

June 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Rev. 1 George Dunkley Worcester	2 For the souls of our deceased FOP members	3 Prayer Requests Received	4 Pope Francis
Rev. 5 Jean-Paul Gagnon Worcester	Rev. 6 John O'Brien Alexandria	Rev. 7 Harold Imamshah Alexandria	Rev. 8 John Pardue Alexandria	Rev. 9 Silverino Kwebuza Alexandria	Rev. 10 Greg Downs Alexandria	Rev. 11 William Okot Alexandria
Rev. 12 Thomas Paul Alexandria	Rev. 13 Ron Matthews Alexandria	Dcn. 14 Norman Gremillion Alexandria	Rev. 15 Martin Laird Alexandria	Rev. 16 George Winn Allentown	Msgr. 17 John Mraz Allentown	Rev. 18 Larry Hess Allentown
Rev. 19 Patrick Gilbert Boston	Rev. 20 Volney DeRosia Boston	Rev. 21 William Carroll Boston	Rev. 22 John Kiley Boston	Rev. 23 Maurice LaRochelle Boston	Rev. 24 Paul McManus Boston	Rev. 25 Gerry Fraser Boston
Rev. 26 Jurgen Liias Boston	Rev. 27 John Brennan Boston	Rev. 28 Donald Clinton Boston	Rev. 29 Christopher Wallace Boston	Rev. 30 Thomas Reilly Boston		



"To gather priests to Christ and to one another to proclaim..."

# THE VISITATION

A monthly publication of the Fraternity of Priests, Inc.

## Peter Herbeck to Speak at Annual Conference

By Fr. Jim Hobert and Fr. Bob Frano

Fraternity of Priests is following up on the precedent set by past president Fr. John Kiley of having a dynamic, internationally known speaker to present at our Annual Conference, which this year will be held in Kansas City, Kansas. Last year in Tucson we had Sister Ann Shields of Renewal Ministries speak to us. The consensus was that she not only made a big hit, but that she hit it out of the ballpark! She was very inspiring, and allowed all of us who intended to be recharged with the power of the Holy Spirit. Our minds were transformed, our priesthood was renewed, and our commitment to extend the Kingdom of God was strengthened.

This year we will have the great privilege of listening to Peter Herbeck, the well-known Catholic evangelist, author, and media personality, both radio and television. He is one of the cofounders of Renewal Ministries, along with Ralph Martin and Sister Ann. He is now Vice President and Director of Missions for the organization. Renewal Ministries was founded in 1980 to proclaim the truth about God. They are dedicated to helping people to respond to what the Holy Spirit is saying to people in our time, and to set hearts on fire with the Spirit. They aim to touch not only God's faithful with the message of divine

love, but also those who do not yet know and accept our God of love. You will hear them say that the time is now! It is urgent that the Gospel be proclaimed and lived! What the Holy Spirit has given us needs to be passed on, with no time to lose!

Many of you have seen him on his weekly television shows *The Choices We Face* and *Crossing the Goal* on EWTN, and have heard him on his weekly radio show *Fire on the Earth*. Others of you have read some of his many books and publications. His most well known book is *When the Spirit Comes in Power: Rediscovering the Charismatic Dimensions of Christian Life*, where he writes about the work of the Spirit not only in the Church and in the world, but also in the personal lives of believers. The real life testimonies of how the Spirit works in our daily existence give great balance and interest to the book. In addition to solid advice and sound teaching, there are fascinating and powerful anecdotes that help us to learn how to grow in the likeness of Jesus. Many claim to have experienced the power of the Holy Spirit just by reading the book! Here is a sample sentence: "The lukewarm, politicized, secularized version of Christianity which has gripped the Church in our time, has had its day. A new day has dawned, a day born of the Spirit in power" (p. 131).

He has also co-authored several books with his wife Debbie: *When the Spirit Speaks: Touched by God's Word*, and *Ten Weeks to a Better Marriage*. He has also co-authored, with Curtis Martin, Brian Patrick, and former NFL star Danny Abramowicz two "Crossing the Goal" books for men's spirituality: *Crossing the Goal: Playbook on the Virtues* and *Crossing the Goal: Playbook on the Our Father*. These books help men to follow Christ in ways that are suited for males. The first shows men why we should care about and practice the virtues, giving great advice and encouragement. The second goes through the Our Father word by word to show us how this prayer gives us the solution for dealing with daily problems as men.

Also very accessible are the several booklets he has published, many of which are available for free downloads at [www.renewalministries.net](http://www.renewalministries.net). Some of the titles are: *Welcome to the Spiritual Gifts*; *Living the Lord's Prayer*; *To Walk by the Spirit*; *What is the Spirit Saying?*; *Thinking Straight*; and *Saint Francis used Words*. His writings have even been translated into Spanish.

