



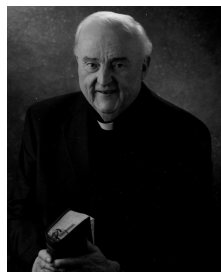
# the Chalice

CALIX NEWSLETTER

Volume 40

January - February 2013

Issue No. 1



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Fr. Tom Gallenbach  
Associate Chaplain

### Faith Renewal

This liturgical year we as a church are being called upon to renew our faith. A fitting subject for Calix members as it is our Catholic Faith that calls us together as a Eucharistic Community. Another term has come to the forefront in **this** year of faith renewal: **The New Evangelization.** .

Two publications have been sent to me on the subject of The New Evangelization; one is from the Catholic Information Service, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The title of this publication is "What is the New Evangelization?" by Michelle K. Borrás. The second: "The New Evangelization, Responding to the Challenge of Indifference." The Author is Rino Fisichella. Michelle Borrás is the director of the Catholic Information Service. She has a doctorate and a number of teaching posts in related fields. Rino Fisichella is the former rector of the Pontifical Lateran University and an Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Rome.

Both books are extremely helpful to one interested in learning more about the rationale behind the Year of Faith and the New Evangelization. The book by Bishop Frischella is written with a sense of great urgency, as we are living in a world today of growing disbelief and a more militant anti-Christianity. I happen to strongly agree with the thesis that the forces of atheism are out to wipe the Christian message from the face of the earth. This endeavor by the dark side is not new, but the new technology of instant world wide communication makes peril to the faith of Christians ever more potent. I have underlined so many pages of each publication that adequately forming a summary statement is difficult. Let it suffice to say, that Pope John Paul II, and our present Holy Father Benedict XVI have been and are warning all of us of the need to be proactive in deepening our faith. An example: on page 22 of Bishop Frischella's book he quotes Pope John Paul II's Encyclical *Redemptoris Missio*: "Finally there exists an intermediate situation, often in countries of ancient Christian tradition, but at times also in younger Churches, where entire groups of the baptized have lost the living sense of the faith or no longer even recognize themselves as members of the Church, leading to an existence which is far from Christ and from his Gospel. In this case there is need for a New

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*Chaplain's Corner, (cont. from pg. 1)*

Evangelization or a Re-Evangelization."

A week ago, National Public Radio had on Morning Edition for five days, fifteen minutes dedicated to the subject of the new Atheists. Every day consisted of a dialogue on the subject. As an example, on the Thursday of that week there was a conversation with a woman whose father, grandfather and great grandfather were Lutheran Pastors. She is now married to a man who professes to be an Atheist. On Friday of that week, there was a dialogue with a Franciscan Priest in Chicago and a minister in Austin, Texas who both work with the new generation of unbelievers. No answers were given, but the situation is recognized as a public service. Another example of the situation facing us today was highlighted by Bishop Frischella, when he spoke of the fact that the New European Constitution makes no mention of the contribution of Christianity to the development of the European Countries and Cultures. This fact was addressed personally by Pope John Paul II to the leaders of the European Nations.

In focusing on the challenge of being a Christian today, living by indifferent isms... agnosticism, prevent us from achieving in a full sense the search for the truth. None of us should fall into the trap of thinking about our own country while forgetting that its roots are steeped in a faith, which for centuries, has fed peaceful coexistence and the progress of different people. There cannot be a modern society worthy of its name while leaving out the Catholic contribution. More on the subject in future articles.



### **Thoughts on Calix during Lent**

On February 17th, I'll be honored to escort one of York's members to the cathedral for her Rite of Election. This is the second time in our short history as a Calix Group that a member has made the decision to become Catholic. It brings to mind memories of my own conversion through RCIA and how my journey in recovery has been enhanced by our Faith.

I also look forward to the Mass where our Calix Group is offered the Sacrament of the Sick which has become a Lenten tradition since we formed our group. Does your group do anything special during the Lenten Season? One thought that was formed within me when we used Fr Harbaugh book (Twelve Steps and Spiritual Exercises) was "What am I holding onto that prevents me from growing closer to Jesus?" What impact does this question have when I expand it to the group level? What is my group doing to attract new members? Is there something our group does that makes it difficult to remain attractive and interesting to current members? Such reflection and group inventory, akin to pruning away of older wood as described in the Gospels, may result in new growth in each group.

Within the past month, the Board of Directors launched a new project, the Liaison Project, designed to enhance communications

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

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

between the Board and each Group. The primary objective is to create a two-way flow of information so that we can create a greater sense of community. Whoever is identified as your group's contact person will have been called by the time you read this article. We will be looking to find out what's new with your group as well as share information about what is happening at Calix overall. We hope that these conversations between the Board and Groups will be ongoing and fruitful. Perhaps as we share what your group is doing, it will spark thoughts elsewhere.

