

**INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC  
MISSIONARY INTERCESSORS**



**A VISION FOR INTERCESSION  
IN THE HOLY SPIRIT"**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PERSPECTIVE OF THIS VISION STATEMENT	1
WHAT IS THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH?	2
SPIRITUALITY OF FBB	3
ACTIVITY OF FBB (HOW DOES FBB FUNCTION?)	5
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHURCH (STRUCTURE OF FBB)	7
CEREMONY OF RECEPTION	9
* OFFICIAL PRAYER OF COMMISSION	9
*PRAYER OF COMMITMENT	10
FINAL DEDICATION TO GOD	12

## PERSPECTIVE OF THIS VISION STATEMENT

Throughout the Scriptures and the history of God's People, we find INTERCESSION as one form of prayer that is foundational and essential to the spiritual life of every individual and group faithful to God. In His Life as man, Our Lord Jesus Himself lived intercession in a most perfect way. He spent long periods in prayer, and lived and served out of an on-going prayer relationship with the Father and Holy Spirit. Also, throughout His Life on earth we see that Our Lord Jesus interceded for others before serving them in obedience to and with the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

But the intercession of Our Lord Jesus was more than an essential part of His personal spiritual life and earthly ministry. His supreme gift and sacrifice on the Cross as the Lamb-that-was-slain was primarily

INTERCESSION (Isaiah 53).

On the Cross, Our Lord Jesus Himself, God-Man, Great High Priest and Victim, is THE INTERCESSOR SUPREME. This culmination and fullest expression of His Own Life and Mission is the giving of His Whole Life for others in obedience to the Father's Will for God's Glory and the salvation of all. NOW as the Risen-Glorious Lord before the Father's throne, He continues as Great High Priest and INTERCESSOR until He comes again to gather all kingdoms in heaven and on earth unto the Father's Glory on that last day. (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; 1 Corinthians 15:28). This deeper dimension of intercession of the Life of Our Lord Jesus is the very heart of His Mission .... His Own Apostolate in heaven and on earth.

"THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT SO MUCH TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS RANSOM FOR MANY." (Mark 10:45)

Through the apostolate of intercession, God's People are privileged to share today in the actual Mission and NOW - Ministry of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Second Vatican Council expressed this privilege available to God's People in a most beautiful way:

"No creature could ever be classed with the Incarnate Word and Redeemer. But just as the priesthood of Christ is shared in various ways both by sacred ministers and by the faithful and as the one goodness of God is in reality communicated diversely to His creatures, so also the unique MEDIATION of the Redeemer does not exclude but rather gives rise among creatures to a manifold cooperation which is but a sharing in this unique source." (LUMEN GENTIUM, 62)

FBB intercessors are called by God to share in this on-going MEDIATION or INTERCESSION MISSION of Our Lord Jesus Christ. And they carry out this service to the Lord and His Church by a new missionary expression of intercession in the Love and Power of Holy Spirit that is both Catholic and charismatic.

## **WHAT IS THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH?**

"MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL THE PEOPLES."  
(Isaiah 56.7)

### **THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC MISSIONARY INTERCESSORS OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH (FBB)**

is an international, spiritual "house of prayer"; a spiritual prayer army: a fellowship in Holy Spirit of Catholic charismatic missionary-intercessors from around the world, who live and serve in their own groups, parishes, ministries, and communities. FBB is created by the mutual agreement of those called by God to intercede in a united, committed, focused way in the Love and Power of Holy Spirit for the whole work of Holy Spirit in the Catholic Church world - wide. (Matthew 18: 19-20)

Holy Spirit has been gradually unfolding FBB in prayer and experience. During a retreat in 1982, Holy Spirit first spoke about FBB through the charismatic gift of prophecy:

"I want to raise up an army of prayer warriors who will pray together for the work of Holy Spirit in the whole Catholic Church. I call this army ...

#### **"THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH".**

Follow Me and watch it happen."

