



SANCTUARY

www.magnificatcharismaticcommunity.org

June & July 2008

*Lord, prepare me to be a Sanctuary. Pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living Sanctuary for You.*



**49th International Eucharistic Congress - Quebec City, Canada
June 15 – 22, 2008**

**Feast of the Corpus Christi – a beautiful celebration in preparation for the
upcoming Magnificat community's pilgrimage to Quebec for the
International Eucharistic Congress.**

SANCTUARY

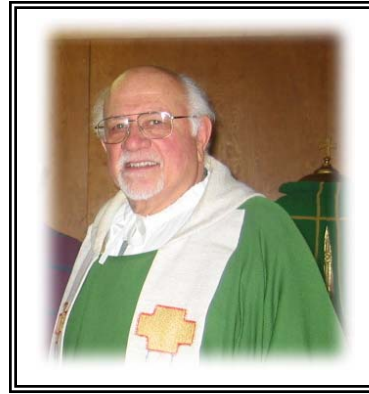
**MAGNIFICAT CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITY
(A Covenanted Catholic Community)**

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Newsletter published every month as means of information for the Community. This newsletter is a supplement to the official publication of Magnificat, the Angelus.



Brothers and Sisters of Magnificat,

I give glory and thanks to God observing you putting all your trust in Him and seeking to do His will at a time when He has allowed trial and human reasons for discouragement to come your way. Fr. Rustia must feel consoled also seeing that you stand strong on your foundation. Everybody digs in his or her heels, takes responsibility for the charge he or she has and looks forward to a renewal and even greater fulfillment of God's plan with us. I say "us" because for the moment, I have become more involved, offering my help and support as much as I can to the Council of Elders. You should also know that Bishop Grecco with whom I have been in touch several times is looking out for you and particularly at this moment, wants to find a priest and a deacon who can assist you as Chaplains.

Looking forward to the future, the Council of Elders wants to continue the programs of the Magnificat like the liturgical celebrations and feasts, prayer meetings etc. Also marriage enrichment, DK retreats and youth outreach.

The Council is also committed to promote the Divine Mercy Devotion and possibly becoming a centre for pilgrimages and even building a shrine if it is in God's will. *A big and urgent job is to put Regina Mundi and Magnificat on a solid financial basis.* Pray hard that this can be accomplished with God's help. In all areas mentioned, we need to rely completely on God's providence and also on the prayers of each one of you. Thanks to Mother Anna Maria and Sr. Mary for their presence and contribution. We pray that God blesses them and shows the way.

With God on our side as we put all our concerns in the loving Heart of Jesus, who can be against us? HIS be the triumph in the life of each one of us.

With my love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Matthew Robbertz". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing 'M' and 'R'.

Rev. Fr. Matthew Robbertz.
Magnificat Spiritual Director

Dear Friends,

Sis. Diana Henderson (faithful copy hunter) told me there are two pages for me to fill. You know I like to talk about spirituality and prayer and I always hope that I am not talking over your heads or past your ears.

Prayer is communication with God. First, it is listening to His Word and then responding to it with our word and our life. God's Word is Jesus, embodied in flesh and blood, revealed and spoken to us through the preaching and liturgy of the Church, one with God's word in Scripture. Jesus said on the night before He died; "Make your home in me as I make My home in you" (John 15,4). That is "THE" invitation. Home means total personal intimacy of love, trust and communion with Jesus and through Him being drawn into the Blessed Trinity.

I am aware in my own life how much I am still inclined to treat God as a stranger. Keeping Him on a distance through doubts and fears and having the illusions of my own course of happiness. But I am on the journey, home bound by God's grace. The first gift I have to ask (keep asking) of the Holy Spirit is *Knowledge*: to know God as my loving Father, total Love and Mercy, ready to receive me as I am, with all my past mistakes and sins. Then, I can start to enter into a deeper meeting with God and experience more of what St. Paul calls "the height and the depth, the length and the breadth of God's love that surpasses all understanding".

