



October 2012 Newsletter

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THE COMING HOME NETWORK INTERNATIONAL



Following God: Jesus loves me this I know

Marian Prentice

From my earliest memories Jesus was my best friend. I loved church, worship, and my Bible, which I unfailingly carried everywhere. My dad used to joke, "Don't you trust my driving? Is that why you always take your Bible?"

The Lord's grace throughout my life has always been abundant. In reality, I can't recall a time when I have not loved, desired, and pursued God. I always wanted to hear more about Jesus and to share Him with others. Both of my parents were "church going people" and had been raised in Protestant denominations (my father was a member of the Church of Christ and my mother was raised Baptist). We were a family of faith. I was raised to have high moral standards and know that the Bible was the manual for making daily decisions. We were in church every Sunday and I am thankful for that foundation. However, we were perpetual visitors/strangers since we never joined a church. I did not grow up with the experience of a church family.

Regardless, my love for Christ was strong. At the age of 10, I recall walking down the aisle at a Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio, to

ask Jesus into my heart as my personal Savior. It was a long walk to the altar that day because, again, I was a visitor in that church, not to mention just a child. I remember shaking inside from the fear of it, yet my love for God and the desire to move towards Him was infinitely stronger than my fear. I left my parents in the pew and walked down that aisle in front of 300 strangers! But I didn't care what others thought. I wanted Him. It was this way of thinking that I believe eventually led me home to the Catholic Church: I wanted more of Him, no matter what.

At age 12, it was *my* decision to be baptized in the Baptist church we were attending. I remember realizing that Sunday night that something wonderful had happened, but no one else seemed to think so or even talk to me about it afterwards. After all, we were taught that Baptism was just "an outward sign of an inward change," so nothing really was supposed to happen anyway. But to me, it was a momentous event.

Early memories of a budding Catholic interest began as intrigue more than anything substantive. Maybe it was the attraction of the "forbidden fruit," ... continued on page 2

Journeys Home

FEATURED RESOURCES

Deep in Scripture Radio program special!



Marcus Grodi is joined by guest Nancy Groom, a former Presbyterian, in this insightful program in which they discuss the papacy, the Eucharist, and being born again.



Living the Treasures in the Land of More: Discoveries of a New Catholic Christian

By Leona Choy

Leona Choy had a surprise journey to the Catholic Church at nearly age 80. This book is the sequel to *My Journey to the Land of MORE* and tells of her first few years as a new Catholic Christian. Did her age keep her from enjoying the new TREASURES of the Land of MORE? Did Leona have to leave behind her entire evangelical backpack? Were there cross-cultural adjustments as there had been when she was a missionary in China? What was the mother lode of TREASURE Leona discovered — and all the gold nuggets spilling out of the spiritual TREASURE CHEST? Of course she had to write a sequel to a sequel. This book is IT! Live the TREASURES yourself and introduce this book to your friends — converts and “cradlers” and not-yet-Catholic friends and family!

\$35

For a donation of \$35, receive a *Deep in Scripture* CD.

\$50

For a donation of \$50, receive *Living the Treasures in the Land of MORE*.

\$75

For a donation of \$75, receive a *Deep in Scripture* CD and *Living the Treasures in the Land of MORE*.

— THESE PREMIUMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY —

...Journeys Home Continued...

because I had learned that my parents believed Catholicism was very wrong. I have a memory of watching Pope Paul VI on TV and hearing my parents ridicule him, but not understanding why. I would sit, mesmerized, watching movies about priests and nuns (mostly Bing Crosby movies). I was so impressed with the reverence of it all that once I recall putting a pillowcase on my head as if I were a nun, making the sign of the cross and genuflecting! As a young woman I remember saying, “I love God so much that if I were Catholic, I’d be a nun!” I even recall as a teen — never known to my parents — finding a Catholic bookstore and buying a crucifix, which I kept hidden. I remember the actual purchase being rather scary, feeling as if I were betraying someone. I kept the crucifix for a long time and would take it out to hold it and just gaze at it in wonder. Now as I look back, it is clear that God was planting the seeds of His holy Church in my young mind and heart.