In another prophecy in 1990, The Lord described FBB as "a missionary call - a new work - an independent work of My Spirit which is a service to all other groups, ministries, parishes, missions, communities, and organizations which are an outreach and expression of the People of God. You are People of God praying for People of God that they might become all I desire in Christ Jesus - and that means both for life and for service."..."I have called My intercessors to prepare the way of the Lord in every place and every land, and to secure the work of Holy Spirit whatever form that may take. To this end, I give My intercessors a special "anointing" in HOLY SPIRIT with special "authority" to use His Gifts and Ways on behalf of others in prayer."

Here, "in Holy Spirit", we find the uniqueness of FBB: intercessors who draw on the full, rich traditional Catholic AND charismatic heritage of Holy Spirit in their missionary service of intercession. And the Love and Power of Holy Spirit from which their service flows are the same as that of the Lord Jesus Himself:

**"LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU." (John. 15:12)**

## **SPIRITUALITY OF THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC MISSIONARY INTERCESSORS OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH**

HOLY SPIRIT - "who reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God."(1 Corinthians 2:10 - 16)

HOLY SPIRIT - "Another Advocate" or intercessor "Who dwells within us".  
(John 14:16)

HOLY SPIRIT - The One Who "knows how to pray according to the Will of God."(Romans 8:26- 27)

HOLY SPIRIT - Who "leads us into all the Truth" about Our Lord Jesus and into His special Today-mission as INTERCESSOR before the very throne of Father-God. (John 16:13 - 15; Romans 8:34)

Coming from the depths of Holy Spirit, the spirituality of FBB is Trinitarian in nature. FBB intercessors are formed and encouraged to enter deeply into a deep personal and working relationship with Father -Son-Holy Spirit in their whole life as well as in their service of intercession. As their life with the Triune God flows over into the practical experiences of life and intercession, it bears the fruit of a kind of on-going, lived-revelation of the Lordship of Jesus Christ that is truly incarnational as He is. (1Corinthians 12:3; John 17:20 - 26)

Because the Life of the Triune God, Father-Son-Holy Spirit, is the basis and source of everything possible under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, FBB allows room in the lives of the intercessors for every vocation, form of living, spirituality, and service that is authentically Christian. (Ephesians 3:14 - 21; 1 Corinthians 12:3). At the same time FBB strengthens, supports, and secures the root foundations of each in that living relationship with the Triune-God, so that each one might come to fullness in Christ Jesus for the Glory of God. (Ephesians 1 and 4:1 - 16).

As the special service of INTERCESSION flows from a truly solid community with the Foundation-Community of the Triune-God, that service is stable, effective, and secure in the Lord, and will bear much lasting fruit. (John 15:7) (His Holiness John Paul II explains this "Mystery of Church Communion" in a most beautiful way in Chapter 2 of CHRISTIFIDELES LAICI.)

In the on-going formation of intercessors, FBB strongly encourages all teachings and practices, traditional and charismatic, that are authentically Christian or orthodox Catholic (that is, those which are in full accord with the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.)

These include:

- a deep life of personal prayer so as to live in a growing relationship with the Holy Trinity.
- a regular participation in the Sacraments - especially Holy Eucharist which is the high point of our sharing in the intercession of Our Lord Jesus on earth.
- a great personal freedom in praise and deep worship.
- the active use of the charismatic gifts and ways of Holy Spirit when alone and with others.
- a prayerful, working knowledge of Sacred Scripture and the basic teachings and practices of Catholic Faith. (THE NEW CATHOLIC CATECHISM is the basic formation reference on the Catholic Faith. FBB also provides a series of in-depth Scripture Studies on intercession from a Catholic, charismatic, missionary point of view called "Intercession in the Spirit of Jesus.")
- an understanding of our relationship in Christ with the whole mystical Body of Christ (the Church militant, suffering, and glorious) with special devotion to Our Blessed Mother in her Immaculate Heart and to the Nine Angelic Choirs, especially St. Raphael (the intercessor archangel), St. Gabriel, and St. Michael.
- an honor and submission to those who serve in spiritual authority in the Church and special love and submission to our Holy Father.
- sound spiritual assistance or direction.

