

WHEN HEART SPEAKS TO HEART

[My Ongoing Communion with St. John Henry Cardinal Newman]

By Deacon Jack Sullivan

This summary is about the contents of my 2nd book entitled “When Heart speaks to Heart - My ongoing communion with St John Henry Newman!” It can be purchased from Amazon. I have donated my share of the sales to Bishop Reed, The Catholic TV Network

May I begin this treatise with this question: Is the Communion with the Saints merely some vague, theological abstraction we so often robotically recite in the Apostles Creed as we pray the Rosary? To be sure, we ask saints for their help and intercessions. But do they actually communicate with us? Do they actually speak to us? The word “communion” in Webster is properly defined as a mutual participation or exchange, a dialogue between two or more parties. One would think that the saints, being bathed in God’s limitless love could not possibly be oblivious to our needs. After all, they got to heaven because they practiced loving others! I have found through all my experiences of suffering and affliction in union with Christ, followed by periods of dramatic healing, that they do actually communicate with us in many remarkable and meaningful ways. If we have difficulty hearing their voices, the problem may not be them, but with us, our tarnished receptivity!

How can I best describe the bond that has developed between St. Cardinal Newman and myself? A bond of love and reverence that has been established despite the disparity of time and space between us. He died in 1890, in Birmingham, England and I reside in Hanson, Massachusetts, USA in the twenty-first century, and yet he continues to be with me from the first moment I experienced my miraculous healing as well as the healing of many others!

My story begins just after I had completed my 2nd year of diaconate formation.

I loved my classes, spiritual exercises, and my brother candidates and their wives as well as our retreats. I also looked forward with great anticipation to my eventual ordination as a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Boston. More than anything

else I wanted to be of some service to God, his holy Church, and the people of God especially those who need him, but do not know him!! I was also so excited about substantially changing my life for the better and giving it greater meaning, for the sake of my wife and children!

My Miracle through the Intercession of St. John Henry Cardinal Newman [The First Event]

My story begins just after I had completed my 2nd yr. of a 4yr program of diaconate formation and I was anxiously looking forward to returning to my 3rd year of my classes beginning in September 2000, which I enjoyed very much, and with great anticipation to my eventual ordination. Then on June 6, 2000, I woke up that morning with excruciating and constant pain in my back and in the back of both legs. My wife rushed me to the nearest hospital in Plymouth, Mass. Upon arrival the emergency room physician ordered a Cat-scan which indicated that all of my discs and vertebrae in my lower lower spine, for some unknown reason had suddenly closed inward squeezing my spinal cord, which is normally the size of a quarter, compressing it to the circumference of a piece of string! It also appeared to be badly damaged. The ER doctor then stated that I should make an appointment with a spinal surgeon in one of the major hospitals in Boston as soon as possible as my spinal cord could snap with the least amount of effort leaving me totally paralyzed. I then explained that I hope to return to my diaconate classes in September to which he suggested “forget about going back to your classes in September as there are only a few practicing spinal surgery and it probably will take many months to just get an appointment, to say nothing of the time required for treatment and possible surgery and rehabilitation!” Time therefore, was of the essence!

The first sign of God’s loving providence in terms of my ultimate healing was that I was able to get an appointment with the chief of spinal surgery at the Brigham Hospital, in mJuly, 2000 one of the largest hospitals in Boston, in mid July, 2000. After a series of treatments and cortisone injections as well as imaging by an MRI and myelogram, I was

told in Mid August, “Jack, forget about returning to your third year of classes and ultimate ordination, as your lower spine is severely damaged and will likely leave you paralyzed. In fact, yours is the worst back I’ve ever seen in all my years of practicing spinal surgery!” He then scheduled me for surgery in early September, just the time when my classes were to resume.

I was terribly depressed and discouraged with this news, as I had my heart set on returning to my third year of classes and then forth as well as my ultimate ordination as a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Boston. When I arrived home I went into our family room to be alone. I turned on the TV to get my mind off myself constantly, repeating over and over, “I’ve got to accept this, I’ve got to accept this for the sake of my wife Carol and three kids!” I then turned on the TV to get my mind off my selfish sorrows. While randomly switching the channels, I came upon the EWTN channel and there were two priests talking about all the trials and obstacles Cardinal John Henry Newman of England had to face as a catholic priest, in 19th century England. It immediately intrigued me in view of my current despondency! I didn’t know much about Cardinal Newman, only that the Church had been waiting for a long time to find a miracle to make him a saint. The host of the program was Fr. C John McCloskey, an Opus Die priest and director of the Catholic Information Bureau in Washington, DC. He was interviewing Fr. Ian Kerr of Oxford University in England, and the foremost Newman scholar in the world. It was this program that really introduced me to Cardinal John Henry Newman.

I learned that he was born in London in 1801 and died in 1890. He was perhaps one of the most brilliant men in Church history. He entered Trinity College, a part of Oxford at age fifteen and upon graduation as both a student and instructor he was accepted for 4 yrs of post graduate studies at Oreal College. Upon graduation only at age 23, he was ordained a priest of the Anglican Church! He quickly became one of the most beloved and respected priests in all of England. He also wrote many books about all facets of the faith as well as weekly journals which were anxiously read and treasured by everyone in England. One of his books entitled “The Idea of a University” soon became one of the

great classics equating spiritual studies as important as the academic for the proper development of the complete person! It also set the standard for Catholic education. Today, even in most secular colleges throughout the world there are Newman centers! Within only a couple of years he was also appointed to the most cherished of all posts in the Anglican Church as the Vicar of St. Mary's Cathedral, situated in the middle of Oxford and people from all over Europe came to listen at the edge of their seats to his most eloquent and beautifully crafted sermons in terms both of their relevance and content. In addition, his writing skills and delivery were superb, and most of his books are considered literary classics.

I also learned by watching this program that Cardinal Newman's demeanor of extreme gentleness and friendliness toward other people, was usually not found in brilliant people. Most brilliant people are usually loners, set apart and extremely arrogant toward others, as being above them and special! But with Newman it was just the opposite. He loved conversing and expressed his interest in everyone he met, rich or poor, intelligent or not. As an indication of his demeanor of friendliness and concern toward others, the Oratory has recovered approximately forty thousand of his letters he wrote to friends and there are still many more out there which have not been recovered! He also conducted a school for young boys at the Oratory. Frequently he would be engaged in writing thoughts which no man has ever conceived about, and then join in playing games with the boys, before returning to his writings! Newman wrote and refined most of the theological subjects of our deposit of faith. Subjects such as how a person acquires faith, the development of Christian doctrine, the operation of one's conscience, how we grow in holiness, just to name a few. Let me key in on one's growth in holiness. He taught that if a person can persevere amidst all of his trials and afflictions, always trusting in God's love, then he will experience some greater good, achieve some higher purpose far beyond himself. Isn't this the story of his life? He emphasized that our trials and experiences of suffering can be considered opportunities for much grace for they are accomplished in union with the trials and sufferings of Christ himself for the redemption of the world and the forgiveness of sins! Fr. Kerr explained

that Cardinal Newman lived and worked writing some of his books at Oxlord. He loved to work in the academic environment.

