



the Chalice

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN By Gretchen S

He is risen!

Spring greetings fellow Calix members and friends. I hope everyone is well, and enjoying the sunshine. As you make plans for summer travel, please consider attending our convention. This year the convention will be held at Mount Saint Marys University in Emmittsburg Maryland on July 17-19. The Elizabeth Seton Shrine is near, and there is The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes overlooking the campus. I encourage you to look up both of the Shrines and consider what a fabulous spiritual growth opportunity we have for us at the convention.

I attended a Calix Convention in St. Paul soon after joining Calix and I loved it. Not only is the fellowship rejuvenating, but our speakers and programs are spiritually nourishing. Bruce G is doing a fabulous job planning this year's event. Both Mike and I are looking forward to attending. Bruce has provided detailed information in this issue of the Chalice, and we will continue to update

you as the time gets closer.

One of the things I enjoy at the conventions are the superb talks of our guests. There is knowing and wisdom that lights my spirit, and encourages my personal experience on our sober walk with God. I still carry in my heart the experience, strength and hope from the very first convention I attended.

For those of you who may be travelling from afar, Gettysburg, Pa. is less than 30 minutes away, and several major East Coast cities are easily accessible by auto should you decide to plan more traveling before of after our convention.

God Bless You All!

“Above all the grace and the gifts Christ gives to his beloved is that of overcoming self” Saint Francis of Assisi

Gretchen



Father Michael R. Duesterhaus Appointed Calix Society Chaplain

The Calix Board of Directors has unanimously elected Fr. Duesterhaus as Chaplain at its March meeting.

Father Michael R. Duesterhaus grew up in Fairfax County, Virginia, graduating from his parish grade school of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Vienna. After graduating from Bishop O'Connell High School in Arlington, he attended St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia where he earned Bachelor in Arts degrees in both Philosophy and English, a Masters of Divinity, and a Masters of Arts (Dogmatic Theology). Father was ordained on May 18th, 1991.

Father Duesterhaus' parish assignments include: Holy Spirit, Annandale; St. Theresa, Ashburn; St. Michael, Annandale; St. William of York, Stafford; St. Patrick, Chancellorsville; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Lake Ridge; St. Matthew's, Spotsylvania; Our Lady of Angels, Woodbridge, and is currently Assistant Pastor at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Aldie, Virginia. Corpus Christi was a mission parish until November 2014, and Mass is celebrated at a local high school.

Commissioned a Naval Officer in the Reserves in 1988, Father has served on Active Duty as a chaplain with the Marine Corps and has been deployed overseas four times: 3d Maintenance BN, 3d FSSG (Okinawa, 1996-1998); 4th Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division (Okinawa, 1998-1999). As a mobilized Reservist, he served with the 26th MEU (2005); 2d Marine Division HQ (Ramadi & Fallujah, Iraq, 2005-2006); and Regimental Combat Team Six (Ramadi, Iraq, 2009). Having served at MCB Quantico as a Reservist, he deployed to Camp Lemonnier Djibouti, Africa (November 2011 – August 2012). This is the only U S Military base in the continent of Africa, entrusted to the U S Navy, which he describes as hotter than Iraq, and poorer than Haiti.

As it relates to Calix, Fr. Duesterhaus has been helping the Northern Virginia group of Calix. Of interest, Fr. Duesterhaus follows in the footsteps of Fr. Gallenbach who also served the nation as an USAF chaplain.

Fr. Tom Gallenbach
Appointed Chaplain
Emeritus

The Board of Directors of Calix International has voted to recognize Fr. Tom Gallenbach in the role of Emeritus Chaplain. Fr. Tom is also the chaplain of the Las Vegas, NV Unit. Fr. Tom has worn two hats in Calix for several years. He stepped forward to be Calix Chaplain for the Board of Directors and and Calix Society chaplain at a difficult time for the organization. Up until his volunteering to serve in this role, Calix had always had the chaplain's position filled by a priest from the Archdiocese of Minneapolis and St. Paul. When there was difficulty in finding a willing and qualified priest from the diocese, Fr. Tom said he was willing to serve in that role. The Board is extremely grateful to him for breaking new ground, and responding to our need.

