



## Summer 2024

*Mission Statement:* Our mission is to proclaim the Gospel so all can respond to the call to conversion to Jesus Christ, surrender their lives to the Father and experience transformation through baptism in the Holy Spirit.

## RECEIVING FIRE

PETER HERBECK

In Luke 12:49, Jesus communicates his ultimate goal: "I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled!"

Jesus is moved and empowered by the Holy Spirit, symbolized by fire. Jesus wants to cast the Holy Spirit—the burning love between the Father and the Son—into the hearts of human beings. But until Jesus accomplishes his victory on the cross, we can't receive that burning love.

In Jesus' death and resurrection, He deals with all that separates us from God's holiness and purity. Fire is part of God: his purity, holiness, jealous love, and zeal to extend his love and remove everything that hinders love. We see images of the fire of God's love in the New Testament. Jesus appears to John with eyes flaming fire that reveal a burning heart of love (Rv 1:14). The eyes are the window to the heart and soul (Mt 6:22-24). Jesus' pure love is burning in Him, and now it's burning in a human body.



On the day of Pentecost, tongues of fire came down on the disciples' heads. The disciples had lived with Jesus for three years. He gave them perfect teaching, but they didn't fully understand his ultimate purpose. At Pentecost, fire empowers, purifies, and energizes. As St. John Paul II said, the fire thrusts them out into the marketplace and empowers them to proclaim the Gospel. The external sign of the tongues of fire symbolizes the internal fire released in them.

God's fire releases grace for transformation (*Catechism* 696). Fire represents the Holy Spirit's power to transform us into God's children and enable us to receive all He gives us. God is love itself. But God's fire also purifies. God is holy; we must be prepared to come into his presence. If we refuse that love, that fire of grace, his love becomes judgment. God's judgment comes upon us, and it will destroy everything that resists his love.

In today's world, people often have a sentimentalized and indulgent idea about what God's love is. They overlook sin. Jesus says many difficult things, because He's pure love, truth, and wisdom. He's not phony, weak love. He's red-hot, burning love—which shocks us. When He comes against our false idols, lies, and deception, we react.

For instance, there's currently a lot of sexual immorality accepted in the Church. Many idols are being raised up. Even in high places, people are saying, "It's no big deal - God is love." This is a false understanding of who the Lord is. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

*(continued on page 2)*

*(Continued)*

St. Catherine of Siena says God sometimes showers people with blessings, but if that doesn't lead them to thanksgiving and worship, He sends difficulties. He's saying, "Maybe you'll come to your senses. Maybe you'll return to me." God brings people to Himself through both blessing and chastisement.

The image of Jesus' eyes flaming fire reveals that He sees everything. We all must render an account (Heb 4:13). The Lord always has that endgame in mind. In recent years, the sins of the Church have been exposed, and to the degree that the Church doesn't acknowledge them and seriously repent, He's going to keep surfacing them. This is the reality of God's purifying zeal and fire. He is determined to rescue his people and deliver us from anything holding us back from paradise.

If we put off getting serious about God because we are worried that He will ruin the fun things we want in life, we are suppressing the truth of who God is and what we owe Him. We are worshipping a creature instead of the Creator. Paul clearly states that we all can know something about God. Our conscience leads us there; we can see God in creation. We're going to be held responsible for it before the fiery eyes of the living God.

Think about a candle flame. A burning candle is quiet, but if you look at it, there's an intensity to that flame. The fire of the Holy Spirit is meant to be intense like a burning fire in our hearts, for the love of God, our neighbors, and extending God's kingdom. The Lord wants to give us that energy and power. It's purifying, gives light, and energizes us, but we must receive it. We must pay attention each day and thank the Lord for his gift of the Holy Spirit and his indwelling presence. We must ask Him to do in us everything He wants to do: "Help this flame constantly burn in me and grow, so that I can live the life You've called me to live." This is what love looks like—responding to the power and grace that's within us. *( printed with permission from Peter Herbeck)*

## Gift of Love

God calls to us. He offers us mercy, hope and love. We are cherished and never abandoned, He offered the ultimate sacrifice of His Son, Jesus, on the cross, who instituted and feeds us with His precious Body and Blood in the Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. In the Church year we celebrate His mercy in many ways, The second Sunday of Easter is designated Divine Mercy Sunday, declared by Pope St. John Paul II and based upon revelations made to St. Faustina - *"My daughter tell the whole world of My inconceivable mercy"*

The summer months, June, July, and August carry forth the Idea of God's inconceivable mercy, During each of these months we are called to specific devotions, each reminding us of God's great gift of love, His desire to have mercy on us and draw us to Him. We are reminded to keep our eyes and hearts on Him who redeems us and loves us at great cost and continues to call us.

