

# **THE HOLY SPIRIT IN EAST ANGLIA SPRING 2023**

**Catholic Charismatic Renewal Newsletter  
For the Diocese of East Anglia**



## Diocesan Renewal Team Serving Charis

We invite you to  
A Day of Prayer and Renewal in the Holy Spirit



Led by  
Derek Williams

*Theme: A Baptism of Fire*

Lk 12:49 "Fire I have come to cast upon the earth;  
and how I wish it were kindled already"

Praise and Worship • Holy Mass  
Reconciliation • Healing Service Teaching

Tea and coffee provided  
Bring a packed lunch

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023**  
**10.00am - 4.30pm**  
**Bowthorpe Church Centre,**  
**Bowthorpe Hall Rd,**  
**Norwich**

For more information contact: Philip 07910157584

[www.renewaleastanglia.org/future-events](http://www.renewaleastanglia.org/future-events)

## ONWARDS AND UPWARDS

Maria Heath, our national chair of Charis UK, suggested, at the start of 2023, we pray for peace in our world today. She quoted Pope Francis:

*“This peace is the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit of Jesus. It is the presence of God in us, it is God’s power of peace. It is He, the Holy Spirit, who disarms the heart and fills it with serenity. It is He, the Holy Spirit, who loosens rigidity and extinguishes the temptations to attack others. It is He, the Holy Spirit, who reminds us that there are brothers and sisters beside us, not obstacles or adversaries.”*  
(May 2022)

Pope Francis is a big advocate of Life in the Spirit. He set up CHARIS in June 2019 as a worldwide support for people everywhere trying to live and promote renewal in the Holy Spirit. As the Renewal Team in East Anglia our sole purpose is to follow the objectives set out in the 2019 CHARIS document, (see CHARIS website).

At a recent retreat day in Walsingham our Team turned its focus on two of these:

- (a) To help deepen and promote the grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit throughout the Church
- (b) To encourage the spiritual deepening and holiness of people who live the experience of baptism in the Holy Spirit

In our retreat day sharing, the first thing we were agreed upon was the need to deepen our own faith, especially waiting in silence before the Lord, but also in meeting more often as a team to pray. We thought what it meant to be filled with God’s “Holy Fire” (Luke 12:49) It was very encouraging to meet in fellowship and to be of one mind and one heart.

We decided to continue running our Days of Renewal both in Bowthorpe, Norwich, but also in other venues across the diocese. In 2022 we have been in parishes as far apart as St Mary’s,

Gorleston in the east and Clare Priory in Suffolk and we want to extend this to other parishes around East Anglia.

We have given new thought and prayer to how we could make these events prayerful retreat days for all concerned, days which offer an opportunity for renewal of faith and a deepening of our personal relationship with Christ. We are aware that our faith comes to life under the influence of the Holy Spirit, though how that happens is different from one person to another.

For 2023 the first of renewal / retreat day is at Bowthorpe where we are delighted to have Derek Williams as our speaker. His theme is taken from Luke 12:49 “Fire I have come to cast upon the earth and how I wish it were already kindled.” This I am sure will be a memorable day for all, a real boost to Lenten preparation for Easter.

Members of the Team are also cooperating with Clare Priory in running a Day after Easter on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. It will be from 9.30am to 9.00pm, Ros Powell will be the speaker, and it will include a healing service led by Fr Gladson. Details of this will be circulated soon. Check our website and Facebook page for more details.

Looking further forward the team are keen to put on events in other locations around the Diocese. These events do not have to be “full-scale” days of renewal, instead they could be retreat days, including teaching, prayer, contemplation, silence, prayer ministry or any combination thereof. At the recent team retreat day this was proposed and several people thought that this might be something that could happen in their parish and are looking into this possibility. If this is something you might be interested in having in your parish or group please contact a member of the team to discuss.

As mentioned above we have two events already on the calendar and more possibly in the pipeline. Keeping everyone informed of what is going on is very important. Please use our website and facebook pages to keep up-to-date.

Philip Walters