Because intercession prayer is a sharing in the Divine, on-going mediation of Our Lord Jesus, every experience of intercession in the Holy Spirit is an on-going, "in-service" training and formation in the ways of the Lord. Therefore, committed and persevering service of intercession in the Holy Spirit on a regular basis is especially important to the formation of FBB intercessors. Also, attendance at an international, national, or missionary Catholic charismatic retreat sponsored by FBB or qualified intercessors of FBB, allows intercessors to catch the international vision and missionary character of FBB. (Such a retreat is required for acceptance into FBB.)

FBB intercessors are called to be "Missionaries of God's Love in the Holy Spirit." In union with Holy Spirit, FBB has been specially consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, spouse of Holy Spirit and first missionary intercessor with Him as the Mother of Jesus. Through intercession in union with and in obedience to Holy Spirit, FBB intercessors are privileged to share the love of God with others and spiritually "bring forth" Our Lord Jesus TODAY throughout the world.

## ACTIVITY OF FBB (HOW DOES FBB WORK?)

"JESUS KNEW THAT THE FATHER HAD PUT EVERYTHING INTO HIS HANDS. AND THAT HE HAD COME FROM GOD AND WAS RETURNING TO GOD. AND HE GOT UP FROM TABLE....AND BEGAN TO WASH THE DISCIPLES' FEET..." (John 13:3 - 5)

The primary missionary service of **THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC MISSIONARY INTERCESSORS OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH (FBB)** is TO PRAY ... to "wash the feet" of God's people through intercession prayer in the Holy Spirit. Even as the Father sent Our Lord Jesus, so He continues to send forth His people to share the priestly intercession mission of Our Lord Jesus through Baptismal anointing, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. (cf. CHRISTFIDELES LAICI -chapter 1, section #14.) As God's people attain to a basic spiritual maturity in Our Lord Jesus Christ and in their Catholic faith, including the use of the charismatic gifts and following the ways of Holy Spirit, they are able to serve the Lord in a more responsible, committed way in various apostolates such as FBB.

Throughout the Scriptures and in the history of the Church, we find the chief characteristic in the life of all true intercessors is an absolute concern for God's Glory, for the fulfillment of His Divine Purpose "on earth as it is in heaven". Our Lord Jesus expressed this in His great High Priestly prayer (John 17):

"FATHER, I HAVE GLORIFIED THY NAME. NOW GLORIFY ME THAT THY SON MIGHT GLORIFY YOU." (John 17:1-3)

In accord with the spirit of this prayer, the Lord once explained through a prophecy that "the primary goal of FBB and of every FBB meeting or event is My Glory in everything and not the answer to an individual's prayer. The answers will come when I am put first."

Because FBB intercession is founded within a Catholic - charismatic experience in Holy Spirit, FBB intercessors serve most effectively within a charismatic worship service (such as a charismatic Mass or charismatic prayer meeting) that has the specialized purpose of intercession. The deep free praise and worship possible in charismatic services provide for the spiritual atmosphere essential to foster the proper reception, discernment, and administration of the charismatic gifts of Holy Spirit by God's people (1 Corinthians 12 - 14). Praise and worship are also very powerful means of intercession in themselves.