On one occasion Cardinal Newman chose to study the theology of the Apostles and the early Church fathers, and as a result he came to the realization that the true Church of Christ was not the Anglican Church, but the Catholic Church in Rome, which was hated by every man, woman, and child in England! This fact was extremely disturbing because he realized he was preaching false doctrine and heresy. He concluded that the Anglican Faith was in fact instituted by King Henry VIII, when the Pope refused to approve his petition for the annulment of his marriage of 22 years to Queen Catherine, so that he could marry that floozy Ann Boleyn! So what must King Henry do to rectify this problem, he instituted the Anglican Church and made himself its overseer and then annulled his marriage and married Miss Boleyn! And all the subsequent Kings and Queens followed suit in succession. The Anglican faith became extremely exclusive because following other faith traditions amounted to an affront to the crown, revered by all! As a result every true Englishperson practiced the Anglican faith! People practicing any other faith were either murdered or expelled from England! ie The Puritans who settled in Plymouth! They also introduced religious values into the governing of society through the Mayflower Compact, which set the future for our beloved USA! This revelation to Cardinal Newman about the primacy of the Catholic Church of Rome over and above Anglism would constitute an affront to the Crown was extremely disturbing to Newman. It is for this reason that the Catholic faith was condemned by everyone in England. So what must Cardinal Newman do when he realized that the true Church was the Catholic Church? For the sake of following the truth, he does the unthinkable, he converted to the Catholic Faith! And as a result he had to forsake his beloved position at Oxford, and suspend his position as Vicar of St. Mary's, and most difficult and disturbing of all, he had to relinquish his priesthood and membership in the Anglican Church! So at one moment he was the most beloved clergyman in all of England, and the next the most hated!! This realization was extremely disturbing to Newman, as he was a very sensitive man! Two years later he traveled to Rome and was

ordained a priest in the Catholic Church and a member of the Oratorian Order, founded by St. Philip Neri. After his ordination, he risked his life and returned to England and founded the Birmingham Oratory. He became a faithful and loving priest to his people and devoted pastor to his priests at the Oratory! He also continued to write his books on the faith and soon became recognized as the greatest writer in Church History and was ultimately made a Cardinal! Another example of his lasting brilliance, he has been called the Father of Vatican II!

For most of the remainder of his life, Newman was subjected to constant criticism especially by the press, and the political and religious leadership of England! As sensitive as he was, this fact became extremely disturbing, often frequently affecting his health. Again, he taught as one the basics of our faith the following : if a person has the guts and stamina to persevere, amidst all of his trials and afflictions, always trusting God's love, then he will ultimately receive all that is good and attain true peace! Therefore persevering amidst obstacles provides us with the opportunity for much grace! We see this trauma best reflected in his writings: In one of his poems, he writes, "Lead me on kindly Light of Truth, amidst the encircling gloom. I ask not to see the distant scene, one step is enough for me." On another occasion he wrote, "True religion has two sides to it. A beautiful side and a severe side. And we all will surely fall off the path that leads to life, if we embrace only what is beautiful, while casting aside what is severe!"

By persevering patiently through these trials and afflictions, always trusting in God's love for him, served as the very foundation for his growth in holiness and faith! He condemned those, who in their own self interests, would run away from pain and the trials and afflictions in life, because they were denying themselves important opportunities for growth in holiness! There is no merit for us to praise God and express our love, when things are right in our lives and all is going well. But can we do the same when confronted with obstacles to the faith, and experience trials, misfortunes, afflictions, and sorrows? He also wrote, "May we who struggle and share in our Blessed Lord's passion and sorrows while on earth, merit a share in his victory in

heaven.”

At the conclusion of the program and at the last minute, Fr. C. John constructed and posted on the screen a sign stating that if any of the viewers received any “divine favors” after praying for Cardinal Newman’s intercession, he/she should write to the Postulator for the Causes of the Saints and Superior of the Birmingham Oratory, with the address that followed. He put this sign on the screen, because the Church has been anxiously waiting for a miracle for the last 120 yrs to get him beatified! If the sign used the word “miracle,” I would have not prayed to Newman, for who am I to ask for a miracle? But the words “divine favors,” if anyone needed a divine favor at that moment, it was me! So I immediately prayed this simple prayer, “Please Cardinal Newman, help me to walk so I can return to my classes and be ordained!” Suddenly the agonizing pain I’ve been experiencing for months, nights and days disappeared! I was able to stand up straight whereas before I was all bent over! Now, I had total mobility and felt as if I never had a back problem!

Was this a mere coincidence, or a sign from Almighty God? (In the morning I was told by the doctor at the Brigham I that I couldn’t return to my classes because of the serenity of my spinal condition, and then in the same afternoon after my prayer to Cardinal Newman, I became totally pain free! Then I was physically able to return to my third year of classes! But then I remembered that I was scheduled for surgery at the Brigham at or about the same time as the resumption of my classes. My primary care physician, Dr. Lorenze Cueni, in lieu of this complication, decided to write to Dr. Robert Banco, the best in the business at the N.E. Baptist Hospital, which is devoted exclusively to orthopedics! He is considered to be one of the finest spinal surgeons in the US, and only takes referrals from other spinal surgeons. Apparently, this letter was of great interest to him, for I was given an appointment shortly thereafter.

At my first appointment, with all his credentials I marveled at how young he looked! After watching me walk and bend, and lift weights, he stated that I didn’t appear to have had any spinal problems at all, until he viewed the MRI and myelogram films. He couldn’t believe it! I had no pain and yet **THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF MY**

SPINE HADN'T CHANGED AT ALL, ALTHOUGH I HAD NO SYMPTOMS! He then said the fact that I had no symptoms whatsoever of pain nor physical dysfunction, while the physical condition of my back remained the same was truly a remarkable miracle! He then explained, "Never had this scenario occurred in all of the history of spinal medicine! If it had, I would have read about it!" He then said something very special was happening in my case! "You have the worst back I've ever seen in all my 25 yrs of performing spinal surgery, and yet you have no symptoms!" He then stated he wanted to stay with this case. He suggested that I cancel the surgery, as he couldn't ever recommend such dangerous and difficult surgery when there were no symptoms! Dr. Banco then concluded that this phenomenal condition can't last very long. So when the pain returns, he'll perform the surgery. "Hopefully during the Christmas vacation when you'll have more time to recover!" But I remained pain free during both semesters! Was this a coincidence or a sign from God? I was told that it was medically impossible for me to complete my third year of classes, but I did!!

