgh Park
Fourth Tuesday	10.00am Healing Service	St Joseph's, Chelsea