



What is a Life-in-the-Spirit Seminar?

At Our Lady of the Angels Church, Erith
The Angelus Centre
Bexley Road
Erith

Thursday May 13th 2010 – 24 June 2010 at 7.30pm

Schedule of talks and speakers

- 13th May God's Love - Dr Joseph Jesvthasan
20th May The Gift of Salvation - Kate Moir
27th May New Life in Christ - Melvin Raguel
3rd June Receiving God's Gift - David Carroll
10th June Baptism in the Holy Spirit - Fr David
Gummett
17th June Growth in the Spirit - Gabriele Sedda
24th June Transformation in Christ - Fr Bill Keogh

The seminars are designed to help people yield to the action of the Holy Spirit in their daily lives so they can begin to sense His presence and experience Him working in and through them; and thereby establish or re-establish, or deepen a personal relationship with Christ Jesus. It is an introduction to a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit. Book the dates in your diary.

A Life-in-the-Spirit Seminar (LSS) consists of a series of talks designed to help people realize the power of the Holy Spirit that is available for every aspect of their lives.

Most of us have *heard about* the Holy Spirit and most of us have *learned about* the Holy Spirit, but many times that is as far as our experience has gone. The Holy Spirit is a real person, a part of the Blessed Trinity just like Jesus and the Father. We receive the Holy Spirit through the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Through what is called the baptism in the Holy Spirit, a *personal conversion experience*, the power that *is* the Holy Spirit is *released* within us.

One illustration that helps some people understand this concept is through the image of a candle. It is designed with a wick that, when lit, creates or *releases* its light, so to speak; only at that time does the candle completely fulfil the purpose for which it was created. Until then it may be pleasant to look at, but it does not fulfil its purpose of emanating light. The candle's ability to be a source of light is always within it due to its design and the way it is made, but until something happens to "empower" that candle, until the wick is lit, it lies "dormant" it does not fully become what it was designed to be. So it is with all of us. We have been designed by God and empowered with the power of the Holy Spirit. But until that power is *released*, it lays dormant as does the light of the candle. A Life-in-the-Spirit Seminar is designed to help us yield to the action, empowerment and the power of the Holy Spirit in our own lives just as He empowered the early church on the day of Pentecost.

The seven, sometimes eight, talks given during a LSS are designed to lead people through the basic message of salvation, to understand the need within themselves for the release of the Holy Spirit's power that already lies within them, and yield their lives to the Holy Spirit and a life of joy and peace using His many Gifts. The format is simple, informal and presented with balanced, Catholic teaching based upon Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Church documents, personal testimony and prayer. Opportunities are given in each session for discussion of how the topic may relate to each person's life, but no one is required to share more than he or she feels comfortable doing.

Many who have attended a Life-in-the-Spirit Seminar have experienced God and the Holy Spirit in a way they had never done before. It is not unusual for people to fall more deeply in love with the Eucharist, with Jesus Christ and the Trinity, with the Mass, and with the Bible, and many receive the charismatic Gifts of the Holy Spirit just as the Apostles did in the upper room on Pentecost. Those gifts are given to improve our lives and the lives of our family, church and community.

Most of us have a relationship with God; some of those relationships are closer than others are. It doesn't matter how close you are to Him or how far away He may seem, He is calling every one of us to deepen that relationship and He has nothing but LOVE waiting for us as we accept His call. ***THERE'S ALWAYS MORE*** of His love for everyone; all we have to do is yield ourselves more deeply to it and receive it.

If you are at least open to the possibility that you can deepen your personal relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, why not attend a Life-in-the-Spirit

Seminar? It may change your life!! It has for millions and millions of Catholics, including priests, religious and laity, who are living a holier, Spirit-filled, Spirit-empowered life today.

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witness....” (Acts. 1:8)

Pope John XXIII prayed at the opening of the second Vatican Council “renew your wonders in this our day as by new Pentecost”. Pope John II described it as “a grace directed to sanctify the Church, to renew in her taste for prayer, to rediscover with the Holy Spirit, the sense of gratuitousness, of joyful praise, of confidence in intercession, and to be converted into a new fountain of evangelization”.

In the early Church when people were baptised they spoke of a profound experience, the living presence of the Lord Jesus and the awesome power of the Holy Spirit. We as individuals and as a community need to experience a personal relationship with Jesus and to experience the transforming power of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives so that we will be effective witnesses to what we believe.

The Life in the Spirit Seminars is a course which has helped many Christians find a fuller expression and commitment in their spiritual lives. It is an introduction to a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit. They are presented over the course of seven evenings (one evening a week for 7 weeks). The Seminars are simple, informal and introductory in format, balanced with teaching, Scripture and prayer.

Book the dates in your diary and we hope to see you at the Holy Spirit Seminars.