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1106 Jackson Place Steubenville, OH 43952
740-444-4399
nem.rev.3.20@gmail.com

Spring 2008 Update

New Evangelization Ministries is a non-profit ministry founded by Deacon Ralph Poyo to assist Pastors and pastoral teams in their efforts to bring genuine conversion to the heart of every member of their parish community.

Here's a glimpse at how the Holy Spirit is touching hearts through the ministry of NEM...

During the last few months, New Evangelization Ministries have been actively working to lead Saints closer to Christ! At this time, we are working with the following parishes: Sacred Heart Parish in Palestine, Texas; St. John the Baptist in Dayton, MN and St. Albert in Albertville, MN. Each parish is at a different place in the NEM process.

Holy Family Parish in Ohio is at a place of transition with a new Pastor coming in July and will continue to discern its participation with NEM with its new Pastor. Deacon Ralph has led Pastoral Team retreats at both parishes in Minnesota to complete their R-P-T Sessions.

In addition he has led Confirmation retreats at parishes across the United States. This next weekend he will be speaking at a Father/Daughter dance in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Just last weekend, Deacon Ralph spent time with the Pastoral Team of Sacred Heart Parish, in Palestine, TX. The Pastoral Team experienced a great time of healing and conversion as they opened themselves up to the work of the Holy Spirit. Here's a picture of what occurred from Deacon Ralph:

As they gathered, several were honestly dreading the time but came out of obedience to their Pastor. Once there, I had them share about themselves, their families and ministries. Then I began to talk about NEM and myself. We then spent the rest of the evening coming to an understanding of why what they were currently doing was not working. As I unfolded those reasons, I gave practical examples (and a model for later) from my life. I also gave them a very clear understanding of the kind of conversion we need to be seeking.

By the end of Friday night, the Holy Spirit had them looking within their own hearts and wondering where they too were bound by Satan.

One Gentleman who is a CPA (Very Busy with Tax Season) and serves on the Finance Council, confessed that he was only coming on Friday and would blow off Saturday and Sunday because of his work load. After Friday night, he decided (to the amazement of his wife who asked what was going on!) to stay for the rest of the weekend.

In the middle of the first sharing session where everyone shares how Friday night impacted them, another man was struggling, to the point of tears, with what he sensed the Holy Spirit was doing. At this point, he was struggling to believe that God could help him with his anger and hatred. Those were two big buzz words for me and I felt prompted by the Spirit to lead him in some Theophostic healing prayer in front of the Group.

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HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Pray for us and the parishes we minister to!
- Subscribe to the Prayer Warrior Team.
- Prayerfully consider supporting NEM financially.

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He was willing and we stopped right there in the middle of the retreat to deal with what was the most important thing to do – minister to him. The group was totally awestruck to watch God remove his anger. Another woman shared at the end about how she was freed from pain as I led him through that experience because she just followed the instructions I gave the man.

The end of the session on Saturday night was a time of leading the entire group to enact their free will to ask God for freedom from revengeful emotions and to forgive those who wounded them in life. *I love it when God shows up!* Midday on Saturday I brought the group to the time of decision. Are they going to move ahead committed to conversion personally and corporately or are we done! They were unanimous in their desire to move forward with the training because they came to realize that it was no longer acceptable to stay with their current course. *Amen!!*

Sunday was filled with training and planning for the future. The closing session was training and sharing of personal testimony. Each person had three minutes to share their view of ministry coming into the weekend, what occurred, and where they were going now. Many tears were shared as I watched the Holy Spirit move within that Pastoral Team. People had experience that weekend the conversion they needed to see where they must go now.

It was amazing!

Thank you to all of you who supported this weekend in prayer!!

Financially, we are receiving income from various sources. Some have signed on to help us monthly and we are greatly moved by their sacrifice and commitment. The Lord has moved others at Parishes to donate funds and, of course, those we are currently serving have been contributing. If you didn't know, NEM charges no fees for our services. We simply ask parishes to cover expenses and invite them to pray and do what God calls them to do. While money is obviously needed for payroll, equipment and ministry expenses, we don't want that to be a focus of what God has called us to do. Our mission is to be sent! If He is sending, He will provide the needs for the mission.

The Pastor, Fr. Zach, shared that he was strongly considering leaving the parish and asking the Bishop for a new assignment because he felt like he had not been able to accomplish anything there.

The Pastoral Team melted with the words of their Pastor who shared from his heart of his own brokenness. WOW! This is what I envisioned when the Lord first gave me the vision to do this. We closed the event with the Pastoral Team laying hands of prayer on their pastor. Both Hispanic and Anglo communities were united in their resolve to support this man to accomplish the Mission of bringing hearts to Christ.

This coming weekend, I will be traveling to Cincinnati to speak at a Father (of teens)/ Daughter dance. Please pray that these efforts can encourage the improvement of those relationships as I am sure that some Dads and or teen girls were "strongly encouraged" by moms to go.

Please also keep the pastoral teams of Sacred Heart, St. Albert, and St. John the Baptist in your prayers as they continue to plan and implement their pastoral plans.



**Deacon
Ralph
Poyo**