

## ALL SAINTS DAY

# Abp Wuerl celebrates mass for Catholic movements

By Mark Zimmermann, Editor - Wednesday, November 05, 2008 - About six months earlier, they gathered in great numbers to welcome Pope Benedict XVI to Washington. And at a special All Saints Day Mass Nov. 1, a standing-room-only crowd filled the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, for a Mass to honor the work of the Holy Spirit in Ecclesial Movements, New Communities and Third Orders in the Archdiocese of Washington.

As he celebrated the Mass, Washington Archbishop Donald Wuerl reflected on his memories of sitting in the popemobile with Pope Benedict, and watching as great crowds greeted the Holy Father along Pennsylvania Avenue, and then on Fourth Street and Harewood Road and at the National Shrine and The Catholic University of America.

"Who lined the streets?" Archbishop Wuerl asked in his homily. "So many from the New Movements and Ecclesial Communities, saying to the Holy Father, 'We're with you, we love you, we're prepared to witness our faith, as disciples of Christ and as witnesses to His word.'"

The archbishop smiled as he recalled the crowds at Fourth Street welcoming the pope to Washington. "With banners, signs, songs and cheers, all (were) saying in effect, 'Amen, we believe, yes we are with Christ, we stand with Christ and with his vicar.'"

The Ecclesial Movements and New Communities in the archdiocese include the Neocatechumenal Way, Focolare, Regnum Christi, Communion and Liberation, Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Worldwide Marriage Encounter and Couples for Christ.

"When the bishop said how happy he was to see the movements along Fourth Street, that was us, coming from across the United States," said Everett Jacobs, who with his wife Jennifer are members of the Neocatechumenal Way and attend St. Thomas More Parish in Washington.

An estimated 7,000 members of the Neocatechumenal Way from across the country came to Washington and New York to greet Pope Benedict during his April visit to the United States. Members of the group played music at the All Saints Day Mass, and marched with their guitars, drums and tambourines from the Crypt Church and processed through the lower level of the National Shrine, singing after the Mass.

"It's a sign that the Church is alive," Everett Jacobs said, remembering the enthusiastic crowds greeting the Holy Father in Washington. "It shows the faithfulness of God to His Church. The Holy Spirit is renewing the Church from the inside."

During the papal visit, the Jacobs and other members of the group stood in the streets near the National Shrine, on Pennsylvania Avenue and outside the Apostolic Nunciature.



*Washington Archbishop Donald Wuerl delivers the homily at an All Saints Day Mass he celebrated to honor the work of the Holy Spirit in Ecclesial Movements, New Communities and Third Orders in the Archdiocese of Washington. Archbishop Wuerl told the standing-room-only crowd that filled the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Nov. 1 that "What brings us here is the call from God each of us has heard in his heart... We're called to hear the call, accept it and live it."*

"Everywhere the pope was that week, we were there," Jacobs said, adding that they also traveled to see the Holy Father on his popemobile route along 5th Avenue in New York City, and they took their 16-year-old daughter Kristina to World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia, this summer.

Everett Jacobs is an electrical engineer, and his wife Jennifer is an ophthalmologist, and they have four children.

They said their participation in the Neocatechumenal way has deepened their faith in God and strengthened their marriage and family life. Jennifer Jacobs said she appreciated Pope Benedict's message. "Young people here in D.C. and who came from afar, they got a chance to hear the truth, not just what the world tells them every day."

In his homily, Archbishop Wuerl also spoke about another recent historic moment in the Church, the Synod of Bishops in Rome examining "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church." The archbishop returned home to Washington this past week after serving as a U.S. delegate to the international gathering.

The Synod reminds people to reflect on what God's word is saying to them in their lives, he said. "What brings us here is the call from God each of us has heard in his heart," the archbishop said. He noted that people's response to that call, "that 'yes' of our faith, is heard in the 'Amen' in our life. We're called to hear the call, accept it and live it."

