

RENEWAL MINISTRIES

CATHOLIC RENEWAL & EVANGELIZATION

JULY 2025

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Anne and Ralph Martin at the Catholic Charismatic Renewal's international office, with a bas relief of two of its founders, Brian Smith and Bobby Cavnar.



Dear Friends,

In the days leading up to the conclave, I published a YouTube video that offered some thoughts on it. You can view the video at bit.ly/RMconclave.

Now that Pope Leo XIV has been elected, let's pray that God will use him to help the Church gather around the person of Christ and the revealed Word of God and be strengthened for our mission. As things unfold, I will offer any useful thoughts I may have, but I won't be jumping to conclusions or responding to every flurry of the day. I'll only respond when I think the Lord Himself is giving me some helpful insight.

That being said, we're pushing on!

I want to share with you an amazing week I had in Rome shortly before the conclave. I was particularly interested in meeting Fr. Anthony Lusvardi, SJ, who teaches at the Gregorian University in Rome. He wrote a very significant book, called *Baptism of Desire and Christian Salvation*, that I have



From the Diocesan Museum of Monreale, in Sicily

commented on from time to time. It is Fr. Lusvardi's doctoral dissertation put into book form. It is a very solid and brave work of scholarship that faithfully presents the doctrinal and moral implications of the Church's—and Jesus'—insistence on baptism to be saved.

The book concludes that while baptism of desire is possible, it is neither easy nor widespread. It reaches a similar conclusion to the one in the book based on my

doctoral dissertation, *Will Many Be Saved? What Vatican II Actually Taught and Its Implications for the New Evangelization*. I came to this conclusion after studying what Vatican II actually teaches on this question—basing itself as it must on Scripture and Tradition. While people who haven't heard the Gospel through no fault of their own may be saved if they sincerely seek God and try to live according to the natural law embedded in each person's conscience, it's not automatic. The Council concludes in *Lumen Gentium* 16,

“but often men, deceived by the Evil One, have become vain in their reasonings and have exchanged the truth of God for a lie, serving the creature rather than the Creator.”

In other words, people often fall prey to the world, the flesh, and the devil and don't respond to the light that God is giving, which they so urgently need.

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(Above) Christ the Pantocrator mosaic at the Cathedral of Monreale in Sicily. (Below) Ralph attended a conference chaired by Fr. Thomas Joseph White, OP. Ralph had Fr. White as a professor at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, DC, while he was studying for his STL degree.