Fr. Tom recently was feted for his 30th sobriety anniversary (March 20) by the Las Vegas Unit at a breakfast in his honor. He received a beautiful, jeweled medallion from the unit. He said he was going to have it pierced, so he can wear it with a chain.

Fr. Tom mentioned that the unit is going to have a special meeting on May 9 in Boulder City, where there is a beautiful labyrinth. The unit goes through the labyrinth and then conducts their meeting.

Jim Billigmeier
 Secretary



A number of years ago, I received a call from a young seminarian who felt a call to action after seeing the website for the York Calix group. He knew that this was exactly what he was looking for. He had been in recovery for a number of years and he thirsted for more. He was calling from Mount Saint Mary's which is less than an hour's drive from York, Pa.

He made it to one of our meetings, and eventually brought a fellow seminarian with him. A few weeks later, he and his classmate, along with the co-chaplains at York concelebrated Mass for the Calix Group with Bishop Rhoades. Bishop Rhoades had been the Rector at Mount Saint Mary's before his assignment as Bishop of Harrisburg. This year's convention at Mount Saint Mary's is special to me because of the links between her and the York Calix Group. On one occasion, the York Group took a trip over to 'The Mount' and Seton Shrine. The chapel at the Seton Shrine is absolutely beautiful – it has blue marble decorating the altar. The Grotto is peaceful and the Glass Chapel is prayerful.

The Board wishes to welcome Fr. Duesterhaus as he assumes the role of Chaplain of Calix Society and thank Fr. Gallenbach as he moves into the role of Chaplain Emeritus. The Board also wishes to express our thanks to Amy N. who has resigned from the Board but remains active in Calix in Philadelphia. Amy accomplished a great deal of work for the

Society, including being member of the team that revised our website a number of years ago.

Work is underway to move our literature supply into Philadelphia where we expect you will not notice any difference in obtaining literature from the Society. However, the cost of moving the literature is not trivial. The need to move it relates to the loss of our servant Ed Groff and Marlene transitioning into living quarters which can't house the literature.

There will be an election at the Convention. We have not received any nominations from the Society to fill seats on the Board. Perhaps names will come to be entered into nomination during the convention.

Mike Sanders

Calix Convention: Finding Freedom in God's Mercy

Before the start of each meeting, an 8-½ by 11 inch image of the Merciful Jesus with the red and pale rays emanating from our Lord's Sacred Heart is hung on a column for all to see, and the miniature statue of Matt Talbot kneeling with Our Lady and the Cross behind him is placed on the table. Participants pull out their rosary beads and prepare to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for all those in need of recovery, particularly those individuals who find their way to Loudoun Club 12, our Northern Virginia (NoVA) Calix home. While praying each decade, we mediate on a Sorrowful Mystery. As Jesus told St. Faustina:

“I desire that you know more profoundly the love that burns in My Heart for souls, and you will understand this when you mediate upon My Passion.” [Diary, 186]

By meditating on the Lord's Passion via the Sorrowful Mysteries, we come to know the burning love Jesus has for us. And as our understanding of God's love for us as individuals deepens, we are able to grow in love both within our Calix unit and with other persons in our lives.

Opening a Calix meeting with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy did not originate with our NoVA unit. We adopted the practice from the Ellicott City unit, where Father John Rapisarda introduced the devotion. As the Ellicott City and NoVA units are co-hosting the upcoming 2015 Calix Convention on July 17 – 19th, it is only natural that mercy be at its focal point. And to properly highlight Divine Mercy, Dr. Bryan Thatcher, founder of the Eucharist Apostles of Divine Mercy (EADM), will be the keynote speaker. EADM is a lay apostolate affiliated with the Marians of the Immaculate Conception (MIC), promoters of Divine Mercy since 1941, whose USA headquarters is based in Stockbridge, MA. Dr. Thatcher is a physician who has experienced God's Mercy in his own life. He is also knowledgeable of the 12-Steps, and his talk will address how to live our faith and Divine Mercy in our lives.