The Desert Fathers

For the Christian, the Bible is the first and foremost book of prayer. The only one the early Christians knew. They learned long passages by heart since they did not have any printed words. They were not interested in how much they read but how deeply they could absorb it in their hearts and lives. They would read a few verses at a time, going over them again and again, penetrating their inner meaning. Then they would pause in moments of deep interior stillness to allow the Holy Spirit to inspire them and enable the impact of the words to seep into the very marrow of their being. It is this prayer of silence or done "in secret" that Jesus talks about as the most effective prayer through which Jesus begins to make His home within us.

Lectio Divina - The Four Rs

We can follow the example of the Desert Fathers by using four steps.

1. *Reading in Latin: Lectio*
Begin by reading the sacred texts. Then re-read them slowly again till they are absorbed.
2. *Reflection in Latin: Meditation*
Reflect on what you read. Mull it around in your mind. Get into the characters and allow the inner meaning to seep into the very marrow of your being.
3. *Reaction in Latin: Oratio (prayer)*
React in your own way, from the heart and raise it to express praise, thanksgiving, petition and repentance.
4. *Resting in Latin: Contemplation*
Rest in deep interior stillness. Let God take over with deep sharing and healing. Distractions come to disturb this contemplative stillness which makes contemplation initially very difficult.

For centuries, it was thought that contemplative prayer was only for the cloistered monks and nuns who dedicated their life to it. The trappist monk writer Thomas Merton, among others, began to show that it is the prayer for all Christians. With some guidance and regular practice, that what seems so difficult, can become easier for each one of us and the few moments of inner stillness that we muster in the beginning become longer. In contemplative prayer, our hearts and minds are raised and open to God's action of uniting us with Him, healing us even into the subconscious and enabling our weak human loving to come to a degree and a way impossible without it.

Dear friends, I am deeply convinced of Jesus' invitation to pray "*in secret*" and the unbelievable benefit of it. I am willing to practice it with you from time to time, maybe as part of the Saturday prayer meeting. There is good reading material about it available, but in the end, only practice can make us understand and enjoy. Pray for me, a sinner.

With my love,
Father Matthew Robbertz



Dear Magnificat Family,

Some 15 years ago, Magnificat encountered its first serious trial regarding the choice of leaders. I remember it coincided with our pilgrimage to Lourdes. I made with Mommy Donna the long Way of the Cross there for the intention of Magnificat. Now we face another test. I am going on pilgrimage to Lourdes once more. I am sure Mommy Donna will join me in spirit as I make the Long Way of the Cross for Magnificat. Our family has a special place in her heart. Where she is, she prays for us still.

Fr. Matt coined an expression which turns out to be prophecy, "*the closing of a period.*" Indeed for all our apprehensions for what came to pass will be just a closing *not* an end.

The official reason given in the letter to me by the Archdiocese for the withdrawal of my faculty to exercise my priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Toronto is "to promote the integrated pastoral care of the faithful in the Archdiocese of Toronto." I understand this to mean that I do not belong to the clergy of the Archdiocese and therefore, I am not in the position to promote their program. Perhaps we failed to make the official coordination with the new administration of the Archdiocese at the outset. Whatever the failure on our part, let us see what came to pass as *God's hands leading us to a direction.* Magnificat must work doubly harder now to prove to the ecclesiastical authority that the community is an asset to the Archdiocese. I will still be of help within the parameters of the directive. *In time, God willing, "the closing of the period" will be "the opening of the door."*

The eyes of our ecclesiastical superiors are on Magnificat now. Let us show them the mettle of our anointing. Let us take heart from the Easter event. There is no tomb which holds the risen Lord. Let us go and tell our people: He is risen. Only our lack of faith and hope and trust in Jesus, King of Mercy will cause us to fail to build this place we dedicated to our mother, Mary Queen of the World, to be the Shrine of Jesus, King of Mercy.

