



# GLEANINGS

November 2007

## Mentoring with Wisdom, Trust and Counsel

by Sharon Fox

“The emergence of the Renewal following the Second Vatican Council was a particular gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. It was a sign of a desire on the part of many Catholics to live more fully their Baptismal dignity and vocation as adopted sons and daughters of the Father, to know the redeeming power of Christ our Saviour in a more intense experience of individual and group prayer, and to follow the teaching of the Scriptures by reading them in the light of the same Spirit who inspired their writing. Certainly one of the most important results of this spiritual reawakening has been that *increased thirst for holiness* which is seen in the lives of individuals and in the whole Church.”

Pope John Paul II, March 14, 1992, Address to the ICCRS Council

When I was growing up we would often pile into the family station wagon and visit my grandparents. My grandpa had a great garden out back that he would let us enter if we were being good. Fruits and vegetables grew everywhere. Over time, he taught us to how to pick the ripe berries or how to pull up only the big carrots so that the small carrots would be left to have a chance to grow.

I learned a lot about food then, but I learned even more about patience, agriculture and hard work. Now I realize that during those warm, summer days, he was mentoring me.

**“A mentor is one who passes on to others what they have already learned and mastered themselves.”**

### What is a mentor?

A mentor is a wise advisor; a trusted teacher and counselor. You notice it mentions wisdom, trust and counsel, and not abundant knowledge or great capabilities. What’s great about being a mentor is that fact that almost anyone can be one. A mentor is one who passes on to others what they have already learned and mastered themselves.

Jesus is a great mentor. You can see it especially in his relationship with Peter, James and John. In the scriptures, you’ll notice that he had these three men close with him during most of his significant miracles and ministry. It was by his example and teaching, that he trained them. He cared enough to correct them and he explained things to them when they didn’t understand. I imagine Jesus must have learned how to mentor by being mentored himself by his own stepfather, Joseph.

During the 16<sup>th</sup> century, St Philip Neri mentored many of the young men of Rome. He got them involved in lively conversations and in activities that helped them develop humble, holy lives. By his friendship, his example and his encouragement, his influence on those men made a difference in their lives. It also led to the beginnings of his congregation, known as the Oratory.

### How to be mentored

You can have a formal or an informal mentoring relationship. A formal mentoring relationship is one where I come to you (or you approach me) and

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# All I Ever Needed To Know I Learned At WWCCR

by Sharon Fox

By the time that you read this, I will be starting a new job at the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS) office in Rome, Italy. When I heard about this opportunity a few years ago, I started getting things together in my life so I would be ready to serve if the time came. Then in May this year, I heard that they were looking for workers so I sent them some information. Never did I imagine that I would really be going this soon. However, God had planted a desire in my heart to serve Him and a love for Italy so it is not really a surprise to me.

As my last official act as your GLEANINGS editor, I offer some reflections from my last 19 years at WWCCR.

## Youth Ministry

I was baptized in the Spirit in 1982 during a Full Gospel Business Men's dinner. It only took a few minutes and, on the way home, my friends suggested that I should practice praying in tongues. That was the extent of my introduction to the Holy Spirit. But a seed was planted in me.

Two years later, I had my first encounter with the ministry of WWCCR. CYRT (Catholic Youth Renewal Team) was the youth and young adult ministry leading the youth track at the annual WWCCR conference. At the Youth Track I met other young adults who were living a life in the Spirit and finally my own experience made sense. Over the next three years, I began to grow and experience the Holy Spirit in ways I'd never known. I began to learn about praise and worship, prayer ministry, and leadership. The youth ministry made Charismatic Renewal relevant to me before I even realized that's what it was.

## Praise & Worship

The first ministry I became involved in was music ministry. I had been in my parish folk choir, but I found that there was so much more to praise and worship than just singing. Praise and worship has changed my prayer life and it has made me more open to hear the Spirit.

## At WWCCR

Before WWCCR, I was a preschool teacher. One day I was at a CYRT core group meeting and the WWCCR Board of Directors was scheduled to meet right after us.

In between the meetings Virginia King approached me and asked, "Would you consider being the secretary at the WWCCR office?" And my response? "God is weird!" I was ready for a change and had been praying for God to show me where I might work next. I never imagined working in an office. Didn't they know I couldn't type and had no computer experience? Somehow they overlooked that and hired me anyway.

## Leadership Development

I have spent a lot of time serving in the background. Two of my charisms are helps and service (which assist an individual and an organization achieve their goals). From the back, I watched how other leaders led meetings and lived their lives. Then I started to model my efforts after their example.

