



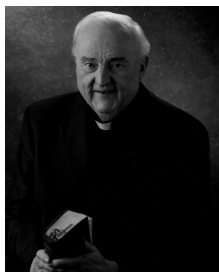
the Chalice

CALIX NEWSLETTER

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Fr. Tom Gallenbach
Associate Chaplain

Easter 2013

"Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principals in all our affairs." I thought that the twelfth step was a fitting introduction for all of us actively working the twelve steps and twelve traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous, because it promotes the going out and telling others the good news. That's what happened on that Sunday morning when the women discovered the empty tomb. Peter and John verified that it was empty. They went and told the others. Eventually, Mary the mother of God, Mary Magdalene, the Apostles and Disciples were sent forth to preach the good news to all nations. When we have good news, we want to share it and when we find something that really works wonders or even miracles we want to share it. And with this tie-in I want to verbally embrace all in our fellowship of Calix and wish you the blessings of God the Father, son and Holy Spirit.

In my message of joy to you, I need to add

my delight in the selection of Francis the 1st as pope and say how much I admire Pope Benedict XVI for his humility and love of the Church in stepping down. I was born and baptized under Pius XI, ordained under Pius XII and have lived under the pontificates of eight popes. All have had a charisma unique to their pastorate of the church. And Pope Francis I energizes me like no other before him, with the exception of John XXIII.

With the gift of EWTN television network we can now watch liturgies and other happenings in Rome live. With the eight hour time difference between European time and Pacific time where I live, I was able to watch and pray with the church on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. The Good Friday Homily really sat me on the edge of my chair and gave me an insight into the mind of our new pope in his choice of the homilist for the Good Friday Liturgy. The homilist, Father Raniero Cantalamessa, is a Capuchin Monk. In his Good Friday message I found it so interesting that he used the writing of the Existentialist Franz Kafak. Franz Kafka, a man raised in a German Speaking Jewish Family in Prague, lived from July 1883 to June 1924. His most studied writing is, I believe, "The Castle" But the Kafka story the homilist used was Kafka's "An Imperial Message". In this writing a king is dying and

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calls a subject to his bed side. He whispers a message in the man's ear. Then, he has the man repeat the message back to him, and he tells the man to go out and deliver this life giving message to the world. But in a surreal nightmare, the man is like running in a tank of syrup. He cannot get out of the room, let alone the castle, because of all the people packed in the castle. He fails to get out of the castle and the king dies without the message being delivered. From that point in the Kafka story, the homilist cites Mark 16:15, "Go throughout the whole world, preach the good news to all creation" Then, immediately, the homilist cites Revelations 3:20, Jesus standing knocking at the door. He (the homilist) suggests that Jesus is not knocking to get in, but rather is knocking at our door to let Him out. The message or good news is not getting out, because like Kafka's castle there are too many compartments in the Christian Religion, too much competition, back biting, too much guarding of territory. The message of the Church (all Christian Churches) and non Christian as well is to reach out to the existential suburbs of sin, suffering, injustice, religious ignorance and indifference in all of its forms. Jesus appeared to Francis at San Damiano and said: "Francis go and repair my Church". At the instillation of Pope Francis the Orthodox Patriarch of Constantinople set foot in a Roman Catholic Church for the first time since 1050. People, I believe that Pope Francis I is a game changer.

Peace to all,

Fr. Tom G.



Just Another Guy on the Bus

I've heard it said countless times in the rooms that the speaker's desire was to be 'just another blade of grass' on their path in recovery. How refreshing was it for you to learn that as Archbishop, Pope Francis opted to live in a small apartment, cooked his own meals and took the bus to work? His Jesuit background is icing on the cake for me. My sobriety date falls during the week of the Feast of St. Ignatius and Fr. Harbaugh's book ([A 12 Step Approach to the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius](#), that is on our literature list) both of which have become quite important to my personal recovery. But there is something else about the start of our Holy Father's papacy I wish to expand upon for Calix. Pope Francis is far more involved than just being another blade of grass, another guy on the bus.