That 'Amen' means today's disciples of Jesus are called to be His witnesses, to walk with Jesus and to share His good news in today's world, the archbishop said. "That 'Amen' of faith, that yes of faith, brings us to a whole new world, a whole new way of seeing life."

All Saints Day, he said, is a reminder that everyone, from all walks of life, is called to be holy. "All Saints Day is a time to reflect on all those holy ones who went before us, and also to reaffirm that this is our time, this is our turn, to walk in the Spirit, to walk in Christ's word," Archbishop Wuerl said.

After the Mass, members of the different communities and movements gathered in the shrine's Memorial Hall for a reception, and many had tables with information about their groups.

## ALL SAINTS DAY MASS

# ***CFCFFL leader is new chair for lay ecclesial movements in the Archdiocese of Washington***

Adolfo Q. Paglinawan, national council member and regional coordinator for the mid-atlantic and southeast regions of Couples for Christ USA affiliated with CFC for Family and Life, succeeds Rick McKinney of the Mother of God Community for a two-year term as chairman of the Association of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities (and Third Orders) in the Archdiocese of Washington.

Paglinawan together with his wife Margareth, is also CFCFFL's missionary couple to the Caribbean Islands, and West and Central Africa; and heads the organization's Secretariat based in Washington DC. They have six children and five grandchildren.

The incoming chairman brought Couples for Christ to the United States in April 1986 when he came to this country as a diplomat of the Philippines serving the Philippine Embassy in the District of Columbia. His wife Margi and he conducted the first Christian Life Program in Springfield VA in September of the same year, and made representations with the late Cardinal James Aloysius Hickey, then Archbishop of Washington, for recognition as a lay association. It was not however until his successor Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick became archbishop that Couples for Christ was formally recognized.

During the infancy of CFC in the United States, he worked closely with the charismatic movements in the tri-state of Virginia, Maryland and DC, and later nationally starting in the other East Coast states of New Jersey, New York and Florida, in the Mid-west states of Illinois and Texas, and at the West Coast in California. For the charismatics, Paglinawan organized marriage retreats and established three missions for evangelist couple Lito and Edith Urgino to the United States in 1988, 1990 and 1992.

Paglinawan also opened CFC in Japan in 1995 and Cameroon in November 2006. The birthing of Cameroon CFC is significant because it has been the largest in the organization's history, outside of the Philippines. Three hundred three lay men and women plus eleven clergy took the inaugural Christian Life Seminar in Buea of its southwest province with the collaboration of now Bishop-emeritus Pius Awah.

The incoming chairman himself took the Christian Life Seminar (CLS) in 1981 in Manila, Philippines under the auspices of Ligaya ng Panginoon (Joy of the Lord), the mother community of Couples for Christ.

At about the same time Ligaya was founding a family life outreach with 16 couples also being initiated into the movement through the CLS. It was later named by the founding participants themselves, and incorporated in 1984 as Couples for Christ Foundation Inc. (CFCFI).

Couples for Christ is now in every town in the Philippines, 30 states in the US, 20 in Latin America—a total of 160 countries worldwide.

The movements in the Archdiocesan association are:



*CFCFFL Mid-Atlantic regional director Adolfo Q. Paglinawan, incoming chairman for 2009-2010 of the Association of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities of the Archdiocese of Washington delivers the prayers of the faithful in Tagalog during the Mass presided by Archbishop Wuerl, while Mother of God Community Rick McKinney, outgoing chairman, waits for his turn at the podium.*

The **Bukas Loob Sa Diyos Covenant Community** (<http://www.bldwashington.com/>), or simply referred to as “BLD”, is a communion of families and a community of persons, called together as one people through a moment of encounter and a process of renewal, to a relationship of faith, hope and love with God. “Bukas Loob Sa Diyos” means “Open in Spirit to God”. It originated in Manila, Philippines in 1985.