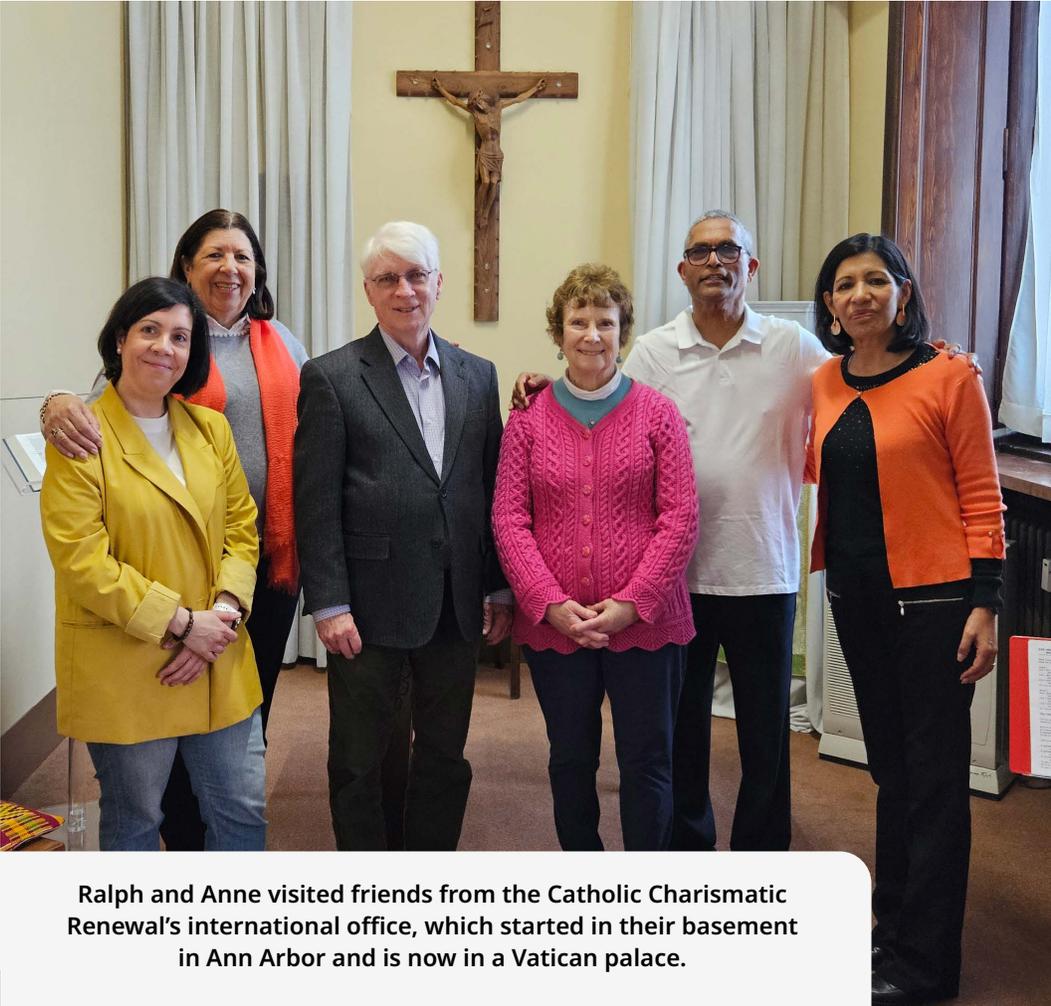
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It was a joy to meet Fr. Tony and an additional joy to meet Professor Gavin D’Costa, perhaps the leading Catholic theological expert on the relationship of the Church to various world religions. While I was in Rome, Professor D’Costa spoke on this topic at a conference at the Angelicum University—and I was able to attend. A while back, Professor D’Costa asked me to write a chapter on related subjects for a book he published, and we have been “kindred spirits” for a long time, but we had never met in person. Meeting him was such a gift! I also had the opportunity to meet with Fr. Ezra Sullivan, OP, a classmate from the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, DC. He currently is teaching in Rome at the Angelicum. Years ago, he participated in our mission to Vietnam, and he may be in a position to do so again.

My wife, Anne, travelled with me, and we caught up with old friends from the Catholic Charismatic Renewal’s international office, which started in our basement in Ann Arbor and is now in

a Vatican palace! We also visited with Ashley and John Noronha, old friends who helped us so much when we lived in Rome while I was working on my doctorate. Among many other things, they provide the best guided tours in Rome, combining both the amazing secular and Catholic histories of this amazing city. Visit www.truthandbeautyproject.com to learn more!

As good as these contacts were, something happened on our second-to-last night in Rome that absolutely amazed me. Several of us at Renewal Ministries have been collaborating with a dedicated Catholic man in Poland who, via his podcast and YouTube channel, helps people keep clear on the truth of the faith amid confusion that sometimes comes from Rome. He had mentioned to me that his son and daughter-in-law would be in Rome for a year, taking a course on the thought of St. John Paul II. I had fleetingly thought of how good it would be to meet them but then forgot about it amid the flurry of other preparations.



Ralph and Anne visited friends from the Catholic Charismatic Renewal’s international office, which started in their basement in Ann Arbor and is now in a Vatican palace.

Then, on our second-to-last night, we went to a neighborhood restaurant that had tables set so close to each other that we were almost sharing a table with our neighbors, two young women studying abroad. As we got up to leave, a young man came over and said, “You’re Ralph Martin, aren’t you?” Our Polish friend’s son and his wife had been sitting nearby and recognized us!

I was flabbergasted! I keep saying to Anne and to whomever I share this with: “How does God do things like this? This is a city of over three-million people and thousands of restaurants!” They told us that they had been planning to go to another restaurant but the person they were with changed their mind at the last minute. We were able to meet them for lunch the next day, our last day in Rome. They traveled over an hour each way with trains, buses, and metros to do so, but were happy for another opportunity to meet. They are an amazing young Catholic couple, and it was very good to both be inspired by them and to encourage them on the long journey they have embarked on.

Why do I share this? Because God truly is amazing, and our hairs are indeed counted! Although He doesn’t often show Himself as He did so strikingly in that unexpected meeting, He is always with us, always watching over us, always ready to assist us directly and through his angels and human servants. May He be praised forever, and may we live in a spirit of daily gratitude whatever our difficulties.