But the day following my last class in 2001, the pain returned in all its fury! You see, it had to happen the day, after my last class so that it could be said that I completed my 3rd year of diaconate formation, when it was medically impossible to do so!

The Second Event

But now that the agonizing pain returned, Dr. Banco scheduled me for surgery on August 9, 2001, although he was booked through November.

I'm told that when Dr. Banco and his surgical team went in, they discovered that my dura mater, or the fibrous lining surrounding the spinal cord and housing the spinal fluids, was torn to pieces. There were no spinal fluids for God knows how long! They also discovered that my lower spinal cord was so severely damaged that it would never decompress! All they could do was suture my dura mater and replace the spinal fluids. For the next four days I was in even greater agony not only because of my dysfunctional spinal condition, but also as the result of the surgery! I was told that I was the most

serious case in the entire hospital.

On August 14th, 5 days after the surgery and 2 weeks before my 4th yr classes were to resume, I tried to walk, but the pain was so severe I had to be carried back to my hospital bed with tears in my eyes by two mail attendants! with
The next day I had to try again to walk as the classes were getting closer and closer, closer and closer to beginning. I said to myself, I have to at least try to walk again! With the help of my nurse I painfully inched to the side of the bed, but I couldn't stand up because of the intense pain, and fell to the cold floor, with my knees on the floor and my forearms on the top of the bed for support. As it was a perfect position for prayer, I prayed to Cardinal Newman the same prayer I said previously and almost on the same day the year before. "Please Cardinal Newman, help me to walk so I can return to my classes and be ordained!"

Suddenly, I felt extreme heat, as if I were standing before a blast furnace and then a tingling feeling all over, very strong! Then I went into a state of ecstasy! Everything before me turned white and I couldn't distinguish any of the furnishings in my room! I also began to experience a tremendous sense of absolute joy and love, the likes of which I could never experience on earth! Nothing mattered now but to remain in this state! I remember distinctly saying over and over, "Please God, keep me this way! Keep me this way, over and over! The theologians at the Vatican said that I actually experienced a piece of heaven with the Holy Spirit at my side! The nurse said I was in this state for about 15 minutes! And then when I started to come out of it, I realized I was standing up, when moments before I was on the floor in terrible and utter agony!

I then yelled to my nurse that I have no more pain and could walk upright with complete mobility! I told her I didn't need crutches, a walker, or cane and simply walked briskly out of my room and up and down the corridors and stairs on the third floor. When I walked by the nurses station they were going bananas and doing cartwheels when they saw me briskly walking without any trouble! I was discharged 2 hours later! They gave me a large plastic bottle of oxycodone but I never needed to take one pill! I'm also told that I am the only person in the hospital's history that had major

back surgery and didn't need rehab! The following day while at home I was able to briskly walk over a mile and have been doing so every day until lately as I am now 87 years old. Ouch!! And the date of my miraculous healing, August 15th, 2001, the feast day of Our Lady's Assumption into heaven. Coincidence or sign from God!

Six days later I returned for my post-op interview. I hadn't yet written to the superior of the Birmingham Oratory because I was confused as to the true nature of my sudden healing the year before because I had an operation. So I asked Dr. Banco first off, "What do you think?" Dr. Banco replied that in all his years of performing spinal surgery he'd never seen a back as serious as mine. "Do I think it was a miracle, "yes," he said, "in both cases!" He also said that Cardinal Newman not only interceded with God to stop the pain and allowed me full and complete mobility, even though my physical condition hadn't changed. This time he went further and changed the physical complexion of my entire spine as well! After my prayer to Cardinal Newman he said, "not only did your pain disappear, but now you were also given a whole new spinal cord. "I have never seen anything like it!" It was as if you never had a back problem or even surgery, for that matter! In all my years of practicing spinal surgery, I've never seen a case like yours! Write that petition to the Vatican, and I'll send in my own letter attesting to your miraculous healing!" I then returned to my 4th year of classes.

My Ordination

In spite of all of my trials, sorrows, and obstacles, the day of my ordination finally arrived on September 14th, 2002! Originally it was scheduled for September 7th, but the Cardinal was tied up in Rome, so the date had to be pushed back a week to September 14th. Was this occurrence another sign from God, because my ordination was scheduled in the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston, and now fell on the Feastday of the Triumph of the Cross? Doesn't this feastday beautifully reflect my victory, with Cardinal Newman's help, over all of the trials and obstacles I had to experience? Again, I had to undergo the same traumatic experiences as he did before I could possibly claim a

piece of his victory! In the morning I was ordained together with my eleven other classmates in a beautiful two hour ceremony. When Carol and I returned home from the Mass of Ordination, that same afternoon, and while I was sitting in my office in our basement, I got a phone call from Fr. Paul Chavasse, the Superior of the Birmingham Oratory as follows: “Mr. Sullivan, I am pleased to inform you, having received your petition some months ago, the Fathers of the Birmingham Oratory have, this very day, voted to begin the beatification procedures for their founder, Cardinal John Henry Newman and to take your case to Rome!” Was this another sign from God because he didn’t know I was ordained on the same exact day as their voting! He didn’t know I was ordained that same day because he called me Mr. Sullivan! Wasn’t this event an incredible sign from God’ as I was finally ordained on the same day of the commencement of Cardinal Newman’s beatification? After all, what did I pray for?

The Investigation by the Causes of the Saints

Fr. Paul Chavasse, the superior of the Birmingham Oratory was also appointed by the Vatican, as the outside postulator of Cardinal Newman’s case before the Causes of the Saints. The following is a brief run down of the procedures which the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints takes in evaluating a case for either a beatification or canonization, they’re both the same.

