



NEW LIFE

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MINISTRY

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The Cross Of Christ

By Vince Dorazio



CRUCIFIXION

Rome was founded about 500 BC, and after several wars the Romans had conquered much of the civilized world. By the time Jesus came into the world the Roman Empire was in full swing. The Romans had conquered and put to death thousands of people by crucifixion. Crucifixion was used by the Persians, Greeks, Carthaginians, Macedonians, and Romans. It is said that the Romans had learned the practice of crucifixion from the ancient Carthaginians. The means of crucifixion was used as a deterrent for slaves, rebels, pirates, and especially enemies and criminals. Crucifixion was considered the most brutal and disgraceful way for a person to die.

The condemned person was often scourged which left them in a weakened state. They were then stripped naked of all their clothing and forced to carry either the crossbeam of their cross (which weighed about 75-100 pound), or a full cross (weighing about 300 pounds). They would carry their cross through the public streets to the place of crucifixion, and there would be nailed to the cross and hung there for all to see. The Roman guards would sometimes pierce the body or break their legs to hasten their death. They would leave the body on the cross for vultures or other animals of prey. The goal of the Romans was not just to kill the criminal, but also to mutilate and dishonor the condemned person.

THIS WAS THE DEATH THAT JESUS FACED FOR US!
(Something for us to remember on Good Friday)

Crucifixion was used from about the 6th century BC to the 4th century AD. About 313 AD Emperor Constantine ended the practice of crucifixion when he became a Christian.

THE TRUE CROSS

Emperor Constantine's mother, Helena also became a Christian and began building Christian Churches in the empire. Out of veneration

for Jesus, Helena set out for Jerusalem to find the true cross of Jesus. In about 326 AD, Helena was led to Calvary (the area where Jesus was believed to have been crucified) and began to excavate the area. During the excavation, the remains of three crosses were found in a cave, along with the nails used to crucify Jesus and the placard from the cross of Jesus, declaring him "King of the Jews". To determine which one was the cross of Jesus, a prominent local woman dying of leprosy was brought to the site. She was allowed to touch each of the three crosses on succeeding days. When the woman's leprosy lesions were instantly cleared, they knew which one of the three crosses was the True Cross of Jesus!

INRI

At the top of every crucifix, above the head of Jesus, is an inscription that reads **INRI**. When I was growing up in Providence Rhode Island, I would see this inscription whenever I went to church. Even though, at that time, I didn't know what it meant, it was easy for me to remember. Because whenever I looked at the inscription, to me it read, "**In Rhode Island**". Years later, when I was born-again, I learned what it really meant.



For those who have seen the movie "*The Ten Commandments*" made in 1956 with Charlton Heston and Yul Brynner, there is a famous line that is repeated throughout the movie, by the Pharaoh. It says, "**So let it be written, so let it be done.**" While this line was in a movie, the mindset of this phrase played out in real life some 2,000 years ago by the then Roman Governor of Judea, Pontius Pilate.

When Jesus was brought before the Roman Governor, Pilate asked Jesus, "**Are you the King of the Jews?**" Jesus responds by saying, "**Are you saying this on your own, or have others been telling you about me?**" (John 18:13 ff) Jesus goes on to say that His Kingdom is not of this world. This response seems to anger Pilate and he orders Jesus to be crucified. Crucifixion was seen as a brutal and torturous way to die. It was a public display and used to show other criminals and enemies to obey the rule of the Roman Government.

After Jesus is nailed to the cross, Pilate decides to further mock and humiliate Jesus even more, and he orders that a sign be put on the cross above the head of Jesus. The sign was written in Latin, Hebrew and Greek. It read, "**Iesvs Nazarens Rex Iudaeorum.**" Which translate to "**Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews.**" When the chief priest complained about the sign, Pilate responds, "**What I have written, I have written.**" (John 19:19-22) So how does the phrase "Jesus the Nazorean, King of the Jews" boil down to INRI?

The inscription INRI is an acronym for the phrase written in Latin. Since there was no "J" or "U" in the Latin alphabet the letter "I" is used instead of a "J", and the letter "V" is used for the letter "U". The early Christians used the first letters of each word of this inscription "**INRI**" as a symbol: "**Iesvs Nazarens Rex Iudaeorum.**"

Little did Pilate know how right he was when he ordered the inscription placed on the cross above Jesus' head? Not only is Jesus the King of the Jews, but Jesus is the King of Kings!

CHRISTIANS CELEBRATE

Every year we as Christians honor the crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday. For this is the day that Jesus took on **ALL** of mankind's sins. The blood that Jesus shed that day washed us clean of all our sins and wrongdoings. For the first time since God created the earth, the doors of heaven, that were closed since Adam and Eve, were now opened for all of us to enter. No other person who ever had come before us or is to come in the future can do what Jesus has done. Through His crucifixion Jesus has given us life forever!

