

Since 1978,
RENEW International
has fostered one of the
fastest growing Christian
spiritual renewal efforts
in the world.

RENEW's processes of spiritual
renewal bring new life to all
aspects of parish communities.

Outstanding results have been
achieved in more than 270 dioceses
in 24 countries around the world,
including several on the African
continent.

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 in Africa are saying

The Synod renews its support for the promotion of small Christian communities (SCCs) that firmly build up the Church-Family of God in Africa. The SCCs are based on Gospel-sharing, where Christians gather to celebrate the presence of the Lord in their lives and in their midst ... Under the guidance of their pastors and catechists, they seek to deepen their faith and mature in Christian witness, as they live concrete experiences of fatherhood, motherhood, relationships, open fellowship, where each takes care of the other. This Family of God extends beyond the bonds of blood, ethnicity, tribe, culture, and race.

Propositio 35
Synod for Africa (2009)

The focus on Jesus as a person, rather than upon abstract principles, is a powerful way of bringing the group to personal conversion and renewal. Together with the sharing and the very moving stories, most of which are African, this down-to-earth approach will ensure that the appeal of the meetings will be to the heart rather than only to the head. The *RENEW Africa* Team is to be congratulated on this singular achievement.

Reverend Albert Nolan, OP
South African Theologian and Author

Without question, small Christian communities transform parish life bringing new energy and vibrancy to the local church. Every parish that has committed to the *RENEW Africa* process gives testimony to an increased involvement in parish ministry, a growth in outreach to the poor, and a greater awareness of the importance of the word of God in daily life.

Reverend Jerry Browne
Coordinator of RENEW Africa
Diocese of Port Elizabeth

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RENEW International presents
**RENEW
AFRICA**
The Church in Africa Today



a process of spiritual renewal through SCCs

RENEW Africa: Gathered as God's Family

a spiritual renewal process • fosters self-sustaining parishes • promotes reconciliation, justice, and peace

RENEW Africa

connects the richness of Catholic faith with daily life, comes out of Africa for Africa, and responds directly to the needs outlined in the Synod for Africa.

Goals of the RENEW Africa process:

- Develop vibrant communities of faith and service
- Encourage forgiveness, reconciliation and peace building
- Provide a concrete and practical means of evangelization
- Contribute to a truly self-sustaining Church



RENEW Africa: A spiritual journey

- Formation for lay leaders
- Formation and support of small Christian communities
- Annual Parish Mission
- Total parish involvement through five intense six-week themes:
 - Meet Christ Today: Claiming Jesus as my Lord and Savior
 - Healing the Body of Christ: A Catholic Spirituality
 - We are Church! Establishing a Self-Sustaining Church
 - Sharing the Good News: Catholic Evangelization
 - The Church in Africa Today: In service to Justice, Peace, and Reconciliation



What resources are available?

- Comprehensive training and handbooks for:
 - Diocesan Core Communities
 - Parish Core Communities
 - Small Community Leaders
 - Parish Mission Teams
 - Liturgy Planning Teams
- Thematic faith-sharing book for each Season
- Lectionary-based faith-sharing resources for year-round SCC meetings

Available in all needed languages

How does the RENEW Africa process relate to justice?

- Builds a foundation for action on behalf of justice
- Encourages the use of the Pastoral Cycle
- Challenges communities to reflect and act
- Fosters outreach to those in need



What participants say about RENEW Africa:

"RENEW Africa has helped me to grow more spiritually and deepen my faith. It has taught me how to forgive and to reconcile with people who I thought I was not going to talk with anymore – because of what they did to me. But I say proudly that through my participation in RENEW sessions I have been able to forgive them."

"I always had a hard time finding people to proclaim the Word or to be commissioned as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. Since we have gathered in SCCs I've had lots and lots of people offering their services for ministry. Wow!"

"Why was this not done many years ago? I feel so renewed and revived."