In the first decades of the Catholic Renewal, six documents emerged under the leadership of Cardinal Léon Suenens, Archbishop of Malines-Brussels in Belgium. This series of documents came to be known as the Malines Documents. On more than one occasion, Pope Francis has encouraged the Charismatic Renewal to read the Malines documents, referring to them as a guide, a user’s manual and as a compass. The image of a compass is especially helpful. It is not as if these documents give the final word on the topics they address, but they point the way forward. Especially as Pope Francis calls the Renewal to remember our roots, it is helpful to return to these early documents to be sure we are still following the directions they set.

Cardinal Suenens was one of four moderators appointed by the Pope Paul VI to guide the work of the Second Vatican Council, and it was his intervention that led the Council to present the charisms as gifts of the Spirit offered to all members of the Church. After hearing of the proliferation of charismatic gifts bursting forth and spreading among Catholics, Suenens began to investigate the Charismatic Renewal. After personally experiencing the Renewal he embraced the movement. His approval was crucial in winning the support of Pope Paul VI. Paul VI called Cardinal Suenens to shepherd the Charismatic Renewal, and the Malines documents were part of Suenens response to that call.

The most important of the documents and those specifically mentioned by Pope Francis, are the first three: Theological and Pastoral Orientations on the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (1974); Ecumenism and the Charismatic Renewal (1978); and Charismatic Renewal and Social Action (1979). They correspond to the three expectations Pope Francis has repeatedly expressed to the Renewal: to share the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit; to foster unity among Christians and to serve the poor.

For the first Malines document, Cardinal Suenens gathered a small international gathering of early leaders of the Renewal. Members from the United States included Ralph Martin, Kevin Ranaghan and Fr. Kilian McDonnell. Before the final draft, the document was submitted to theological consultants outside the Renewal, including Joseph Ratzinger, the future Pope Benedict XVI. This document presents the Charismatic Renewal as belonging to the Trinitarian foundation of the Church. The Renewal reminds Catholics that the Father constitutes the Church not only by the gift of his Son but simultaneously by the gift of his Spirit. The Spirit dwells in the Church as “a perpetual Pentecost” offering charisms to every Christian. The full range of charisms, not only gifts of service and teaching but also gifts of tongues, prophecy and healing, belong to the ordinary normal life of the church. The document responds to some criticisms of the Renewal: It is not emotionalism to emphasize the experience of the Spirit; it is not fundamentalism, to believe that miracles really happen; it is not elitist if all Catholics are invited to a life in the Spirit, which belongs to the very nature of the Church. The goal of Charismatic Renewal is not to create a special group within the Church but to renew the entire church through a rediscovery of the fullness of life.
in the Spirit and to empower the Church to proclaim Jesus as Lord.

Bringing you to the part of the article about the fourth document:

In the fourth Malines document *Renewal and the Powers of Darkness* (1982), Cardinal Seunens expresses concerns over extremes in the practice of deliverance prayer. He begins by affirming the reality of the evil one and gives a beautiful summary of how the sacraments liberate the power of the devil. He emphasizes that the fundamental spiritual combat is against sin in our individual lives and in our cultures. Turning to the actual practice of deliverance prayer, he describes some problems and the need for theological and pastoral guidelines. With the 2017 publication of *Deliverance Ministry* (International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Service Doctrinal Commission), we finally have such guidelines.

Call the office at 763-571-5314 if you wish to order this book. The cost is $12 including tax and shipping.

How to find the Malines documents to reference: nsc-chariscenter.org and then click on Catholic Charismatic Renewal look for Malines Documents.

Charisms and Charity: Two Essential Manifestations of the Holy Spirit
By Fr. Jim Livingston, Church of St. Paul

A charism is a habitual openness by which the Holy Spirit can move through us. The Holy Spirit may or may not choose to flow through you, but if you have a habitual openness you are prepared.

Let’s look at three basic principles regarding charisms. The first principle is that the Spirit that anointed Jesus is the same Spirit imparted to the baptized believers in Jesus. In Luke 4, we read that Jesus returned in the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Book of Acts 1: 6-8, Jesus told his disciples, “You will received power when the HS comes upon you.”

