



## Institute of the Holy Spirit

Summer 2010

### Year of the Priest

By Rev. Christopher Crotty

My dear friends in Christ,

As many are aware, this year has been dedicated “The Year of the Priest” by our Pope Benedict. I am sure most are also aware of the tremendous suffering the Church and the Holy Father are enduring during this current media storm due to the effects of the sickening behavior of a small percentage of clergy. It may seem odd that the year of the priest is celebrated in a time of scandal and suffering on the part of so many souls, it seems almost paradoxical. As I a priest began to reflect on this unusual paradox, it became clear that the Holy Father’s naming this year of the priest was actually a prophetic word, a word given in the power of the Holy Spirit to remind the Church Universal of the truth of the gift of the priesthood, even in a time of chaos and defection from truth and holiness among some clergy.

Scandal has been with the Church from the beginning. Was it not one of Christ’s own who was a thief, a betrayer, a liar and son of darkness? Yes; the Church has always suffered from the brokenness of sin and scandal, today it is particularly true. So, what are the answers for us who live as individuals in a Church in seeming crisis? The first reality is the fact that we are not called to defend the indefensible ie..(corrupt clergy) but we are called to remember the truth of the combat between heaven and hell, and that we are to remain a people of hope, invoking the aides of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the great prince St. Michael the dragon slayer of Revelation. We are also called to be a people rooted in the Holy Spirit, living in his light, praying for his light to penetrate hearts, minds and souls. A people on fire in the Holy Ghost will be an unquenchable fire of love setting ablaze souls lost in the coldness of sin and despair. This is our response today! Nothing more and nothing less.

In his new document celebrating the year of the priest the Holy Father gives the Church Universal supportive direction

in growing in the charismatic graces of the Holy Spirit. These graces which stem from the Eucharist (Agape) the gift of holy love, sent in the light of the Holy Spirit will pull us from the grave of fear and doubt and usher us into a new season of life in Christ. Only in these profound mysteries will we be able to be a catalyst for conversion and holiness in the Church in the modern world. Please read the attached portions of this great document and be filled with a new hope and zeal for the kingdom.

My Blessings in Christ,

Fr. Christopher Crotty

[44] In this context of a spirituality nourished by the practice of the evangelical counsels, I would like to invite all priests, during this Year dedicated to them, to welcome the new springtime, which the Spirit is now bringing about in the Church, not least through the ecclesial movements and the new communities. “In his gifts the Spirit is multifaceted... He breathes where he wills. He does so unexpectedly, in unexpected places, and in ways previously unheard of... but he also shows us that he works with a view to the one body and in the unity of the one body”. [45] In this regard, the statement of the Decree *Presbyterorum Ordinis* continues to be timely: “While testing the spirits to discover if they be of God, priests must discover with faith, recognize with joy and foster diligently the many and varied charismatic gifts of the laity, whether these be of a humble or more exalted kind”. [46] These gifts, which awaken in many people the desire for a deeper spiritual life, can benefit not only the lay faithful but the clergy as well. The communion between ordained and charismatic ministries can provide “a helpful impulse to a renewed commitment by the Church in proclaiming and bearing witness to the Gospel of hope and charity in every corner of the world”

LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE **BENEDICT XVI**  
PROCLAIMING A YEAR FOR PRIESTS ON THE 150th  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE “DIES NATALIS” OF THE CURÉ OF ARS  
Sections 44- 46

Pray for priests around the world... Pray for priests in your diocese...  
Pray for your priest.

## The Voice of the Holy Spirit

Michael Crotty

Fifteen years ago I was a broken man, living in the darkness of drug addiction. Today, I am working with Father Christopher and the Institute to help others who have been disconnected from the Holy Spirit through addiction. I believe that drug abuse overpowers the conscience, which I understand to be the voice of the Holy Spirit. The deeper I went into the darkness of addiction the more cut off I felt from God. The voice of the Holy Spirit was nearly silenced.

