

Catholic
Charismatic
Renewal

Atlantic Service
Committee

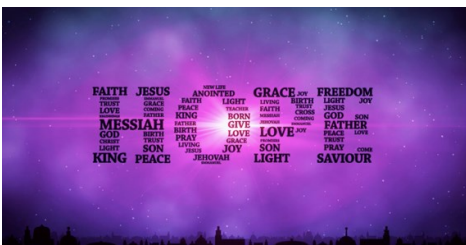


Atlantic Renewal

Newsletter—February 2021

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Welcome To Our Spring Newsletter!

Editors Corner

By David Webster

It is near one year now since Covid-19 has disrupted our “normal” way of living. In some ways it has, at times, taken away our freedom of movement outside our homes. It has taken away our freedom to gather for worship, our freedom to gather as a community and people of God, and gather socially in all its aspects.

When the churches closed last March, my wife was approached by our daughter with some fear in her expression asking, “What are we going to do if we can’t attend Mass and receive Eucharist?” I was not scathed by this closure and responded, “For me, although the Eucharist is my (our) source and summit, my relationship with Jesus (the trinity) does not depend on physically participating in the Eucharist. My relationship with Him lives because of my encounter with him and because he is my Savior. This is true regardless of what comes or what is taken away.”

This is the beauty of our Lord. He is in us and with us. He abides in us and we abide in him; regardless of any freedom we lose. For we who are set free in Christ are free indeed. I said to Jean, “This will be a time of great reliance on God’s providence and we will not lose hope nor lose trust in him no matter what comes.”

Covid-19 has given us a bad taste for 2020, but I will add this. As Jean and I sat before our TV trying to join in the New Year celebrations, I was disappointed in all of the program emcee’s endless complaining about the “awful, glad to see you go” year 2020 and how 2021 will be so much better. I can’t help but think that if I had not learned something, increased in my relationship with Christ, or had not grown from 2020’s experience in some way; I would have certainly focused on darkness and not The Light.

Indeed, we have all suffered much over the past year (I lost my dad) but, one thing is true; Jesus is Lord! Creation belongs to our God and faith tells us that whatever happens within creation is a process toward a greater good. Let’s not fear what has been shaken as we move into 2021. Let’s continue to embrace hope and freedom that comes from an ancient promise...now fulfilled...life in Christ.

Read
1 Corinthians
12:7-11



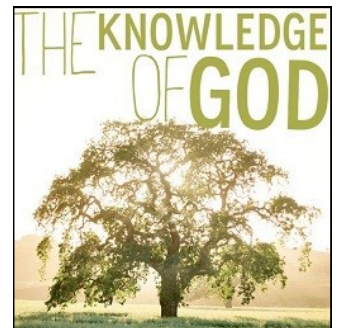
*To each is given the
manifestation of the
Spirit for the
common good.*

The first two gifts that are listed in this scripture passage are Wisdom and Knowledge. These, and all spiritual gifts, are given to build the body of Christ. The only exception to this is the use of praying in tongues given to the individual for personal edification. All spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit where and when God wills and are not a measurement of one's holiness. Both gifts, Wisdom and Knowledge, are charisms; made manifest by the Holy Spirit and often used in association with the Word gifts.

Some may have a ministry in the gifts of Wisdom and Knowledge, which allows them to use these gifts frequently, where others may have, what is called, a passing manifestation using them occasionally.

Wisdom can be spoken as a prophetic word and lets you know when, where, and how to use the Word gifts. Wisdom reveals the will of God or part of God's plan for a person or a situation. When spoken in prophecy it is very powerful. In some cases, a response will bring the Word to immediate fulfillment.

Knowledge is usually linked to revelation. Through it God can also communicate what has happened or is happening in the life of a person to expose the root of a problem. It often gives knowledge of a course of action or brings healing. This is necessary for inner healing or for the healing of memories. It may reveal to a person something that is only known by them, giving them new spiritual knowledge, and enlightenment through God's grace.



For the gift of Knowledge to be effective it must be first spoken. However, never tell the person, "God told me to tell you" even if you are 100% sure. Always allow the person to discern this for themselves. The receiver of the Word of Knowledge remains free to consent to it or refuse it.