As mentioned in my first article last fall, we are streamlining operations. Simply put, keeping Calix afloat had essentially become too much work for our secretary Jim B. who has been carrying more than he should for far too long. Since, we have relocated the literature function to Omaha and the Board thanks Ed and Marlene K. for assuming this responsibility. Nothing you do to request and obtain literature has changed.

Ed K. deserves a special thank you. The Board was saddened by the resignation of Margo E. from the office of Vice-President. The Board voted in unanimous fashion to elevate Ed to Vice-President in light of the fact that he had received numerous votes for President in the last election.

We have also formed an Archive's Committee. The Board thanks Craig C., Jim B., and Margo E. for starting this process of going through years of records to determine what should be saved, what can be published

on the website, and where to house the most valuable of our records. This is an interesting process, and we could use some help outside of the Board. If you have an interest in preserving the history of Calix, please contact me via email [drmichael.sanders@comcast.net](mailto:drmichael.sanders@comcast.net)

Ken J., Jim B. and others are also working to simplify our membership rolls. We have multiple lists and believe we can make life easier by integrating our systems. This is a tedious process, and I feel confident saying that The Society appreciates the work of each of its volunteer servants.

Lastly, a member of Calix London has accepted an ongoing invitation to participate on the Board's monthly conference calls. Welcome Adrian! We hope that this step will enhance communications and stimulate continued international growth of The Calix Society.



## OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN

By Fran  
"Dancing Feather" Greer  
email: [frandfg@yahoo.com](mailto:frandfg@yahoo.com)

### First Light

The bright moon is just a sliver in the first light of day. Beyond the sliver of light the rest of the sphere is behind the light, yet visible in her charcoal colored shadow land. Grandmother Moon can be seen in her completeness yet most of her is shrouded in the mystery that hides behind her relationship

*Out of the Mountain (cont. on pg. 4)*

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*Out of the Mountain, (cont. from pg. 3)*

with Mother Earth. About 4.5 billion years ago, Grandmother Moon began to govern the gravity and the waters of our planet. Just as the grandmothers of native people carry the matriarchy of the clan and carry the water for the people, the moon controls the tides and weather patterns of Earth. Mothers and Grandmothers weave the lineage and mysticism of the people, and the same is true of these two planets. The moon takes nearly twenty-eight days to make a complete, elliptical cycle around our planet and the same amount of time to complete a spin on her individual axis. A human woman takes that same amount of time to complete her womanly cycle of reproduction.

As humans on earth, we are only able to see the light side of Grandmother Moon. The darker side of her remains a mystery. The memories of the ancestors tell of the strength and spiritual gravity of the First Native nations. It is the medicine—the old ways which appear in the sacred shadows of our ancestry that have made our people strong enough to survive our history and still possess something valuable to be shared with the rest of the world.

The shrouded, charcoal orb with her bright silver sliver is suspended in a darker sky of blue-black, yet just above the eastern mesas is the promise of an awakening sunrise. There is no true name for the colors of the first light, because they are changing second by second, more quickly than the human eye can adjust. It is a time when the ancient past greets the present moment and the distant future. It is a time-

less moment in eternity that we sometimes have the great honor to witness. What great Providence allows such a small grain of humanity to witness this profound miracle? It is, after all, the same miracle in time witnessed by my Grandmothers who came before me who made the same morning ceremony. We are approaching the shortest day of the year—the Winter Solstice. We will face the cold and begin another year on Mother Earth, if we survive the moon of popping trees. Great Indian stories will be told this winter.

As elders, we are called to soothe the woundedness of our children and their children. We are called to strong, sober integrity. Let the young remember that they are stronger than they think they are. Greet the sunrise with hope and enthusiasm, and the day will make you whole and wealthy. Follow the ways of these gentle woodlands to the very top of the mountain, and your vision will deepen and strengthen, and you will gain wisdom, my little ones. Walk barefoot into the deepest wintertime, and you will be amazed.

Our will and lives rest sweetly in the gentle hands of Creation. All that is left to do is to seek, through prayer and meditation, the knowledge of His divine will for us. It is within the seeking of that relationship, that our own will becomes aligned with the Greatness of all Things. Our Creator loves attention and love, just as we do. When we burn the herbs and make our ceremony, He becomes delighted and mesmerized with the sacrifice of our precious time. The fact that we take the personal time for an act of love more precious

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



than gold. In return our sacred ritual, whatever that may be to each of us, is given the generous blessings of laughter, love and freedom of spirit. We are released, for a time, from the bondage of self and rocketed into a dimension beyond our dreams. We become a part of the first light of morning that holds the secrets of forever within eternity.

