



August 31 , 2007 - Information Sessions Announced for *ARISE: TOGETHER IN CHRIST*

RENEW International to Present Spiritual Renewal Process to Parishes



Boston, MA—Mary Ann McLaughlin, Co-Director of the Office for Worship and Spiritual Life, announced the dates, times, and locations for the upcoming information sessions for *ARISE: Together in Christ*. Ms. McLaughlin is the Co-Coordinator of the *ARISE* process, along with Auxiliary Bishop John A. Doohar.

ARISE: Together in Christ is a comprehensive process of spiritual renewal to be offered within the Archdiocese of Boston as a centerpiece of its celebration of its two-hundredth anniversary in 2008. All parishes and campuses will have the opportunity to participate in this process from *RENEW International*.

Pastors, staff, and selected lay leadership are invited to attend an information session. Sessions will be offered in all five regions beginning September 24, 2007. (See sidebar.) At these sessions, Sr. Theresa Rickard, OP and *RENEW International* presenters will provide more detailed information about the process and how it will unfold.

“We encourage every pastor to bring representatives from his parish’s staff and lay leadership to attend one of these sessions to learn more about this opportunity to renew parish life,” Ms. McLaughlin said.

RENEW International staff will present specific sessions in English, Spanish, and Portuguese in response to the needs of the diverse communities in the archdiocese.

Parish Survey Results Shared

Earlier this summer, every parish received an introductory packet with information about *ARISE* and a survey to gather parish input to shape the elements and content of the process. Results of this survey will be presented at the meetings. Parishes can still complete the survey online, available in multiple languages, at www.renewintl.org/rcab through September 14, 2007.

Sign-up sheets for the Information Sessions recently went to all parishes with a letter from Cardinal Seán. Parishes that wish to attend should complete the sheet and return it to Mary Ann McLaughlin at the Office for Worship and Spiritual Life in Brighton. Questions can be directed to Ms. McLaughlin’s office at 617-254-6469 or via email at spiritual_development@rcab.org.

Additional signup sheets can be downloaded and printed [here](#).

About *ARISE: Together in Christ*

ARISE: Together in Christ offers a total renewal experience for the parish, spiritually transforming people through Sunday Eucharistic celebrations, small group faith sharing, daily personal meditations, special parish activities, resources for young adults and families with children, and Christian social action.

Information Sessions - 2007

Mon. Sept 24 1–3 PM St. Julia Parish Center, Weston

Tues Sept 25 1–3 PM St. Therese of Lisieux Parish Center, North Reading

Wed Sept 26 1–3 PM Immaculate Conception Church Hall, Malden

Thurs Sept 27 1–3 PM St. Edward the Confessor Parish Center, Medfield

Thurs Sept 27 7–9 PM (Spanish/English) Bishop Peterson Hall, Brighton

Mon Oct 1 1–3 PM Bishop Peterson Hall, Brighton

Tues Oct 2 1–3 PM St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish Center, Westford

Tues Oct 2 7–9 PM (Portuguese/English) Bishop Peterson Hall, Brighton

Wed Oct 3 1–3 PM St. Mary of the Sacred Heart Parish Center, Hanover

Thurs Oct 4 1–3 PM St. Elizabeth Church Hall, Milton



Basic to the process from RENEW International is the establishment of small Christian communities: groups of eight to twelve people meeting weekly to read and reflect on Scripture, share how the Word of God relates to their daily life, and encourage each other into active discipleship. Groups will meet during six-week seasons starting in Fall 2008. Each of these seasons has a major gospel theme that is broken down into weekly themes.

About The Archdiocese of Boston

The Archdiocese of Boston was founded on April 8, 1808 and was elevated to Archdiocese in 1875. Currently serving the needs of approximately 2 million Catholics, the Archdiocese of Boston is an ethnically diverse and spiritually enriching faith community consisting of 295 parishes, across 144 communities, educating nearly 50,000 students in its Catholic schools and 156, 000 in religious education classes each year, ministering to the needs of more than one million patients annually in its hospitals and 200,000 individuals through its social service outreach. Mass is celebrated in nearly twenty different languages each week. For more information, please visit www.rcab.org.

About RENEW International

RENEW International is a canonically-recognized Catholic organization based in Plainfield, NJ, in the Archdiocese of Newark. RENEW International fosters spiritual renewal in the Catholic tradition by empowering individuals and communities to encounter God in everyday life, deepen and share faith, and connect faith with action.

RENEW International has a 27-year record in revitalizing parish life in over 130 dioceses in the United States, touching the lives of 25 million people through its renewal processes. RENEW International also reaches many thousands outside the United States, having served people in 23 countries, across six continents and in 44 languages. The organization's web site is www.renewintl.org.



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