In high school, once I had my driver’s license, I drove myself in my dad’s seafoam green Volkswagen to a Baptist church across town to be able to worship each Sunday night (we went as a family Sunday mornings). I didn’t care that it was a long drive or that I didn’t know anyone

there. I just wanted to be in the House of the Lord. At 16, I had a boyfriend who was Catholic and I just knew that I could make him see “the truth” and abandon his religion. However, even in talking with him about our religious differences, I was learning the Faith — I just didn’t know it then. Ultimately, my parents ended our relationship because they were against all things Catholic.

Following God: To the joy of service

I began frequenting a United Methodist church, during my time at The Ohio State University. But, between school and falling in love with my husband, church attendance and my daily relationship with God began to take a back seat. I wouldn’t say that I walked away from the Lord, but He was not the center of my life during those four years as He had always been. After Phil and I married, we started our life in a Baptist church just off campus and, when we moved away from that area, we attended a mainline United Methodist church for a while. Soon, we bought our first house across town and we changed churches yet again and began attending a Free Methodist Church, which eventually became our church home for 20 years. It was a great joy to become active in that church.

...Journeys Home Continued...

For the first time in my life I had a church family and I loved it beyond words. My husband and I were blessed with good teaching, as we both got back on track with God. We formed deep friendships, many of which we still have and treasure today. We were there Sunday mornings, Sunday nights, Wednesday nights, and always for any kind of special service or Bible study. I was privileged to be involved in ministry in that church and learned a great deal as I grew deeper in the Lord.

The joy of service was, and always has been, abundant in my life as a Christian. I took 2 Corinthians 5:15 seriously: “and He (Christ) died for all that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.” I taught Sunday School and Kid’s Club classes, adult Bible studies, served as Children’s Ministry Director, directed Vacation Bible School, and served on the Church Board. I also participated in Bible Study Fellowship, an International, interdenominational Bible study. I am very thankful for this solid foundation and experience.

While raising our two children, working part-time, my days were filled with training them in the faith. Both of our children attended Christian schools (as well as public) and both graduated from evangelical, Christian colleges. After leaving the Free Methodist Church, we were in the Nazarene denomination for seven years. When I became involved in charismatic worship, the Lord expanded my church family to include a para-church organization, Women’s Aglow.

Following God: To mission fields

When I turned 50, God opened my heart to a different direction in service to Him and drew me to missionary work. I have been privileged to serve on Short Term Mission teams to Venezuela, Ecuador, Mexico, Cuba, and, most recently, China. The China venture was birthed through Vineyard Columbus, a nondenominational church where my husband and I were members for the past 10 years. God also opened my heart to prison ministry where I teach several classes and have the privilege of mentoring at Ohio Reformatory for Women.

Over these 50 years, God has been — and is still — teaching, stretching, and surprising me with many new things. However, this last path was in a direction that I never, ever, thought I would travel. Five years ago, I thought my life was set and settled as I began my sixth decade. But it began with a stirring; I sensed a deep yearning for beauty and reverence in worship. I realized that I wanted more — somehow I knew there was more. And I was right!

Following God: to the Catholic Church?

I believe it was the Holy Spirit who nudged me as I was surfing TV channels one day and came across EWTN, just as they were airing Mass. I was mesmerized. I had never seen a Catholic Mass before and

... continued on page 4

EWTN'S THE JOURNEY HOME

on television and radio, hosted by Marcus Grodi, president of CHNetwork

TELEVISION — Mondays at 8 PM ET, Encores: Tuesdays 1 AM ET, Fridays 1 PM ET
The Best of the Journey Home: Monday-Thursday 1 PM ET

RADIO — Mondays at 8:00 PM ET, Encore: Saturdays 7:00 AM ET, Sundays 1:00 AM ET
The Best of the Journey Home: Monday-Friday 12 AM ET

October 1

Chris Davis, *Former non-Denominational**

October 8

Father Andrew Apostoli CFR*

October 15

The Journey Home International

October 22

Dr. Anthony Caruso, *Revert**

October 29

Jason Stewart, *Former Presbyterian minister**

**Schedule is subject to change.*

DEEP IN SCRIPTURE

Since 2006, we at the Coming Home Network have been blessed to have our *Deep In Scripture* radio program air weekly on the EWTN Radio Network. By mutual agreement between EWTN and CHNetwork, *Deep In Scripture* will no longer be airing each Wednesday afternoon.