The convention's focus on mercy becomes more relevant as Pope Francis recently announced a “Holy Year of Mercy,” at a Lenten service marking the second anniversary of his papacy. This special Holy Year will be celebrated from Dec. 8, 2015, until Nov. 20, 2016. So Calix members will

Convention Theme, (cont. from pg. 4)

be able to “warm up” to the Divine Mercy message before the graces available during the upcoming Holy Year begin to flow.

We hope you will be part of this wonderful event at Mount Saint Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, MD July 17 – 19, 2015.

Pope Francis: homily with announcement of Year of Mercy - March 13, 2015

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis presided over a penance service in St. Peter’s Basilica on Friday afternoon, during which he announced an extraordinary Jubilee dedicated to Divine Mercy. Below, please find Vatican Radio’s English translation of the Holy Father’s homily, in which he made the announcement.

This year as last, as we head into of the Fourth Sunday of Lent, we are gathered to celebrate the penitential liturgy. We are united with so many Christians, who, in every part of the world, have accepted the invitation to live this moment as a sign of the goodness of the Lord. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, in fact, allows us with confidence to draw near to the Father, in order to be certain of His pardon. He really is “rich in mercy” and extends His mercy with abundance over those who turn to Him with a sincere heart.

To be here in order to experience His love, however, is first of all the fruit of His grace. As the Apostle Paul reminds us, God never ceases to show the richness of His mercy throughout the ages. The transformation of the heart that leads us to confess our sins is “God’s gift”, it is “His work” (cf. Eph 2:8-10). To be touched

with tenderness by His hand and shaped by His grace allows us, therefore, to approach the priest without fear for our sins, but with the certainty of being welcomed by him in the name of God, and understood notwithstanding our miseries. Coming out of the confessional, we will feel God’s strength, which restores life and returns the enthusiasm of faith.

The Gospel we have heard (cf. Lk 7:36-50) opens for us a path of hope and comfort. It is good that we should feel that same compassionate gaze of Jesus upon us, as when he perceived the sinful woman in the house of the Pharisee. In this passage two words return before us with great insistence: *love and judgment*.

There is the love of the sinful woman, who humbles herself before the Lord; but first there is the merciful love of Jesus for her, which pushes her to approach. Her cry of repentance and joy washes the feet of the Master, and her hair dries them with gratitude; her kisses are pure expression of her affection; and the fragrant ointment poured out with abundance attests how precious He is to her eyes. This woman’s every gesture speaks of love and expresses her desire to have an unshakeable certainty in her life: that of being forgiven. And Jesus gives this assurance: welcoming her, He demonstrates God’s love for her, just for her! Love and forgiveness are simultaneous: God forgives her much, everything, because “she loved much” (Luke 7:47); and she adores Jesus because she feels that in Him there is mercy and not condemnation. Thanks to Jesus, God casts her many sins away behind Him, He remembers them no more (cf. Is 43:25). For her, a new season now begins; she is reborn in love, to a new life.

This woman has really met the Lord. In silence, she opened her heart to Him; in pain, she showed repentance for her sins; with her tears, she appealed to the goodness of God for forgiveness. For her, there will be no judgment except that which comes from God, and this is the judgment of mercy. The protagonist of this meeting is certainly the love that goes beyond justice.

Simon the Pharisee, on the contrary, *cannot find the path of love*. He stands firm upon the threshold of formality. He is not capable of taking the next step to go meet Jesus, who brings him salvation. Simon limited himself to inviting Jesus to dinner, but did not really welcome Him. In his thoughts, he invokes only justice, and in so doing, he errs. *His judgment on the woman distances him from the truth* and does not allow him even to understand who his guest is. He stopped at the surface; he was not able to look to the heart. Before Jesus' parable and the question of which a servant would love his master most, the Pharisee answered correctly, "The one, to whom the master forgave most." And Jesus does not fail to make him observe: "Thou hast judged rightly. (Lk 7:43)" Only when the judgment of Simon is turned toward love: then is he in the right.

