



THE FLAME

THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL



June 2024 issue



FELLOWSHIP REGIONAL PICNIC 2024!!!

By Maria Muratore



Thank you to everyone for working so hard and contributing to our first annual Fellowship Regional Picnic. Thank you to all who came and celebrated with us. Our community has grown and feels so much like family. We are truly grateful for one another and creating new memories.

We were blessed with a beautiful day, beautiful fellowship, great food, delicious desserts and a wonderful time. Thank you to our CCS Board members for working so hard to make this a memorable occasion.

A special thank you to our BBQ grill masters, Eddie DiVito, Peter Muratore and Rudy Napoli.

Thank you to everyone who came early to set up. Thank you for providing the morning coffee, Mary Trombetta. Thank you to all who served and ministered. Welcome hospitality and registration help by Cecilia Soporowska and Wendy Edwards.

Thank you to Vita and Rudy Napoli for the "Mamma Mia's" pizzas. Everyone who baked and prepared salads and desserts, thank you! Thank you, Bernadette DiVito, for organizing the raffle games, prayer teams and so much more. Thank you to everyone for many of the last minute details and help.

Everyone worked beautifully as a team, we worked and ministered to our brothers and sisters in Christ, who are God's precious people.

The real blessing came as I heard laughter and felt the joy of the Lord. Many people met, reconnected and lingered in conversation at our lovely Saturday picnic by the lake.

We caught a glimpse of our future as so many young people attended, socialized, and truly participated in all aspects of the day. We had a ball! I thank God for each of you for attending and sharing the day with us.





FELLOWSHIP REGIONAL PICNIC ...

I enjoyed meeting and speaking with others during the picnic.-Alice DiFazio

It was wonderful, I'm so blessed to know you all - Cecilia

Thanks Maria for your Leadership! once again another Beautiful Event was Successful and Loved by All! What an Amazing Picnic it was! -Vita Napoli

What a great picnic. Glory to God! I'm so grateful for all of you! A great time was had by all! -Wendy Edwards



Thank you Maria for sharing your leadership, organization and all the behind the scene things you did to make this event happen. Thanks to all who helped and contributed in the little and big ways to make the picnic the success it was. What a gorgeous day filled with much fellowship, fun and laughter. -Bernadette DiVito

Thank you Maria for your talents and organization, thank you to all of the amazing volunteers for the beautiful day! We all had a great time! We couldn't have asked for a better day -Mary Trombeta



"We had a good time, it was great to see other members of the ministry. I saw my husband playing ball with one of the kids and they both seemed to have a great time. I noticed the next day my husband (Jerry) was up early and wanted to go to early mass (he is Baptist, but he goes to mass with me some Sundays or stays at home, and it was a couple of weeks since the last time he had gone). It was an answered prayer to see him go back to mass. Thanks again for organizing the event. Have a blessed evening! "-Jessica Houmani-Bundy

Thanks Maria! We enjoyed seeing everyone too! It was a great time, great food and fun connecting with folks we haven't seen in awhile. Win Wallace

Maria, as we drove home Saturday, I also thought it reminded me of a family cookout. Since most of us have moved here from someplace else, I realized that it very much was a family event with members of my Catholic families I'm attendance. I look forward to the 2nd annual event. -Andy Wallace



“ANGEL OF ENCOURAGEMENT”

By: Mary Trombetta

There are times in our lives that when you know you know that you just experienced a heavenly encounter. I was a 42 year old woman spending yet another stint in the hospital for the complex congenital heart condition I was born with. After multiple heart surgeries during childhood and young adulthood, I was now experiencing life-threatening arrhythmias that required an implantable cardiac defibrillator. I was blessed to have lived in the Boston Massachusetts area and had access to the best hospitals for my care. Because of my heart issues being congenital, I was a patient at the Boston Children’s Hospital. I would feel a bit awkward being in a children’s hospital at times, but it had its perks in someways. There was an energy of joy that you didn’t see at other hospitals nearby. The spirit of the children who suffered with such perseverance and grace and the parents who were by their side 24/7 was inspiring and a testimony of the resilience of the human spirit. Me, on the other hand was not feeling any of that, on that freezing, snowy, rainy sleeting night in February. I was recovering from a heart procedure and had not eaten for days. I was happy when the doctor allowed me to go downstairs on my own to get myself a sandwich from the coffee shop. I was happy to leave the floor and to eat something other than the hospital food. I got myself a nice roast beef sandwich and sat in the lobby watching the miserable sleet, snow and wind whipping against the windows. It was late in the evening, eerily quiet in the always bustling lobby. Nobody was outside due to the violent weather, not even a taxi cab. Feelings of complete despair and sadness all of a sudden came over me. I started questioning the choices I had made in my life.

There have been so many uphill battles and things I was never able to do due to my health challenges. Yet, I always found ways of figuring it out through the help of God, the power of prayer and trusting God.

