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The Coming Home Network International Special Edition Newslett

COMING HOME CONFERENCE 2003

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Dear members and friends of the Coming Home Network:

One hundred and fifty years ago, a highly respected and scholarly Anglican minister sought, through his study of history and especially the Early Church Fathers, to prove that the Anglican Church was a viable middle way (via media) between the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches. The end result of Newman's study was first "An Essay on the Development of Doctrine," but ultimately his conversion to the Roman Catholic Church. He essentially concluded that through his study of history he recognized that there is no middle compromise position; he knew that at whatever the cost, he was called to come home to the Church (and those modern ecumenists who want to portray Newman with soft gloves when it comes to conversion need to read Fr. Jaki's Newman to Converts). He summarized this conclusion succinctly in the introduction to his Essay with the familiar phrase: "To become deep in history is to cease to be a Protestant."

With great excitement (and admittedly with some nervous anticipation) the *Coming Home Network* is ready to invite you to our first conference entitled, *"Deep in History, Deep in Scripture, Deep in Christ."* As you can see by the list of speakers (see page 3), we believe this will be an enjoyable, informative, and inspirational weekend.

And it was Newman's quip that has formed the main underlying spark to our conference. Newman's statement, of course, isn't always true. It was an expression of his experience. And don't we all know people who seem to be quite deep in history yet show no movement towards the Catholic Church? Yet over the past ten years in our discussions with hundreds of converts, the majority testifies to the powerful place that becoming more informed in history played in their conversions. Nearly every guest on my Journey Home program alludes to this. Therefore, we have encouraged our conference speakers to reflect on how becoming deep in history and Scripture leads to a deeper relationship with Christ and His Church. The presentations will not so much emphasize apologetics to a primarily Catholic audience, but studies from history and Scripture on the truth of Christ and his Church to a presumed mixed audience—Catholic, Protestant, and Eastern Orthodox. To this end, we are offering incentives to encourage our separated brethren to attend—especially clergy, academics, and seminarians.

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Our conference is also inspired by a momentous event looming in the future. In approximately fourteen years, on October 31, 2017, many Protestants will be celebrating the five-hundredth anniversary of Luther's posting of the 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church of Wittenberg. As my staff discerns the goals for our future apostolic efforts, we have been greatly moved and inspired by the significance of this important event. We aren't planning to make too much of this, since many modern evangelical Protestants are actually indifferent to the events, leaders, and themes of the 16th century Reformation. Many Protestants do not even consider themselves Protestants. However, we

believe that the "coincidence" of this upcoming anniversary in our lifetime is significant and should not be ignored. In response, we are planning to produce many resources over the next fourteen years designed to help our separated brethren as well as life-long Catholics become more informed about the truth of the Catholic Church.

Finally, the very existence of our apostolate has a subtle way of stating something that many find uncomfortable, even insulting, uncharitable, if not downright unecumenical: that our separated brethren, clergy and laity, should come home to the Catholic Church. Throughout the history of the Church, two parallel streams of thought have been expressed concerning the salvation of those outside the Church. Simply stated, if someone is invincibly ignorant (i.e., has never heard), our merciful God will deal with him as a function of his conscience, but if someone is not invincibly ignorant, he needs to be in the Church. Since Vatican II and due especially to a heightened emphasis on ecumenism it seems that many no longer believe we should tell our separated brethren to come home. (I usually receive one or two pieces of critical mail whenever I allude to this fact either on the Journey Home program or in *CHNetwork* publications.) An important assumption behind our conference, therefore, is to proclaim without apology yet with charity and clarity that this is still the teaching of the Church.

Given these goals, we hope you will find the overall setting of our weekend conference—talks, music, worship, and fellowship—an inspiring encouragement to your faith. We also hope this conference will be welcoming environment to which you can invite a non-Catholic friend or family member.

Hope to see you there!

In Christ,

Warner

Marcus C. Grodi



Classic Catholic Converts by Fr. Charles P. Connor

Classic Catholic Converts presents the compelling stories of over 25 well known converts to Catholicism from the 19th and 20th centuries. It tells of powerful testimonials to God's grace, the grace that led these men and women to the fullness of the Catholic Church.

Yours free with a donation of \$35 or more to CHN.





Newman to Converts by Stanley L. Jaki

In this age of ecumenism and heterodox experimentation, Newman's emphasis on the inherent sinfulness of schism and heresy seems anachronistic. *Newman to Converts*, however, illumines the eternal, unchanging yet ever-fresh Truths of the Church that rightly claims to be the one true fold of salvation.