Gathering you all in my heart and praying for my dear Magnificat family.

father
Fr. Teo Rustia

Founder of Magnificat Charismatic Prayer Community

Feast of the Divine Mercy Celebration



Feast of the Divine Mercy

God's *inexhaustible love and mercy* poured out for each one as evidenced by the faithful devotees who have come to join us celebrate this beautiful Feast Day of the Divine Mercy at our retreat Centre, Regina Mundi. Our

Lord, Jesus Christ, is constantly calling mankind to come to His merciful heart - to be loved, to be touched, to be converted and to be healed!

We praise and thank God to all who have come and witnessed the outpouring of the mercy of God. You are truly blessed!

*Jesus, King of Mercy!
We trust in You!*



Spring Dinner & Dance April 19, 2008



A truly enjoyable night of music, dance, laughter, joy, food and fellowship for everyone who came and supported our community's cause. Hope to see you all again next year.



Spring Dinner & Dance April, 2008



To all of you, we appreciate all your kindness. Because of your help, support, generous contribution and hard work, you made the Spring Dinner and Dance Fundraising Event a huge success. It was truly an entertaining night as everybody was dancing and enjoying the music. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH!** May God continue to bless you all abundantly!

Recollection with Mother Anna Maria



Crowning of the Blessed Mother and One-Day Recollection

A day of celebration to honour our Blessed Virgin Mary on her Feast Day. Mother Anna Maria led the group to a rosary procession, floral offering and crowning of our Blessed Mother. It was followed by a short but powerful recollection given by Mother Anna Maria. Indeed a very fruitful, spirit-filled day.

Excerpts from: Pastor's Corner

Rev. Fr. Roy Farrell, Pastor
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish
17955 Leslie St., Newmarket
April 27, 2008 Liturgical Publication



You may have noticed two sisters who attend weekly Eucharist at St. Elizabeth Seton. Their names are: **Mother Anna Maria Herrera (Superior) and novice, Sr. Mary Collette** (see pictures above). Mother Anna Maria Herrera has been given permission from her local bishop, Bishop Raymond Lahey, to found a new religious community called "*Sisters of Our Lady: Spouses of the Holy Spirit*". Currently, they reside at *Regina Mundi*, a retreat centre which is located in Queensville. They are requesting help as they begin the work of establishing a new religious community. They may be contacted by calling (905) 478-4264.

Putting ourselves at the service of others and not holding back in how we live our faith life challenges us to share our gifts and our talents with those who live in our community. I am grateful for your extraordinary generosity to our parish. So, it is with hopeful confidence that I request your help in this regard.

Your Brother in Christ ...

Rev. Fr. Roy Farrell

“FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI”



“Corpus Christi”

Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ

The Eucharist: Gift of God for the Life of the World. Know that in this bread is the *Body of Christ* which hung upon the cross. And in this cup, the *Blood of Christ* which flowed from His side.

To honour this beautiful Feast of Corpus Christi, the Magnificat Family and friends started with a solemn celebration of the Holy Mass at the Chapel by Fr. Matt Robbertz. Followed by the Eucharistic procession with recitation of the Holy Rosary led by Mother Anna Maria. Benediction at the Oratory of Jesus and healing service to all who have joined us. Worship songs, praises to the King of Kings, fervent prayers, adoration, chanting, joyful fellowship marks this memorable day!

Dear Magnificat Family,

"God is our shelter and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

We praise and thank God for giving all of us the strength and courage to move forward after He allowed us to experience another enormous trial. We see members pulling together during this time, giving all their support and help to the community, showing how strong is the foundation even without Fr. Teo Rustia. We are sure that this gives Fr. Rustia an assurance that Magnificat and Regina Mundi will stay for God is with us.

