

Christ Renews His Parish



What is Christ Renews His Parish?

Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) is an experience and a process designed to bring members of a parish together in Christ. All of our commitments, including our commitment to Christ, need continual renewal if we are to be faithful.

CRHP is:

- ✦ A proven and experiential way of enlightening and strengthening faith.
- ✦ A specific period for personal growth in prayer, scripture and sharing
- ✦ An experience in personal conversion and Christian community in the environment or our own parish

History

Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) is a parish renewal process that has existed since 1969 and been recommended by the renewal office of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. It has been promoted by Bill Huebsch, author of *Dreams and Visions*, who sites CRHP as an adult retreat experience that brings people to a deep adult faith encounter with Christ. This parish renewal is in over 1045 parishes in 35 states in the U.S. and in 4 other countries.

Who facilitates the weekend?

The Renewal weekend, to which you are invited, is given for parishioners by parishioners. A team that has previously attended a CRHP weekend work together in prayer and love to provide this two-day, one night, deep adult faith encounter with Christ

Who may attend the weekend?

CRHP is open to all parishioners, age 18 or older. CRHP is for anyone seeking spiritual renewal, desiring to build up the Body of Christ or gain a deeper sense of purpose within the parish community. Praying for guidance is important. If you feel that Christ, through the Holy Spirit, is calling you - COME!

What happens on a weekend?

Come prepared to have fun and renew your heart. The process is centered around reflections by team members with emphasis on small group discussions and activities. Topics covered include: The Father's loving-care for us, Scripture, Eucharist, and what Christian life is all about.

You will be free to share as much or as little as you are comfortable with sharing. You and your wishes will always be respected. The sharing dialogue is stimulated in a very liturgical, scriptural and prayerful atmosphere.

Sacraments are an important part of the weekend.

Comments from participants in CRHP

June Nirschl - I am so grateful that CRHP has come to Stella Maris. It offers a way to grow spiritually and in community.

Peg Vercoe - . . . It is another opportunity to grow closer to our loving God. . . . we grow closer to those we make the retreat with and truly become sisters in Christ. It has been a wonderful experience . . .

Bob Brogan - CRHP brought to me a renewal of spirit with my Lord, Jesus, by realizing His great love for each and every one of us. The brotherhood that now exists with my fellow retreatants will be a strong bond of all of us to Christ.

Harold Gerdman - The CRHP weekend was spiritually rewarding and helped form a brotherhood among those attending.

Art Vercoe - It gave me a chance to learn more about Christ, myself, and my fellow parishioners and men of Christ. . .

Jerry Mader - It calls it getting bit by the CRHP bug and has seen it transform a parish. Once CRHP takes over in a parish-lots of other challenges (like volunteerism, financial concerns) in a parish seem to go away.



What CRHP Does

- + **BRINGS TOGETHER** priest and people in a very casual but effective Christian atmosphere of sharing and dialogue.
- + **RECONCILES** the individual with the Lord through personal repentance and conversion.
- + **ACTIVATES** a Christian community with hope of continuation bringing individuals to a deep adult faith encounter with Christ.
- + **STIMULATES** on-going study, prayer and service groups.
- + **MOTIVATES** Religious ED, Holy Name, Parish Council, St Vincent de Paul Society, Liturgical and Service Ministries, RCIA, Scripture Study, Stewardship, Peace and Justice Ministries, etc.
- + **HEALS** the wounds between various factions and spiritualities.
- + **COMMUNICATES** fundamental truths of faith experientially.
- + **AFFORDS** tradition-oriented parishioners a comfortable course in change.
- + **LIBERATES** pastoral leadership for Gospel ministry of shared priesthood.
- + **ALLOWS** everyone to focus on what unites us - not what separates us.
- + **INVOLVES** the group in various prayer forms.
- + **EXPOSES** the parish to effectiveness of shared ministry.
- + **INVITES** Jesus to be at the center of a Spirit-filled community.

Christ Renews His Parish is a challenge to parishioners and to the parish. It is another step in our faith journey. As the CRHP program manual says:

“However sincere and deep our initial commitment, it requires, by its very nature, continuous renewal and deepening. We should never remain satisfied with our first time commitment of faith. It must be a moment-to-moment process of saying ‘Yes’ to the Lord at each step in life’s pilgrimage. In following Jesus on this pilgrimage, there can be no stopping or turning back. Each step requires a continuing conversion. Each commitment must constantly be renewed and renourished.”

How much does the weekend cost?

Donations help us to remain self-sustaining but are not required to attend. Volunteer help is welcome. Contributions are always private and anonymous.

For more information contact Deb Wegner-Hohensee, Stewardship & Pastoral Services, at (920) 272-8286 or 877-500-3580 ext 8286 or email dhohensee@gbdioc.org

Christ Renews His Parish

