

## From the Director

### I Want a Miracle! – Part One

“I want a miracle!” These were the words I wrote on a scrap of paper and tacked up on the bulletin board during the Duquesne Weekend, February 18, 1967. Never could I have imagined that the miracle I was praying for would be the largest ecclesial movement touching the lives of more than 120 million Catholics in every country around the world!

I’ve visited The Ark and The Dove several times during these 49 years for personal prayer and intercession. The most notable trip was in 1992 for three days of intercession before the Silver Jubilee conference in Pittsburgh. I invited Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM, Cap., to join us and he told me that visiting The Ark and The Dove fulfilled a deep desire in his heart. What a joy to return this year, knowing that the Renewal has now reclaimed our birthplace and that this historic site is truly our home! Like Fr. Raniero, many from

around the world will enter The Ark and The Dove to touch the grace of the beginnings and receive a new outpouring of the Spirit.

There were six of us from the Chi Rho scripture study group in attendance at The Blessing of The Ark and The Dove. Dave Mangan, John Rossmiller and I were participants in the famous retreat. Chris Rossmiller, Maura McDowell and Tom Mangan were members of Chi Rho, but not present on the Duquesne Weekend. All six of us shared a sense of wonderment and awe that our humble scripture study group would be used by God to spark a worldwide movement of the Spirit. Our stories and those of many others are told in my new book: As by a New Pentecost: Golden Jubilee Edition. When I worked on this Jubilee Edition, I was often moved to tears, marveling at the sovereign action of God.

People often ask me why God would choose such an insignificant group of people to begin such a significant work. My answer? “It’s his style!” God delights to do something with nothing to show that the power and glory

belong to him alone! We don’t consider ourselves founders. We are simply witnesses. Charismatic Renewal wasn’t our idea. It was and is God’s idea!

Entering that paneled chapel at The Blessing this year, I was struck once more by how small and simple the space really is. In 1992 I came to The Ark and The Dove to film my testimony for a video produced by a secular company. When the videographers saw the small, unimpressive chapel they decided I should tell my story the next day in front of a tree on the beautiful grounds instead. That night I prayed fervently that the Lord would do something to thwart their plans and he sent a violent rain storm, making it impossible for an outdoor filming.

*By Patti Mansfield. Reprinted from Pentecost Today, Summer 2016, Volume 41, Number 3.*

*Patti and her husband Al serve the Charismatic Renewal in New Orleans, LA.*

*The Ark and the Dove*  
<https://www.thearkandthedoveworldwide.org>



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fill the hearts of  
Thy faithful and  
enkindle in them  
the fire of Thy love.  
Send forth Thy Spirit  
and they shall be  
created and Thou  
shall renew the face  
of the earth.  
AMEN*

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