May the peace of Christ be with you,

Ralph Martin

Ralph

He is always with us, always watching over us, always ready to assist us directly and through his angels and human servants.



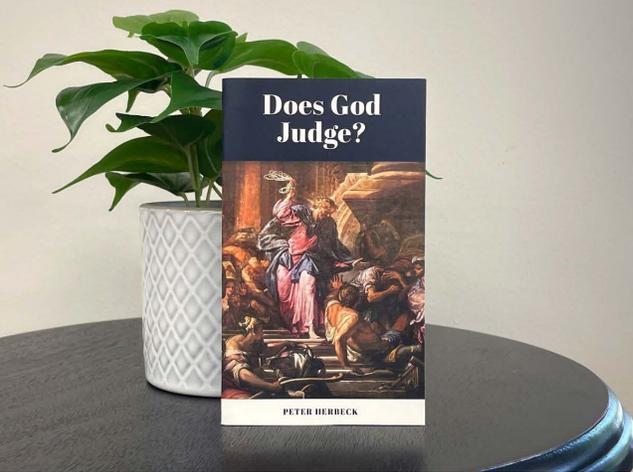
Ralph and Anne enjoyed dinner with a young couple from Poland who are in Rome studying the thought of St. John Paul II. Their meeting seemed to have been divinely arranged!



Ralph and Anne visited with Ashley and John Noronha, friends who helped them while Ralph worked on his doctorate in Rome. They provide wonderful guided tours in Rome (www.truthandbeautyproject.com).



Ralph met with Fr. Anthony Lusvardi and Professor Gavin D'Costa. Lusvardi wrote *Baptism of Desire and Christian Salvation*, and Prof. D'Costa is an expert on the relationship of the Church to various world religions.



Sharing the Truth in Love

Peter Herbeck's newest booklet, *Does God Judge?*, has received a tremendous response. We spoke to just a few of the people who ordered multiple copies, to learn about their plans for sharing it with others.

One man, who lives near Boston, Massachusetts, ordered twenty copies. He has already shared *Game Changer* and *What Must I Do to be Saved?* with his men's group. He explained,

I'm trying to evangelize—it's what the Catholic Church needs. Those booklets are wonderful. So many Catholics get their sacraments, but their love of Jesus Christ is lacking. Very few Catholics are willing to evangelize and talk about Jesus Christ in conversation. We have a lot of work to do! For many, the sacraments are like getting a stamp on their hands—"OK, you can come in." The personal relationship is lacking. Renewal Ministries understands that! In a beautiful, kind way, Ralph Martin and the whole team are not afraid to step out and challenge us; we need more of that. Eternity is too risky a business to mess around with. Game Changer and What Must I Do to Be Saved? are also two great booklets if you're looking to spread that message of eternity.

He is a retired firefighter from Boston who spent his career saving lives and property. As retirement drew near, he said, "the Holy Spirit spoke to me and said, 'You'll be done soon with saving lives. How about getting into saving souls? Can you do that for Me?'"

Now, he shares content like this booklet, filled with the truth of God's Word, where he can, including on a cruise ship during a recent vacation. His youngest daughter, a public-school teacher, also shares religious books with her coworkers.

"As a kid, I had very little catechesis," he said. "The priest said, 'Listen to your mother, don't do drugs, and you'll be OK.' That's not enough! Jesus came to save the lost, but many times, I don't think people know they are lost. Thank God for Renewal Ministries—you are a godsend!"

"When we take the initiative to share God's message with others, doors open. You just need to take the first step. Do these three things: 'Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you'" (Mt 7:7).

A man from Rhode Island ordered twenty copies. "I saw Peter Herbeck and Ralph Martin at a conference a couple years ago and was inspired," he said. "When I saw the booklet, it piqued my interest, because it seems that God's judgment is no longer part of our language. I'm a parish leader for the Men of St. Joseph International (founded by former Renewal Ministries' Country Coordinator Don Turbitt). I intend to give the booklets to my group so that we can discuss it in the future."

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One man from Florida ordered twenty-two copies to share with friends at church and in his two Bible studies. "I'm a huge fan of Ralph Martin and Peter Herbeck," he said. "I listen to them each week and love Ralph's book *A Life in the Spirit*."

"I shared the booklet with my OCIA brothers and sisters before the Easter vigil. If you hope that the heresy of universalism is true, this booklet will make you feel uneasy. But it's not written in a Bible-thumping manner. I've been changed by the booklet."