EWTN radio is excited to announce that the “*At Home with Jim & Joy (Pinto)*” program will now air Monday-Thursday at 2:00pm (Eastern) instead of only on Mondays.

Here at the CHNetwork, we will be using our studio time reserved for *Deep In Scripture* to produce **NEW** programs exclusively for our CHN members. Stay tuned for details!

MARCUS GRODI'S SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

October 5, 2012

Archbishop's School Fund Dinner
Albuquerque, NM ■ 505-831-8120
Dolores Cordova ■ dc@archdiosf.org

October 10–11, 2012

Living Bread Radio Network
Youngstown, OH (10th) - Canton, OH (11th)
www.livingbreadradio.com

October 19–20, 2012

St. Bernadette Parish
Westlake, OH ■ www.stbernadetteparish.com
StBernadetteYearOfFaith@gmail.com

DEEP IN HISTORY CONFERENCES

The Coming Home Network International would like to thank everyone who has been a part of our previous *Deep in History Conferences*. We would like to remind our members that unfortunately, for many reasons, the CHNetwork will no longer be sponsoring these annual conferences. We are most grateful to Franciscan University of Steubenville for co-hosting a memorable event last year.



Instead, we are exploring various alternatives to continue our commitment to becoming “deep in history,” to quote Bl. John Henry Cardinal Newman. We anticipate that this may involve expanded use of our in-house studio, and expanded resources on our website. We also hope to reinstitute our annual retreat for clergy members, and may consider a small number of regional parish events. More information will follow in future newsletters and on our website www.chnetwork.org.

...Journeys Home Continued...

couldn't stop watching. Something was unmistakably awakened in me and I knew I had to investigate this Faith.

Never having studied the Catholic Faith, I believed the typical Protestant misconceptions about Catholics: they worship Mary and the pope; believe salvation is attained by works alone; are idolaters, because they pray to statues; engage in necromancy (communicating with the dead), because they pray to dead saints; and don't believe in hell, because they have purgatory, whereby you can pray someone into heaven regardless of the life they have led. None of these Catholic beliefs were in the Bible, I was told. But after seeing that beautiful Catholic liturgy on TV, I began the quest to see for myself what Catholics believe, not what I was told they believe.

I watched EWTN, in particular *The Journey Home* program, listened to *Deep in Scripture* and *Catholic Answers Live*, viewed Catholic websites, and devoured at least 30 books on Catholicism and countless conversion stories. With every source I investigated, the draw to Catholicism was more and more intense. As a Protestant, I already went deep in Scripture and exegesis (the explanation or interpretation of Scripture), since I prepared many teachings for church or prison. Therefore, the more I studied the Catholic interpretation of Scripture, the more I knew that what I was learning was true. It all made sense as each of my “issues” melted away and I became more and more convinced of Catholic teaching.

At the very start of my research, I asked the Lord to keep me from error as I began this journey. I put my trust in Him and knew that He would answer my earnest prayer. Periodically, I would “check in” with Him: “Father, is this okay?” As time went on, the prayer became: “What are you doing in me?”, because I was slowly — but surely — becoming Catholic!

With my husband's support, I decided I would begin to attend a local Catholic church on Saturday evenings. Nervous, I sat in the back and just took it all in. What I remember most about that first time at Mass was the reverence of worship, the quiet, and the beauty. What I had been hungering for was satisfied in that Mass. I began attending Saturday night Masses regularly while going on Sunday mornings with my husband to our Protestant church. As time went on, I couldn't wait to go to the Catholic church each week. I learned how to participate in the Mass (except for receiving Communion) and I worshipped in such a deep way. I absolutely loved it.

By September 2010, I had the courage to register for RCIA. I had done so much reading and studying in the three years prior to those classes that hearing it all “from the horse's mouth,” so to speak, served to cement it in my mind. The Holy Spirit was confirming in me that what I was learning was true. I indeed discovered that my Protestant idea of what Catholics believed was false. I learned that what Catho-

...Journeys Home Continued...



lics *do* believe is firmly rooted in Scripture and the Tradition that had been lived out by the early Church long before there even was a written Bible at all! I realized that *sola scriptura* (living by the Bible alone) is not taught anywhere in the Bible. *Sola fide* (salvation by faith alone, apart from whether or not we live out our faith) had long been a belief that I couldn't square with Scripture, so that was not a hurdle for me. On the night in RCIA that we were taught about the Mass and what all the ritual actually means, I left in tears. I was totally overwhelmed at all the symbolism and the love I felt for Jesus who died for me. How could I *not* become Catholic?