Because FBB intercessors are deeply aware of their privilege to share in the Divine intercession mission of Our Lord Jesus, they approach their missionary service with a great reverence and awe at entering into a Divine Mystery. In a spirit of total surrender and dependence on God (the heart of true evangelical poverty), they consider the work

of intercession as a continuous school in the Lord's service freely acknowledging as St. Paul says,

"WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO PRAY AS WE OUGHT. BUT HOLY SPIRIT COMES TO HELP US. AND HE KNOWS HOW TO PRAY ACCORDING TO GOD'S WILL."  
(Romans 8:26-27)

Practically speaking, while FBB intercessors spend much time in praise and worship during intercession, they are actively seeking the guidance of Holy Spirit about who to pray for, how to pray, and even how long to pray. At the same time, they are open to drawing on all of our rich Catholic heritage of prayer in Holy Spirit, using both traditional ways of prayer and the charismatic ways which even now continue to unfold within the whole Body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:3 - 7 contains a wonderful summary of the practical working of Holy Spirit that we find throughout the Scriptures. Also, cf. VATICAN II DOCUMENTS and CHRISTIFIDELES LAICI.) Whether praying alone or in groups, one phrase summarizes the unique WAY of FBB intercession: "OBEY THE HOLY SPIRIT!" This "key" to answered prayer and effective ministry is given to us from Our Lord Jesus (John 5:9 - 20 and John 14:14-16) who Himself obeyed Holy Spirit in everything.

Also, Our Lord Jesus said,

"IF TWO OF YOU ON EARTH AGREE TO ASK ANYTHING AT ALL, IT WILL BE GRANTED TO YOU BY MY FATHER IN HEAVEN."(Matthew 18:19-20)

Obedience to Holy Spirit brings about a tremendous unity among Christians not only with each other, but first with Our Lord Himself. And if we agree with and obey Holy Spirit as Our Lord Jesus did, we can surely expect Holy Spirit answers to our intercessions and Holy Spirit fruit in our service to the Lord.

Agreement in the Lord is especially important for effectiveness in intercession. FBB encourages intercessors to pray together as Holy Spirit leads, at committed regular times, for and within their own families, groups, communities, parishes, and/or ministries - even if they have only two or three members. The unity that comes from dying to "our" ways and accepting the Lord's guidance is a clear sign of the Presence and Leadership of Holy Spirit; and that we are praying in accord with the Will of God.

## **RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHURCH (STRUCTURE OF FBB)**

FBB is a spiritual fellowship of missionary intercessors who live and serve the Lord and His Work in the whole Catholic Church from their own local areas under their own local ecclesial authorities. Therefore, FBB does not have a highly structured organizational system of its own.

As an international Catholic, charismatic, missionary apostolate, FBB intercessors serve God and His Church, primarily under the spiritual authority of Our Holy Father. The Moderator of FBB together with the Ecclesial Spiritual Assistant to FBB, are responsible to answer for FBB to the Church. The International Moderator and International Ecclesial Assistant serve as a key point of communication between Our Holy Father (with His representative, especially the Pontifical Council on the Laity) and those intercessors who share the FBB mission in the Local Church.

FBB intercessors serve in relation to their own appropriate local ecclesial authorities to whom Father-God through Holy Spirit entrusts the privilege and authority to represent Our Lord Jesus Christ who is The Head of His Body the Church. Practically this means that the intercessors commit themselves to serve for specific periods of time with the knowledge and blessing of their respective ecclesial leaders. In places where groups have developed to serve on broader levels than their local parish or some particular ministry (i.e. within a diocese), the intercessors are to be in working relationship with their Bishop and His Representatives.

The Area Representatives of FBB and leaders of local intercession groups serve the other intercessors in regard to mutual communication with and accountability to the Moderator of FBB and to the local ecclesial authorities. Their service is meant to help safeguard the charism of FBB members and to help ensure orthodoxy in faith and practice among committed members. The Area Representatives of FBB are free to request of their local ecclesial authorities the yearly appointment of a Spiritual Assistant who serves as Chaplain in an advisory capacity. They work together with the appointed Spiritual Assistant to fulfill their responsibilities to the Lord, to His Church, and to FBB.

In their own lives and service, FBB intercessors are encouraged to seek spiritual guidance from their own local spiritual assistants and from recommended FBB representatives and intercessors in their areas. FBB members who serve on national

and international levels are also available for spiritual assistance, teaching, and encouragement in the Lord to local intercessors.