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A man from Indiana ordered fifty copies to use in his work with prison ministry. He explained,

I often receive questions about judgment from the inmates, and I thought this would be a good conversation starter. Much of the teaching in this area is too shallow—it gives people a get-out-of-jail-free card. I knew Renewal Ministries would dive deeper. I use the booklets in the county jail once a week and in the state prison once a week. I've gotten good questions from it. After people read it, they get a deer-in-the-headlights look—they haven't heard this message before. Fortunately, you can go to Scripture and look up what is said in the booklet. All I can do is plant seeds; it's up to the Holy Spirit to make it grow.

It's good material. You can't go wrong with Ralph Martin or any of his team.

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A man from Minnesota ordered sixteen copies. He said, “Thank you for this opportunity to spread the reminder that God does judge us after death, which many would rather not consider.”

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One man from Pennsylvania ordered fifteen copies to hand out to people. He shares the Gospel with telemarketers, people he meets while working as a driver to earn extra money, and with other people he meets throughout his days. He has also done this with other booklets from Renewal Ministries, including *What Must I Do to be Saved?* He explained,

*Once, I was struggling with temptation, and as I went to sit down on a bench outside, a tract was on it. It felt like a warning. After that, I began buying tracts and handing them out. I bought Peter Herbeck's booklet *Does God Judge?*, and I also saw things in it that were like a warning to me. It reminded me that, “To whom much is given . . . much (will) be required” (Lk 12:48). I think I'm expected to use that to help other people know what they could be.*

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A man from Arkansas purchased one-hundred copies. He has purchased several Renewal Ministries' booklets in the past, including Ralph Martin's *Join the Resistance*. He distributes them at local Catholic churches—including one with over twenty-thousand members. He said, “I've just got a feeling that's what I should do. *Does God Judge?* is a good booklet. Everybody thinks that everybody's going to heaven. It woke me up a bit.”

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One woman from New Jersey purchased thirty copies. She has had cancer for over ten years. Chemotherapy weakens her immune system, so she has to be careful about going into groups of people. “I find that if I drop off booklets at church, I feel connected,” she explained. “I've been doing it since Covid let up.” She also shares the booklets with her four children.

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A man from Louisiana ordered multiple copies to distribute at an annual men's conference. “It fits with the theme of the conference, which is Catholic manhood,” he said. “I like that it's an easy read, it makes sense, and it ties into Scripture a lot.”

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A man from Hawaii purchased twenty-five copies to share with his family and parish. “I pray a lot for my kids because they don't believe in God, as well as a lot of relatives,” he said. “They don't realize the seriousness of our life—that it ends in eternity. There's no do-over. Hopefully they'll get some benefit from it.”

— “ —
A priest from Ohio shared twenty-five copies with an OCIA class that had been asking questions about God's judgment. He said the class found the booklet helpful. “God judges: He is merciful and just. He's perfectly both,” he added. “I also love the booklet *What Must I Do to be Saved?* by Pete Burak. Sharing the truth in love—Renewal Ministries does that.”

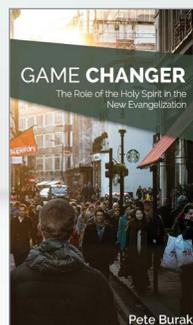
Feeling inspired?

Did you read the stories in this article and think to yourself,

“I can do that!”

Visit our website to place your order for these booklets or the many others we have available.

www.renewalministries.net/shop



Wisdom from the
Saints

*“Do what we can and
God will do the rest.
What seems so impossible
to nature is quite easy
to grace.”*

// St. Elizabeth Ann Seton



SPREADING THE GOSPEL IN NAMIBIA



BY LLOYD GREENHAW

Co-Country Coordinator for Namibia

Nancy and Lloyd Greenhaw minister in the United States, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, and several other countries in Africa. They conduct missions, conferences, and retreats for adults and youth. They also are involved in prison ministry and work with the homeless.

Nancy and Lloyd live in Texas and have two daughters, fourteen grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren.

Fanwell Chilondea; Lloyd Greenhaw; and Fr. Eusebius Munha, the spiritual director of Namibia's Catholic Charismatic Renewal, together in Luderitz, Namibia. They were greeted by enthusiastic, charismatic Catholics.

