

Charismatic Renewal, newsletter January 2024 from Bengt Malmgren

ECUMENICAL WEEK OF PRAYER JANUARY 18 - 25

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God... and your neighbor as yourself."

The materials for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso under the leadership of [the local Chemin Neuf community \(Catholic Charismatic Community originating in France\)](#). The chosen theme is "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God... and thy neighbor as thyself" (Luke 10:27). Brothers and sisters from the Catholic Archdiocese of Ouagadougou, Protestant churches, ecumenical organizations and Chemain Neuf in Burkina Faso have sympathetically collaborated and put together the material with prayers and reflections, experiencing the joint work as a true ecumenical conversion and is a testimony to how the flame of love can be kept alive in the midst of the security crisis. Because Burkina Faso is currently experiencing a serious security crisis that affects all faith communities in the country. The country's social cohesion has deteriorated dramatically. Terrorist attacks, lawlessness and human trafficking have become commonplace, undermining social security, peace and national unity. Christian churches have repeatedly been subjected to armed attacks. Priests, pastors and catechists have been killed during services and many have been kidnapped. Despite this, solidarity between Christians, Muslims and traditional religions is thriving. Their leaders work to find sustainable solutions for peace, social cohesion and reconciliation.

The love of Christ, which unites all Christians, is stronger than their division, and the Christians of Burkina Faso are dedicating themselves to walking together on the path of love, love of God and love of neighbor. They trust that God's love will overcome the violence that is currently plaguing their country.

During the week of prayer, we ask the Lord to come to our aid, to bind up our wounds and thus make us fit to walk on the path of unity with confidence and hope.

[\[Read more on the CHARIS website\]](#). [\[Link to material for the Week of Prayer in Swedish on the Christian Council of Sweden's website\]](#)

CARDINAL CANTALAMESSA'S PRAYER FOR THE CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa has formulated a prayer for the mission of Charismatic Renewal in our time. It is available [[translated into many different languages on the CHARIS website](#)].

*Spirit Paraclete,
thou who hast raised up in the Church
the Charismatic Renewal,
descend again with power
On all the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the world.
Grant that the whole "current of grace"
be animated with new momentum.
With your holy anointing,
enable all of us to proclaim the good news to the poor
and to heal afflicted hearts.
Purify what is unclean in the Charismatic Renewal,
Heal what is wounded in it,
Warm what is chilled,
Straighten what is astray.
Bring together the scattered children of God
and Christians divided among them.
Renew our courage,
fill our loneliness in the world,
create in us intimacy with God!
Come, Holy Spirit, from the pierced side of Christ on the cross!
Come from the mouth of the Risen One!
Come and renew the face of the Church. Amen*

CHARIS BOKSHOP

On the CHARIS website there is a webshop for books that have been published about the Charismatic Renewal. It is recommended. [[Link here](#)]

/Bengt Malmgren