As a Protestant there were many Scripture verses that had either never made sense to me or for which I had never heard an adequate explanation. Now as a Catholic, those same verses make sense and it is a joy to finally understand them. One of the Scripture verses I finally came to understand was when Jesus called Peter "the Rock" on which He would build His Church (Matthew 16). I was taught as a Protestant that by "rock" Jesus meant the truth of the Gospel message and also that, in the original Greek, the two words "rock" were different, one being "big rock" and the other being "smaller rock." Therefore, I was taught, Jesus couldn't have meant that He would build His Church on Peter. However, I had always read it over and over and I could not seem to accept any interpretation except what the Catholic Church teaches (even though I really *tried* to accept the Protestant view). Now in RCIA, the question was solved. Jesus spoke Aramaic, not Greek. In Aramaic, there is only one word for "rock," *kepha* (which, in fact, means a substantially-sized rock), but in Greek, the language into which Jesus' words were translated, the words have linguistic genders and must be altered to match the context. Also, I had previously reasoned that there were only a few times in Scripture that God changed a person's name (Abram to Abraham, Jacob to Israel, Saul to Paul, for example) and each time that new name signified new, God-given roles in His plan of salvation. Jesus changing Simon's name to Peter ("Rock") was not, therefore, inconsequential.

Another Scripture that had never been fully explained to me was John 3:5, when Jesus said: "Truly, truly I say to you unless one is born of *water* and the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God." The Protestant teaching that "water" in this Scripture actually refers to "natural birth" just never made sense to me. I came to understand in RCIA that this is a clear reference to Baptism. Previously, I was taught Baptism was just an outward sign, to which no grace or divine action was attached. However, once I read a number of Scripture passages that refer to Baptism as a Sacrament, which accomplishes the forgiveness of both original and actual sin, that verse in John made perfect sense (see Timothy 3:5, I Peter 3:20-21, Acts 2:38-39).

I am sad to say that prior to my research it had not dawned on me that there was anything "Christian" before the Reformation. ... continued on page 6

SUPPORTING CHNETWORK JUST GOT EASIER!

For your convenience, CHNetwork is able to automatically deduct monthly donations directly from your credit card, checking, or savings account. If you would like to set up an automatic monthly donation, please go to **chnetwork.org/donate/** or complete the form below and mail to:

CHNetwork

Attention: Ann Moore

PO Box 8290

Zanesville, OH 43702

Please contact Ann at 740-450-1175 or ann@chnetwork.org if you have any questions or concerns.

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UNSOLICITED MAIL

The CHNetwork would like to remind our members that we are unable to send unsolicited mail. Since our ministry exclusively responds to non-Catholic clergy and laity who initiate contact with us, we cannot add anyone to our mailing list or send materials unless they themselves first make a request. However, if you would like to have CHNetwork send materials with a gift card in your name, or if you have any questions about this policy, please contact our office at 740-450-1175.



KEEP IN TOUCH!

The CHNetwork would like to keep in touch with you via e-mail. Please go to www.chnetwork.org/update to ensure the CHNetwork has your e-mail address on file. We especially ask non-Catholic clergy and converts to provide us with your e-mail to allow us to keep in contact.

NEWSLETTER COPIES

CHNetwork encourages members to make copies of the newsletter and distribute to family, friends, and church groups. We do ask that copies of the newsletter not be sold. Unless otherwise indicated, the contents of this newsletter are Copyright © 2012 by the Coming Home Network International. All rights reserved.



...Journeys Home Continued...

When my eyes were opened to Christian history predating the Reformation, I began to read the early Church Fathers (most of whom I didn't even know existed). After I read about men such as Eusebius, Athanasius, Polycarp, to name a few, "the Catholicism of the early Church became so obvious....that I knew that if [I] were to follow the truth then [I] had no option but to become Catholic" (Jimmy Akin, *The Fathers Know Best*, Catholic Answers, Inc., p. 9).