First a petition is filed and evaluated by the local bishop and witnesses are called to testify before the local tribunal. Their testimony is then recorded on three tapes, two are sent to the Vatican and one tape kept in the local archives. If there appears to be a viable case, the interior postulator for the Causes of the Saints is sent to the diocese in question. In my case, it was Dr. Andrea Ambrosi. Dr. Ambrosi then collected all of the pertinent medical materials as well as the imaging films and placed them in an ordinary paper bag and then wrapped it with a beautiful red ribbon with the diocesan seal stamped thereon. He then carried this package back to the Causes for the saints in Rome. Then the interior

postulator writes a summarization of the entire case called a “Posistio.” which is translated into Italian. Thereafter, the case goes before a panel of doctors called the “Consulta Medico.” In my case there were 13 spinal surgeons from all over Europe, some of whom were intentionally non-Catholic. The issue before them is whether there is any possible medical explanation that would justify my sudden healing in question. The doctors then vote by secret ballot to insure objectivity. In my case all 13 voted that there was no medical intervention or explanation for my sudden healing. Then the case goes before a panel of theologians called the “Consulta Theologica” to determine whether my medically unexplainable healing was, in fact, brought about by the intercession of Cardinal Newman with God. In my case there were 7 theologians appointed to evaluate the aforesaid question. They took over three years to do so. First we would get three positive votes, and then months went by before another voted affirmatively. We waited many more months for the final three to vote affirmatively. We were all on pin and needles for the final votes to come in! If all vote affirmatively, as they did in my case, then the case goes before approximately forty archbishops and cardinals comprising the Causes of the Saints for their review. If all of them agree affirmatively, then they send their recommendations to the Holy Father for his final review and decision. If any one person in this entire investigatory process votes “No,” then the case is summarily dropped and no further mention of it is made! It takes two miracles to make a saint. In the first, the person is beatified or called blessed, while in the second procedure the person is canonized and is then called a saint. They both certify that the candidate is in heaven and the only difference between them is that the beatus can only have Masses said to him in his own home country, whereas the saint can have Masses said to him throughout the whole world. Although the Church had to wait over 120 years for the first miracle to occur leading to Newman’s beatification in 2010, the second occurred only nine years later and he was canonized in 2019. Then he was declared a Doctor of the Church only 6 years after that! And there are only 38 Doctors of the Church out of thousands of the saints! Truly St John Henry Cardinal Newman is a saint for our time! Pope John Paul II described him as such back in the early sixties!

Thinking back on a humorous vein, while my case was still in Boston, I proposed 12 witnesses to testify before the local tribunal or court about my healing. Carol and I were the last to testify individually. Each witness must keep his/her testimony private. While driving to the Tribunal, I could see that Carol was very disturbed by the frown on her face and definitely did not want to testify before a bunch of priests in a religious court!! Thinking I had to break the ice or the whole case could run afoul, I asked her, “Carol, because you are closest to me, they probably will ask you whether you thought my healing was miraculous! What would you say?” After thinking a while, she replied, “I’d tell them that you heal fast!” Then I replied, “No, No, No, you can’t say that! What would you really say?” She thought again for a moment and then said, “I would tell them - that my husband - told me - to tell you, - it was a miracle!” We then laughed about this. But I achieved the desired results because she stopped frowning!

The entire investigatory process took eight years and the theologians continuously sent me questions, week after week! Father Paul came over 5 or 6 times to visit together with Peter Jennings, the public relations director for the Archdiocese of Birmingham. They came to assist me and explain the procedures employed by the Causes of the Saints. They always stayed at my home and celebrated Mass on weekends at my parish Church in Pembroke, St. Tecla’s. I recall the first time they arrived at Logan Airport in Boston. On the way to my home, Fr. Paul lamented in proper British, “We had all hoped that the miracle that we all had been waiting so long for, would have occurred in England! I then thought, I’ll play along, and I replied, “Oh It did, Father! It did!” Fr. Paul then replied, “No, No, it occurred in Boston!” And then I returned with, “Well, it would have been in England.... But you guys lost the colonies! Ain’t my fault!” We all had a hardy laugh over this and became close friends ever since! When I received the questions from the theologians via email, I would have to type my answers in proper Vatican form, then go to the Tribunal in Boston to have them stamped with the Archdiocesan seal. And then Fed-Ex them back to Rome. This scenario took place at least a dozen times or more! I will always be grateful for Fr. Paul’s and Peter’s their kind assistance. And, it was Peter who arranged our fantastic tours throughout England both times we were there prior to

the Beatification Mass..

Then on Friday afternoon on July 3rd, 2009, while I was in my office at the Court House in Plymouth, Carol then called me frantically complaining that she was getting telephone calls one after another for hours from reporters all over the world! “They’re driving me crazy!” I immediately thought, “My God, he’s done it! He’s done it!” Pope Benedict XVI from the chair of Peter has formally announced that my healing was in fact a miracle, leading to the beatification of Cardinal Newman, one of the greatest writers and theologians in Church history! And in this connection, the Pope actually mentioned my name before all the world! WOW!! I then told Carol I’m leaving my office right now, and I’ll be home in half an hour. Don’t answer the phone anymore. When I arrived there were two huge vans with large discs on the top parked in the driveway. I then explained to dozens of reporters that My wife and I have planned to go to Humarock beach to my Son Brian in law’s, Bob and Maria O’Hare’s house on the beach for a cook-out and then to watch the fireworks display on the beach. We do this every year! I asked the reporters, “Would you folks kindly return tomorrow and I will be happy to answer all your questions.” They were really great about it and returned the following day. When we arrived at the cook-out at Bob and Maria’s summer place, they all had already heard the good news! Truly, the hot dogs tasted especially good that night!

Usually, Beatification Masses are always conducted in the beatise’s home country, but the Beatification Mass for Cardinal Newman was initially planned for Rome, in view of Newman’s international significance. The reason for this change to England was the fact that England was the most Catholic county in all Europe for the first thousand years of Church history. That all of this changed rather dramatically during the reign of Henry VIII, when the Pope refused to annul his marriage of 22 years to Queen Catherine. It was for this reason that Henry instituted his own church, the Anglican Church and made himself its overseer, and the kings and queens followed in succession. But Pope Benedict decided later to celebrate the Mass himself in Birmingham, England perhaps to help awaken that spark of Catholicism that might still exist among the English people! In addition, usually the Cardinal Prefect for the Causes of the Saints performs the

beatifications and the Pope, the canonizations. But Pope Benedict was the first to celebrate a beatification in the last 500 years. And the Pope asked me to be his deacon at the Mass and proclaim the Gospel! This all appeared to me to be overwhelming! To actually be a part of Church history! Later I learned that the Pope scheduled the Mass for September 19, 2010.

The Beatification Mass

Three weeks before Carol and I were scheduled to leave for the beatification Mass, together with my son Brian and his wife Lauren plus their first child Nora, who was 1½ then years old, together with Carol's oldest brother Jack Mulvey, I was asked to appear on Ramond Arroyo's program "The World over Live" on EWTN. The first ½ hour was devoted to a discussion about my miracle as the result of my prayer to Cardinal Newman for his intercession. And the second ½ hour we took calls for the viewing public. Out of all the calls, the one by Patricia Whales from Eire PA. was the most intriguing. She asked for my prayers to Cardinal Newman for his intercession for her daughter Deborah, who was gravely ill. Deborah was in a long term case at a local hospital suffering from an extremely rare & incurable disease called Erythromelgia. The problem was that her feet were seriously infected and wasting away, both flesh and bone. It was also spreading up her legs. This mysterious infection was also so serious that it was generating unbearable heat, so she had to continuously place her feet in large buckets of ice, to minimize the pain! This illness had been going on for about a year or so. Deborah, who was a registered nurse, was about to give up because she couldn't sleep normally and had to continuously sit in a chair! I said to Patricia that I was extremely concerned and I would call her the following day from my home to get more information. I got her phone number from Ramond's computer. When I called the following day I explained to Patricia that I would do more than simply praying for her daughter. I would place her daughter's name on a 3x5 inch card and place it in my vest pocket so I wouldn't forget and pray for her to Blessed Cardinal Newman at his Mass, which would be a

powerful spiritual event, which I did.