I had prayed with people for over two years without knowing anything about these gifts of Wisdom and Knowledge even though I used them. Yet, people were still being healed and set free, for Jesus is the healer. Perhaps you, like me in the beginning, used the Word of Knowledge and Wisdom and didn't realize or recognize it. God is gracious and wants his people set free, and will use anyone who gives Him permission.

ARE YOU WILLING TO BE USED?

Carl Best

A PRACTICAL EXAMPLE

In giving this witness, I simply want to share a few principles which may be helpful in discerning and operating in a gift which you feel may have been given to you by the Holy Spirit.



A number of years ago as I was beginning to sense a call from the Holy Spirit to exercise the gifts of Knowledge and Wisdom (in the sense of Word gift), I attended a conference at Mount St Vincent University in Halifax. During the conference we were all given the opportunity to make use of the sacrament of Reconciliation. My friend and I stood in line waiting our turn. As we were chatting we did not initially notice a lady who had come up behind us. After a few minutes she spoke up saying, “Excuse me! I’m new to all this. Can I ask you both a question?”

“We both replied, “Yes! “ She proceeded to ask us when we had last been to Confession. I replied, “About three months ago. Why do you want to know?” She continued on saying, “I haven’t been to Confession in over 30 years but, I know that I need to be here. I’m so frightened because I don’t know what to do or say once I enter the confessional. “

That’s when the Holy Spirit moved and inspired me to speak the following words to her. “There’s no reason to be afraid. Look above the Confessional door and you’ll notice the bright red burning light. That light is the Heart of Jesus on fire for you. He’s calling you forward and He wants you to know that you do not have to be afraid. When you get inside simply tell father that it’s been many years and you need his help. Both he and Jesus will respond to your need. “

My friend and I watched her go in and waited for her to finish. After a period of time she came out with tears streaming down her cheeks and a broad smile. She looked around and, after recognizing both of us; she came over and gave each of us a heartfelt hug saying, “Jesus has set me free. Thank you so much for your words and kindness. “I simply replied, “They were the words the Holy Spirit wanted you to hear. “ We continued to chat for a short time until she departed with a smile still on her face.

I believe there are two quick lessons we can learn from this event I’ve just shared. First, it is obvious that the Holy Spirit can move very quickly. Second, the Spirit is not complicated. It’s us that complicate things.

Now, let’s look at two key principles relevant to this situation: trust and courage. When the woman spoke up about her situation, I immediately trusted that the Spirit would provide me with a Word of Knowledge needed to calm her fears and provide a Word of Wisdom to encourage her to move forward. The Spirit also gave me the courage to speak the words she needed to hear. Another way to say “trust and courage” would be; have faith in God and act on it. The same principles apply to the woman. She trusted in what she heard and she showed courage by moving forward. I truly believe that these two principles, trust and courage, are essential to success in using any of the gifts of the Spirit.

The witness detailed above happened over 20 years ago and it still helps me remain open to the movement of the Holy Spirit in my life and trust the phrase;

“Lead me Lord! What’s next? “

I close with the following quote from Matthew 25:21.

“You have shown you can be faithful in small things; I will trust you with greater. “

Greg Moulaison

Witness Column

Witness From the ASC Workshop on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

While attending the workshop on the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we were given the opportunity to avail ourselves with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As I was waiting my turn, a lady approached me and asked if I spoke Spanish. I replied that I did, so we continued our conversation in Spanish along with her husband who was with her. I discovered that the three of us were from Central Mexico. As they continued sharing about their life in Nova Scotia, her husband shared that he normally does not attend this kind of a workshop, but his wife had convinced him to come. I indicated that, in my opinion, typically more women seem to attend than men, and I commended him for participating. I then took the time to relate an experience I had the previous year during a pilgrimage from Fatima to Lourdes. They both responded positively to my story. I turned to her husband once again to commend him in his decision to attend this workshop. I confirmed that the Holy Spirit had inspired his wife to ask him to come and that he responded with courage by saying yes.

Then I said to him; in general, God made women more intuitive than men. This doesn't mean we're better by any means; it's simply how we are made. I affirmed him in that it was the Holy Spirit who convinced him of the necessity of paying attention to what his wife was asking; to come to this conference. He humbly accepted my words and his wife seemed to agree with what I had expressed.