In the Old Testament, God the Father moved. In the New Testament up until Pentecost, Jesus moved. From Pentecost on, it’s the Holy Spirit moving in and through the church. The same Spirit that anointed Jesus anoints disciples today.

The second principle is that each member of the Body of Christ is given gifts of the Spirit for the sake of service the body. Spiritual gifts are not limited to church elders. God doesn’t work only from the top down, he works from the bottom up. He works through the people. All of us are members of the body. Some of us are eyes or ears, some are hands or feet and each part has something to contribute to the building up of the body. This is true in the realm of the Spirit as well as in the flesh.

Say this out loud as you read it... “The Holy Spirit has worked in me more than I realize. The Holy Spirit is working in me more than I realize. The Holy Spirit will work in me more than I realize.” God is so hard up to bless his people he will even use the likes of you and me.

The third principle is this: Charisms are ministry gifts. They are given to bless and to build up the body, the church. The primary purpose of charisms is for the sake of the body, the church. Charisms don’t exist for the one who uses them. Charisms exist for the good of others. The gifts of the Spirit are given to build up the body of Christ.

But for all that, charisms are not the greatest manifestations of the Holy Spirit. As St. Paul said, the greatest of these is love. Jesus said many will say to him on that day, ‘Lord, did we not prophesy in your name? Did we not drive out demons in your name? Did we not do mighty deeds in your name?’ But he will declare to them solemnly, ‘I never knew you. Depart from me, you evil doers.’ Charisms serve the body of Christ but do not assure salvation in Christ.

Operating in the charisms is good but we don’t bank on the charisms for salvation. There really isn’t a charism of patience, kindness or humility. There are no charism for spiritual maturity, integrity or a generous spirit. No charism for a spirit without jealousy or revenge.

Charisms are what you decide to do. Charity is what you decide to become. (Cont’d)
June 2020

HAPPENINGS


June 9 (Tuesday) PRAISE & WORSHIP NIGHT, St. Peter’s Prayer Group. Zoom meeting 7-8:30 pm. Call Peter 651-353-4311.


Ongoing - DAILY MASS WITH FR. JIM LIVINGSTON, 9 am. Join in worship live through Facebook (Church of St. Paul) or later find all the Masses on their website: churchofsaintpaul.com. Call 763-757-6910.

Website – ASCENSION PRESS (ASCENSIONPRESS.COM), Click on Ascension Presents; Videos/ Fr. Mike Schmitz. (There are many teachings and articles to find here.)

Website – THE MINISTRY OF THE WILD GOOSE (THEWILDGOOSEISLOOSE.COM), Click on Video Programs.

YouTube - RENEWAL MINISTRIES, Teachings from Peter Herbeck, Ralph Martin and more. Youtube.com/watch?v=dju-WMwVdrA. Jesus, Light in the Darkness, night of celebration with Praise & Worship and talks.

YouTube - WORD ON FIRE DAILY MASS, www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/ from Bishop Barron’s chapel.

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YouTube - WORD ON FIRE DAILY MASS, www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/ from Bishop Barron’s chapel.

(St. Peter’s Church)
Zoom CCRO Workshop
Saturday, June 13
9 am – 11 am

Power of the Word:
Let the Holy Spirit Lead

Presenter: Gary Ritter from the Church of St. Paul

Praise and Worship begins our morning.
Teaching & Discussion follow

All are welcome. Easy to jump on. Invite your friends. Check our website for the Zoom link or call the office at 763-571-5314.

Pentecost weekend

Archdiocesan celebration of Holy Mass

Sunday, May 31 at 5:00 pm

Live Streamed from the Cathedral: www.cathedralsantpaul.org. Find the YouTube and Facebook link on their website. Following Mass there will be Praise & Worship songs led by various groups in the Archdiocese. Join the celebration of Pentecost!

Other opportunities to celebrate:

• 50 Hours to Pentecost Worldwide Prayer Chain; Praise, Worship, and Intercession May 28-May 30. Visit cmax.tv/Pentecost/en.

• Participate in an online Life in the Spirit Seminar. www.thearkandthedoveworldwide.org/en/ Teachings from David Mangan, Michelle Moran, Jim Murphy, and others.