Fr. Bob Franco testifies, "I first met Peter in 2000, when we traveled with Renewal Ministries to Slovenia and Hungary to give Fire Rallies. We flew together, along with Sr. Ann Shields

...continued on page 3

### A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name of priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own disposition and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul, take over his entire personality and life. Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always.

O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of priests, pray and intercede for (.....). Amen.

Fraternity of Priests, Inc.  
PO Box 442  
Steubenville, OH 43952-5442  
Phone: (740) 283-4400  
Fax: (740) 283-3622  
Email: [contact@fraternityofpriests.org](mailto:contact@fraternityofpriests.org)  
<http://www.fraternityofpriests.org>

Please cut and return this form with your donation.

Do you know anyone who would like to receive our Newsletter? (Please print legibly)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Father Bob Franco, This donation is to help the Fraternity of Priests in continuing their work of ministering to priests. \_\_\_\_\_ \$  \$10  \$25  \$50  \$100  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Fraternity of Priests pledge of financial accountability: We take very seriously the trust you put in us when you send a gift. We stand accountable before God and you to honor that trust. We pledge: To use your gift care-fully and wisely, and not to ask for money that is not needed.

# Dear Fraternity Brothers and Friends of the Priesthood

## EPISCOPAL ADVISORS

Donald Cardinal Wuerl  
Washington, DC

Archbishop John Myers  
Newark, NJ

Bishop Sam Jacobs  
Houma-Thibodaux, LA

Bishop Paul Bemile  
Wa, Ghana

## DIRECTORS

Fr. Bob Franco  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Chairman

Fr. Jim Hobert  
Tucson, Arizona

Fr. Larry Van Damme  
Marquette, Michigan

Fr. Vlado Bizjak  
Maribor, Slovenia

Fr. Joe Looney  
Hartford, Connecticut

Fr. Dwight Merrick  
Trinidad

Fr. Bob Hilz, TOR  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

### Editor's Box:

Please send articles, comments, and photos to the FOP Newsletter editor, Fr. Bob Carr, via e-mail to [editor@fraternityofpriests.org](mailto:editor@fraternityofpriests.org)

Newsletter material from all Fraternity members is gratefully accepted. Any submissions will help make each issue better!

**P**entecost is the third greatest celebration on the liturgical calendar. However, it is also radically different from Christmas and Easter. For sure, those celebrations recall historical events that change the world. However, Pentecost celebrates not only the descent of the Holy Spirit on the early Church. It is not simply history. *Pentecost is an ongoing reality.*

In some ways the liturgical calendar before Vatican II reflected that reality. For instance, the Sundays in ordinary time were not referred to as the *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. They were referred to by the number of Sundays after Pentecost, like the *Third Sunday after Pentecost*. The regular reference to Pentecost reminded us that everything we did was in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And though today we proclaim that we live by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can sometimes look back wistfully at the early Church and wonder, "Where has all the power gone? Were those signs and wonders simply to give the early Church a beginning boost?" I believe a cursory glance at Church history will remind us that the power is still around. It was not simply for the early Church. Yet we may wonder where the power is for us today.

Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, in his book *Mary: Mirror of the Church* (The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN, 1992), reflected on the book of Acts, chapter one.

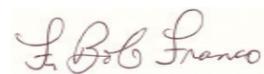
...I think we can safely group Mary... into three points: the first point is that before undertaking anything at all and setting out in to the world, the Church needs to receive the Holy Spirit; the second point is that prayer, above all, is the way to prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit; the third is that this prayer must be of one accord and persevering...

**This is clearly sort of law, a paradigm placed at the beginning of the narration of the history of the Church to show to the Church of all ages how the kingdom comes** (emphasis added)... (pg. 150)

**These are the keys for living in a continual Pentecost!** First, we need to acknowledge our

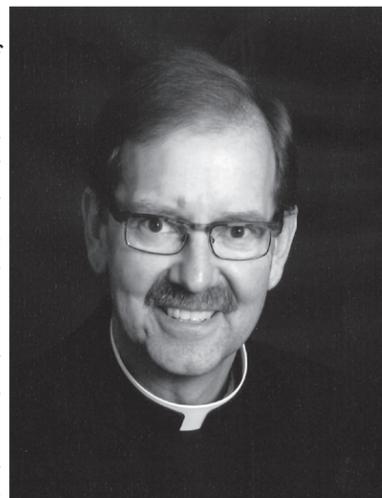
utter dependence on the power of the Holy Spirit. It is "not by an army, nor by might, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts." (Zechariah 4:6b). Then we need to pray, which is what the 120 gathered with Mary did in the days before Pentecost. And finally, those praying need to be in one accord (relationships free of discord, united in respect and love) and with perseverance (reiterated frequently in the New Testament when it comes to prayer-Luke 18:1 and Colossians 4:2).