As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, let us remember the sacrifice that Jesus did for us. For without this sacrifice there would be no future. Jesus is not asking us to be crucified as He was, but He is asking us to be His disciples and followers. He is asking us to make a commitment to share the "Good News" of His resurrection with others. Just as Jesus' prayer was, "**My soul is troubled now, yet what can I say --- Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this that I came to this hour.**" (John 12:37) So too should our response be to Jesus. We should respond with a resounding **YES!**

Our only purpose in life is to share the good news that

JESUS CHRIST IS THE KING OF KINGS

DAY OF RENEWAL

SATURDAY MAY 9, 2009
9 AM – 4 PM

St. Albert The Great Catholic Church
E. 29th St. & 32nd Ave So.
Minneapolis, MN.



**"Do Whatever He Tells
You To Do"**

Schedule

8:30 am	Registration
9:00 am	Praise and Worship
9:30 am	Fr. Joe Gillespie
10:00 am	Vince Dorazio
10:30 am	Break (15 Minutes)
10:45 am	Fr. Bill Halbing
11:30 am	Lunch (In Social Hall)
1:00 pm	Praise and Worship
1:30 pm	Vince Dorazio
2:00 pm	Break (15 minutes)
2:15 pm	Fr. Bill Halbing
	Healing Service
3:45 pm	Closing

There is **NO CHARGE** to register or for the lunch. It is necessary to pre-register so that we can estimate food requirements. Please fill out the form below or call 612-243-9411

SPEAKERS



FR. Bill HALBING attended the Immaculate Conception Seminary in New Jersey, and was ordained for the Archdiocese of Newark in 1982. Presently, he is pastor of St. Antoninus Church, Newark, NJ, a spirit-filled charismatic parish. Fr. Bill has been in the Charismatic Renewal since 1975 and is a much sought after bible teacher. He has been a guest speaker at national charismatic conferences throughout the United States. Fr. Bill has spoken at Tent Revival meetings; Days of Renewal; Parish Missions; Children's Bible Conferences; Retreats; and has traveled to Canada, Guyana, the Philippines and Eastern Europe to preach God's Word. He has been involved in door-to-door evangelization and Hispanic ministry. Fr. Bill is also actively involved with the Office for Evangelization and serves on the Evangelism Commission and Men's Commission for the Archdiocese of Newark. He has a BA in Spanish and received a Master of Divinity degree in 1982 and an MA degree in Judeo/Christian Studies, both from Seton Hall University.



Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.

Is a Dominican Priest and is Pastor of St. Albert The Great Catholic Church in Minneapolis



Vince Dorazio

Is the director of New Life Renewal Ministry and has been in the Charismatic Renewal since 1973

Volunteers are needed to help with this Day Of Renewal. If you can volunteer please call Mark at 612-282-9896

REGISTRATION FORM Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of people attending _____

Enclosed is a donation to help cover the cost of this day \$ _____

Donate by Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover

Card # _____ Expires _____

Return To: New Life CRM 6253 Penn Ave So Richfield, MN. 55423

VOLUNTEERS

I can help with
Usher _____

Lunch _____

Breaks _____

Registration _____

I Can Bring

Cookies _____

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Other _____

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Visit Our Website At
www.NewLifeCRM.org

WEEKLY PRAYER MEETINGS
THURSDAYS 7:30 PM

St. Albert's Catholic Church
29th Street & 32nd Ave South
Minneapolis MN
(1 Block North of Lake Street)
Call ahead for Handicap
Accessibility
612-282-9896



Vince Dorazio is a lay leader in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal since 1973. He has been involved in forming prayer meetings, both Catholic and Ecumenical ever since he renewed his life and fully accepted Jesus as his personal savior. He was touched by the Holy Spirit when a business client, who is Lutheran, gave him a copy of Pat Boone's book, *A New Song*. While reading that book, Vince realized that there was a void in his life. He realized that he was missing the presence of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. A few days later while driving to a business meeting, he turned to God and cried out, "Jesus, if you are real then show me!" At that very moment, Vince had a dramatic conversion. He felt the hand of Jesus lift him out of the car and he heard Jesus say, "Yes. I am real. Now you go and tell everyone that I am real."

Vince has written this book in response to that first day when Jesus revived his life. It is his story of his growing up days in Federal Hill, an Italian neighborhood, in Providence, RI. He tells of his way of life without God during his Air Force years, and of his personal revival. Vince is married to his wife Mary of 46 years and has four children and ten grandchildren.

TO ORDER BOOKS: Send a donation of \$11 for each book.

SPECIAL OFFER TO PRAYER GROUPS: 20% DISCOUNT for 6 or more books (\$8.80 ea.)

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