

Since 1978 RENEW International has fostered the fastest growing spiritual renewal effort in the Catholic Church.

Our process has a positive impact on all parts of the parish community.

Outstanding results have been achieved in over 270 dioceses throughout the United States and 23 countries around the world.

Our Mission Statement

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.



what church leaders are saying:

RENEW in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe has been for us the foundation for a personalized and powerful evangelization. Over 34,000 participants in small faith sharing groups have been empowered by RENEW to give testimony to Jesus in their own faith story.

Most Rev. Michael J. Sheehan
Archbishop of Santa Fe
Former Chairman, Evangelization Committee
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

We see that our people in parishes are leaders, but they are capable of much more. Without RENEW we wouldn't be able to give our people the tools they need to reach out with biblically oriented actions. We look to RENEW to show the trends in the Church and how to address the problems of the times, especially in the areas of social justice, to exercise responsible social action.

Bishop John Moore,
Diocese of Bauchi, Nigeria

The essential things in history begin always with the small, more convinced communities. So, the Church begins with small communities, characterized by truth and force of conviction. In the next ten years, we hope to have a new springtime—a new life of convinced persons with the joy of the faith.

Pope Benedict XVI, May, 2005

One way of renewing parishes ... might be to consider the parish as a community of communities. It seems timely therefore to form ecclesial communities and groups of a size that allow for true human relationships. In such a human context it will be easier to gather to hear the word of God, to reflect on the range of human problems in light of this word and gradually make responsible decisions inspired by the all embracing love of Christ.

Pope John Paul II, The Church in America,
January 22, 1999

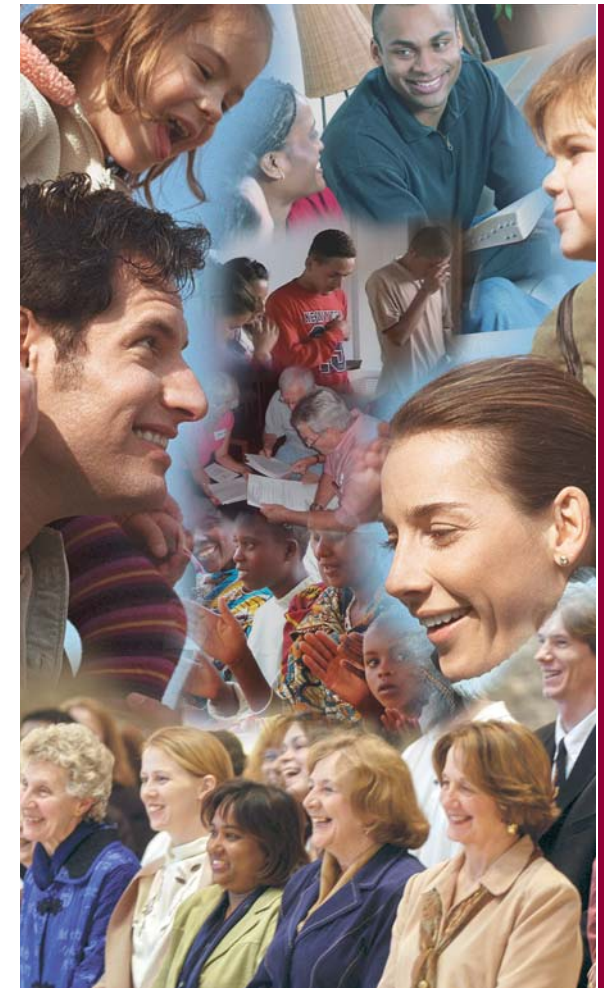


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AUGUST 2007



ARISE
Together in Christ

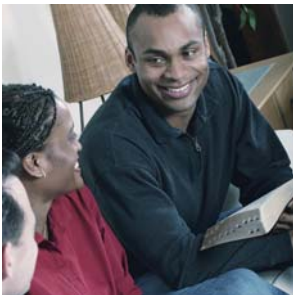


a parish-centered process for spiritual renewal

ARISE: Together in Christ is a three-year, parish-centered process of spiritual renewal and evangelization that enables people to develop a closer relationship with Christ, grow in community, and reach out in service to others.

Goals of the ARISE process:

- Teaching and witnessing to the Word of God in Sacred Scripture
- Developing vibrant communities of faith and service
- Implementing a strategy for adult faith formation
- Providing a concrete and practical means of evangelization



What does the spiritual journey offered by ARISE look like?

The spiritual path laid out by the *ARISE* process begins with a period of formation for diocesan and parish leaders. The process then guides the participants through five distinct periods of time (called Seasons) each of which lasts six weeks. Each Season engages the entire parish in a basic gospel theme:

- Season I Fall** **Encountering Christ Today**
- Season II Lent** **Change Our Hearts**
- Season III Fall** **In the Footsteps of Christ**
- Season IV Lent** **New Heart, New Spirit**
- Season V Fall** **We Are the Good News!**

RENEW International provides comprehensive training for Diocesan Core Communities, Parish Core Communities, and Parish Small Community Leaders. RENEW International staff provides ongoing pastoral support and service for all phases of the process.



How do parishioners experience these weekly themes?

Parishioners experience these weekly themes in several ways, primarily:

- Sunday Mass
- Small faith-sharing communities that meet in homes and other locations throughout the parish during the course of the week
- Family and individual prayer
- Parish Mission

Who participates in the ARISE process?

The *ARISE* process provides spiritual formation for everybody in the parish. The process uses a pastoral theology suited for parish life today. There are materials appropriate for adults, young adults, teens, and campuses.

How do families get involved?

Families will embrace renewal and prayer by participating in liturgies, gatherings, and other activities.



What is the role of the parish priest in the ARISE process?

This process works under the spiritual leadership of the parish priest. In collaboration with the priest, the practical implementation of the *ARISE* process is carried out by parishioners who are well trained for their roles.

How does the ARISE process relate to justice?

The *ARISE* process applies the spiritual standards of Christ to all areas of life. It emphasizes people living in good relationship with one another, as they make concrete applications of the gospel to their life situations.

The *ARISE* process challenges people not only to be of service to the poor and needy, but also to address the underlying causes of injustice.

What happens after the five seasons?

During the seasons of the *ARISE* process, a style of parish life is planned which nurtures the faith of the people and strengthens the Church for the long term—while continuing to support and develop small Christian communities. After the *ARISE* process, parishes continue in the areas of catechesis, Scripture reflection, small communities, peace and justice initiatives, and liturgical appreciation.

To assist with this process of spiritual development, RENEW International has developed a variety of small Christian community materials. These may be utilized between the seasons of the *ARISE* process as well as after it:

- *PRAYER TIME*, Cycles A,B,& C: Faith-Sharing Reflections on the Sunday Gospels
- the *IMPACT Series* focusing on family, sacramental, social concerns, and prayer themes
- *Why Catholic? Journey through the Catechism* is a faith-formation process based on the four pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

The *ARISE* process will offer all trainings in English and in Spanish, and some trainings in Portuguese. The faith-sharing materials will be offered in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, and Vietnamese.