To my delight, and praise to God, at the time of the personal witnessing, both of them stood up to share their experience. He said that in the past he would suppress the movement of the Holy Spirit in his life, but this workshop and the move of the Spirit had changed him. He was now determined to pay more attention to, and follow, the promptings and guidance of the Spirit in his life. I felt my conversation with them brought him to a deeper understanding of how the Holy Spirit moves. I also sense that this conversation was my reason for being there. Praise God!

In Christ,

Martha Carara

I was always under the impression that the gift of tongues was for the "special" spiritual people; those closer to God than me. I wanted to go to the mic to share and tell everyone, but one baby step at a time. I will, with the help of the Holy Spirit, try to do so next time. I am not afraid to be in front of a mic and I am happy to speak in front of people. I just don't share publicly about myself easily, but need to learn to do so if and when the Holy Spirit prompts me.

All of the presenters and speakers were amazing. I learned a great deal. I find when the truth is spoken; the heart unlocks. I felt joy and a sense of a renewed purpose.

I want to thank the ASC for an amazing weekend. I was encouraged to speak in tongues and for the first time, I did. I learned to step out in faith and not be afraid.

Greg and Ethel showed great kindness in both reassuring and assisting me. They were amazing! So much more could be said but essentially the important message is thank you for all you do! Warmest love and blessings in Christ,

Liz Galsworthy

Witnesses From the Workshop Continued

We would like to bring to your attention a prophetic word shared during the workshop on the Spiritual Gifts. This prophetic word was first proclaimed during a visitation of the Holy Spirit at a Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference in New Orleans, March 2019.

"I am releasing upon you a torrent of grace. I am releasing upon you a torrent of grace, not just a current of grace, but a torrent of grace. This day will mark the release of a torrent of my grace pouring out not only upon you but upon the whole world. Enter under this torrent of grace. Receive this torrent of grace and receive it now. The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come'! Never doubt you are an apostle if you love; and only because you love."



The following prayer was also shared during the workshop on the Spiritual Gifts:

PRAYER FOR APOSTOLATE

- *Written by Elaine Ross (Attendee of the workshop)*

I desire to be a praying, living host, to bring Jesus to those I voyage with, to send out rays like the Host. Thank you, Jesus, for the souls you give me, simply because I am sure you give them to me. I unite myself with the miracles You work in me. I love You more today than yesterday and tomorrow I shall love you more than today because I have opened myself to Your grace, which is a torrent and ceaselessly engulfs me and continually transforms me into Yourself and spreads out to others. I pray for Your mercy for all souls, for Your mercy is limitless. You died to save all souls; may not one sheep be lost! I pray not only for the conversion of souls but for the perfection of souls.

Jesus, make us grow; bring us even closer to You, so that we may all be united with You, a single flame. May our hearts be channels of Your torrents of graces, may we receive them to share them. Amen!

ASC Executive

God surely came down from Heaven to be present with us during the Gifts workshop in November. It was a wonderful experience and I was touched in a very special way. God led me to a major breakthrough that I had been praying for for quite some time. I received healing, encouragement, and empowerment. I could see it in many others as well. The Lord then led me in wonderful praise and thanksgiving worship. I claimed it, and witnessed my experience to the group attending the workshop.

I am very grateful for this experience.

Thank you for everything you do and God bless you.

JF - Jean- Francois



Upcoming Events:

The ASC has a workshop on Healing and Worship organized and ready. Unfortunately, with present Maritime Provinces Regulations on Covid-19, we are unable to hold this workshop. We are watching these regulations closely and will set a weekend as soon as regulations have lifted. We will keep you posted on its progress.

The Halifax/Yarmouth Archdiocesan Service Team (AST) for Renewal is planning a weekend retreat at the Renewal Centre with the theme “Come and Have Breakfast.” They hope to book a weekend in May 2021. Watch for the May 2021 issue of this Newsletter for more info.

In our May 2021 issue of the Newsletter, we will be introducing something stewing for youth and young adults. In fact, we will focus its theme to this subject. The ASC has discerned, and is committing an effort to address the needs of these two age groups. Contact us if you would like to put your passion for these age groups to service with us.



Father Mark Cherry

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Live Teachings on the Ministry FaceBook Page, the teaching schedule is as follows:

February 11, 2012 7pm

February 25, 2021 7pm

March 11, 2021 7pm

March 25, 2021

You do not need a Face Book account to watch.

<https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartministries>

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