That realization made me feel *safe* — yes, that's the word, s-a-f-e. The burden was no longer placed on me to decipher and choose between the varying beliefs and private interpretations of the Scriptures from the current 32,000 different Protestant denominations (all of whom believe the Holy Spirit has told them that their interpretation is true). I think because I trusted the Church on the things I *did* understand, it helped me to choose to trust the Church on some of the other issues that were harder for me to understand, such as purgatory. However, because I know that the Catholic Church is the true Church guided by the Holy Spirit, I can rest in that and let God move me along as I mature in this new faith. I love the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, because I no longer have to guess or depend on my private interpretation. I can refer to the *Catechism* and know what is true. And I feel safe!

Following God: to losing my reputation?

To be honest, the days leading up to the Easter Vigil in 2011 when I would enter the Catholic Church were full of anxiety. I was so certain in the truth of the Church, and yet my mind swelled with questions: What am I doing? What will my friends say? Will my children still respect me? What about the "reputation" I have as a solid and respected teacher of the Word of God? Will I even have any ministry left if I do this? And, yet, I wanted this so much. The Lord heard all my angst and provided for me. I read Leona Choy's book *My Journey to the Land of More* and it was just what I needed. At age 80, Leona, a well-established, Protestant author and fellow missionary to China, had also embarked on this journey to the Catholic Church later in life. Her life and journey paralleled my own in many areas that I felt such camaraderie with her about my journey. Her words summed up perfectly what I was thinking and feeling throughout much of my journey. Just like Leona, I felt like I was entering a foreign country and leaving behind all I had ever known. I now know, however, that I didn't have to turn my back on my faith as a Protestant Christian. Rather, I was coming home to the *fullness* of the Christian faith.

I also had other sources of support and encouragement in my journey. When I signed up for RCIA, the parish provided me with a wonderful sponsor who loves Jesus. She and I "clicked" from the start. I was also given a mentor by the Coming Home Network who was so good at putting my anxiety and angst into perspective. This mentor understood the difficulty in "changing countries" and faithfully prayed for me.

...Journeys Home Continued...

In the end, I came to the conclusion that I believed the Catholic Church is the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church founded by Jesus Christ. Because of all of the support and prayers from those special people God put in my life and the familiar, comforting nudge from the Holy Spirit, I willingly surrendered to what God had been asking of me: to become Catholic.

Following God: To the fullness of Faith!

The moment that Father Jerry announced at Easter Vigil that I was now Catholic, I got weak in the knees and nearly fell over out of sheer happiness! As I received Communion for the first time that night, the experience was electrifying. The tears fell at the realization that in my whole life of loving Jesus, *He* had seen to it that I could take Him completely — Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity — into my being. As I returned to the pew afterwards and knelt in total gratitude, joy, and awe, the shape of a heart appeared in my mind's eye. I was overcome. God had always loved me, but now I was home.

Since my reception into the Catholic Church, my joy has neither left, nor waned; it has only increased. Jesus is still my best friend. I still love to learn and study. I still love the holy Scriptures. And, now, I love being Catholic!

My husband goes with me to Mass a couple times a month and is very supportive, but he is not yet ready to join me. Some of my family members are supportive and some are not. The Lord has provided me with a few Protestant friends who support this journey and I am making new friends in my Catholic parish.

So, the journey continues! Thomas Merton once said: “a life befriended by God is a life where growth always means a step beyond what is familiar.” And to that I say, “Thanks be to God!” ■



MARIAN PRENTICE and her husband, Phil, live in Pataskala, Ohio, and have been married for 41 years. They have two grown children. Their son, daughter-in-law, and two grandsons live in Michigan, and their daughter is engaged and lives in Tennessee. Marian and Phil are both retired and attend The Church of the Resurrection in New Albany, Ohio. Marian is active in prison ministry, ESL trips to China, as well as helping with RCIA and Bible classes at her parish. She and Phil both love the fall season and give hayrides for many groups on their 24 acres during the month of October.

BLOG

Please visit www.chnetwork.org/blog to comment on and discuss this story!

