



# Ascension–Alliance for Spiritual Renewal

SPIRITUALITY IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE

## Newsletter

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### Ascension Joins Facebook

The Ascension Alliance has entered the 21st century by joining the popular social networking site, Facebook.

Our Facebook page gives us another way to communicate with friends and people who may be interested in Spiritual Renewal, a la Ascension.

If you yourself are interested in participating in the discussions on Facebook, you may go to Facebook.com and search "Ascension–Alliance for Spiritual Renewal."

In addition to some basic information about the organization, our Facebook friends can access information on our movement and ordination program by responding to notes we've already posted.

### Convocation 2010 and Consecration of Bishop-Elect Bernie Finch

The Ascension Alliance will hold its first ever convocation, August 27th through the 29th at the Hermitage on Key Peninsula, Gig Harbor, WA.

In addition to friends, members, seminarians, and clergy gathering for face-to-face fellowship, a highlight of the convocation will be the consecration of a new bishop.

Presiding Bishop Alan Kemp announced in May that the Rev. Bernie Finch was elected a bishop of the church.

Construction of a new chapel at the hermitage is planned. The hope is that the new chapel, tentatively called the Little Chapel of St. Thomas the Doubter, will be framed and roofed in time for convocation.

While we eventually hope to have accommodations for brief visits, for now we are asking attendees to make accommodation arrangements at local establishments.

Information packets will go out later this month. If you are interested in attending, please call or write.

### Mailing List Corrections

You have received this newsletter because we thought you might like to receive news from us. If you do not wish to be on our mailing list please send an e-mail with your name to:

cosmas@concentric.net

In the subject line simply say, "Remove from mailing list." We will remove you from our databases immediately. In this event, we apologize for any inconvenience.

### Ascension Ad Appears in NCR

Ascension Theological College, our ordination program, has placed a classified ad in the "vocations" section of the National Catholic Reporter. The ad first appeared in the March 19th edition.

Established in 1964, the National Catholic Reporter may be the world's largest independent source of information and dialog about the Catholic tradition. It describes its news coverage as "a marriage of the religious, political and social forces shaping public policies and institutions." It strives ... "To inform and inspire a just and peaceful world, serving as a platform for discussions of church, society and the global community."

### Contact Information

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## ***Priest to be Ordained – Two Others Join Alliance***

Casey Tonrey, of Taos New Mexico, is nearly finished with his studies at Ascension Theological College and we expect to ordain him to the diaconate and priesthood on June 15 and 16, respectively. The ordination will take place at Santa Fe.

Two other priests have affiliated with the Alliance: Reverend Mother Sara Yonce of Montgomery, Texas and Reverend Father Spencer Wood of Tucson, Arizona.

Mother Sara is the pastor of Post Oak Way Center. She is working with Ascension Theological College, initially helping to develop curriculum. She was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John Rankin in 1988.

Father Spencer is an accomplished scholar, having earned law and business degrees. He was ordained in the Church of Antioch in 2006 and will be assisting with convocation.

## About Ascension Renewal

### One small branch of the Mystical Body

- **A movement without walls or ceiling.** We are born of a free Catholic vision, in the tradition of a fledgling Independent Catholic movement, inspired by the intuitions of the Emerging Church, and following in the example of Jewish Renewal. We require rigorous preparation for ordained ministry but encourage maximum self-determination and a creative response to the needs of today's world. Our bishops and priests trace their apostolic succession as far back as that of even the most ancient of Christian communions.

- **We are about fellowship, the spiritual path, and love.** We strive to be a fellowship of spiritual pilgrims. Without imposing dogma, we give ourselves and others the freedom and encouragement we need to live the truth and become ever more renewed and transformed. For us, Christ's ministry is the law of love and truth. Saint Augustine may have said it best, "Love and do as you will."

## ***Ascension—Alliance for Spiritual Renewal***

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