My husband and I adopted two children five years apart, at the time, we were in the middle of raising them and they were both pretty young. I prayed hard that the Lord would give me the strength to raise them up to adulthood. I was taking a chance adopting children, knowing that my health could at any time fall apart, but again I put it in God’s hands, feeling confident and knowing that he had chosen me to be their mother.



ANGEL OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Continued...

As I was sitting in the lobby, eating my roast beef sandwich, and feeling the lowest I've ever felt, out of the blue I saw two children running around the lobby. They took me by surprise as they were not patients in the hospital and it was about 10:00 pm at night. It appeared that they were with their dad who was a very distinguished looking gentleman, they looked like they were waiting for a ride. The children were impeccably dressed. The little girl look like she was dressed for Easter morning. She wore a freshly knitted pink sweater, with a pretty dress, and her hair was perfectly braided. She was truly one of the



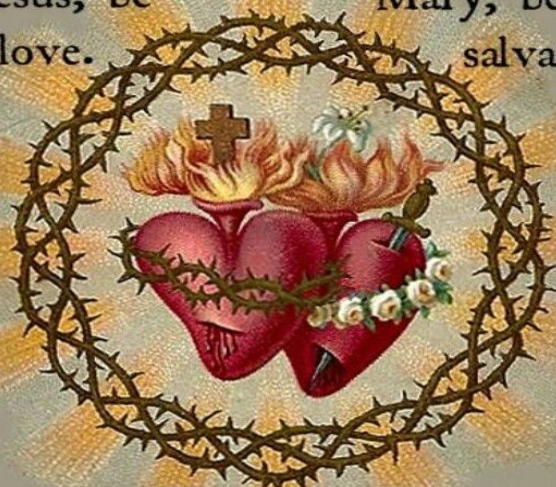
most beautiful children I had ever seen. As I was in my own little world, I suddenly felt somebody touch my knee. It was the little girl who appeared to be about six years old. She came right into my face and looked me in the eye and said "God is going to heal you!" with a precocious little smile. I was stunned by this encounter, yet I tried my best to have some fun bantering with the kid. I didn't want her to think I was some depressing middle-aged lady like I felt. I asked her what she was doing out so late, she told me she was visiting her mom and then she changed her story and told me she was visiting a friend. After some lighthearted chatter, she went off again to play with her brother. I went back to my roast beef sandwich with a lighter heart. Yet, a few minutes later, there she was again, tapping my knee, coming right into my face with the biggest brown eyes I had ever seen, and said "Don't worry, God is going to heal you!" Well, I was pinching myself, I felt like bursting out in tears and I was not going to do that in front of this lovely child. Instead, I thanked her and joked around with her for a bit. Her dad then summoned her to go. This beautiful little girl skipped away in her bright pink sweater into the freezing sleet and snow that evening. I watched them all leave as they went through the revolving door to the outside. It was still empty outside, no cars, and I was wondering where they were going. All of a sudden, I was in a daze and I literally thought I must of been on too many pain medications! They had totally disappeared in the snow and rain. I went back upstairs to my room and talked with my nurse. I told her what had happened, and realized that I had an encounter with an angel! The nurse had tears in her eyes and told me that she had heard about similar stories at the hospital.

There is no doubt in my mind that the child was an angel sent from God to encourage me and to help keep going and to persevere with his help. What a blessing that stormy, cold night was. Keep surrounding your hardships and keep going ! You never know when your Angel of encouragement will appear! "Jesus I trust in you"!