I started using drugs as a teenager and my life progressively got worse as I fell deeper into my addiction. I was in and out of programs and drug rehabilitation centers for ten years and they were all unsuccessful. It is my opinion that their failure is due to the absence of Christ. I eventually found healing for my mind, body and soul through Comunita Cenacolo, a community that focuses on young people with addiction problems. The success of the Community is owed to the power of the Holy Spirit working through it. There, I learned to rely on prayer and God's providence instead of using drugs and alcohol. I learned to listen to and cultivate the voice of the Holy Spirit in my life to guide and direct me. Mother Elvira, who founded the Comunita Cenacolo calls it a "school of life," not a drug program. Through hard work, prayer and sacrifice I found healing from the addiction that, in the past, had controlled every aspect of my existence. I spent over three years in the Community and needed every minute of it. The first year my body healed, the second year my mind healed and the third my soul was healed. Without Christ there can be no true healing. It is a grace that is offered to us freely but we must be willing to accept it.

Through my journey of healing in the Community, I learned many things and had numerous life changing experiences that I hope to share in the future. One of the greatest gifts I received was learning a special form of prayer called Iconography which literally means, "image writing." I was taught to write Icons in the Community by some of the other young men who had learned from nuns in the Holy Land. Icons communicate our faith in a simple image. In my experience, Icons provide an unparalleled encounter with God as one goes deep into their meaning and beauty. Iconography is a powerful form of prayer and meditation and protection from evil and I am very blessed to have learned it.

It is my hope and prayer that all those bound by the chains of addiction will eventually hear the faint whisper of the Holy Spirit in the midst of the chatter and deafening influence of the dark side. I hope they will be lead, like I was, into the light of Christ and come to live as God intends. I am grateful to my cousin, Father Christopher and the Institute of the Holy Spirit for an opportunity to help others who suffer from addiction. I feel it is my vocation to help Father Chris and those he works with to fight the spiritual battle that threatens to engulf so many souls.



Icon painted  
by Michael Crotty

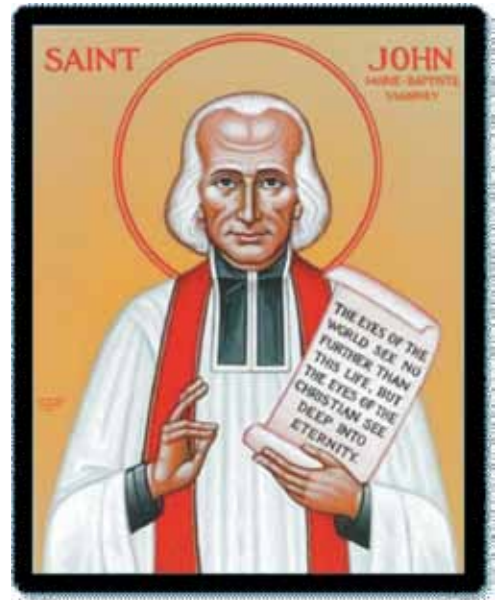


### Mission Statement

Institute of the Holy Spirit, Inc  
The mission of the Institute of the Holy Spirit is to work for the Glory of God and support the Church, by building up the mystical body of Christ through education for salvation, and promulgating devotion to the Holy Spirit. In this endeavor, we strive to help all people grow in understanding of the Holy Spirit and His infinite mercy, consolation and healing.

## PRAYER OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY

I love You, O my God,  
and my only desire is to love You  
until the last breath of my life.  
I love You, O my infinitely lovable God,  
and I would rather die loving You,  
than live without loving You.  
I love You, Lord  
and the only grace I ask is to love You eternally...  
My God, if my tongue cannot say in every moment  
that  
I love You,  
I want my heart to repeat it to You  
as often as I draw breath.