The call of Jesus pushes each of us never to stop at the surface of things, especially when we are dealing with a person. We are called to look beyond, to focus on the heart to see how much generosity everyone is capable. No one can be excluded from the mercy of God; everyone knows the way to access it and the Church is *the house that welcomes all and refuses no one*. Its doors remain wide open, so that those who are touched by grace can find the certainty of forgiveness. The greater

the sin, so much the greater must be the love that the Church expresses toward those who convert.

Dear brothers and sisters, I have often thought about how the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy. It is journey that begins with a spiritual conversion. For this reason, I have decided to call an *extraordinary Jubilee* that is to have the mercy of God at its center. It shall be a Holy Year of Mercy. We want to live this Year in the light of the Lord's words: "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. (cf. Lk 6:36)"

This Holy Year will begin on this coming Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and will end on November 20, 2016, the Sunday dedicated to Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – and living face of the Father's mercy. I entrust the organization of this Jubilee to the Pontifical Council for Promotion of the New Evangelization, that [the dicastery] might animate it as a new stage in the journey of the Church on its mission to bring to every person the Gospel of mercy.

I am convinced that the whole Church will find in this Jubilee the joy needed to rediscover and make fruitful the mercy of God, with which all of us are called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time. From this moment, we entrust this Holy Year to the Mother of Mercy, that she might turn her gaze upon us and watch over our journey.

**2015 National Convention of
the Calix Society
Mount Saint Mary's
University**

**“Finding Freedom in God’s
Mercy”**

AGENDA

**Friday, July 17, 2015 (15th Week of
Ordinary Time)**

12:00 Noon - Registration

5:00p Mass – Celebrant: Father John Rapisarda,
Ellicott City

6:00p Dinner

7:15p Welcome – Gretchen S., Calix President

7:30p Stations of the Cross at the Grotto

9:00p AA & Al-Anon Meeting – Speakers
(Sally B. & Bruce G.)

**Saturday’ July 18, 2015 (Feast Day of
Camillus de Lellis, M.I.)**

St. Camillus de Lellis is the patron saint of the sick, hospitals, nurses and physicians and founder, in 1582, of the Camillians or Clerics Regular, Ministers to the Sick (Latin: *Clerici Regulari Ministeri Infirmaribus, or “M.I.”*). A large red cross was chosen by the founder as the distinguishing badge for the members of the Order to wear upon their black cassocks, **which was later adopted as the international symbol of medical care.** The founder taught his volunteers that the “hospital was a house of God, a garden where the voices of the sick were music from heaven”.

7:00 -9:00a Registration

8:00a Breakfast

9:15a Welcome

9:30a Speaker #1 – Overview of the UNBOUND
Model of Deliverance

10:30a Speaker #2 – The Five Keys of the
UNBOUND Model

11:45a Mass – The day’s readings include
Psalm 136:

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who remembered us in our abjection,
for his mercy endures forever;
And freed us from our foes,
for his mercy endures forever.
R. His mercy endures forever.

12:30p Lunch

1:15p Business Meeting including election of
national officers

2:30p Speaker #3 – UNBOUND Ministry and
Calix

3:30p Reconciliation / Free Time (Seton Shrine
open until 4:30pm)

6:00p Dinner

7:15p Living Rosary

8:00p Keynote Speaker – Dr. Bryan Thatcher,
Founding Director of EADM

9:15p Calix Meeting

**Sunday, July 19, 2015 (16th Sunday in
Ordinary Time)**

7:00 - 9:30a Adoration

8:00a Breakfast

10:00a Mass – Glass Chapel at the National
Shrine of the Grotto of Lourdes

11:15a Sharing Calix – call to action

12:00p Benediction & Departure

the Chalice Convention Registration

March - April 2015

The itinerary will include great speakers including:

- The Diocese of Baltimore UNBOUND ministry team;
- Dr. Bryan Thatcher, Founding Director of the Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy (EADM);
- Spiritual exercises including daily Mass, stations of the cross, and a visit to the Seton Shrine;
- A concluding Mass at St. Mary's Chapel on the Hill, also known as the Glass Chapel, which is the main chapel at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes.

The Convention will start with Mass at 5 PM on Friday and conclude at Noon on Sunday. The full itinerary is also on the Calix website.