You know how you start off to do one thing and the Lord takes you somewhere else? Because of my love of praise and worship, I was asked to help plan those first few praise and worship weekends with Jim Murphy. That led to

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### WWCCR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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GLEANINGS is the monthly newsletter published by Western Washington Catholic Charismatic Renewal (WWCCR). The purpose of this newsletter is to provide teaching, news and a calendar of events which help to foster Catholic charismatic renewal throughout the Church in western Washington.

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**Mentor** continued

ask for help or guidance in how to do something. In the context of the spiritual life, it could include things like how to lead a prayer meeting, how to pray the rosary, or how to understand something in the Catechism. An RCIA sponsor is another example of a mentor relationship. In this relationship, there is a conscious effort to plan time together where both people are aware of the purpose.

A model of a mentoring relationship often goes something like this: The mentor does something and the learner watches. The mentor shows the learner all the steps and nuances of how it is done. The learner then does it under the mentor's watchful eye. Eventually the learner becomes proficient and can do it on their own. By the end, a friendship has probably been established from the shared experience.

An informal mentoring relationship is one where the learner finds someone who has a gift, attitude or style that they want to emulate. Then the learner hangs back and observes. I have to confess that I do this a lot. I look for these types of mentors all the time. I am blessed to be involved in Charismatic Renewal in many ways here in western Washington. If you have seen me hanging around, it might have been a time that I was letting someone mentor me informally.

Because I have put myself under the mentorship of others, I have become a much better worship leader. I am better at recognizing my own gifts and the gifts of others. I have learned to pray with others. I have learned how to put myself at the service of others better. I have learned to live with greater compassion and thankfulness. I have learned to laugh more, cry more and love more. To be honest, many of you reading this article have probably unknowingly played some part in my informal mentoring and for that I will be forever grateful.

We need mentors now more than ever in society. In the Renewal, we have so many gifted, experienced people who have been active and faithful to their prayer groups and parishes. If you have been around the Renewal for a while and understand the charismatic gifts, or how to put on a life in the Spirit seminar, or how to pray for someone else to experience baptism in the Holy Spirit, then you are in a position to be a mentor to the new members of the Renewal. I challenge you to pray about it and ask the Lord who you might mentor. Your efforts will not only help the individual grow in their gifts, but it will strengthen the Renewal in our area.

One of the ways that I mentor is in my role as a

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## My Family is His Family

by Gloria Soto, Board Member

This is the time of year when changes are so noticeable. The weather gets nippy and the days are shorter. Then as we look to the days ahead, holidays seem to loom upon us.



And yet, this is the time that I find the most comforting. It makes me think of all the things that have happened through the year; the promotions, the new friends I have made, the friends I have lost, the heartache I have experienced, and the new revelations God has

brought to mind that have changed not only my outlook in life, but the purpose of my life.

This speaks to God bringing goodness out of all things. Recently I found myself sharing something with a group of people that I didn't think I would ever share with anyone. It was a deep hurt that I have carried for sometime this year. I was thinking that I should not bother anyone with my heartache because others suffer so much more, but my DAD (God, the Father who knows me so well) knew that I could not carry this for very long. *He* prepared an opportunity to minister to me and to each of us present. Through that, unbeknownst to everyone, deep healing was brought to my heart.

I don't usually enjoy the holidays because they are all about family, and I don't really have one. People are kind enough to invite me to their home and share their traditions with me. I enjoy myself and I love it, but I'm still not part of their family. I know I belong to the larger family of *God*, but it's still always a struggle for me to go through the holidays.

This year, something different has happened to me. The one fear I always have of being alone has suddenly (well, maybe not suddenly) dissipated. As I went through this heartache, I found that I may not have a "blood" family, but Jesus who bought me with His Blood, has literally made me *His family*. This new understanding and revelation has brought such comfort that for the first time in my 20 years of being in this country, I'm not dreading the holidays. That is the healing He has brought to me. That is what I'll be thankful for this Thanksgiving and Christmas.

To me this is a *new beginning*. Now I ask you to think back on all the things that you have gone through this year, both good and bad, bring them to His Sacred Heart and *expect* Him to reveal to you or show you the goodness He has been bringing out of it. Our God brings all things to good

my involvement and coordination of the WWCCR Leaders & Helpers Day events over the last two years. With the prayer and hard work of the Leadership Development Committee, we plan and conduct these events for the leaders and helpers of our area.

### GLEANINGS & Publishing

When I started at WWCCR, Virginia came to me and said, "I'm so sorry Sharon, but one of your tasks here is to do the newsletter." and I responded, "Yippee!" In high school I worked on the school

newspaper and loved to do the layout.

Over the years, I've also designed other WWCCR publications including flyers, conference brochures, and most of our manuals. I believe this is another charism that was revealed and nurtured while working here.

