

**Catholic Charismatic Renewal**  
of the Diocese of Scranton

***FALL RETREAT***

***Sharing in the Cross;  
Empowered for Mission***

*"...they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness."* (Acts 4:31)

*"All renewal in the Church must have mission as its goal..."*

(St John Paul II, quoted by Pope Francis in his Letter establishing October 2019 as an Extraordinary Month of Mission)

**September 13-14**

(Friday & Saturday)

7:00 p.m. Friday to  
8:00 p.m. Saturday

**Villa of Our Lady  
Retreat House**

Mount Pocono PA



**Fr Ben St Croix, CC**

**You are invited** to gather with us as Fr Ben St Croix dynamically leads us to open our hearts to receive a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit for more effective evangelization. Fr Ben is a Canadian priest of the Companions of the Cross, an order which promotes being baptized in the Holy Spirit to be a more fruitful missionary disciple.

In addition to Fr Ben's teaching presentations, we'll experience:

- Inspiring music and songs
- Joyful praise and worship
- Mass
- Confession
- Healing prayer ministry
- Eucharistic Adoration

We'll also enjoy fine meals, great fellowship and opportunities for personal prayer, quiet time and rest in a beautiful retreat setting.

*Only by taking the "way of penance and renewal," the "narrow way of the cross," can the People of God extend Christ's reign. --- CCC, n. 853*

**Fr Ben St Croix** has a passion for evangelization and forming disciples of Jesus for mission. He was born and raised in Kenora, Canada, which is a small town in northwestern Ontario on Lake of the Woods. He grew up in a Catholic home and was raised in the faith with regular Mass attendance. During his teen years he became caught up 'in the world' and drifted away from God until his early twenties. He rediscovered his faith, after being evangelized by his father, who is currently a deacon. He joined the Companions of the Cross community in 1993, and has completed degrees in Philosophy and Theology at Dominican College and St Paul's University in Ottawa. Fr Ben was ordained in Ottawa in 2001, and over the past 18 years has done campus ministry, parish work, and itinerant preaching at parish missions and retreats. He has recorded programs for Shalom World TV. He has also helped to establish a new community of religious sisters in Ottawa, the Queenship of Mary Community. He is the Spiritual Director of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of Ontario, and serves as the Liaison to the CCR for Cardinal Collins in the Archdiocese of Toronto. He also serves in the Catholic Chaplaincy at York University in Toronto.

Our Retreat will be held at the **Villa of Our Lady Retreat House**, 245 Meadowside Road, Mount Pocono, Pennsylvania 18344 ([www.villaourlady.com](http://www.villaourlady.com)) (phone = 570-839-7217). The Villa has both single and double bedrooms, each with a private bathroom. Linens and towels are provided. Out of sensitivity to other guests, smoking is not permitted inside the Retreat House.

Registration starts at 7:00 p.m. on Friday. You are welcome to arrive earlier to enjoy the peacefulness of the Chapel and the grounds, but you will not have access to your room until you register. The main program will begin at 8:00 p.m. Our retreat will end approximately 8:30 p.m. Saturday evening.

Requested donation amounts (which include 3 meals on Saturday) are:

For those who have served as a Volunteer at the annual Scranton Catholic Charismatic Conference in 2017, 2018 or 2019:

**\$100** per person for a double-occupancy room

**\$115** per person for a single private room

**\$55** for commuters (Friday and/or Saturday) (no overnight room)

For those who have **not** served as a Volunteer at the annual Scranton Catholic Charismatic Conference in 2017, 2018 or 2019:

**\$120** per person for a double-occupancy room

**\$135** per person for a single private room

**\$75** for commuters (Friday and/or Saturday) (no overnight room)

**Paid registration deadline is September 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*After this date, invitations will be extended outside the Diocese of Scranton*

You can **register with Bob Valiante** via:

- Phone (live) at the CCR Office: 570-344-2214
  - **Recorded phone message registrations will not be accepted**
- By USPS Mail (see form below)
- By email: [ccrenewal@comcast.net](mailto:ccrenewal@comcast.net)

Please **mail your reservation information and payment to arrive by September 3<sup>rd</sup> to the CCR Office with the form below**. Make checks payable to "CCR". Include the information requested below for each of the people you are registering. Call 570-344-2214 with questions.

**(reservations cannot be accepted by recorded voice message on phone)**

**Mail to:** CCR, PO Box 3306, Scranton PA 18505-0306

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer rate       Non-volunteer rate

Single (private) Room       Double Room       Commuter

(if Double Room, sharing with: \_\_\_\_\_)

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

(3-digit code on back of card)

## ***WHY ATTEND THIS RETREAT??***

From St Ignatius Loyola, in the Twentieth Annotation of his “Spiritual Exercises”:

...he will, ordinarily, more benefit himself, the more he separates himself from all friends and acquaintances and from all earthly care, as by changing from the house where he was dwelling, and taking another house or room to live in, in as much privacy as he can, so that it be in his power to go each day to Mass and to Vespers, without fear that his acquaintances will put obstacles in his way. From this isolation three chief benefits, among many others, follow.

The first is that a man, by separating himself from many friends and acquaintances, and likewise from many not well-ordered affairs, to serve and praise God our Lord, merits no little in the sight of His Divine Majesty.

The second is, that being thus isolated, and not having his understanding divided on many things, but concentrating his care on one only, namely, on serving his Creator and benefiting his own soul, he uses with greater freedom his natural powers, in seeking with diligence what he so much desires.

The third: the more our soul finds itself alone and isolated, the more apt it makes itself to approach and to reach its Creator and Lord, and the more it so approaches Him, the more it disposes itself to receive graces and gifts from His Divine and Sovereign Goodness.

From Dom Jean-Baptiste Chautard, in Chapter 5 of his book “The Soul of the Apostolate”:

When we have to make a three days’ retreat, how unwilling some of us are! To withdraw for three days from a life which, though full of things to be done, is easy, and to live on the supernatural plane, making the supernatural sink into every detail of our existence during this retreat; to compel one’s mind to see everything, during this time, by the light of faith alone, and one’s heart to forget everything in order to seek Christ alone, and His life; to remain face to face with one’s self and lay bare the infirmities and weaknesses of one’s soul; to throw the soul into the crucible, and turn a deaf ear to all its cries of complaint: all this is a prospect which makes some people, otherwise ready to face any fatigue, turn tail and flee when there is no longer a question of an expenditure of merely natural energy.

No doubt, in this labor of detachment, grace shoulders a great part of the difficulty, making the yoke sweet and the burden light. But still, what efforts the soul has to make!