THE COMING HOME NETWORK INTERNATIONAL

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500 Years After the Wittenberg Door



Jim Anderson
Senior Advisor – History & Theology
The Coming Home Network International

For over fifteen years, the anticipation of an important anniversary has inspired much of our work. By God's grace, Jim Anderson (CHNetwork's Senior Advisor and long-time coordinator of our ministry with non-Catholic clergy), is sojourning for an extended period in Germany. This is opportune, for it provides us with "eyes on the ground" to share reflections on the anniversary of the Protestant Reformation — and its impact on us today. This month, Jim gives us an inside look at the preparation for this coming event. —Marcus

People observe anniversaries as milestones in their lives to remind them of where they have been and how far they have progressed. Anniversaries also help us to remember, to contemplate the events of the past. At the end of this month, we will be arriving at one such milestone. October 31st will be the 495th anniversary of the nailing of the 95 Theses on the door of the castle church of Wittenberg by Fr. Martin Luther, the event that began the rupture with the See of

St. Peter and the creation of Protestantism. 2012 is only a preliminary to the greater celebration planned by many of our Protestant brothers and sisters for the 500th Anniversary on October 31, 2017. Preparations are already under way across Germany for this event. Banners are being hung from churches, books are being published, festivals and concerts are in the works.

Recently, I've had the opportunity to observe first-hand some of the preparations being made in Germany to celebrate 500 years of Protestantism.

In Eisleben, the church of Sts. Peter and Paul is undergoing an extensive interior renovation. This is the city where Luther was born and, coincidentally, where he died. The church of Sts.



Peter and Paul is where the infant Martin was baptized the day after his birth on November 11, 1483.



The home where Martin Luther died in 1546 is being completely restored and will soon have an attached modern building with museum exhibitions and educational programs.

THE "DEATH HOUSE" OF MARTIN LUTHER



STS. PETER & PAUL PARISH, WHERE LUTHER WAS BAPTIZED.



THE ERFURT AUGUSTINIAN CLOISTER. HERE LUTHER ENTERED THE RELIGIOUS LIFE IN 1505 AND TOOK VOWS TO SERVE GOD IN POVERTY, CHASTITY, AND OBEDIENCE.

The city of Erfurt, was central to the early formation of the young Luther. Here he entered the religious life, attended university, and was ordained a Catholic priest.

LUTHER MEMORIAL IN ERFURT. TRANSLATION: DR. MARTIN LUTHER "I WILL NOT DIE BUT LIVE AND PROCLAIM THE WORK OF LORD," PS. 18:17.



ERFURT CATHEDRAL WHERE FR. MARTIN LUTHER WAS ORDAINED A CATHOLIC PRIEST IN 1507.

Wittenberg, now officially "Lutherstadt Wittenberg," is busily preparing for the arrival of pilgrims who will visit the city to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In the 16th century, Wittenberg had recently been made the capital of Electoral Saxony by Fredrick III "the Wise." He founded the University of Wittenberg in 1502 and invited the Augustinian monks to staff its faculty. In 1508, Fr. Luther arrived here to be a professor of theology and Holy Scripture.

... continued on page 10



DOOR TO THE CASTLE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, WITH THE 95 THESES IN BRONZE.

The main parish church of St. Mary, built between 1280 and 1439, is undergoing thorough repairs and renovations. In this church the first Lutheran liturgy was celebrated in German rather than Latin. It was also where Luther preached over 2,000 sermons and baptized his children.

Other monuments and buildings in Wittenberg are also being restored in preparation for the coming events. The home of Philip Melanchthon, Luther's most important colleague and the author of the *Augsburg Confession*, is covered in scaffolding, undergoing restoration both inside and out.

Since 1994, Wittenberg has hosted an annual three-day festival in June celebrating Luther's wedding to the former nun Katharina von Bora. This event draws crowds of over 100,000 people to a Renaissance fair where they enjoy music, speeches, food, and beer. 2,000 people participate in the Marriage Parade in which a local couple portrays Dr. Luther and Katharina as guests of honor.

It is a sorrow that the religious significance of Martin Luther's marriage is lost to the vast majority of the people at this annual festival. Nearly 500 years after Luther began the movement that would separate millions from the unity of the Catholic Church, most Germans in Saxony no longer believe in the existence of God. Maybe "Over 80% of the people in the region where Luther once lived (which was more recently communist East Germany) are not baptized Christians, Lutheran or Catholic.