The **Catholic Charismatic Renewal** (<http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org/>) as it exists today is the outgrowth from a retreat held in February 1967 of several faculty members and students from Duquesne University. It continued to spread so that, as of this date, the Catholic Charismatic Renewal exists in over 238 countries in the world, having touched over 100 million Catholics in its more than 40-year existence.

The **Catholic Worker Movement** (<http://www.catholicworker.org/>), founded by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin in 1933, is grounded in a firm belief in the God-given dignity of every human person. Today over 185 Catholic Worker communities remain committed to nonviolence, voluntary poverty, prayer, and hospitality for the homeless, exiled, hungry, and forsaken. Catholic Workers continue to protest injustice, war, racism, and violence of all forms.

**Communion and Liberation** (<http://www.clonline.us/>) began in Italy in 1954 when Fr Luigi Giussani established a Christian presence in Berchet high school in Milan with a group called Gioventù Studentesca (Student Youth), GS for short. The basic instrument for the formation of adherents is weekly catechesis, called “School of Community.” *Communio*.

The **Community of Sant'Egidio** (<http://www.santegidiosa.org/>) began in Rome in 1968 with a group of high school students who wanted to take the Gospel more seriously. Today it is a movement consisting of over 40,000 Christian laypeople in more than 60 countries throughout the world. The Vatican has officially recognized the Community of Sant'Egidio as a public lay association. Prayer, solidarity, friendship, peace, ecumenism, and interreligious dialogue are central to the life of the Community.

**Couples for Christ Foundation for Family and Life** (CFC-FFL – <http://www.cfcffl.org>) is a movement for rapid and massive, renewal of the family and the defense of life, and is now recognized by the Vatican as a private lay association for the faithful and enjoys a seat in the Pontifical Council of the Family.

**Cursillo** (pronounced cur-SEE-yo) (<http://www.rc.net/>)



**Washington Archbishop Wuerl**

washington/cursillo/) is a Spanish word meaning “short course”; it might be best described as a seminar. Cursillo, in this context, means “a short course in Christianity”. It begins with a weekend, starting on a Thursday evening and continuing until Sunday evening. The weekend consists of daily celebration of the Mass, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, talks, meditations, and good old-fashioned Christian fellowship.

**Faith and Light** (<http://www.foietlumiere.org/>), founded by Marie-Hélène Mathieu and Jean Vanier in 1968, is an international association that brings together some 1500 communities in 78 countries, across six “continents”. Faith and Light Community is a group of 15 to 40 persons (children, teenagers or adults with an intellectual disability, their family, and friends) who meet together at least once per month for a gathering of friendship, sharing, prayer and celebration.

**The Families of Nazareth Movement** (<http://www.familiesofnazarethmovement.com/>) is an international movement of Catholic faithful and includes families, singles, priests and religious. It was initiated in the late 1970’s when a prayer group of university students in Warsaw, Poland, aspiring to deepen their Christian lives, began meeting with Fr. Tadeusz Dajczer.

**The Focolare Movement** (<http://www.focolare.us/>), founded in Trent, Italy, in 1943 by Chiara Lubich, is present today in 182 nations and reaches over 5 million people. Focolare means “hearth” or “family fireside.” Through its 18 branches and 6 mass movements the Focolare spirituality is having an impact on family life, the youth world and on all areas of ecclesial and secular life. The official name of the Focolare Movement is the “Work of Mary.”

**Handicapped Encounter Christ**, or HEC, (pronounced “heck”) (<http://j-p-flynn.net/metrohec.org/Index.html>) is a volunteer group that was founded in 1975 by John Keck after he realized that traditional retreats were not reaching everyone. Most retreat centers and even many churches are not equipped for people with disabilities. It has since spread to scores of dioceses around the nation.

**L’Arche** (<http://larcheusa.org/>) Communities, founded by Jean Vanier in France in 1964, bring together people, some with developmental disabilities and some without, who choose to share their lives by living together in faith-based communities. The first L’Arche community in the United States was founded in 1972, and there are now 16 communities nationwide.