Yours free with a donation of \$50 or more to CHN.

Conference Schedule

Friday

2:00 – Registration Opens
4:00– 5:00 Travelers Mass- Father Benedict Groeschel 6:00 – 7:00 Concert Eric Genius
7:00 – 7:30 Opening of Conference- Marcus Grodi 7:30 – 9:30 Evening session 2 talks
1. Dr. Kenneth Howell <u>Breaking Through the Myths of History</u>
2. Father Benedict <u>Authentic vs. Inauthentic Renewal</u>
9:30 – 9:45 Night Prayer – Father Benedict Groeschel 10:00 - CHN Social with Eric Genius

<u>Saturday</u>

7:00 - 7:30 Morning Prayer, 7:30 - 8:30 Mass- Father Garneau 8:30 - 10:00 Breakfast 10:00 – 12:00 Morning Session 2 talks 1. Father Garneau Becoming Deep in History 2. Joseph Pearce The Thread that Binds Literary Converts 12:00 - 2:00 Lunch 2:00 - 4:00 Afternoon Session 2 talks 1. Father McClosky Breaking Through the Wall of Mistrust 2. Dr. James Keating History and the Formation of Conscience 4:00 - 5:30 Panel discussion 5:30 - 7:30 Dinner 7:30 – 9:30 Evening Session 2 talks 1.Marcus Grodi Helping Them Home 2. Dr. Scott Hahn Scripture and Liturgy 9:30 - 11:00 Holy Hour & Exposition - Father James McClosky

<u>Sunday</u>

7:30 – 8:00 Morning Prayer 8:00 – 9:30 Mass – Father Ray Ryland 9:30 – 11:00 Breakfast 11:00 – 12:00 Fr Ray Ryland <u>History and the Necessity of Continuity:</u> 12:00 – 12:15 Closing Session – Marcus Grodi 12:15 – 1:30 Performance by Doug Barry Breaking Through the Myths of History: How has our unexamined passing along of unfounded opinions (i.e., Galileo) formed barriers to faith?

Reform, Inside or Outside the Church:

Recognizing that the Church was certainly in need of renewal at the end of the fifteenth century, we will examine the movements of authentic renewal that were rising to address the problems (i.e., St. Catherine's prayer renewal) as well as where the Reformer's, with their differing levels of sincerity, went wrong.

Becoming Deep in History:

Given the truth of Newman's quip, how does one go about becoming authentically deep in history?

The Thread that Binds Literary Converts: In what ways did the study of history open the hearts of the converts he covered in his book Literary Converts.

Breaking Through the Wall of Mistrust: How has the study of history played a role in the converts he has helped home ?

<u>History and the Formation of Conscience:</u> How has ignorance of history led to a culture

of unformed conscience, and how the study of history leads to contrite hearts and formed consciences?

Helping Them Home:

The work of the Coming Home Network and how the study of history has helped bring so many home.

Scripture and Liturgy: How Catholics Go Deeper in Salvation History

History and the Necessity of Continuity:

How does the study of history demonstrate the need to recognize the Church as the true continuity of Israel and Church established by Christ in His apostles?

**** Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 12:30 – 1:30, 4:00 – 6:30****





Joseph Pearce has, over the past five years, tutored, taught, and spoken at a wide variety of events and institutions. He regularly appeared in conferences at Plater College in Oxford. While in England, he spoke to various literary groups, including the Newman Society in Oxford, the C.S. Lewis Society in Oxford, the Chesterton Society, the Catholic Writers' Guild, and others. Since arriving in the United States, Mr. Pearce has been a regular guest on both television and radio, discussing literary figures of the nineteenth and twentieth century. Mr. Pearce is currently editor of the Saint Austin Review, a trans-Atlantic monthly cultural review, and is a writer in residence and professor of English at Ave Maria University in Ypsilanti, Michigan.