Cardinal Nichols, the Primate of England, asked Carol and I to come two weeks or so before the Beatification mass. After he was appointed the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Nichols was the former Archbishop of Birmingham, so I knew from our first visit to England. This time he arranged for a tour of England for Carol and myself accompanied by Peter Jennings. During the tour I talked about my miracle of healing and the writings and priestly holiness of Cardinal Newman. Hopefully I would help get the public's mind off the reprehensible articles that were appearing in the English press, suggesting that Pope Benedict was largely responsible for the rapid growth of pediphilia among members of the clergy! Actually he was the major force against it! The BBC even reported that the Pope might be arrested as he disembarked from his plane! Cardinal Nichols arranged for an interview for me with most of the press in England at his residence the first day we arrived in England.

We also visited Westminster Cathedral, where Cardinal Nichols celebrated a Mass and asked me to assist as his deacon. I proclaimed the gospel and delivered the homily. We also toured Oxford University the following day and were given a lavish dinner that evening. I was seated next to Princess Mickol of the Royal family in England and her brother, the crown Prince of Hungary. We also were given a tour of the London Oratory as well as the Birmingham Oratory. And I was asked to assist by Fr. Paul, the superior of the Birmingham Oratory to assist him at a Mass in Newman's private chapel! Some time later, I was asked to deliver a healing service at the annual meeting of the Queen Catherine's Society membership attended by all of the Royal families of Europe. I'll never forget how funny it was at dinner watching the Grand Duke of Russia [a Romanoff], who sat on one side of Carol trying to outdo the attention being paid to her by the prince of France], sitting on her other side. I couldn't eat the lavish, English gourmet dinners that were put before me, which we had to attend during our stay. Thank God there was a McDonald's near most of them! We were also invited to Prime Minister Tony Blair's summer residence in the midlands! At the end of the first week in England, 100 members of the choir at Cardinal Newman High School together with the London

Symphony Orchestra conducted a concert in our honor. It was a beautiful rendition of one of Newman's poems entitled "The Death of Grontius." The following day Fr. Paul, the superior of the Oratory, brought out the original of that poem in Cardinal Newman's own handwriting. The poem was about the death of a righteous man and stages he went through on the way to purgatory and then to heaven. The last event which we attended when in England was the celebration of the Mass for Cardinal Newman's beatification!

On September 19 2010, I was the first to greet the Holy Father at Crofton Park when he disembarked from his helicopter and accompanied him to a large tent where we vested for Mass. As I said earlier the Pope asked me to be a deacon at the Mass together with two other English transitional deacons. I prayed periodically during the mass to Cardinal Newman that he intercede with Almighty God for the healing of Deborah, Mrs. Whale's daughter. I also proclaimed the Gospel before approximately 85,000 of Cardinal Newman's countrymen. Can you just imagine how I felt when I bowed before Pope Benedict, asking for his blessing, before processing to the rostrum with two candle bearers and a censor bearer. I was also captivated by all the loyal and beautiful people standing before me! They reminded me of so many gracious people I met during our previous visit to England. At the beginning of the acclimation prior to my reading the Holy Gospel, I was so overwhelmed with love for these brave, and wonderful people that I proclaimed, "THE LORD," and then I paused, "BE WITH YOU!" flinging my arms out in their direction. And then all 85,000 responded in kind, flinging out their arms in my direction, "AND ALSO," and they paused, "WITH YOU!" The Pope was emotionally taken back by this dynamic and unique expression of mutual affection! [The response was changed a year later to read ["And with your spirit.]] Then, at the offertory my wife Carol, sitting in the front row together with members of my family, brought up the reliquary of Newman for the Pope's blessing. I met her halfway, as she climbed up the first flight of the stairs, as I was seated in the sanctuary. Then, we both went up the final set of stairs and knelt before His Holiness for his blessing of the reliquary. Immediately thereafter, I couldn't help saying, "Thank you Holy Father for coming to England. They surely need to see you," thinking this was the reason he changed the location of the Mass

from Rome to Birmingham. And I meant by his presence alone that hopefully it would serve to re-ignite the flame of faith that illuminated England, far above all the other nations in Europe until Henry VIII blew it out! I'll never forget Pope Benedict's response to me! He said "And thank you, Deacon Jack, for your gift of Cardinal Newman to the Church!" Wow!!

Another unforgettable moment occurred after I proclaimed the Gospel and brought the book thereof to the Pope for his blessing of all that were present. I had to walk to my place next to the area where a large group of Cardinals were seated. As I was passing by, one of the Cardinals got up, ran over to me, and then grabbed my left hand and began kissing it with great affection! I think it was Cardinal Ouellet from Montreal, Canada! I recall earlier, Bishop Zubick of Pittsburgh doing the same thing, after I read the Gospel and presented my homily and then returned to my seat next to his. I spoke about my miracle leading to Cardinal Newman's beatification at his Cathedral in Pittsburgh, PA.

The fourth unforgettable event occurred after leaving Crofton Park. Carol and I were assigned our own limo which would bring us back to the Cathedral rectory in Birmingham, where we were staying, at the invitation of Archbishop Longley. We were the first to arrive so all the doors were still locked. While waiting for the rest to arrive to let us in, a yellow VW bug suddenly sped by us, as the Cathedral and rectory were situated on a busy thoroughfare in the middle of the city. As it sped by, it suddenly screeched on its brakes, stopped, and then backed up and stopped. A man and woman got out of the car and the woman yelled to her husband, "Jeffrey, stand next to Deacon Jack while I take your picture." After three quick clicks of her camera and without another word, they both then returned to their car and sped off! Being overwhelmed at what just had occurred, I said to Carol, "You see Carol, you see, over here, I'm a household word! I'm Jack, somebody!" To which she replied, "Wait til we get home! Then you'll return to being, Jack nobody!" We both had a big laugh over this!