June is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Its powerful image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus speaks to us of what Jesus suffered, but it is also an image of hope and love. Jesus, in asking St. Margaret Mary Alacoque to promote the devotion said, *"My divine Heart is so passionately fond of the human race and of you, in particular, that it cannot keep back the pent-up flames of its burning charity any longer. They must burst out through you and reveal my Heart to the world, so as to enrich mankind with my treasures."* His love reaches out to us calling us to love Him in return. (page 4)

*"Be Aglow with the Spirit!"*

***"Never flag in zeal. Be Aglow with the Spirit. Serve the Lord." – Romans 12:11***

PRAYER AND FORMATION FOR RENEWAL LEADERS

**ST. PAUL, MN**



COMING TOGETHER IN PERSON IN 2024

**OCT 25-27**

*Veni, Creator Spiritus*

**HOLY SPIRIT 2024**

**NATIONAL LEADERS MEETING**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PENTECOST TODAY USA (THE NATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE OF THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL OF THE US) IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF DIOCESAN LIAISONS, AND THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL OFFICE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS.

It is the Spirit of the Living God who brings a restoration of HOPE and abundant LIFE in Christ.

Come let us never flag in zeal.

Let us BE AGLOW WITH THE SPIRIT together at **Holy Spirit 2024** in St Paul, MN, on October 25-27.

**All are welcome!**

*"Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters..." Isaiah 55:1*

**Scan qr code for more information and to register**





August 3rd, 2024

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

# RALLY DAY

with Peter Herbeck  
of Renewal Ministries



"...I remind you to stir into flame the gift  
of God that you have through  
the imposition of my hands."

2Timothy 1:6

# Stir it UP!

Let's get together and stir up the flame of the gifts of the Spirit among us!

Together we can create a large fire to welcome the National Catholic Charismatic Conference,  
"Be Aglow with the Spirit!" (October 25-27, 2024) NET Ministries Center W. St. Paul, MN

## St. Michael Catholic Church

11300 Frankfort Pkwy NE St. Michael, Minnesota

PRESENTED BY THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL OFFICE

for details use QR code ~ or go to [www.ccro.msp.org](http://www.ccro.msp.org) ~ or call (763) 571-5314



Registration \$50.00 (online or at conference) Scholarships Available

Lunch is on your own. Please bring your meal  
or check out local venues. Water, coffee and snacks provided.

Peter Herbeck, our presenter, is the vice president and director of missions for Renewal Ministries. For more than thirty years, he has been actively involved in evangelization and Catholic renewal throughout the US, Canada, Africa, and Eastern Europe. Peter is a co-host for the weekly television program The Choices We Face. He also hosts the daily radio show Fire on the Earth. He is a frequent conference speaker, has authored When the Spirit Comes in Power and When the Spirit Speaks, and has produced CDs and booklets about discipleship and life in the Spirit. Peter and his wife, Debbie, have four children and seven grandchildren, and reside in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

*Have you ever watched a fire? It flares high and bright. Flames snap and we are drawn to it.*

*It is a living thing! As it begins to die down, we stir it up to flame anew.*

*Let's get together and stir up the flame of the gifts of the Spirit among us!*

Together we can create a large fire to welcome the National Catholic Charismatic Conference,

### Holy Spirit 2024 - "Be Aglow with the Spirit"

October 25-27, 2024 - NET Ministries Center West St. Paul MN

*Come, Holy Spirit, Come! Come, have your way with us,*

*may the flame of the Holy Spirit be STIRRED UP in us*

*so that we may all "Be AGLOW with the Spirit"!*



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*“Stay with me, Lord, for it is You alone I look for, Your Love, Your Grace, Your Will, Your Heart, Your Spirit, because I love You and ask no other reward but to love You more and more.” St. Padre Pio*

(continued from page 2) July is the month of the Precious Blood. This is an ancient devotion of the Church. In this month we focus on the fact that Jesus shed His blood - His most precious blood that we might be saved, It is a reminder to us of the seriousness sin, in that it was necessary for the Son of God to give His life in order to redeem the world. Blood is necessary to life and Jesus gave us his all, every precious drop so that we might live and have life in Him. Sin must indeed be a horror before God and yet He did not hesitate offering the most precious blood of His Son. What a grace! What a Mercy! How God loves us and calls us to be like Him. Strengthen us Lord to bear our crosses and give our lives to you.

August is the month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Her heart is also aflame with her love of Father, Son and Spirit. Always she follows the desires of her Son and points us to Him. She prays and intercedes for us, calling us to turn our hearts toward Jesus and for peace in the world.



## HAPPENINGS

- † **August 3 (Saturday) Rally Day - “Stir it Up!”**  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM St. Michael Catholic Church,  
St. Michael MN <https://ccro-msp.org/rally-day-2024>
- † **August 5 - 8 (Monday - Thursday) Encounter Minis-  
tries Summer Intensive** 5:00 PM Monday –9:00 PM  
Thursday NET Ministries Center 110 Crusader Ave W.  
West St. Paul [https://encountertcc.regfox.com/  
encounter-twin-cities-summer-intensive](https://encountertcc.regfox.com/encounter-twin-cities-summer-intensive)
- † **October 25 - 27 (Friday to Sunday) Holy Spirit 2024**  
**“Be Aglow with the Spirit”** Pentecost Today National  
Leader’s Conference and Meeting - NET Ministries  
Center 110 Crusader Ave W. West St. Paul  
† <https://www.pentecosttodayusa.org/hs2024>