Fr. C. J. McClosky is a priest of the Prelature of Opus Dei and is the Director of the Catholic Information Center of the Archdiocese of Washington. He has been involved in many conversions, including some receptions of high profile people into the Church. Father John's articles and reviews, all of which are archived on his website, have been published in major Catholic and secular periodicals, including Catholic World Report, Crisis Magazine, The Wall Street Journal, National Catholic Register, Washington Times, the New ACEPRENSA. York Times, and



Fr. Ray Ryland -Born in a small Oklahoma town, Fr. Ray Ryland was raised in the Disciples of Christ Church. While in college, he met Ruth Silvee. They married and moved to Cambridge, MA, whereupon Fr. Ryland entered the Howard Divinity School. There, he began to grow interested in the Unitarian Church. Upon entering the Union Theological Seminary, Fr. Ryland began to study more of the first four centuries of church history. This led Fr. Ryland to the Episcopalian Church, and when he and his wife moved to Alexandria, VA, they began a journey as Episcopalians. John Henry Cardinal Newman's readings played an important role in leading Fr. Ryland and his wife to the Catholic Church. In 1963, they entered the Church, and twenty years later, he was given special permission to be ordained into the priesthood. He currently serves as chaplain for the Coming Home Network.



Marcus Grodi is the Founder/ President of the Coming Home Network International, a non-profit Catholic lay apostolate aimed at helping Protestant clergy as well as laity come home to the Catholic Church. He hosts a weekly television program on EWTN called *The Journey Home*. Marcus is also an author/editor of Catholic books including; *How Firm A Foundation* and *Journeys Home*.



Rev. Dr. James Keating In 1993 the Papal Nuncio appointed Dr. James Keating to be Associate Professor of Moral Theology in the School of Theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum. He received his Ph.D. in Roman Catholic Theology from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and his Master's degree in Religious Studies from Fordham University in New York City. Dr. Keating has done more than two hundred workshops on moral theology and parish life nationally. He regularly conducts retreats and parish missions. Dr. Keating serves as editor of the Josephinum Journal of Theology. He is editor of the book from Paulist Press entitled, Spirituality and Moral Theology: Essays from a Pastoral Perspective (2000), and the forthcoming Paulist book, Christian Living: Fundamental Issues and New Directions in Moral Theology (2004).



Dr. Scott Hahn has delivered numerous talks nationally and internationally on Scripture and the Catholic faith. In addition to serving as the chairman of CUF's board of directors, Dr. Hahn is a professor of theology and Scripture at Franciscan University of Steubenville, where he has taught since 1990. He is also the founder and director of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology.



Dr. Kenneth Howell is Director of the John Henry Cardinal Newman Institute of Catholic Thought and Adjunct Associate Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Illinois, where he teaches classes on the history, theology, and philosophy of Catholicism. He has authored three books. God's Two Books: Copernican Cosmology and Biblical Interpretation in Early Modern Science (University of Notre Dame Press), a historical study of cosmology and biblical interpretation in the Scientific Revolution and Mary of Nazareth: Sign and Instrument of Christian Unity which explains troubling doctrines of Mary from the Scriptures. His third book, Mary Our Mother is a systematic guide to Catholic teachings on Mary due out in 2003 from Catholic Answers Publishing.



Fr. Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R. is our nation's pre-eminent Franciscan author, speaker, and TV personality. One of the founding members of the Franciscan Friars of Renewal in the South Bronx, NY, Father Benedict is a licensed clinical psychologist, teacher, and well-known master of the spiritual life. Through his inspiring talks, retreats, books, etc. , he has reached millions with the hope-filled message of the Gospel.



Fr. James Garneau Ph.D., Interim Rector/President and Academic Dean, was appointed to the faculty of the Pontifical College Josephinum for the 2000-2001, academic year, as Assistant Professor of Church History, Personal Formation Advisor, and Spiritual Director for individual college and theology students. At the beginning of the 2001-2002, academic year, he was appointed Academic Dean of the School of Theology and of the College of Liberal Arts. In August 2002, following approval by the Congregation for Catholic Education in Rome, Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, Apostolic Nuncio, appointed Father Garneau as interim rector of the Josephinum.



Please ask your pastor to put this in the parish bulletin.

The Coming Network is hosting their first annual conference in Columbus, Ohio, November 14 -16; Deep in History, Deep in Scripture, Deep in Christ. This is an event not to be missed, bringing together nine of our Nations leading Catholic speakers: Father Benedict Groeschel, Dr Scott Hahn, Father C.J. McClosky, Joseph Pearce, Dr. James Keating, Father Ryland, Father James Garneau, Dr. Kenneth Howell, and our own Marcus Grodi.

For more information contact your pastor, or contact the Coming Home Network by phone at 800-664-5110. More information is available on their website at www.chnetwork.org/deepinhistory.htm. Make November 14-16, 2003 a weekend given to God.