### ***SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION THROUGH EUCHARISTIC TRANSFORMATION***

Father Louis Guardiola

*Part I*

#### ***The Missionary Social Dimensions of the Holy Eucharist***

It is becoming increasingly evident to anyone who has an authentically Catholic Christian and Christian faith that we are living in an increasingly DE-Christianized and even anti-Christian society. Therefore the challenge for those of us who are authentically Catholic Christian and Christian is how we can transform and rechristianize society. For those of us who are Catholics it is this. We shall transform society to the extent we allow our self to be transformed by the Holy Eucharist. The transformation we are called to is a total transformation in the total depths of our being, our thoughts, words, actions, decisions and particularly in our interaction with society at large through the Body, Blood, soul, divinity, humanity, and divine person of Our Lord Jesus Christ who is really, truly, substantially, personally, sacramentally, and entirely present to us in the Holy Eucharist today.

What is the social hence missionary dimension of the Eucharist? It is the Eucharist as a Holy Communion-sacrament. When we receive Our Lord we “become one“ not only with Our Lord, but also with everyone who receives Him. St. Paul says this in I Corinthians chapter 10: 17, “We, many though we are, are one body, since we all partake of the one loaf”. The Eucharistic unity we enjoy is even closer than that of a human family; it is common unity a communion in the very blood of Christ Himself. To communicate with Christ is to communicate with each other and in Christ. We are often challenged as Catholics. One challenge is do we have a personal relationship with Christ? We happily can say that we have the most personal relationship possible. In Holy Communion we have communion in the very person of Christ! Immediately we see the social and ecclesial dimension of the Eucharist. We are no longer alone, but are a part of each other as members of the same Mystical Body of Christ fed from the same table and source. As Genesis 2:23 says, “bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh.” The question we shall develop as we go on is how we shall extend this social union of Holy Communion to all of society that from the Holy Eucharist comes from the very depths of the Holy Trinity, the Holy and eternal origin of all social unity.

Father Louis Guardiola, C.P.M. is with the Fathers of Mercy, and serves on the advisory board for I.H.S as the Eucharistic Spirituality Advisor. He has written several books including [Eucharistic Adoration Rosary](#), which is available at [instituteoftheholyspirit.com](http://instituteoftheholyspirit.com). Look for part II of this article in the next I.H.S. newsletter, where Father will talk more about “divine Eucharistic unity”.



We have received many donations for the Institute over the past few months, both monetary, and items of value. On behalf of the Institute we thank you. May God bless you abundantly.

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The Institute of the Holy Spirit runs with the support of your prayers and donations. Please take some time with our Lord to discern your role within the Institute. No prayer will go unheard no donation will go unappreciated. You may mail back the enclosed card, or contact us by phone, or email for more information. We thank you in advance for all that you do.



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**Calendar Upcoming Events****May 21 - 22, 2010**

Refuge From the Storm  
A Healing Conference  
Forrest View Educational Center  
2121 S. Goebbert Rd.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
Contact - Zina O'Callaghan - 847-655-5011

**June 11 - June 13, 2010**

Franciscan University  
Steubenville, OH

**June 26 – 28, 2010**

St. Josaphat  
5720 State Rd.  
Parma, OH 44134  
Contact – Chris Hlabse – 440-897-1772

**July 23 - 25, 2010**

Holy Cross Ministries  
Holy Spirit Conference  
Raddison Hotel - Downtown Fresno  
Fresno, CA  
Contact - Ben or Christy Villas -  
559-271-1246

**July 30, 2010**

Presentation Ministries  
3230 McHenry Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45211  
513-922-0923

**August 1 – 4, 2010**

Our Lady of Lourdes  
Gales Ferry, CT  
Contact: Serafina Kinnare 203-779-5659

**September 19 – 22, 2010**

St. Anthony  
Hoven, SD 57450

**September 26 – 29, 2010**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
531 William Blvd.  
Kenner, LA 70062  
Contact: Leslie Gambino 504-464-0147

**September 25, 2010**

St. Paul  
Guilford, IN

**January 4 - January 14, 2011**

Pilgrimage to;  
The Holy Land

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
<http://www.instituteoftheholyspirit.com>