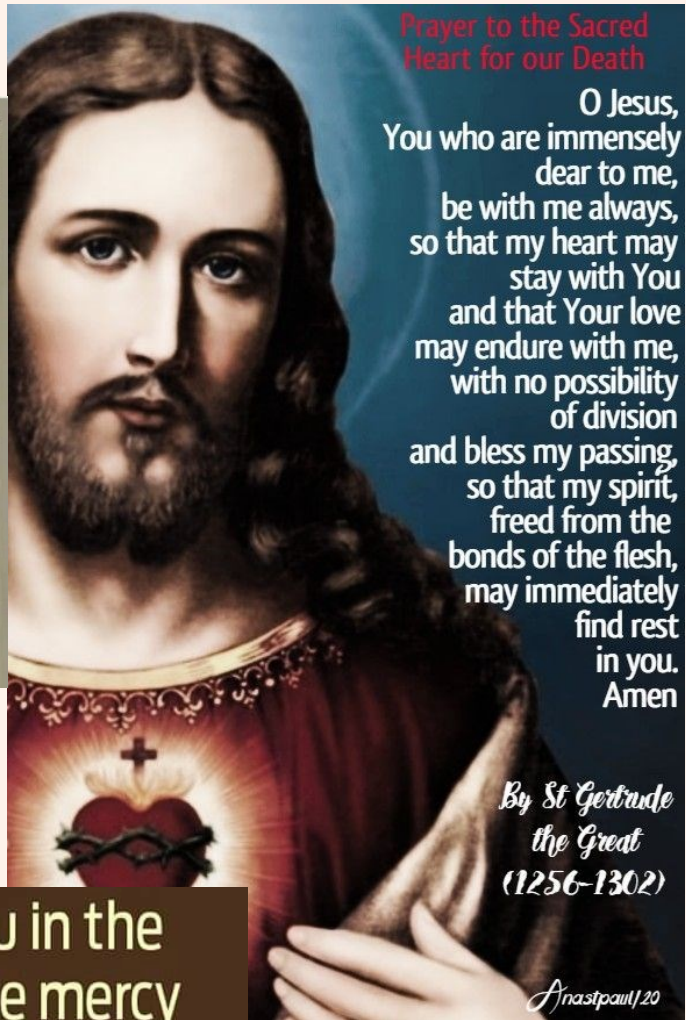
SACRED HEART

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my love.

Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation.



Sacred Heart of Jesus, make my heart more like yours!

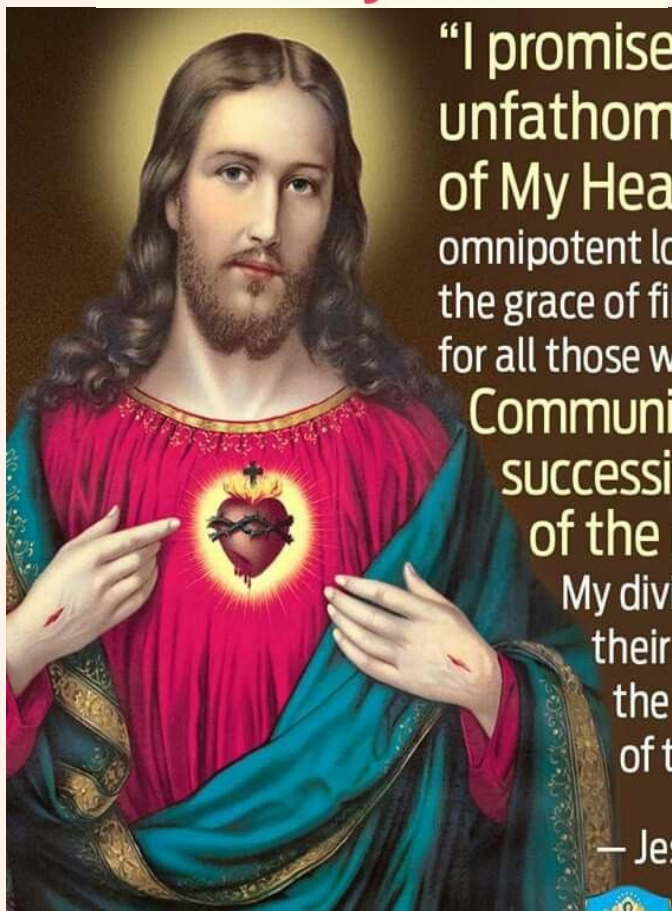


Prayer to the Sacred Heart for our Death

O Jesus, You who are immensely dear to me, be with me always, so that my heart may stay with You and that Your love may endure with me, with no possibility of division and bless my passing, so that my spirit, freed from the bonds of the flesh, may immediately find rest in you. Amen

By St Gertrude the Great (1256-1302)

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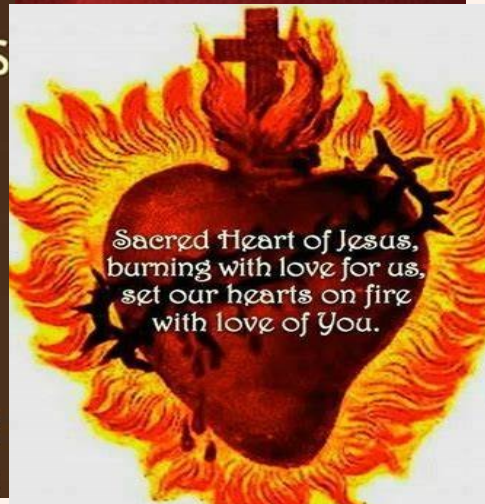


"I promise you in the unfathomable mercy of My Heart that My omnipotent love will procure the grace of final penitence for all those who receive Communion on nine successive first Fridays of the month ...

My divine Heart will be their sure refuge in the last moments of their life."

— Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

"THERE IS IN THE SACRED HEART THE SYMBOL AND EXPRESS IMAGE OF THE INFINITE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST WHICH MOVES US TO LOVE IN RETURN"
POPE LEO XIII



Sacred Heart of Jesus, burning with love for us, set our hearts on fire with love of You.