When we did return home I immediately called Patricia and she excitedly explained the result of her daughter's healing! Both she and her daughter were watching the live broadcast of the Mass on EWTN at 5am from her daughter's hospital room

together with some members of the hospital staff. While the Mass was proceeding, they all witnessed remarkable healing taking place! The good flesh actually began covering over the deep infected flesh, in an incredibly rapid fashion and the pain associated therewith began to subside! Within a few days she was completely healed. In a subsequent telephone conversation with Deborah she told me that It took about a week to get used to walking again and that she is now back at the hospital, not as a patient, but as an ER nurse!

The History of My Relic of Cardinal Newman

Recall when I first met Fr. Paul Chavase, the Superior of the Burmington Oratory and outside Postulator for Cardinal Newman's cause for beatification, he told me that the only relic we have of Cardinal Newman was a clump of hair carefully tucked away in a manila envelope that had been sitting on the superior of the Oratory's desk for 120 years. And it remained on his desk from superior to superior waiting for a miracle to happen. He explained that the night of the Cardinal's death in 1890, while his body lay in state in the Oratory church, the superior of the Oratory at that time cut a clump of his hair, which was meant as a memento. It wasn't meant to serve as a relic. Relics are usually gathered from the remains of the proposed saint when the body is exhumed to be placed in a Church or other holy place immediately prior to his/her beatification. The superior then placed the envelope on his desk,

Then in 2005, when I called Fr. Paul before conducting my first healing service on Andrew Munroe, I asked him if I could have a small portion of that clump of hair to bless him as he laid in a permanent vegetative state at the Mass General Hospital in Boston. To my surprise Fr. Paul's response was, "Sure Jack! I'll mail a small portion to you. You should receive it in 4 days," which I did. I arrived in Andrew's large room with all the members of his large family, his relatives, a few of his neighbors and some members of the hospital staff. Andrew was lying motionless in a deep coma, with feeding tubes and all kinds of wires, and with little brain waves. He was more dead than alive! Then

when I touched his forehead with the relic, suddenly his eyes clicked open! Oh my God I said! His mother, who was standing to my left, screamed and everyone in the room was in awe! Maryanne, his mother then ran around his bed to get closer to him on the other side of his bed. And his eyes followed her around! How could this happen! Then as she bent over to give him a kiss, he raised his right arm and gave her the peace sign! Andrew was released from the hospital a few days later. He was committed to a local hospital in New Hampshire for physical rehabilitation and speech therapy, and his recovery has been extraordinary! This providential event started a whole new ministry for me!

In August of 2008, when my case for his beatification seemed likely, the Vatican petitioned the British Government to exhume his remains. After an initial denial based upon a law enacted by Queen Elizabeth I, it was finally approved.. Then on August 8 2008, they dug down at Rednil where he was buried and found - NOTHING! Now the clump of hair tucked away in that manila envelope became the only first class relic we have of Newman's body! All that remained at the burial site was the brass fittings of his casket, his metal nameplate, and bishop's cross! Everything else had totally disintegrated, both his body and even his casket. It was only 118 years since he died so I asked Fr. Paul, "How could this happen in such a short period of time?" Fr. Paul explained that in Newman's will he asked the Oratory fathers to spread lye over the casket, which would hasten total disintegration, which it did! You see, he didn't think that he should ever be considered a saint! I then called Fr. Paul, in view of this news, and I asked him if he wanted the relic back and he replied, "No, Jack, continue in what you are doing, you're meant to conduct healing services and you have the permission of the Causes of the Saints and Pope Benedict XVI to do so." So I have the only first class relic of Cardinal Newman in the world next to the original which is currently displayed in the Oratory Church! And I believe that I am the only deacon authorized to conduct healing services.

My Ongoing Communion with St. John Henry Newman

After experiencing my miracle leading to St. John Henry Cardinal Newman's beatification and eventual Canonization, I feel that Cardinal Newman continues to remain with me! But what evidence do I have of this fact? How do I know that he is indeed with me, guiding and watching over me! In my first book entitled "My Communion with Saint John Henry Cardinal Newman," which is also available in Amazon, I emphasized all the events leading up to my miraculous healing leading to Newman's beatification. I also addressed many of the medically unexplainable healings brought about by his relic over a period of 17 years totalling approximately 33 that we know of, as well as numerous minor healings both physical and spiritual. I was also asked to conduct healing services in 19 states in the US and 40 cities throughout the US, as well as in England, Paris, and Rome. During this period I also conducted healing services in my parish of St. Tecla in Pembroke MA, once a month, until it closed in 2021, and now I do the same at Holy Family Parish in Duxbury, MA, once a month, thanks to its pastor, Fr. Bob Deehan. I have also conducted hundreds of healing services within Mass. in various churches and people's homes, when the people were not ambulatory. I was also involved in prison ministry for the past 22 years at the Plymouth County Correctional Facility. During this period I conducted Communion Services twice a month and RCIA classes for many inmates leading to baptisms and confirmations. Most of the confirmations were administered by Bishop Dooher and by Cardinal Sean O'Malley on one occasion. All this under the direction and with the assistance of St. John Henry Cardinal Newman.

In my second book entitled "When Heart speaks to Heart [My ongoing communion with St. John Henry Newman"] I discussed 9 of the Major healings including 6 since the publication of my first book, the latest remarkable healing in October 2025. Again, all of these remarkable healings occurred over a space of 17 years! This book can also be purchased at Amazon. Also In my second book, I have directed that all of the proceeds of my share of the income generated from its sales I have donated to Bishop Reed, care of the Catholic TV Network for its magnificent efforts at evangelizing our faith especially in

this troubled and broken world! The fact that so many people out there who have no idea of the eternal gifts of love and life that lay waiting for them bothers me intensely! That's why I wrote these books. They are meant for them!

Again you may ask, what evidence do you have that St. Cardinal Newman continues to be with you, guiding and supporting you? I sincerely believe that all these remarkable events of healing beautifully describe the concept of the "Communion of the Saints, both in heaven and on earth. For purposes of authenticity, we also hear the communion of the saints described in the Apostles Creed, unified as we all are members of the "One Body of Christ!" I soon realized that **OUR COMMUNION WITH THE SAINTS IN HEAVEN IS SELDOM A ONE TIME EVENT, BUT AN ON-GOING PROCESS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN BOTH REVERENCE AND FRIENDSHIP, ALWAYS LEADING TO SOME GREATER GOOD, ATTESTING TO SOME HIGHER PURPOSE FAR BEYOND OURSELVES!**

The circumstances surrounding my spinal affliction and remarkable recovery required that I often had to persevere through long, convoluted, and often agonizing episodes of pain, taking many ups and downs, twists and turns! I believe that my trials and afflictions even took upon the character and upheavals reflecting Cardinal Newman's own life! A life replete with a series of obstacles and misfortunes challenging his faith, while in his passionate search and pursuit of truth. And to reach my faith's goals, I soon realized that I would have to travel that same difficult and dangerous path as he! We must often endure similar sorrows and painful misfortunes of the saint we whose intercessions we seek, before we can possibly come to share in that saint's victory!

