



2018
LCUSA NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY
PITTSBURGH, PA.
Sept 21 & 22nd

"DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THINGS WILL ALWAYS BE AS THEY ARE NOW"

- **Room Rates:** \$139.00/night—Make your reservation by calling 1-800-325-3535 ask for Ladies of Charity Room Block or use the web site:
<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1803141272&key=BD73839>
- **Registration:** Registrations must be in by Aug. 1st. Forms on pages 10 & 11 or Register online:
aic.ladiesofcharity.us-assembly2018/
- **Tours:** Thursday—Sept. 20th—8:00 a.m. Flight 93 Memorial Tour Leaves Hotel
9:00 a.m. St. Anthony Chapel Tour Leaves Hotel
 Registration Form for tours on page 9
- **Bridges Out of Poverty Presentation:** –Thurs., Early Afternoon (time to be announced) - No Charge
- **Friday:** Keynote Speaker: Rev. Richard Gielow, CM—Where Does The Road Ahead Lead You
Apostolic Reflection: Sr. Elysse Staab, DC—Finding God in the Experience
Recruiting the Youth: Kat O’Loughlin—A Seat at the Table; Engaging Young Adults
Workshops: Rosa Davis, P.O.W.E.R.—Embracing the Future Through Recovery
Sr. Catherine Higgins, CSJ—Ministry of Presence
Sr. Sandy Pelusi, RSM—Use of Music to Relax & Refresh
Mr. Chris Roach, Operation Safety Net -Hope For People Experiencing Homelessness
(Workshops will be repeated twice so each person may attend 2)
Late Nite Catechism—7:30 p.m. Presentation included in registration fee
- **Saturday:** Presenter: Rev. Joseph Mele—The More Things Change; The More Things Stay The Same
Presenter: Sr. Paule Freeburg, DC—Heroine of our Past, Model for our Future
Closing Speaker: Rev. Richard Gielow, CM-
- **Mass:** Will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Fri. and 4:30 p.m. on Sat. (fulfills Sunday obligation)
- **Rosary:** Fri. & Sat. mornings at 7:00 a.m. Sat. will be a Patriotic Rosary
- **Continental Breakfast:** Fri. & Sat. included in registration fee
- **Banquet:** Sat. after Mass. **(START GETTING READY TO MAKE THOSE COOKIES!)**

59TH PITTSBURGH LADIES OF CHARITY INVESTITURE



Once again we have invested over 100 new members into the Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity. This is the highlight of the year for Ladies of Charity in Pittsburgh. New members commit themselves as Ladies of Charity and the already invested members make a recommitment. This day is etched in each lady's heart and memory. That is why it is so important for each individual to be present at her investiture and we discourage having a proxy.



Pictured on the left are newly invested members, Winnie Rossmont, Diana Saunders and Irene Hearn from St. Mary of the Mount LOC. Winnie and Irene are members of the deaf community of Pittsburgh and Diana interprets for them at their LOC meetings.

Congratulations go out to all LOC members who received the Diocese of Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity Service Award medal for 25 years of service. We thank you for your many years of love and good works.



The families of Grace Eckhardt and Annette Scheid were present at this year's Investiture. They were given Service Award Medals to honor their mothers. Grace was very instrumental in the development and formation of the Ladies of Charity in Pittsburgh. She also served as National LCUSA President. Annette was a strong leader who stepped up as Chairman of the Board after Grace passed away, and continued to lead the Diocesan Board and the Emergency Trust Fund for the Elderly.



This was our second year having the banquet at the Rodef Shalom Synagogue in Oakland. What a beautiful facility! Old friends spent some time together again, some met new friends, and we all enjoyed each other's company. The food was good and we were entertained by a barbershop quartet + some. Lucky members won baskets filled with all kinds of goodies and we all went away with the wonderful memory of another Investiture Day.





UPDATE FROM ST. MARIA GORETTI
LADIES OF CHARITY



Spreading Christmas cheer, the ladies of Charity of St. Maria Goretti parish sponsored a gift giving project to help a family with two young children, a newborn baby and a six year old. Winter coats, clothes and diapers and toys were provided for the children along with some other family presents. The principal of St. Maria Goretti School delivered the presents to the family.



The Mario Lemieux Family Center of the Children’s Home of Pittsburgh benefited from the generosity of the St. Maria Goretti LOC with their gifts for the home’s “wish list”.

Newborn and children’s clothing were distributed as well as Barbie dolls & clothes, baby dolls, Legos, textured and light up balls, musical & educational toys, Elmo toys, hot wheels, trucks, puzzles, reading books, CD books, coloring books, and art supplies.

ST. MAURICE LADIES OF CHARITY—PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The Ladies of Charity of St. Maurice Parish have once again donated multiple Prayer Shawls to shooting victims. Prior to Thanksgiving fifteen Prayer Shawls were donated to the families of the murdered victims in Sutherland Springs, Texas.