This was one of our best trips to Namibia, a country located on the west coast of southern Africa. We had many opportunities to share about the necessity of making a deep and lasting conversion to Jesus. We shared that for many years we, like many others, attended Church faithfully but did not know Christ as a friend. When we took that step, our lives changed! We gave each person several opportunities to make that same decision—and we could see the joy on their faces!



We taught that our salvation truly depends on the ancient declaration,

“Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ will come again.”

None of us knows when the world will end, but we do know that our lives will end—and where we go then is the only thing that matters! We taught on the Four Last Things, the universal call to holiness, and Christ’s mandate to be made perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect.

We also taught the Five Keys: repentance and faith, forgiveness, renunciation, taking authority, and the Father’s blessing. Through this model, one can receive healing and freedom, as well as holiness! Holiness consists in frequent and fervent reception of the sacraments and removing, step by step, anything blocking us from moving closer to Christ.

Next, we drove through the Namib Desert to Oranjemund, a diocese with only two priests. The landscape is entirely sand and rocks, and those who live there receive supplemental food from the government. I taught on the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Fr. Eusebius offered to hear confessions for a few people. Everyone ended up going! He heard confessions for six-and-a-half hours. Father was happy to hear confessions for everyone who wanted it. The diocese's two priests are stretched thin. Towns are far apart, so some of the sacraments are seldom celebrated.

In Luderitz, a small group of enthusiastic charismatic Catholics were ecstatic to see us. We began by praising the Lord, and their incredible African voices were breathtaking! We taught on the universal call to holiness and the lordship of Jesus until late in the evening. The people were hungry for the truth! The next day, we prayed for people individually during the day and taught in the evening until 10 p.m.

In Windhoek, we stayed at St. Charles Lwanga Seminary, where we were asked to pray for some of the seminarians and brothers. One young brother had just gone to the hospital for acute abdominal pain but had gotten no relief. After prayer, he was totally healed, and his big smile said it all!

We attended daily Mass with the seminarians. About thirty-five seminarians attended an evening session in which we shared testimonies of God's mercy and healing love that we have experienced, as well as an overview of the Five Keys to Freedom. We also taught on the New Evangelization at Holy Redeemer Parish. One lady was healed of deafness in one ear!

Then, we provided three days of outreach in Swakopmund. The assistant spiritual director for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal joined us. The people welcomed us with great enthusiasm and took many notes on our teachings. Those who attended our sessions were hungry for God and suf-

The goal of every healing He performed and freedom He offered was the salvation of souls.

”

fering from problems there seemed to be no answer to. We shared the basic Gospel message and proclaimed the consequences of rebellion to God's Word. We taught on the Five Keys as a path to holiness meant to meet people at their point of need, just as Jesus did, to confirm his Word was true. The goal of every healing He performed and freedom He offered was the salvation of souls.

Our travels concluded at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Gobabis, where we had served years earlier. People were excited that we had come again. A massive storm knocked out all the electricity the first night and continued through the next day. The rain hit the tin roof so hard that we could not hear! The roads became rivers—but God prevailed! We continued our program, calling for a deep personal evaluation of their relationship with Jesus. The people responded with great enthusiasm, and God brought hope and peace to many.