Intercessors normally serve the Lord and His Church in their various local situations. However, they are available to serve in FBB mission projects locally, nationally, and internationally. After a time of faithful, persevering service locally, discernment of their call by FBB representatives, and during an international, national, or specially designated missionary intercession retreat sponsored by FBB, intercessors may be received into **FBB**. Their local ecclesial authorities confirm their initial commitment of one year. Intercessors may renew their FBB commitment annually - as the Lord leads. This commitment may be renewed in the local setting upon discernment and agreement of the FBB moderator and Area Representatives according to the Ceremony of Reception.

Through **FBB**, the work of Holy Spirit in the Catholic Church may be strengthened, encouraged, and supported on many levels by the committed service of Catholic, charismatic, missionary intercession.

On April 17, 1986, following a private Mass with Our Holy Father John Paul II, the foundress and moderator of **FBB** was privileged to personally submit FBB to the spiritual authority of His Holiness, and with great joy and thanksgiving - praise to God, received His special personal blessing for God's anointing, guidance, and protection on all who serve the Lord and His Church in FBB. Alleluia!!!

## CEREMONY OF RECEPTION

(DURING THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS, FOLLOWING THE HOMILY, THE MEMBERS OF FBB MAY BE RECEIVED IN THE FOLLOWING CEREMONY)

### OFFICIAL PRAYER OF COMMISSION

(TO BE SAID BY MODERATOR OF FBB OR A PERSON DESIGNATED BY THE MODERATOR)

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Praise You Most Holy Mighty God, Father-Son-Holy Spirit! All Glory to Your Holy Name!

Holy Father, we praise You and thank You for Your Mercy and Love. Thank You for the special privilege and call You give us to share in the intercession mission of Our Lord Jesus Christ in union with the Holy Spirit before Your very Throne.

Father, we lift up to You \_\_\_\_\_ whom You have called to serve in worship and intercession with us as **THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC MISSIONARY INTERCESSORS OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH**. Give (him/her) the Heart of Mercy that You have for Your people.

Lord Jesus, thank You for the special privilege to pray with You in intercession. We lift up to You \_\_\_\_\_ who is joining us in this mission of prayer with **FBB**. Please share with (him/her) the mantle of intercession that You wear as You stand before the Father's Throne. Share with (him/her) Your Own Spiritual Authority and Special Anointing in the Holy Spirit to intercede for others. Be (his/her) protection and peace that (he/she) might give that peace to others in prayer. Keep (him/her) close to Your Sacred Heart.

Come, Holy Spirit, immerse \_\_\_\_\_ anew in the fire of Your Love. Empower (him/her) in a special way to pray with You for others. Fill (him/her) to overflowing with Your Love and release in (him/her) all Your Gifts. Reach out through (him/her) in Your Mighty Love and Power to do all You want to do in Your people. Come Holy Spirit, show \_\_\_\_\_ how to pray. Lead (him/her) clearly in times of intercession. Work Your Mighty Miracles in (him/her) and through (him/her) for the Glory of God.

May all the angels to be with \_\_\_\_\_ in prayer - especially St. Michael and St. Gabriel. And we ask you, St. Raphael, intercessor archangel, to be a special partner in prayer. Holy Mary, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ and Queen of intercessors, surround \_\_\_\_\_ with Your mantle of Love and bring (him/her) close to your Immaculate Heart. Be a special partner in prayer with (him/her). And we invite all the Saints to join \_\_\_\_\_ in the work of intercession.

Lord, Mighty God, we give You all the Praise and Glory for all You have done, are doing and will do in us and through us. Glorify Your Holy Name - the Mighty Name of Jesus.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit! As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end! Amen. ALLELUIA!

## **RECOMMENDED PRAYER OF COMMITMENT**

(TO BE SAID BY MEMBER MAKING THESE PROMISES)

Holy Father, Mighty God, I praise You for the gift of Your Life and Love to me through Christ Jesus, Your Son and my Lord, and through Your Holy Spirit. You have truly loved me with all Your Heart.