Last evening I received an inquiry from a seminarian in his first year at Mount Saint Mary's in nearby Emmittsburg, Maryland. He has been in recovery for four years and yearns to share his sobriety with other Catholics. He first learned about Calix in a bulletin he saw in Tampa but hasn't found time to explore Calix until now. I provided him information about our meeting and it sounds like he will come over once his Holy Week recess is over. This young man is the fifth

President's Column (cont. on pg. 3)

President's Column, (cont. from pg. 2)

seminarian that I'm aware of at Mount Saint Mary's that is in recovery. A few years back, two other seminarians had come to York a few times to experience our Calix meeting. We in York don't have a direct contact with the Rector at the Mount, but perhaps we should. These young men are searching for what Calix has to offer and they found us on their own! (Why Lord, do we make it so difficult for others to find us?)

Recently, the Board of Directors decided to communicate with Guest House and offer to their alumni and current clients complimentary access to our website. The Holy Spirit's message to me last evening, falling on the installation of our new Holy Father, couldn't be more obvious. Let's explore some of his thoughts given to our Cardinals post-conclave and see how this all ties together.

Pope Francis remarked "...that the Holy Spirit gives His Church, with His powerful breath, the courage to persevere and to search for new ways to evangelize..." and then continued to identify where this effort should originate. "If one remains in the Lord one goes out of oneself...Fidelity is always a change, a blossoming, a growth....key to evangelization is the role of the laity who should avoid the "problem" of being clericalized, as their baptism alone should suffice".

My first reaction is to ask, if we are doing what we can to inform the appropriate officials at seminaries about Calix? Where do we think our future Chaplains come from? While having an ordained Chaplain makes each group a

little more vibrant, it certainly isn't a requirement in Calix. Nor do our Chaplains need to be in recovery themselves. I can personally think of two new Chaplains for groups who aren't in recovery. Let us not forget that following his meeting with Bill W., Fr. Ed Dowling (another Jesuit) returned to St. Louis and started an AA group. Fr. Ed was the first sober originator of a meeting in the history of AA that we know about. It shouldn't be too hard for each group to explore the location of nearby seminaries and send a note to the Rector and inform him of Calix and your group. You might want to ask if he'd be willing to make the information available to the seminarians.

While it might seem safer to remain a blade of grass, I don't believe we have any Saints that wished to remain anonymous. If you really think about it, somebody made information about your first AA or other 12-Step meeting available enough for you to find it, right?

After obtaining permission from your local ordinary to form a Calix Group, have you followed up and written a status report for the Bishop? Have you submitted any articles to your Diocesan newspaper? A number of years ago, I sent an update to our Bishop and the result was him coming to York to celebrate a private Mass for our group and our loved ones....what a cherished memory.

Evangelization is our role as a lay ministry, and our baptism alone qualifies each of us to do this work. The bulletin in Tampa and the Society's website have worked to possibly bring us a future Chaplain and member. Who among us thinks that we've done enough?



OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN

By Fran
 "Dancing Feather" Greer
 email: frandfg@yahoo.com

River of Passage

Our lives are like a river as it passes through the canyons, valleys, mountains and deserts of the various landscapes of our time on mother earth. We flow through hard and great times and shallow and deeper more, introspective times as we journey through this life. Even when we judge an experience as similar to a memory of the past, we will do well to remember that this new experience is not the same. It is a completely new and unique learning opportunity. There are times when the river flows off to one side, eddying into a bay in the bank of its flow. The water is more still and may form both shallow and deep pools, spiraling slowly around an unseen force of gravity that comes from deep within the mother earth. Other times the same river will become rapids, racing chaotically over precipices of rock and rounded boulders with a deadly ferocity that can disturb the human soul and spirit.