### Intercession

Through working at WWCCR, I have also developed my charism for intercession. Being involved with the people and ministry of WWCCR has given me many opportunities to pray for the needs of others. I also have a strong desire to

pray for priests and vocations. My prayer is that many others will experience a personal Pentecost and that WWCCR events would be times of great blessing for many people.

### A Future Full of Hope

This month WWCCR celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This is the perfect time to double our efforts to make sure that every baptized Catholic is empowered by the Holy Spirit to do the things that God has called them to do. Now is the time to do all we can to keep the flame of Pentecost alive.

If you don't currently at-

tend a prayer meeting, find one and join them. If there is going to be a Healing Mass in your area, attend and bring a friend. Attend as many events as possible and invite others to join you. This is where I have been blessed. This is where the Lord has had a chance to work in me and through me over the years. That is where many people have come to experience the spirituality of Pentecost. Don't wait! You never know where it will take you—a closer relationship with Jesus Christ and, if like me, one day to Rome. God bless you all! ■



## 30th Anniversary WWCCR Conference!

Saturday, November 3, 2007  
9:30AM - 9:00PM

at St. Brendan Church  
10100 NE 192nd St., Bothell, WA

Conference Speakers include:  
**Archbishop Alex Brunett,**  
**Josephine Cachia, and**  
**Chuck Hornsby**

*Please come and register at the door!*

For this special 30th Anniversary Conference,  
**Registration is FREE!**

*There will be a special prize for the prayer group or community that brings the most people, so please register!*

### Schedule

9:30am–12 noon  
**GATHERING & MASS**  
with celebrant Archbishop  
Alex Brunett

12 noon–1:30PM  
Lunch break

1:30–2:45PM  
**WORKSHOP SESSION I**

2:45–3:15PM Break

3:15–4:30PM  
**WORKSHOP SESSION II**

4:30–6:30PM Dinner break  
*(off campus because of  
Saturday Vigil Mass)*

6:30–9:00PM  
**30TH ANNIVERSARY  
PRAYER MEETING**  
**"Go Light Your World!"**  
with speakers Josephine  
Cachia & Chuck Hornsby

# Life Before Baptism in the Spirit Was One of Searching

by Mark Patterson

I began life as a Catholic, but started a downward slide when I discovered alcohol in high school. Out with God and in with good times. It didn't take long for alcohol to turn on me, but I managed to hang on until age 23 when I came crashing down.

After many years of running from God I got on my knees and asked for help. I was tired of being me. God, as He always does, answered my prayers quickly and I found myself at a meeting of recovering alcoholics. I was completely burned out and spiritually bankrupt. The *12 Steps* on the wall had God throughout and I felt at home. I was willing to do whatever they said if it would keep the pain away.

The next 18 years brought more sobriety, a wife, three kids and a close relationship with God that I shared with nobody. My motto was, "I would rather see a sermon than hear one." I wanted to be an example rather than cram my beliefs down my family's throats. In 1997, I came back to the Catholic Church and hoped my wife would convert, but

I didn't pressure her. I figured if she converted the kids would follow. It didn't happen.

In 2001, I separated from my wife. Our vastly different spiritual beliefs were one of the main reasons. A close priest friend told me to quit focusing on my wife and to focus on my relationship with God. I did, and moved back home, hoping the spiritual void between my wife and I would close. We just didn't talk about it anymore.

The last 6 years brought lots of success with my business but I felt my wife and I were growing apart again. The friction between us was growing and that started showing up in the kids. They were all teenagers now and I was having a difficult time with parenting them. There was lots of tension in our house and blame was flying everywhere.

Once again, I got down on my knees and prayed for help to be a better father and husband. I did this for many months with no real answers. Finally one Sunday early in March 2007, I heard Father Jim talking about an upcoming Life in the Spirit seminar. He said

when he had attended one 20 years earlier, it had changed his life. I was all ears and immediately registered.

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**"My motto was,  
'I would rather  
see a sermon  
than hear one.'"**

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I showed up the first day of the seminar having no idea what I was getting into. By the first break, I knew my life was changed. The woman leading our group was telling my story. She felt as I did, only 30 years earlier. I wanted what she had and knew God had answered my prayers. I called my brother in Chicago to tell him and he laughed. As close as we were, I hadn't realized that he had been baptized in the Spirit 12 years earlier and had been praying that I would also.