Father - God, I believe you have called me to serve You and Your people as a missionary of Your Love in Holy Spirit through worship and intercession with **THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC MISSIONARY INTERCESSORS OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH**. I thank you and say, "Yes, Lord. Here I am! I come to do Your WILL."

I offer You again my whole life. I renew my commitment to accept Christ Jesus as my Savior and Lord. I renounce Satan and all his allurements and all his works. And I renounce all the kingdoms of the world, the flesh and the devil. I choose You, Lord Jesus as my King and Lord. I want only to be part of Your Kingdom and help bring that Kingdom to others.

Fill me anew with Your Holy Spirit. Immerse me anew in the fire of Your Love. Give me a deeper freedom to worship You in Spirit and in Truth. Open up to me the length and breadth and height and depth of Your Love. Release in me all the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially the charismatic gifts: prophecy, faith, discernment, words of wisdom and knowledge, miracles and healing, and tongues (the prayer language of the Holy Spirit) and interpretation of tongues (I CORINTHIANS 12-14) so I can know when to pray, who and what to pray for, and how to pray. Help me to draw on all the rich Catholic and charismatic heritage You have given us from Holy Spirit, so I can use ALL of Your Gifts and Ways in this apostolate. Lord Jesus, live out Your Life in and through me. And help me to follow and obey You, Holy Spirit, in this work of prayer and in my whole life, so I can truly give Glory to God.

WITH **FBB**, I make these promises:

1. I offer my whole life to You, Almighty Father-God, as a prayer of worship and intercession together with Our Lord Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit, Blessed Virgin Mary and her Immaculate Heart, St. Raphael, all the saints and angels, and with all my brothers and sisters in Christ who are making this same commitment.

2. I make this commitment especially for all the work of Holy Spirit in the whole Catholic Church, for all those joined in this special apostolate of intercession, and for all those the Lord gives to me for prayer.
3. I make this commitment for six months to start. Then, yearly as Holy Spirit leads and confirms through appropriate members of **FBB**.
4. I will be available to You, Lord, to pray for others in intercession as You lead me.
5. I will spend time each day in worship and intercession open to using all the gifts of Holy Spirit as He leads, especially His Charismatic Gifts.
6. I will gather with others for regular times of worship and intercession open to using all the Gifts of Holy Spirit as He leads, especially His Charismatic Gifts.
7. I will be available to share in missionary intercession projects of FBB.
8. I will spend some time in prayerful study each month, either alone or with others, to grow in my understanding of worship and intercession and God's call to me.
9. I promise to give You, Holy God, Father - Son - Holy Spirit, all the Glory for all You have done, are doing, and will do. Amen. ALLELUIA!!!

OUR FATHER...HAIL MARY...GLORY BE...AMEN

Following the Prayer of Commitment", the presiding priest may seal these promises by blessing each person, making the sign of the cross on their forehead. +

- The person who is blessed answers "Amen."
- Then the presiding priest blesses with holy water the insignias bearing the international logo of FBB and the national logo of FBB.
- The moderator (or a person designated by the moderator) presents the new member with the insignias bearing the international logo of FBB and the national logo of FBB, a copy of "A Vision for Intercession in the Holy Spirit" and "The Statutes of FBB".
- The exchange of the Peace of Our Lord Jesus closes the "Ceremony of Reception".

**"GLORY BE TO HIM (OUR FATHER-GOD) WHOSE POWER WORKING IN US CAN DO INFINITELY MORE THAN WE CAN ASK FOR OR IMAGINE. GLORY BE TO HIM FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION IN THE CHURCH AND IN CHRIST JESUS FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN." (EPHESIANS 3:21)**

Addresses and telephone/fax numbers are available for representatives of THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC MISSIONARY INTERCESSORS OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BURNING BUSH (FBB) in Arch/dioceses of various countries where FBB intercessors are serving.