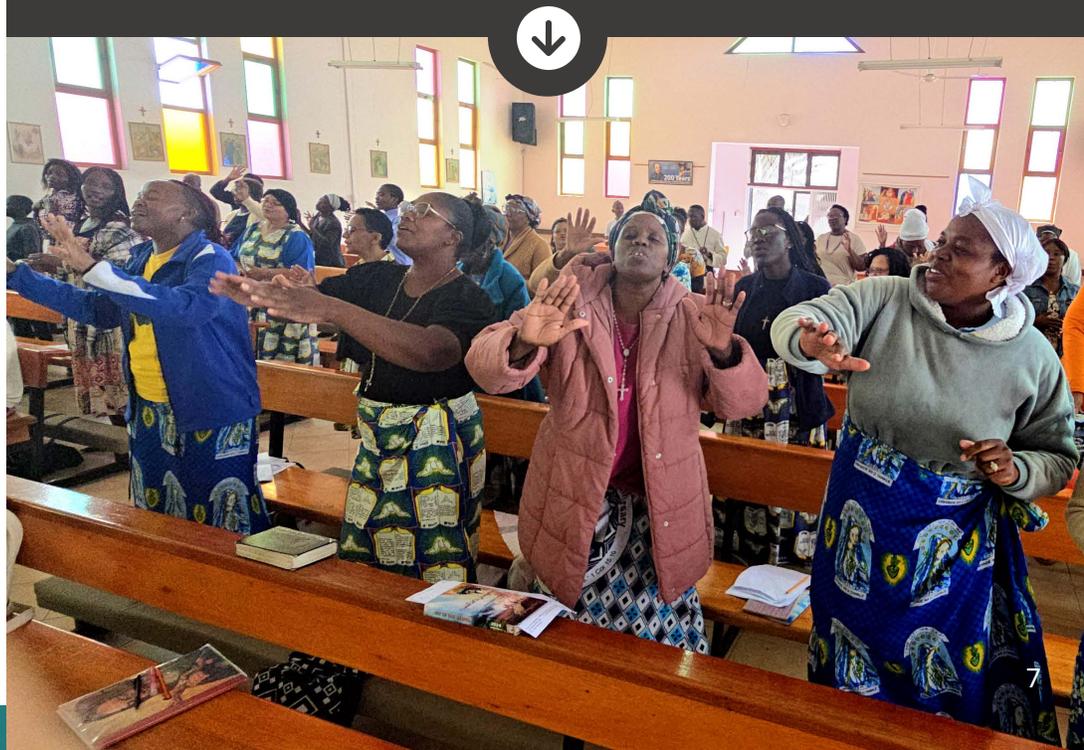
With Gratitude



We received the following letter of thanks from the people of Oranjemund:

We write with a heart full of gratitude and admiration for your faithful service to our congregation. The courage, devotion, and sacrifice you have shown are a profound reflection of God's strength in action. . . . It was a life-changing experience for all of us. . . . The teachings provided us with opportunities to dig deeper in our relationships with God and each other (and) to serve God and one another. Please know that you have touched many lives and that we continue to hold you and your ministry in our prayers.

In Oranjemund, the people wholeheartedly responded to God's Word!



EVENTS

JULY 2025 View complete event list at renewalministries.net/events.

Detroit, MI Courses at Sacred Heart Major Seminary*

July 7-22
Ralph Martin

Toledo, OH Encounter Conference

July 16-18
Peter Herbeck & Dr. Mary Healy
Details: <https://encounterministries.us/events-1>

Green Bay, WI Diocese of Green Bay Priests' Retreat*

July 17-19
Peter Herbeck

Birmingham, AL Catholic Charismatic Conference

July 25-26
Ralph Martin
Details: catholiccharismaticrenewal.org/page4/page-7

* Not open to the public.

MISSIONS



Uganda
June 21-July 9
Lloyd & Nancy Greenhaw

Cameroon
July 28-August 3
Ralph Martin, Peter Newburn, and Bishop Scott McCaig



► For the priests and parishes experiencing leadership transitions this month. May the Lord pour abundant grace into each situation, along with patience and the desire to seek his will in all things.

► That the efforts of faithful Catholics around the world to evangelize and share God's Word will fall on fertile soil and bear much fruit. May the Lord help each of us to hear his will regarding how to evangelize within our own sphere of influence—and may we each respond with a resounding yes.

► For the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their family members, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.



THE CHOICES WE FACE

'The Choices We Face' is the longest-running Catholic television program in the world! Each episode explores an important topic concerning the faith. Watch these and other episodes on our website at:

www.renewalministries.net/the-choices-we-face

JULY GUESTS & TOPICS:

All Things Work for Good

(07/06/25)

Fr. Alex Colautti speaks at the 2024 Lift Jesus Higher Rally about how God is always at work, even in our times of greatest trial.

The Primacy of Love

(07/13/25) // Dr. Monique Ruberu
Dr. Monique Ruberu experienced God's providential care when she became a bold advocate for the sanctity of human life.

Hungry for God

(07/20/25) // Dr. Monique Ruberu
Dr. Monique Ruberu returns to discuss how God healed her marriage and the importance of NaPro Technology in her medical practice.

God's Healing Love

(07/27/25)
Myles Vosylius shares his testimony at the 2024 Lift Jesus Higher Rally about his experience of God's love amid his parent's divorce.



Renewal Ministries is a Catholic ministry committed to renewal and evangelization in the Church. It seeks to proclaim Jesus Christ through its TV, radio, and social media outreaches, as well as through books, conferences, retreats, and other international evangelistic events.

Scripture references in the newsletter are from the Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

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