There are times we will reflect the beauty of the natural world around us and inspire romance and creativity. At other places along the landscape we will be cold and fearsome at the very thought of hypothermia. The only thing constant about the river is continuous change. If we are peaceful with the notion of change, we will be one of the strongest forces in Creation. We will be part of the miracle of carving new courses throughout time. It is, after all, the great river that carved the Grand

Canyon, one of the most profound and beautiful wonders of the world. If we are unable to accept the things we cannot change, we mustn't fear. We may simply allow ourselves to evaporate and rise to the clouds, disappearing from the flow of our course until we reappear at the headwaters of the sacred Mountain to begin again. We will, in time, prevail throughout our divine course. It is the force and wholeness of this body of water that provides beauty, integrity and the circulatory system of our planet.

The spirituality of the indigenous people of any land is like the river that carves and enhances the beauty of mother earth. You can try to assimilate the human beings, but you cannot reach the soul of the ancestors. The sacred wisdom, the medicines and methods of the ancients remain as intact as the great rivers in Creation. They will always be a powerful product of the landscape, because they are a part of it. The ancient Midewiwin and other old spiritual ways of the people are not products of the mind, but rather products of Creation. Like the life of the river, they bring change to the evolution of the soul. The sedimentary rock that often graces the banks of the great river is painted with the layers of history. Each storytelling layer was, at some time in our past, the surface of the earth but has long since been buried by the changing evolution. The stories reflected in the varied colors of stone are like the rights of passage of any civilization or any human. The stories and traditions are our legacy, but the river is the moving body of time throughout eternity.

We are the river and the medicine of life forever on mother earth. Perhaps, the language changes to one which may seem foreign, but

Out of the Mountain (cont. on pg. 5)

Out of the Mountain, (cont. from pg. 4)

the medicine—the water of the river does not. It may be recycled or even steam distilled by the scorching heat of the desert, but it will return to mother earth and resume its place within the landscape. The medicine will always reappear as rain upon the sacred mountains, channeled by Creation on the face of the earth to become the river of passage. Our best possible course is to move in harmony with the land, even in the most unfamiliar territory. Allow the gravity of the planet to keep us grounded upon mother earth and fully accept and forgive everything we are unable to change. It is the essence of a whispered prayer for serenity and peace, that we fully surrender ourselves to the unfamiliar moments in time and trust the process of eternal healing.

Calix in the 21st Century

Good news! Talks from recent Calix conventions are now available on the website. We recently added the talks from 2009, 2011 and 2012. We also have a box of cassettes and videotapes that we are looking to convert to formats that will allow them to be heard and seen over the internet. Stay tuned for an update in the coming months. You can get to the talks by logging on to the website. Then click on resources and Convention Audio Talks. There are folders for each year.

Don't forget to use the Amazon link on our homepage before shopping online and use Goodsearch.com for all of your web searches.

Send an email to help@philly-calix.com if you have questions or encounter issues with the website.

Office News and Notes

Deaths

Recently Mike Moen from St./ Paul Unit 2 passed on at the age of 82. Mike was a chemical dependency consular and supervisor at the Kinnic Falls Treatment Center in River Falls, WI. He was a tough customer, but his heart melted when he was able to meet his 2 daughters who he had not seen since they were infants. He was our "token" Lutheran, always hopeful that he would convert us.

Calix Address/ E-Mail Address

They are changing. For the time being **continue to use the address in White Bear Lake: 3881 Highland Ave., White Bear Lake (or St. Paul), MN 55110.** The e-mail address is secretary@calixsociety.org. **This can be used now.**

Philadelphia Area

Ken Johnston, past Calix International President, will be on a local radio show with host Kathleen McCarthy on most Fridays at 5-6 pm Eastern time. The program may be received over the internet. at www.catholicinternetradio.com. Just click on "Listen Online". Also, the Grays Ferry Unit is hosting a Day of Recollection on April 20 (which will have gone by when you get this), wherein Kathleen McCarthy is the featured speaker.

