



Stay Connected

February 2008

An online newsletter for the worldwide TEC Family

Lent: God's Invitation to Spiritual Renewal & Formation

Dear TEC Family,

During these 40 days of Lent, I'm being invited by God into a time of contemplation, reflection and preparation for the Holy Triduum and the joy of Easter. **God is calling me to renewal by asking me to focus on His presence in my daily life and the ministry I have committed myself to.** Our God is one of unconditional love, acceptance, forgiveness and healing Who surrounds me daily. Wow! At first, it might seem unbelievable, but I know through faith that it's true!

As I've reflected on these thoughts, I realize that by myself or even with a community of people supporting me, we'll still fall far short of our goals. But, if we allow the Spirit of God to lead the TEC ministry, anything is possible. Personally, I know I get out of touch with that **GOAL AND IDEAL** and have to be reminded through His **WORD** to follow His direction.

"Our God is one of unconditional love, acceptance, forgiveness and healing Who surrounds us daily. If we allow the Spirit of God to lead the TEC ministry, anything is possible."

This leads me to the scripture quote: **"Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains but a single grain of wheat, but if it does die it produces much fruit" (John 12:24).** What must I **CHANGE**? What **NEW DIRECTION** should I look for and follow so I can produce an abundance of fruit?

The whole season of Lent prepares me for the great celebration of Resurrection on Easter Sunday, so with great expectation and joy I can receive the loving embrace of the **TRIUNE GOD**. **His embrace is always complete and refreshing; filling my emptiness and reassuring me of His presence during the most difficult of times.**



So, with the gifts I have been given, I'm now called to share them with all of humanity through the mission of the **CHURCH** and as I live each day as a **CHRISTIAN**. As I journey through life, I'm supported by the **SIGNS** of God's presence that He has gone before me preparing the way. What more can I ask?

During this Lenten season, I pray that the Lord continues to bless you along your own faith journey. May the power of the Holy Spirit empower you to be **DISCIPLES** in a world hungry for the Gospel and the love of Jesus.

In Christ,

Ronald Reiter

TEC Conference Executive Director

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TEC Family Reminders

JOIN TEC FAMILY ADORATION:

Has your community joined this Eucharistic Adoration prayer campaign yet? For more information, check out: www.TECConference.org/TECFamilyAdoration.htm

HELP US CHOOSE OUR NEXT TEC PILGRIMAGE DESTINATION!

Where should the TEC Family travel to in 2009? Should we re-visit the places where Jesus walked in the Holy Land like we did in 1995? Or, follow "The Footsteps of St. Paul" by touring Greece? Our third option is visiting Ireland where St. Patrick converted thousands to Christianity in the 4th century. Please send your feedback by May 1 to office@TECConference.org.

2008 Spirit of TEC Awards:

Does someone in your local TEC Family:

- Live out the Paschal Mystery in his or her life?
- Contribute in a significant way to TEC on a local or regional level?
- Faithfully serve our Church's young people?
- Generously share his or her love, faith and enthusiasm with others?

If so, consider nominating him or her for the **2008 Spirit of TEC Award**. Each recipient will be recognized on a special display at the 2008 Congress, receive an award certificate from the TEC Conference and have their names published in the Summer 2008 edition of the *Communicator*. Each TEC community can select up to three people for this special recognition each year. Please only submit names to the TEC Conference through your local core team, council or board. Nomination forms will be going out electronically the second week in March.

DEADLINE IS MAY 15!

New TEC DVDs

2007 Spiritual Directors Workshop Series

- Role of the TEC Spiritual Director (\$70, two-disc set);
- Paschal Mystery Spirituality (\$35, one disc);
- Spiritual Processes of TEC (\$70, two-discs); and
- TEC & Youth/Young Adult Ministry (\$70, two-discs).
Series price: \$200 (or \$100 if your center was represented)

2007 Congress Series:

"Mary: Our Guide to Perfect Discipleship"

- Retreat Experience (on Mary's example of prayer & discipleship);
- Forming an Adult Faith Community and TEC Community of Disciples; and
- TEC: Building Partnerships in the Larger Church.
Series price is \$65, or \$25 for individual segments

Both series should be ready around Eastertime.

To pre-order, contact the TEC Conference at (636) 933-9233, office@TECConference.org or visit online at: www.TECConference.org/GiftShop.htm

998 MORE MASSES NEEDED FOR CONGRESS

In our summer 2007 *Communicator* and again in last month's *Stay Connected*, Congress Co-Chair David Walker invited us to ask our TEC spiritual directors and parish priests to say a Mass for the 2008 TEC Congress: A Prayer of Wheat. **A special thank you to Fr. Eric Riley of Western Kentucky and Fr. Jeff Knight of Spirit of St. Louis for celebrating a Mass for the Congress in February.** Contact David at (316) 269-3928, walker@cdowk.org whenever you or your TEC community have a Mass celebrated for this intention.

THREE TEC COMMUNITIES NEEDED FOR NEW COMMUNICATOR FEATURE

In the *Communicator's* three 2008 issues, we would like to spotlight a different TEC community. Has attending a Conference workshop or Congress renewed your center? Is there a strong follow-through program happening locally? Are you blessed with a Spirit-filled faith community on fire for God and His Church? Then, contact us at 636-933-9233 or office@TECConference.org.

TEC Family Happenings...

2008 TEC Congress



**Aug. 1-3, 2008
Spiritual Life Center
Wichita, Kan.**

Contact:
Congress Co-Chair
David Walker at:
(316) 269-3928
or walker@cdowk.org

A Prayer of Wheat

www.TECConference.org/2008Congress.htm

Communities of Faith & Follow-Through



**May 2-4, 2008
Location TBD
Diocese of Peoria, Ill.**

Contact:
TEC Conference
(636) 933-9233 or
office@TECConference.org

www.TECConference.org/Cff.htm