We welcome Mother Ana Maria Herrera and Sr. Mary Collette of the Sisters of our Lady, Spouse of the Holy Spirit to our Magnificat family. With the blessing of their local bishop, Bishop Raymond Lahey of the Diocese of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, they have accepted the Magnificat's invitation to start their new religious congregation in Regina Mundi. Their arrival to Regina Mundi on March 30, 2008 was such a wonderful blessing to our community because it coincides with the celebration of the Feast of the Divine Mercy. Praise and thank God for giving Mother Ana Maria and Sr. Mary to our community. Thank you Mother Ana Maria and Sr. Mary for your spiritual guidance, encouragement, support and for being part of our community.

God's love is truly amazing. *"God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, most loving and true."* (Psalm 86:15). Fr. Matt's expression "the closing of the period" is not an end. God gave Mother Ana Maria to our community to continue what Fr. Rustia had started. What went before was just the closing of the period but not an end. Whenever God closes one door, he opens another. We have to open our hearts and accept God's Divine Providence. God is good, kind and loving. He has good plans for all of us.

We take this opportunity to thank the COE members, Apostles, Daughters of the King and all those members who have been helping regularly in the maintenance of Regina Mundi. Your love, service and the precious time that you have been sharing to Magnificat and Regina Mundi are truly appreciated. Words are not enough to thank all of you for all the sacrifices and wonderful things that you have been doing for our Magnificat community and Regina Mundi. Last but not the least, thank you so much to Rev. Fr. Matthew Robbertz, who is now more involved, offering his assistance and support to the Council of Elders. *Loving Father, thank you for your wonderful gift to us - Magnificat Prayer Community and Regina Mundi.*

We give thanks, praise and Glory to God. *"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever."* (1 Chronicles 16:34)

With prayers for blessings,

Joe & Annie Lapid

Joe & Annie Lapid
Presiding Elders





Magnificat

**Cordially invites you to the
Fifth ANNIVERSARY of the
ORATORY OF JESUS, KING OF MERCY**

**Regina Mundi
Queensville, Ontario**



Tuesday, July 1, 2008

1:00 P.M.

- **Welcome**
- **Worship & Praise at Vanier Hall**

**2:00 P.M.
World**

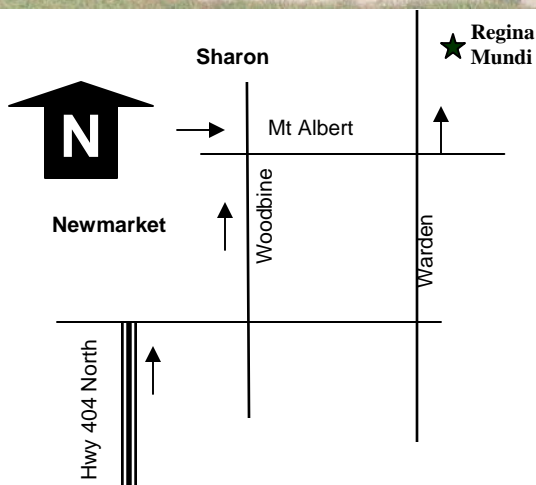
- **Invocation to Mary, Queen of the World**
- **Way of the Cross**

**3:00 P.M.
Mercy**

- **Solemn Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at the Oratory**
- **Holy Eucharist**
- **Benediction**

6:00 P.M.

- **Fellowship**



NEWLY RENOVATED REGINA MUNDI CHAPEL



“JESUS - MY LORD, MY GOD, MY ALL!”

Have you visited JESUS lately at our Chapel, Regina Mundi?

HE is in the Holy Tabernacle lovingly, patiently, longingly waiting for his children to come and talk to Him. We invite all our Magnificat family, friends and guests to come to Regina Mundi and together, we adore, praise, worship, thank and acknowledge the presence of our loving God especially in the beautiful “altar” and newly renovated chapel.



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ACTIVITIES

Saturdays

2:00 – Holy Rosary

3:00 – Devotion to the Divine Mercy
Prayer Meeting

4:00 – Anticipated Sunday Mass

Join the Magnificat Community
in the

Devotion to the Sacred Heart

Every First Friday of the Month

7:30 p.m. – Regina Mundi Chapel