More recently Prayer Shawls were donated to the shooting victims in our very own community. On December 7, 2017 four Prayer Shawls were given to the Social Work Services of the Woodland Hills School District. Social workers will present these Prayer Shawls when visiting the families of the four young students from the Woodland Hills School District who were all shot in the same week. As Woodland Hills Superintendent, Alan Johnson, said in an automated call to district parents that the week following Thanksgiving was “the most difficult week in the history of Woodland Hills Schools.” Four young students were shot and two of them died as a result of their injuries during that week.



Another Prayer Shawl was given to the Woodland Hills School District on January 10, 2018 for the family of Jo Lawrence Stewart, who was a seven year old student from Wilkins Elementary School and shot to death with his father on December 26, 2017. Sadly, another Prayer Shawl was given to the family of a seventeen year old Woodland Hills High School student shot on his way to his bus in East Pittsburgh on January 10, 2018.



CORPUS CHRISTI LOC **“THE GIVING TREE” AND MORE**

For the last six years the parish “Giving Tree” has been a project of the Corpus Christi Ladies of Charity. The gifts from the tree helps support the Boys & Girls Club of McKeesport and the First Steps Parenting Program of Allegheny County. This year three families enjoyed the fruits of their labor. Dinner and desert were served to the families prior to the opening of the gifts. Tears were seen in the women’s eyes when one little girl opened a robe and said, “Somebody loves me”.

The joy of the season was shared with parishioners who are homebound or in nursing facilities. The ladies made visits to these people and presented them with a Christmas card and a gift bag containing, a ceramic cross, a picture of the church’s nativity scene, candy and homemade cookies.

The ladies also placed a mailbox in their church with a listing of the names and addresses of those homebound and in nursing homes. Members of the congregation then were able to send cards so that no one would be forgotten during the holiday season.



ST. BERNADETTE JUNIOR LADIES OF CHARITY



The Junior Ladies of Charity of St. Bernadette Parish in Monroeville are not letting any grass grow under their feet. This newly formed Junior Ladies group has jumped right into their ministry.

The pictures on the left shows the girls preparing sandwiches that were taken downtown to the Red Door to distribute to the homeless who come knocking on that door. On the right the girls are seen busy filling backpacks to help with a parish drive to supply men’s belts and personal care products for needy men and women.

Congratulations goes out to St. Bernadette ‘s Junior Lady of Charity Clara Eileen Almeter, who graduated this year as Valedictorian from Serra Catholic High School.





BUSY DOING THE WORK OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ARE THE HOLY REDEEMER LADIES OF CHARITY, ELLWOOD CITY

SPIRITUAL

- Lead Divine Mercy Chaplet before each weekday Mass
- Divine Mercy Ministry for the sick and dying
- Lead rosary on first Saturdays & Marian feast days
- Distribute Eucharist to those in nursing & the homebound

DAYS OF LEARNING & REFLECTION

- Tour of Felician Sisters Mother House in Beaver
- Day of Recollection in April
- St. Anthony Chapel, Troy Hill
- Padre Pio Relics Mass
- St. Faustina Divine Mercy Play, at Mater Dolorosa
- Diocesan Women's Conference, Cardinal Wuerl H.S.

SERVICE TO SICK & NEEDY

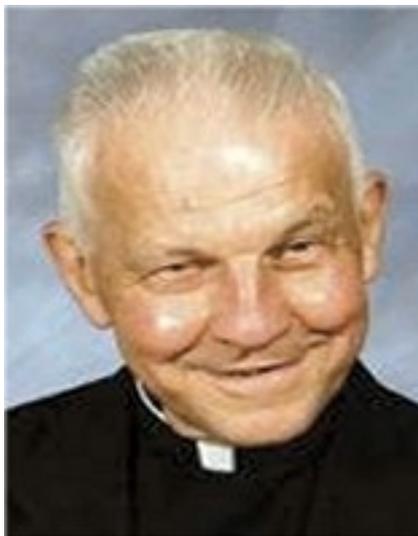
- Social Services food pantry & garden to feed the poor & hungry
- Mother Theresa Hospice
- Shining Star Giving Tree
- Christmas & Easter gifts & cards for the homebound & nursing home parishioners
- All Occasion Cards sent to members of community for special occasions

Besides all of the activities listed above, the ladies from Holy Redeemer LOC have helped with the 2018 National Assembly by purchasing Ornaments that the fundraising committee had on sale. These were given as a thank you to those who helped the Holy Redeemer Ladies of Charity with their endeavors. By this participation in our fundraising endeavors, the 2018 Assembly Committee has been able to lower the assembly registration fee with the hopes that more of our ladies will be able to attend both days of the assembly in September.