Ken has been actively speaking, promoting Calix at a recent Matt Talbot retreat at St. Joseph in the Hills Retreat Center and the first of several parish talks that he gave at St. David's to support new membership at the Glenside Unit. The Glenside Spiritual Director, Fr. John Lyons, became concerned about attendance at the Glenside unit, so he spoke with his local bretheran and arranged invitations to several nearby parishes for Ken and Amy N., Calix Board Director, to give short talks about Calix at a Mass. All units should consider this.

Ken has a new website for his ministry. Go to www.notsaintsyet.org

“Back to the Basics ”

**The Calix Society
56th Annual Convention
October 4,5,6, 2013**

*St. Joseph Husband of Mary Church
Las Vegas, NV*

*Please sign me/us up for the 56th Annual
Calix Convention.*

Enclosed is \$_____ for _____ person(s).

Name(s):_____

Address:_____

City, State, Zip:_____

Telephone: ()_____

e-mail:_____

***Convention Registration Fee: \$65.00 /per-
son (\$70.00/person after September 10,
2013)***

***If you need room reservations: **Palace
Station Hotel** is suggested. Please
arrange on your own.***

You may register on-line at

www.calixsociety.org

(fee is \$70.00 for on-line) or by mail.

Please make checks payable to the

***“CALIX SOCIETY” and mail reservations
as soon as possible to:***

Madge Lange,

909 Marion Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89110-1410

Registration Deadline: September 10, 2013.

Thank you! For questions, please call.

Note: Please make dietary requests early so that the kitchen
can accommodate your needs.

2013 Convention

As previously noted the 2013 convention is
in Las Vegas, NV on October 4-6 at St.
Joseph Husband of Mary Church. The regis-
tration form is here and on the web site. The
LV Unit planners have kept the fee down to
\$65.00 if registering by mail or \$70.00 if reg-
istering on-line. They do not have any retreat
centers located there for housing, so we'll be
relying on hotel facilities. The recommended
hotel is the Palace Station which is located on
the “strip”, just south of the church. A board
director already got a reservation there for
about \$132.00 for 2 nights. Often, some pret-
ty good deals can be gotten on air packages,
so start searching!

In Memoriam

Please let us know when we have lost a Calix friend!

*Mike Moen 82
St. Paul, MN Unit 2
February, 2013*

*Fr. Simon P. Wood 96
West Hartford, CT Unit
September 19, 2012*

"May his soul rest in peace...."

I am enclosing a contribution of \$25.00 because I wish to support the society in its apostolate to recovering alcoholics. Please send me a membership card and place my name on "The Chalice" mailing list.

Name _____

Street _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Apt/Unit _____

Calix Unit(s) I attend _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Email _____

"The Holy Father renews his Apostolic Blessing to all who collaborate in this important apostolate at the service of Christ's brethren." (Letter from: Cardinal Villot, June, 1977)

CALIX LITERATURE

No Turning Back

by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC \$17.00 Ppd.

Drop the Rock (New!)

Removing Character Defects \$10.00 Ppd.
By Bill, Todd and Sara

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.

The Soul of Sponsorship

From letters between Bill W. & Fr. Dowling

by Robert Fitzgerald, S.J. \$13.00 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.

Addict in the Family

by Beverly Conyers \$15.00 Ppd.

My Name is Bill

by Susan Cheever \$10.00 Ppd.

Heaven's Homecoming

by Fr. Douglas McKay \$12.00 Ppd.
(Grays Ferry Chaplain)

12 Step Review (set)

By Fr. Emmerich Vogt \$15.00 Ppd.

Let the Oppressed Go Free

by Cardinal Justin Rigali \$6.00 Ppd.

Lost in the Crowd (New!)

by Kathleen Haberland \$13.50 Ppd.

Recovery Rosary Booklet

by Kate H. (New!) \$5.00 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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Please check your label-

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

Consider joining the Gratitude Club.