And please pray for the priests in the Fraternity. It is our desire to live our priesthood in the power of the Holy Spirit. May our brotherly love and persevering prayer bring the Holy Spirit to rest on us in wonderful ways!



Fr. Bob

PS: I hope to see you at the Annual Fraternity Meeting this summer. *Kansas City, Here I Come.*



### Fraternity Financial Report

One of the objectives for the Fraternity of Priests is to inform our donors about the ongoing financial health and details of the organization. We're providing this information to help communicate our specific need and to thank those many faithful benefactors who help make our service possible. Thank you!

Monthly Donation Budget: \$ 4,750.00

Actual Donations: \$ 1,156.00

Budget Surplus/Deficit: (\$ 3,594.00)

Current as of March 31, 2016.

...continued from page 1

and Fr. Michael Scanlan. On the agenda was also a retreat for priests. Along with Ralph Martin and Fr. Michael Scanlan, Peter gave strong and clear teachings to the priests at that retreat. It was at that retreat that I gave a pitch for Fraternity of Priests. I believe it was Ralph Martin who backed me up, telling the priests, 'This group, Fraternity of Priests, will help you live the life of Christ.' Whatever we said, worked. The next year, I was invited back to Slovenia to help form a Fraternity of Priests group, one that is now one of our more active groups.

"Peter has also spoken in my diocese a number of times. I find Peter to be strong and clear in proclaiming the truth. He speaks in a way that is encouraging, edifying, wise. He is solid in his doctrine, and he reads up on the current situation in our world. He tries to get people to focus on the Spirit, to be alive in Christ. He has a real heart for men. I also was impressed with his conversion story. When he was a teenager, his sister was baptized in the Holy Spirit, and she witnessed to him. He then joined a prayer group, and found he was the only young person there—the rest of the men were middle aged and older. He went to charismatic conference, and prayed for the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It wasn't quite what he expected. However, later on, at the closing Mass, someone came up to him with a word of knowledge: 'You are loved.' That's what did it for him. It propelled him go all out for Jesus and eventually led him into work for the Renewal.

"I have also found in his books that he goes through Scripture and the tradition of the Church to show



Mr Peter Herbeck will lead our Annual Fraternity Retreat July 31-August 5, 2016. We look forward to welcoming him!

that the principles of the Renewal are authentic according to our Catholic teaching. He is convincing in showing those in the church—both clergy and lay—that we need to be open to be open to the Renewal. He is also convincing in pointing out that much of the New Evangelization called for by Pope St. John Paul II has had little impression. What we need is the power of the Holy Spirit to have the impact to reach people. For example, he points out how healing attracts people, and brings them to a place where they become more open to the Gospel."

So gentlemen, mark your calendars for July 31 to August 5 of this year in Kansas City. The Holy Spirit wants to seize us. This is a door God is opening up for us to strengthen our friendship with Jesus. Let's take seriously the word in Revelation 2:7: "He who has ears, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches!" Brothers, we know that we are passing through a time of great difficulty for the world, for our church, in our priesthood. There

has been a substantial weakening of the faith and morality in our society, among the faithful, even among our brother priests! You've seen it! But at this conference we will hear the answer to our problems. What is it? When Ralph Martin met Pope John Paul II, the Pope unexpectedly asked him, "Ralph, what is the Spirit saying in these difficult times?" All Ralph could say was, "Jesus!" Then he and Pope embraced for a long time.

It is true. There is only one solution to the world's problems. Jesus. Peter Herbeck will help us see that the Spirit is always, ever leading us back to Jesus. He will encourage us as priests to respond to what the Spirit is saying to us personally. And he will urge us to recognize how we need to be part of the Spirit's work in this pivotal time in the life of the church. We will be told that by walking in the Spirit, we can make a real difference in the world. If we are in bondage to sin in any way, we will be shown that a life of genuine freedom and joy is possible. A new, transformed, changed life in the priesthood can be realized for us. Following in the footsteps of the Apostles, we can be taught to pray, to mediate better on Jesus' priorities and goals in our lives, to let Jesus, through the Spirit, be our ultimate guide. We need to be called constantly to conversion. This year's speaker will do this for us. "Inspirational" is a word that is often used in the same sentence with Peter Herbeck.

Brothers: do not miss this conference. Peter Herbeck will be giving his talks on Monday and Tuesday, so plan to get there early enough to hear him. Make plans now. Registration is available on the website.

Please send us your prayer intentions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_