1. The first proof or validation of my ongoing communion with St. John Henry Newman involves the major healings of 39 persons and many more minor ones spread over a period of time from 2005 to the present. The following are nine examples of some of them spread over 17 years:

They all began in 2005, with the spectacular healing of Andrew Monroe, age 17, who sustained serious brain injuries as the result of an automobile accident in Salem, NH.

He was med-flighted to the Mass General Hospital and for 5 months he was in a permanent vegetative state, in deep coma, and showing hardly any brain waves! The neurosurgeons treating him informed his mother Maryann that there was absolutely no chance for his recovery, and they should consider pulling the plug! “Talk to your family about it,” he said. For two days his mother called and begged me to perform a healing service, as she had read about my miracle in the Boston newspapers. I informed her that she should go to her parish priest and have him administer the Sacrament of the Sick, as it is far more effective than anything I could possibly do! “Deacons don’t do healing services.” But when she kept on insisting, I had to agree, but I felt so insufficient about this case that I called Fr. Paul Chavasse, asking him if he could send me a small piece of Cardinal Newman’s hair that head talked about, and to my astonishment, he agreed. This was before the exhumation which occurred three years later in 2008. I received the package 4 days later and then went into the Mass General Hospital. I touched Andrew with the relic, he immediately came to life and was released from the hospital two days later!

Another example of remarkable healing approximately two years later was a man from Plymouth, Michigan. He suffered from stage four liver cancer and had only a short time to live. There is no cure for liver cancer, as chemo is ineffective. I performed a healing service from my Church, and a week later he called and told me that he had a cat-scan performed showing that he was totally cancer free!

A few years later I was asked to do a healing service for a young woman in Lavonia, Michigan. She was just married and was diagnosed with very aggressive leukemia. I immediately flew out to Michigan and conducted a healing service. A short time later she called me saying she was pregnant and totally cancer free!

A few years later I was asked to perform a healing service in Fort Thomas, Ky. While waiting to do the healing service that evening, I was requested by her parents to perform a healing service upon their daughter who was in the ICU unit at a nearby hospital. She was dying from congestive heart failure. A short time later she wrote informing me that she was released from the hospital the following day with no heart

problems at all!

She wrote a lovely letter thanking me. Later that evening I blessed a woman, who was one of the organizers of my trip to Fort Thomas. After I blessed her with my relic, she then asked me if I could possibly bless her a second time for the benefit of her brother, who couldn't be present. He suffered from total blindness as the result of an auto accident when he was only three years old, some thirty years ago. And I blessed her a second time for her brother, as there is no limitation in time and space regarding divine actions. The following morning her brother called her and said, "Sharen, I can see! This was investigated by agents of my first publisher!

In 2010, I prayed to Cardinal Newman during his Beatification Mass for a woman who had a rare and incurable disease whose infected feet swelled progressing up both legs, a description of it I discussed earlier in this treatise. The infection generated tremendous heat so she had to put both of her feet in buckets filled with ice to help curb the tremendous pain generated by the infections. Again there was no cure for this illness! When I returned home I was informed by her and her mother that they both watched a live broadcast of the Mass on EWTN. During the Mass they observed the healing process actually taking place! Good flesh was covering over that which was infected! She was totally free of this terrible disease by the following week, and was able to walk a few weeks later.

During the Canonization of Cardinal Newman in 2019, I was asked to pray to Cardinal Newman for his intercession for a young girl only six years of age, who had recently been diagnosed with stage three aggressive brain cancer by an MRI just prior to the Canonization Mass. I prayed for her during the Canonization Mass on Sunday. The following day on Monday after the canonization Mass, she had another MRI indicating that all the cancer was gone! She has had MRI sessions every 6 months, ever since, showing no cancer. I have been called by the family to continue to pray to Cardinal Newman for her before each of these sessions!

In 2024, I got a phone call from a police officer in NJ asking for my prayers. It seems he had fallen from a ladder cleaning his gutters from the second story of his home.

His injuries were so serious that he had to prematurely retire, thereby reducing his pension! After I prayed to Cardinal Newman with my relic in hand on the telephone, he received immediate healing and was able to return to the force the following day!

Only a few weeks ago [Oct. 2025] I got a call from a friend and fellow deacon Joe Kane residing in Conn. about his brother Kevin, who lives in Tenn. He was found lying unconscious after two days, and then rushed to the University Hospital in Knoxville. He was experiencing some disturbing symptoms. After some blood work and a spinal tap performed at the ICU unit in the Hospital, he was diagnosed with brain meningitis, a deadly disease! His prognosis was very poor! I immediately prayed to Cardinal Newman for his intercession on Kevin's behalf over the phone holding my relic. Twelve hours later Kevin's wife called my friend Diacon Joe, and said that there was no sign of bacterial meningitis and that he was responding to simple commands and now has full and complete mobility. He was discharged from the hospital three days later. Kevin also said to his brother Joe that he can't remember how good he now feels and that he can do things from a physical perspective that he couldn't do before! His doctor told him that he "has absolutely no explanation for his sudden healing, other than it was a miracle!"

2, The Second proof of my continued communion with St. John Henry Newman involved my intimate collaboration with Melissa Villalobos residing in Chicago regarding her miracle, leading to his Canonization. [2013-2019]

A cat-scan in 2013 indicated that a super dense cyst had developed on her kidney and the pathologist was certain that it was malignant in view of its density. He wanted to do a Pet Scan which would confirm his diagnosis, but Melissa was pregnant at the time and couldn't undergo this procedure. She subsequently prayed to Cardinal Newman and the ultra dense cyst was gone. Unfortunately they come and go. Then a month or so later she experienced a severe miscarage with uncontrollable bleeding, which was getting worse day by day. The doctors could do nothing for her but order complete bed rest. But how can you get bed rest with 4 children, the oldest being 6! Then when she felt

that all was lost, for both herself and her and the baby, she prayed to Cardinal Newman and the bleeding stopped immediately! She was examined by her doctor that same afternoon, who said that everything was OK with both her and the baby!