**The Legion of Mary** (<http://www.legionofmary.org/>) is the largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church, with well over 3 million active members in almost every country of the world. It has been active in the United States since 1931, has been approved by the last 6 Popes, and was endorsed by the Second Vatican Council. The main purpose of the Legion of Mary is to give glory to God through the sanctification of its members.

**The Madonna House** (<http://www.madonnahouse.org/>) Apostolate is a family of Christian lay men, women, and priests, striving to incarnate the teachings of Jesus Christ by forming a community of love. We are a “Public Association of the Christian Faithful” within the Roman Catholic Church, under the bishop of the Diocese of Pembroke, Ontario and Quebec. Its main house, or Training Centre, is located in

Combermere, Ontario, Canada.

**The Mother of God Community** (<http://www.motherofgod.org/>) is a Catholic and ecumenical charismatic community, founded in 1968 as a fruit of Vatican Council II and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the twentieth century. Its mission is to glorify Jesus Christ by living the gospel and growing in the knowledge of God through prayer, fellowship, evangelization and service. It is canonically recognized within the Archdiocese of Washington as a Private Association of the Faithful.

**The Neocatechumenal Way** (<http://www.neocatechumenalway.us/>) began in 1964 in the slums of Palomeras Altas, Madrid, through the work of Kiko Argüello and Ms. Carmen Hernández. The Neocatechumenal Way, as Pope John Paul II defined it, is “an itinerary of Catholic formation, valid for our society and for our times.” There are more than 20,000 communities who follow this itinerary of Christian initiation, present in 800 dioceses, 6,000 parishes, in 105 different countries around the world.

**Prayer and Life Workshops (PLW)** ([http://www.stleos.com/base.cgim?template=prayer\\_and\\_life](http://www.stleos.com/base.cgim?template=prayer_and_life)) assist the faithful to enter into a more personal relationship with the Lord by teaching them different methods of prayer, ranging from prayerful reading of scripture to contemplation. Lives are transformed as people allow God to direct their attitudes and actions. PLW is Vatican-approved and is being taught in over 40 countries

**Regnum Christi** (<http://www.regnumchristi.org/>) is an apostolic movement at the service of mankind and the Church. Founded by Fr. Marcial Maciel in 1959, the Regnum Christi Movement includes lay men and women, as well as deacons and priests. It contributes to spreading Christ’s message to humanity by undertaking personal, organized apostolic activity. Regnum Christi is an association for the promotion of the Christian vocation (Code of Canon Law, 215)

**The Schoenstatt Movement** (German Schönstatt) (<http://www.schoenstatt.de/>) is a Marian devotion founded in Germany in 1914 by Father Joseph Kntenich who saw the movement as being a means of spiritual renewal in the Catholic Church. The movement emphasizes a strong devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, inviting the Blessed Mother (and, hence, her divine Son, Jesus Christ), into the home by establishing a spiritual Covenant of Love with her.

**Teams of Our Lady** (<http://www.teamsofourlady.org/>) was chartered in 1947 in France and has spread worldwide. In the United States since 1958, the

movement continues to grow throughout this country. Teams of Our Lady is an international lay movement officially recognized by the Holy See as a lay institute under the Pontifical Council for the Laity. The Teams of Our Lady are under the patronage of the Blessed Mother and her canticle of joy, the Magnificat, is their daily prayer.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** (<http://www.wmme.org/>) offers a weekend experience designed to give married couples the opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication that they can use for the rest of their lives. It’s a chance to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God. It’s a unique and effective approach aimed at revitalizing Marriage.

## SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

MASS TO HONOR THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
IN ECCLESIAL MOVEMENTS, NEW COMMUNITIES,

AND THIRD ORDERS IN THE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

1 NOVEMBER 2008