Registration Fee is \$200 for the Full 3-day Event

(Includes: Friday dinner, 3 meals on Saturday, 2 meals on Sunday)

Saturday-only Registration is available:

- Saturday Only - w/Dinner (Member) \$95.00
- Saturday Only - w/ Dinner (Non-member) \$120.00
- Saturday Only - w/o Dinner (Member) \$55.00
- Saturday Only - w/o Dinner (Non-member) \$80.00

There are two ways to register this year:

1. Fill out the attached form and send it, along with a check or money order made payable to "The Calix Society" to The Calix Society, P.O. Box 9085, St. Paul, MN 55109
2. Or, download the form at www.calixsociety.org under the "resources"

tab. Fill out the form and email it as an attachment to Calix_Convention@yahoo.com. Then go to the "store" tab and use PayPal to send your payment.

Contact Bruce G with questions (703) 901-8069

Registration Information for Calix Convention Mount Saint Mary's July 17-19

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip _____

Email address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Accommodations:

I will be rooming with

(Note: if two people are included on the registration you will be roomed together unless you notify us here. If one person is registering we will room you with someone if not specified here)

I will attend the Full Convention	Y	N
I will only attend the Saturday session	Y	N
I will attend the Saturday Dinner	Y	N
I require a handicap room	Y	N
I have special dietary requirements	Y	N

If Y, please explain below

***ANOTHER CALIX
LEADER PASSES***

Pilgrimage to Dublin

Calix received a call recently from the cousin of Bob Johnson's wife informing us that Bob passed away in December. As many of you know, Bob was 93, had over 40 years of sobriety and served Calix as a long-time Board Director and International President. He was among the group that went to Rome in 1976.

Al Pape and I saw Bob for lunch in November, and I called and left a message in December before I left town. Bob's relative did not know about his death before the funeral, and he didn't have any details. He called to send in a donation.

Another Calix hero passes to the next life.

Jim B. Secretary

The organizers hoping to lead a pilgrimage to Dublin have realized that they didn't provide sufficient time for Calix members to plan for a trip of this nature. Therefore, they are opting to postpone this trip until 2016.

More information will be forthcoming in the weeks and months ahead. Start saving your money for what appears to be a fabulous opportunity to learn more about Matt Talbot!!

CALIX LITERATURE	
No Turning Back	
by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC	\$17.00 Ppd.
Calix and the Twelve Steps	
by Fr. Arnold Luger, 63 pages	\$9.00 Ppd.
The Light of Faith	
by Fr. Francis Canavan, SJ	\$9.00 Ppd.
By the Grace of God	
by Fr. Francis Canavan, SJ	\$11.00 Ppd.
Parables and Ponderings	
by A. Fenker, SPCC, D.Min	\$9.00 Ppd.
Recovery Meditation on the Stations of the Cross (Back in Print!)	
by Msgr. Harrington	\$5.00 Ppd.
Sister Ignatia Angel of Alcoholics	
Anonymous	
by Mary Darrah	\$17.00 Ppd.
A 12 Step Approach to the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius	
52 meditations, & their relation to the 12 Steps.	
by James Harbaugh, SJ	\$18.00 Ppd.
One Day at a Time in Al-Anon	\$18.00 Ppd.
Heaven's Homecoming	
by Fr. Douglas Mckay (Grays Ferry Chaplain)	\$12.00 Ppd.
12 Step Review (set)	
By Fr. Emmerich Vogt	\$15.00 Ppd.
Let the Oppressed Go Free	
by Cardinal Justin Rigali	\$6.00 Ppd.
The 12 Steps and Catholic Spirituality	
by Fr. Leo Dolan	\$1.00 ea.
Matt Talbot Prayer Card - B & W	.20 ea.
Matt Talbot Medal	.70 ea.
Intro to Calix Packet	\$1.50 ea.
Calix Induction Ceremony	.30 ea.
Calix Pin (for members only)	\$5.00 ea.

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THE CALIX SOCIETY
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The expiration date will always be at the end of the year.

Consider joining the Gratitude Club.