As we, both Protestant and Catholic Christians, prepare to commemorate, in different ways, the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation over the next few years, we need to keep in mind the desire of our Lord Jesus Christ for His Church "...that they may all be one; even

as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me" (Jn 17:21). As our separated brothers and sisters celebrate "freedom from Rome," may we turn our hearts to God through our Lord Jesus in conversion of heart and repentance of our sins so that the Holy Spirit may heal the divisions of 500 years allowing the world to see and accept the Truth in Love. . . *Ut Unum Sint*. ■



LUTHER AND KATHARINA

BLOG

Please visit www.chnetwork.org/blog to comment on and discuss this story!

Prayer List



Clergy

■ For a minister of the United Church of Canada, that God would answer her questions regarding what she will do and how her gifts will be acknowledged if she becomes a Catholic Christian.

■ For a former full-time worker for Navigators who is the wife of an Episcopal priest, that the Holy Spirit would guide her and her husband as they consider membership in the Anglican Ordinariate.

■ For Greg, a Baptist minister in California, that as he studies and prays about the Catholic Church and her teachings he may be granted the grace to act upon the truths he learns.

■ For an Anglican priest in Tennessee, that the Holy Spirit guide his wife and him as they seek out the possibilities of full-communion with the Catholic Church through the Anglican Ordinariate.

■ For Jeff, a Baptist minister, that the Lord would guide his wife and him as they discern God's will and also look for employment.

■ For a Quaker minister and his wife, that as they journey ever deeper into the heart of Jesus, the Spirit of God would show them the right paths to take.

■ For Michael, a United Methodist lay minister, that God would give him a burning desire to return to the Catholic faith of his youth and a clear path to follow.

■ For a Baptist minister in England, that the example and prayers of St. Therese of Lisieux would call him home to the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

■ For a Pentecostal pastor in Benin, that the Lord Jesus, in His love, would grant him the grace to see God's call for him and his people to become Catholic Christians.

■ For Charles, a Baptist minister, that he would be given by our Lord a hunger to learn the truths of Catholic teachings present in the holy Scriptures.

■ For an Anglican priest in Maine, that the Holy Spirit clear away all perceived obstacles that bar his entry into full-communion with the one Catholic Church.

■ For a Lutheran minister in California, that his discussions with faithful Catholics be the witness he needs to enable him to return home.

■ For Martin, a Pentecostal minister in Sweden, that his entry into the one Catholic Church of Jesus be a witness to the fullness of the Faith to his family, friends, and community.

■ For Bob, a Baptist minister in Indiana, that God would guide and bless him with the grace to see, desire, and obtain all the graces of the sacraments that Jesus offers to him.

Lay

■ For Lee, that he will find steady, gainful employment in his profession soon, or that his former place of employment will call him back.

■ For Mary, that she finds support and answers to her concerns about Catholicism.

■ For Kerry, that she find a place in the Catholic Church while being supportive and understanding of her family who are not Catholic.

■ For Joe, that he is able to make good and lasting Catholic friendships.

■ For Donald, that he experiences joy and peace as a Catholic and that his wife comes to understand the beauty of Catholicism.

■ For Doug, that his reading and study of the Church leads him to a conviction that the Catholic Church is the ancient Faith of the Fathers.

■ For Chris and his wife, that they may find a good source of support and fellowship in a Catholic parish.

■ For Ryan, that our Lord in the Eucharist blesses his desire for Christian unity and leads him home.

■ For Jeffrey, that the discouragement and setbacks he has encountered locally not prevent him from following his desire to be united with the Church of the Apostles.

■ For Cassie, that she find answers to her questions and assistance in her search for truth.

■ For Lori, that God show her a way to be an active member of her parish and receive the sacraments.

■ For Brett and his conversion to the fullness of truth.

In every issue we include timely prayer concerns from the membership. All members are encouraged to pray at least one hour each month before the Blessed Sacrament for the needs, both general and specific, of the *CHNetwork* and its members and supporters.

Please submit all prayer requests and answers to CHNetwork Prayer List, PO Box 8290, Zanesville, OH 43702. Or email prayer requests to prayers@chnetwork.org.

We use only first names to preserve privacy.

The Coming Home Network International
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EBOOKS & AUDIO BOOKS

The CHNetwork is pleased to now offer a number of our resources as eBooks! Professionally recorded audiobooks of Marcus Grodi's novels *How Firm a Foundation* and *Pillar & Bulwark* are also now available.



VISIT WWW.CHNETWORK.ORG/EBOOKS FOR MORE INFORMATION