## Calix in the 21st Century

You may have noticed that where you enter your username and password on the website looks a little different. The company that hosts our website modified the security software to bring us up to date, and we haven't incorporated the changes into the existing software. The one benefit of this is that if you forgot your username or password, you can now use the links to recover it. BUT – if we never got your email address, neither will work. That said – if you use email and these links don't work, please send an email to [help@philly-calix.com](mailto:help@philly-calix.com), and we'll get you set up! Better yet – if you have an email address and never get email from Calix, then chances are we don't have it! Send us an email and we'll get you updated!

Membership dues for 2013 are now due. If you haven't paid your dues, chances are you will not be able to access some of the members-only areas of the website. If you have paid your dues and can't log on OR if you are trying to renew your membership online and having problems, send an e-mail to the email address above, and we'll get you going.

One other note about membership dues – there is an option on the “donate” screen to become a “Sustaining Member” by making a monthly donation to Calix, starting as low as \$5 per month. By becoming a “Sustaining Member” you will no longer be required to pay annual membership dues. There is also an option to make a one-time gratitude donation. Perhaps during the month of your birthday or anniversary you would consider making a gratitude donation to the society. Both of these options use PayPal, which allows you to donate using either your bank account or a credit card. So, get reward points or cash back from your credit card company for helping Calix!

We would also like to remind you about the “forums” that are on the website. This is a great way for members to communicate with each other. There are forums for unit activities, book reviews and new members. Have a suggestion for a new category? Send an email to us, and we will set it up!

In the “coming soon” category, we hope to have a short video up on the website that can be used to explain Calix to everyone, but especially religious. We find that the most successful units had very supportive chaplains or other religious that attend on a regular basis. This video may help those that you might ask to fulfill this role overcome some of their apprehension.

One final note: we are in the process of looking for a new vendor to maintain our website that will get the security fields where they belong in addition to resolving some of the issues where you can't always read the print. If

you know somebody that works in this field that might be interested, please have them contact Ken J. at ken@philly-calix.com.

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

## Office News and Notes

### Deaths

I'm sorry to report that we have lost 2 stalwart Calix members in the past few months. Herb Rigg of the Sioux City, IA Unit passed away on August 14 as the result of an automobile accident. Herb was a member of Calix for 33 years, and he was regarded as part of the "glue" that has held that unit together for many years. He frequently exchanged jokes with the office as well as keeping us up to date on issues in their unit. He will be greatly missed by his unit and his wife Joan.

Bev Adams of the St. Paul Unit passed away recently. She had not been able to attend meetings in recent times, but she was an active member for many years.

### Membership Renewal

With this issue I have enclosed a note to those of you who have not renewed and who receive the newsletter electronically, indicating that this will be your last issue of the Chalice unless you renew soon. Also, Ken J., our webmaster, has mentioned, if you had not renewed by January 31, your access to the web site was automatically terminated. Please remember that we have gone to a **once a year renewal**. If you signed up **after August 31 2012**, your membership is good through

2013. If you became a member before that date, you will need to renew your membership. You can renew on line or mail a check for \$25.00 to the office (address is on the last page).

### Literature in Spanish

We will have Calix and the 12 Steps and the flyer, "Calix What and Why?" available in Spanish in a few months. The translations have been completed and vetted for theological accuracy. They will need to be printed, which will entail a sizable expenditure.

Quotes are now being sought. Thanks go to Pam K. of the York Unit for her work with the translator and the Deacon who did the theological review. Amy N., a Calix Board Director, is owed thanks, also, for helping shepherd this effort.

### Calix Office Changes

Mike S., Calix President, has updated you several times regarding the changes that the Board is making to maximize our outreach to the recovering community (revision of the web site, literature translation, etc.) as well as to most efficiently use the dollars that you as members send to the office (electronic distribution of the newsletter, end of the year membership renewal, use of PayPal, etc.). In this vein the Board has decided to operate with a virtual office. The lease for the present office will expire on April 1 of this year. On or about that time we will be using a PO Box for our mailing address, and we will be doing e-mail at a new address, hopefully through the web site. This will save us over \$500.00 per month.

As you know the office is run by a single volunteer, yours truly, and it has required an output of 20-25 hours per week. We have cut

*Office News and Notes, (cont. from pg. 6)*

back some of that burden on me by moving the literature to Omaha, NE. We have been further sharing the office duties with the Board Members, and we hope this transition will be invisible to all of you members.

## 2013 Convention

Please put October 5, 6 and 7 on your calendar for the convention in Las Vegas.

## In Memoriam

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

*Beverly Adams  
St. Paul, MN Unit 2  
January, 2013*

*Herb Rigg  
Sioux City, IA Unit  
Died August 14, 2013  
Age of 82*

*"May her 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  
3881 Highland Ave., Suite 201  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

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