My life today is incredible. I have fallen deeply in love with Jesus and the Catholic Church. In turn, I have a love for my wife that I had never experienced. I see her through a different set of eyes. I am a better

father now. I can't read enough books on my faith. I listen to Sacred Heart radio all day long. I can't wait to attend my prayer group and I attend Mass every Sunday, not just when it is convenient. I have truly given my life to Christ. I go to church now and people know me. I pray and meditate every morning and read the bible. My biggest fear concerning evangelization has not materialized. I can't stop talking about Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. I am experiencing the gifts of the Holy Spirit and want more. One of the greatest gifts is the strong faith I have been given that has driven out the fear I have been carrying in my stomach for over 51 years. God has blessed me immensely. ■

*Mark Patterson is a parishioner at St. Brendan Parish in Bothell.*

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## **Mark your calendar!**

St. Brendan Parish in Bothell will be offering another Life in the Spirit Seminar, like the one that Mark attended, on December 1-2. See the back of the calendar for more information.

worship leader. I have many opportunities to do some mentoring with new worship leaders. It might be as simple as getting together for a "jam session." Somewhere, in the middle of playing music, I can model for them how a song progresses from just being a song to being a prayer. I have shared song-books, given guitar lessons,

and invited other worship leaders to worship conferences for further training and experience. Through fellowship and participation, mentoring makes a big impact on the lives and ministry of others.

**Being Mentored by the Saints**

I love the communion of saints! They are such a di-

verse group of people who all hold a common love of

**"I challenge you to pray about it and ask the Lord who you might mentor."**

Jesus and the Church. Through their service to others, their prayer life, and their sacrifice, they are excellent examples of holiness and I have used the example of their lives at different times in my life.

I met one of my favorite saint mentors several years ago while attending a Mass on a Saturday in November. The Mass happened to fall on the feast of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini. The priest celebrating the Mass told story after story about her that made her come alive for me. Mother Cabrini was an Italian who founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. She was urged by Pope Leo XIII to go to America to help the Italian immigrants there.

When she arrived in Seattle, she went right to work by establishing a hospital and an orphanage. In fact, she became a U.S. citizen here during one of her visits in 1909. Besides the basic details, this priest also told stories about his mother's friend who *knew* Mother Cabrini and how she had once walked the same streets of North Seattle where I was living at the time. Suddenly she became like a neighbor to me. I started to read books about her life and found her determination and perseverance to be inspiring. When I need to be decisive or resourceful or organized, I pray for her to mentor me with her help and wisdom.

We should share our blessings of knowledge and know-how with others. These blessings were not given for us alone. The Church and our society need to have people who will mentor and share their wisdom with others. The example of our lives can bless others. You may never know

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**for those with a red X on your label**

In our efforts to be good stewards of the resources that God provides for us, we want to be certain that we are not sending GLEANINGS to any who are not interested in receiving it. We do not have a subscription fee, but we do need to occasionally ask that you renew your "free subscription" if you are still interested in receiving this newsletter.

So, if you have a red X, it means we haven't heard from you for a while and would like you to notify us that you want to continue to receive GLEANINGS. Of course, we are also very grateful for any donation you might be able to make to offset the cost of GLEANINGS and support the ongoing work of WWCCR.

Please return this form in the yellow envelope enclosed with this GLEANINGS.

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who is looking up to you as a mentor, but let us pray to be prepared to be a mentor when the time comes for us to share with a brother or sister in Christ.

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs

with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Col. 3:16-17 ■

*Sharon Fox has been on staff at WWCCR for the last 19 years. Beginning this month, she will be working at the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services office in Rome, Italy.*

Check out our Spanish radio evangelization program “Jovenes al Frente” on:



**Radio Sol**  
**KKMO 1360AM**  
**Saturdays, 8AM**



**WANTED**



*Dedicated volunteers needed for*  
**Donor Development and  
Donor Relations Committee**

We are looking for individuals who desire to serve God and to further the vision and mission of WWCCR

- Whose hearts are with God's people
- Who enjoy working with people
- No other specific qualifications required

Time commitment will vary with your availability. Monthly meetings are generally held on the third Thursday, from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. Those who would like to volunteer, but who can't attend the monthly meeting, can be given responsibilities that are done in your available time.

Please contact  
Mike Daoust, Committee Chairman at 425-220-3504  
or Virginia King at 206-364-2272

# Healing Masses

**November 14-16**  
**Healing Masses with**  
**Fr. Michael Barry, ssc**

**Wednesday, November 14; 7PM**  
at Holy Innocents Church  
*26526 NE Cherry Valley Rd., Duvall*

**Thursday, November 15, 7PM**  
at St. Michael Church  
*1021 Boundary, Olympia*

**Friday, November 16; 7:30PM**  
at St. Anthony Church  
*416 S. 4th St., Renton*



WWCCR sponsors Healing Masses in various locations in the archdiocese of Seattle. At these Masses we are focusing our attention on the healing power of God truly present at every celebration of the Eucharist.

**For more information contact**  
WWCCR at (206) 364-2272,  
info@wwccr.org or check our website  
at [www.wwccr.org](http://www.wwccr.org)

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Happy 30th Anniversary,  
**WWCCCR!**

**GLEANNINGS**  
November 2007