

## Under Construction: Building the Frame

By Jessica Mendez

When building a home, the foundation is set first, then the frame, then come all the details. "Wash, rinse, repeat," these are the words that I heard in my heart on the Feast of Mercy, February 28th, when I was asking Mama to help me figure out what comes next.

When I felt those words spoken in my heart, I understood that what should be done after the major clean-up is build new habits. In order to build those habits, we must set our priorities and we must continue to repeat the same actions day in and day out. Growing up, many of the behaviors that I learned came through repetition, once I learned that throwing a fit, being mad or giving the silent treatment worked, I kept on doing it. Also, I learned that if on the external I did what the world said that I should do, for example get straight A's, be good at sports, care for my outward appearance, participate in all extracurricular/school/church activities no matter the cost, then I would be acceptable to the world. However, 1 Peter 2:12 states "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us." Living a good life doesn't mean that we put our vocation last in order to seek worldly acceptance, it means that our lives glorify God in our daily routine through living out our vocation every day! The Holy Spirit has opened my eyes to the areas in my life where the pattern of irresponsibility has been passed down. I had taken on the attitude of, "yes, these are my kids and my husband, yes this is my house, but I'm not responsible for them. I don't know whose job it is to take care of them, but it is not mine." What an absurd way to think! I had blinded myself in order to not have to deal with the mess or deal with any of the behaviors that led up to the mess.

Wash, rinse, repeat. As I continue to cooperate with the grace given, my children also learn to go past their feelings and "run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1). I ask you once again, my dear brothers and sisters in Christ, where are you in your fight against sin? We are coming up on the end of lent. What has changed in your heart? What repetitive acts have you had to do in order to build up the frame of your house? One day, during praise the Holy spirit gave me a vision of Jesus sitting next to a pile of mess that I had made which represented all the chaos which was caused by my fears and misplaced priorities in my life. The Holy Spirit showed me Jesus taking this mess and transforming it into bricks to build up the walls of our home. When we give our fears, worries, our feelings of inadequacy, insecurities, misdirection, anger, unforgiveness and bitterness over to Jesus, He can make something amazing. The key is that we must surrender. What fears do you have that have kept you from moving forward? What is it inside you that you are afraid to admit? I am currently facing many of my fears, even in putting these articles out. The fear of being judged or of God's word being tarnished because of my irresponsibility, is all coming to the light. "Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?'" For the Gentiles

eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matthew 6:31-34) The bottom line is, I had my priorities all out of whack. I was doing other things instead of taking care of my family. I was seeking to be accepted by the world and others, rather than seeking to be pleasing to the Father. I was doing kind acts for others, but disobeying the rules set by this ministry (keeping a clean home). Where are your priorities? Have you done kind acts in place of being obedient to your own calling? If we set our priorities where they should be, then we will have time for everything else because God will bless us in our obedience to Him. Thank you for taking time to read this article, I pray that through my struggle, your eyes will also be opened to the areas in your life that your priorities are not in order and you would receive the grace and the desire to change.

The Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit along with Our Blessed Mother, Queen of Mercy await you at our next retreats. They are waiting to spend some time with you. I pray that you would prayerfully consider accepting their calling.

### AFM Ministries LOUIS LIFE CENTER RAFFLE

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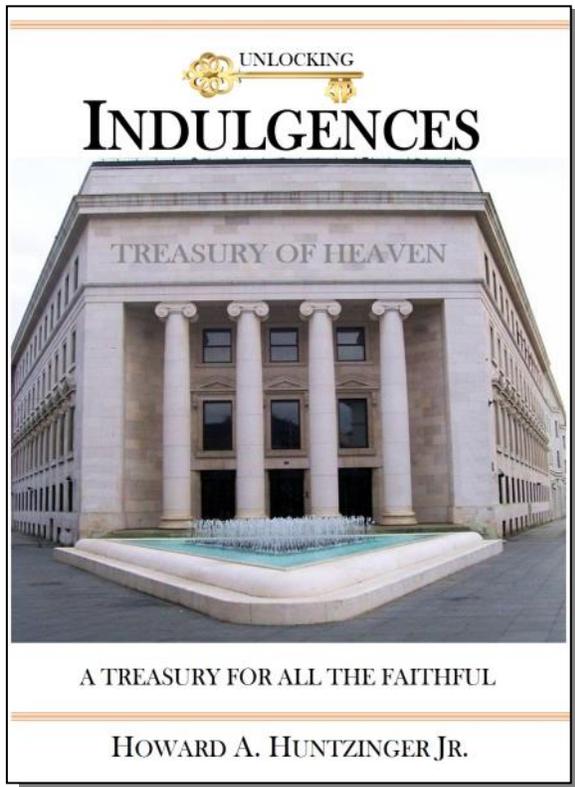
**\$100.00 PER TICKET**

Drawing AT RETREAT • Winner Need Not Be Present

**Maximum of 600 tickets will be sold.**

Tickets may be purchased by stopping by the ministry or by calling Kathy Gloria at 806-445-1440, Eleaser Perez @ 817-495-2386, or Howard Huntzinger at 806-831-3176.





## Unlocking Indulgences Receives Bishop's Imprimatur

The Ambassadors are pleased to announce that the latest book by author Howard A. Huntzinger Jr. on the merciful grace of indulgences receives the imprimatur from the Most Reverend Robert M. Coerver, Bishop of Lubbock.