Melissa thought she had experienced sudden healing after praying to Cardinal John Henry Newman and decided to seek the assistance and advice of her parish priest, who was also her spiritual director, about filing a petition with the Causes of the Saints, believing it was a miracle, but she was totally unfamiliar with the process. Of all people His name was Father C. John McCloskey! He was an Opus Die priest, who was previously the director of the Catholic Information Bureau in Washington, and was later transferred to The Archdiocese of Chicago. Fr. C. John said that he was ill equipped to handle this, but advised her to, “Seek the help of my dear friend, Deacon Jack Sullivan. He’s been through it and is familiar with the process.” He then gave her my phone number. She immediately called me asking for my help. Recall, it was Fr. C. John McCloskey that first introduced me to Cardinal Newman, leading to his first miracle, and his beatification. And now he introduced me to Melissa, leading to the second miracle, and Newman’s canonization! A coincidence or a sign from God! She immediately called me asking for help with her case.. This now began a close relationship, as we communicated with one another at least once a week. I assisted her with her doctor, and helped put all the evidence together. I also frequently visited her and her wonderful family when touring the mid-western states conducting healing services. I was subsequently named a God parent to one of her children at his baptism, whose name I also suggested, “John Henry!”

When we were ready to mail the petition, I was told by Peter Jennings that everyone at the Causes of the saints who had assisted me in my case had retired. The only alternative was to mail the same directly to Cardinal Amato, the Prefect of the Causes of the Saints. I explained to Melissa that this would be a problem as he gets hundreds of mail daily, it seemed unlikely he would ever get it, but we had no other alternative! Then within moments after hanging up the phone I with Melissa, I got a call from Dr. William Thomas, whom I didn’t know, calling from Dublin, Ireland. He asked for my

prayers to Cardinal Newman, as he was about to restore Newman's college in Dublin, and had an appointment with the Pope authorizing this conveyance. He told me he was a doctor of theology and taught at one of the major seminaries in Rome for 30 years. As he was familiar with the routine in Rome, I asked him how I could best ensure that Melissa's petition would reach the Prefect of the Causes of the Saints, Cardinal Amato? He then responded, "send it to me!" "Why you," I replied. Then he said, "While in Rome waiting for my appointment with the Pope, I'll be staying at the home of my dear friend of many years, Cardinal Amato! We taught together at the same seminary." I'll hand deliver the petition to him, and then call you to confirm that he got it!"

One final sign from God certifying my intimate involvement in the second miracle occurred that Sunday morning of the canonization Mass of Cardinal Newman. There were over 100,000 people converging on Saint Peter's Square at the same time. They had only 30 metal detectors so the lines were extremely long. When we arrived Carol picked out the closest line. And who was immediately ahead of us in line, but Mellisa and her family! We came from different cities, left for Rome at different times and stayed at different hotels! And the chances of Melisa meeting us this way was 100,000 to one. Again, sign from God?

I'm told by one of the theologians at the Vatican that I am the only person that was intimately involved in both miracles leading to the sainthood of an individual in all of Church History!. But this anomaly is facilitated by the fact that there were only nine years between the two events. Usually, there are hundreds of years between them!

3. What evidence do I have to show that my communion with St.

John Henry Cardinal Newman is ongoing with me?

I frequently speak to him asking for his prayers and intercessions. But does he actually speak to me? My ongoing communion with St John Henry Newman is in fact a reality! I ask for his intercessions with Almighty God for so many of his children who are wounded with trials, disease, and afflictions! And in return, St. Cardinal Newman speaks to me, via insights! Why are so many people incredulous, even surprised at this

possibility? Why do so many people refuse to believe that God and/or his saints care enough to return our pleas and converse with us? Again, how can the saints in heaven, being bathed in the light of God's limitless love, be oblivious to our needs? The mutual bestowal of love between the Persons of the Father and that of the Son must of necessity be replicated between saints in heaven and us on earth! After all, didn't the Father send the Son to bring repentance and restoration to humanity and at great sacrifice to him? Recall that the word "communion" is defined as a communication or dialogue between two persons and isn't God's love limitless?

Didn't Jesus himself say, "I have come to bring freedom and peace to the lowborn and sinners. I have not come for the righteous" How can we find it so difficult to believe that the saints do, in fact, speak and guide us to truth, freedom, and peace! If a person says it's never happened to me. **MAYBE THE PROBLEM IS NOT WITH THE SAINTS, BUT WITH US!** I repeat **MAYBE THE PROBLEM IS NOT WITH THE SAINTS, BUT WITH US!** Perhaps our ability to receive the love and communications of God and his saints is blocked by our tarnished consciences and the allurements of this broken world as well as attitudes of self preference, born of secularism and self love.! Therefore, we can easily block a saint's communications and disclosures to us!

To authenticate that the saints indeed do communicate with us, consider our Blessed Lord's commandments "to love God with all our hearts, with all of our mind, and with all of our strength." In addition, we are also commanded to love our neighbor, not as we wished to be loved, but as Christ loves us! If Christ loves us, who are we to do less? We are called to practice pure, and unconditional love, wherever we find it! And if we are called to love one another as Christ loves us, doesn't God's love also involve his communicating with us or through one of his saints? How can God love us and not communicate with us, or engage in conversations with us? Isn't communicating an integral part of loving and being loved? I love my son Brian and daughter Jennifer, and because I love them, I always look forward to speaking with them!

So, my ongoing communion with St. John Henry Newman is evidenced by the fact that I pray for his intercessions for myself or others, and he, in return, speaks to me via

“insights!”

These insights can be explained as follows: When we pray silently, the words that come from us are as clear and distinct as if we were praying out loud. In this instance, the words are ours, because they come from us. However, when Cardinal Newman speaks to me, they are like silent prayer, and are as clear and distinct as if I were praying aloud. The big difference is the words are not mine! **THEY ARE HIS!** Most of the time they come suddenly regardless of what I am doing at that moment! Ever since my miracle, Cardinal Newman helped me through many obstacles, trials, and afflictions. He has also helped me rather dramatically in the preparation and typing of both books together with the preparation of my third book, which is currently being printed entitled “The Tie between Violence and Values.” In it I discuss the true causes of violence in our society today, which are not temporal but spiritual in nature! The problem is if we cast aside the spiritual factor from our vocabulary and society, we are left riveted in only earthly, temporal measures. It diminishes our judgment and overall perspective. Then we are also left seeing everything merely from a tangible, earthly perspective! And how can we understand and resolve spiritual problems when we are only left with the ability to see only temporal or earthly solutions? It can’t be done! Truly, Heart speaks to Heart; the Father to his Son, the Son to Cardinal Newman, and Cardinal Newman to me!

Finally, recall what I said at the beginning of this treatise, how can the saints, being bathed in the light of God’s love, possibly be oblivious to our petitions and needs! And we see this reality most vividly portrayed in the Apostles Creed as part of the Rosary and one of the official prayers of the Church! I am writing these books and conducting healing services to hopefully bring some measure of God’s love, comfort, and peace to those who may not be aware of it, and to those who are suffering, and to bring the light of God’s love to so many out there, who may be languishing aimlessly in darkness! They don’t have to suffer or be left in this state! I know what it’s like being overwhelmed and engulfed in sin, for I was once there myself!

May God bless you all.