*Unlocking Indulgences: A Treasury for All the Faithful*, brings together the teachings of the Catholic Church, taking a step-by-step look at what indulgences are, how they are obtained, and how they are meant to lead us into a closer relationship with God.

If you don't know what indulgences are, or haven't taken a thoughtful look at indulgences as a daily devotional walk, "to become holy with the help of God's grace," then this book will reveal another dimension of God's mercy available to you.

AVAILABLE AT AMAZON.COM and KINDLE

## HEALING THROUGH DIVINE LAUGHTER RETREAT

April 26-28, 2019

**Come Rediscover Your Joy in the Lord!**

### Possible Topics:

- *Who is Stealing Your Joy?*
- *Laughter is Like Medicine*
- *A joyful heart is the health of the body, but a depressed spirit dries up the bones. Prov. 17:22*
- *Mercy in Joy*
- *Thou Shalt Laugh*

*Then our mouths were filled  
with laughter;  
our tongues sang for joy.  
Psalm 126:2*



## The Healing Weekend Healing Physically and Spiritually

**Topics:**

- Healing the Physical Body
- Getting Delivered from Addictions
- Getting Delivered from the Spirit of Death/Suicide
- Get Healed from Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)
- What are the Obstacles that Stop your Physical Healing

**April 12-14, 2019**

**Reserve a seat for this powerful healing retreat!**

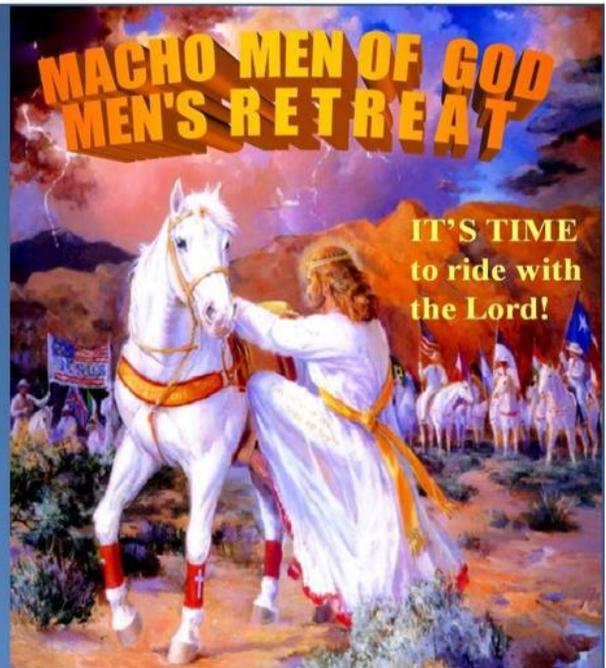
JOHN 20:1-10

**Jesus says it's time to be healed, body, mind, and soul!**

Registration fee is only \$175.00

## 88<sup>th</sup> Men's Retreat May 3-5, 2019

- Accepting the Purpose for Who God Created Me to Be as a Man, a Son, a Husband and a Father
- Getting out of Desperation
- Is Hopelessness Leading Your Life?
  - Overcoming Your Physical Sickness with God's Mercy
  - Is Your Sickness Running Your Life?
  - Overcoming Addictions
  - Come Experience the Love of God the Father, the healing of Jesus, His Son, and the Empowerment of the Holy Spirit



**Join us  
For a weekend  
that will  
change your life!**

# Women of Power Retreat

## May 17-19, 2019



**Possible Topics Include:**

- Going from a Victim to Victory in Your Life
- Healing from Abuse, Abandonment & Addictions
- Accepting the Power God has Given You as a Woman
- The Power of Women to Bring Healing to Your Family
- Receiving God's Power to Deliver You from Hopelessness and Depression

*For while your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, I want you to be wise as to what is good, and simple as to what is evil; then the God of peace will quickly crush Satan under your feet.*

*Romans 16:19-20*

**Featured Speakers Include:**



Mary Constancio



Jessica Mendez



Brenda Garcia



Corina Constancio



Carolyn Huntzinger



Kathy Gloria

## A NEW SEASON OF RETREATS FOR 2019

- |  |                               |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| ◆ <b>The Healing Weekend</b>                     | April 12-14, 2019             | Registration Fee: \$225.00                    |
| ◆ <b>Healing Through Divine Laughter Retreat</b> | April 26-28, 2019             | Registration Fee: \$175.00                    |
| ◆ <b>Macho Men of God Retreat</b>                | May 3-5, 2019                 | Registration Fee: \$175.00                    |
| ◆ <b>Women of Power Retreat</b>                  | May 17-19, 2019               | Registration Fee: \$175.00                    |
| ◆ <b>Pentecost Retreat</b>                       | June 7-9, 2019                | Registration Fee: \$175.00                    |
| ◆ <b>Marriage Retreat</b>                        | July 12-14, 2019              | Registration Fee: \$325.00/Couple             |
| ◆ <b>Feast of the Assumption Celebration</b>     | August 14-15, 2019            | Celebration Free. Dorm Fee: \$35.00/night/bed |
| ◆ <b>Macho Men of God Retreat</b>                | August 30 - September 1, 2019 | Registration Fee: \$175.00                    |
| ◆ <b>Women of Power Retreat</b>                  | September 20-22, 2019         | Registration Fee: \$175.00                    |

Register today online: [www.flameofmercy.com](http://www.flameofmercy.com), Email: [Admin@flameofmercy.com](mailto:Admin@flameofmercy.com), or call Carolyn @ 806.773.5147

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