Pictured below are the Holy Redeemer Ladies of Charity preparing for some events and enjoying themselves at others. A special salute to Angie Varrato on the celebration of her 99th birthday!



A PAGE OF SADNESS & JOY



Father Ed Litavec

This page of our newsletter is a page of both sadness & happiness. We are sad because Father Ed Litavec who had been serving as the Diocesan Ladies of Charity Spiritual Advisor is no longer able to serve us in that capacity due to his health issues. It was a joy having Father with us for our many functions and he was always there to help us solve some of our problems. We will miss you Father Ed, but never forget you



Father Jim Gretz

and the love and happiness that you brought to our ladies. We will all keep you in our prayers and hope we get to see you from time to time. For those who wish to send Father Ed a card here is his address: Sisters of The Divine Redeemer, 999 Rock Run Rd, Elizabeth PA 15037.

Now we count our blessings and are happy to announce that Father Jim Gretz has been appointed as our new Diocesan Ladies of Charity Spiritual Advisor. Father Jim is the pastor at All Saint's Parish in Etna and has been very supportive of the Ladies of Charity. Father Jim attended our 2016 LCUSA National Assembly in New York and sat in on our first Lay Vincentian Moderator formation session. He is very knowledgeable about who the Ladies of Charity are and of our Vincentian roots. Father Jim has also been involved with the Ladies of Charity Investiture Masses at St. Paul Cathedral. We are truly blessed that he is able to join us as our Spiritual Advisor. Thank you for joining us in our ministry, Father Jim. God is good!

ON MISSION FOR
THE
CHURCH
ALIVE!

The recent announcement of the groupings of our parishes and the new assignments of our priests and deacons has caused some people to feel sadness and some joy. How is this affecting us as Ladies of Charity? It should only affect us in a positive way. We will be going from 70 associations to 37 but our numbers will stay the same and quite possibly have the opportunity for us to bring in new members from the parishes without Ladies of Charity who are joining those parishes that do have Ladies. We have to remember that we are Ladies of Charity and act with charity among each other. No group is any better than another. We have been doing our work for the past 400 years and the work is not going away. What we have been doing is still there to do. We may find we have more people to work with us now and we may find ourselves doing things that other groups have been doing that we didn't do. Remember you do not have to do everything your group does. you do only what you yourself are able to do. Some ladies can do more than others and that is ok. Some groups may already be thinking of how they will reconstruct themselves as they merge with another one or two associations and some may still stay individual groups for awhile. Whatever situation you find yourself in make the best of it. Through the intercession of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise de Marillac & St. Elizabeth Ann Seton God will take care of us and we will continue on as we always have.

LADIES OF CHARITY CAREGIVING



STARTING IN PITTSBURGH

The Ladies of Charity, founded 400 years ago by St. Vincent de Paul in France, began by caring for the sick. At this time in our history a great need exists, which takes us back to our roots. Many members in our society are living longer but are debilitated and need help with their day-to-day living. Others are chronically ill or have a disability and wish to live as full a life as possible. These individuals have much to teach us about courage, endurance, strength and what it means to be human.

Our health-care system is excellent in providing acute, short-term care but there are insufficient resources available for long-term care. Studies show that we will need 1.8 million more home care workers in the near future. The call of the Ladies of Charity is to recognize need and to respond. Ladies of Charity Caregiving, Inc. aims to provide quality care for clients in need, and quality jobs for caregivers. Together we can make a difference.

The LCUSA is beginning this non profit home health care business with the goal of opening many offices across the United States. Pittsburgh has been chosen as the site for launching the pilot caregiving office.

At our March President's meeting members of the Ladies of Charity Caregiving Executive Committee joined our members to introduce them to the new Ladies of Charity venture (or you might want to say adventure). Starting in Pittsburgh makes sense as we represent the largest organization of Ladies of Charity in the United States with more than 1500 volunteers serving the diocese. Grant money has been obtained to get this project off the ground. An administrator has been hired and she will soon be looking to hire interested and qualified people for caregiving positions. An advisory committee of qualified Ladies of Charity has been established to give assistance, and advice to the administrator. There will be a liaison from the Advisory Committee to keep the Diocesan Board informed on the progress and needs of this company.

The Caregiving initiative is scheduled to be launched sometime this summer, providing homecare for clients and families on a private pay care model with a sliding scale for clients and above-market compensation for aides.

What is asked of you? You can be as involved as you want to be. It is hoped that the ladies in the diocese will be able to help refer clients who have a need for home health care. You may know of people whom you visit or fellow parishioners who are in need of this service. If you yourself are interested or if you know of anyone interested in a job as a home health caregiver your recommendation of that person would be most welcome. There may be volunteer opportunities available once the office is up and running that will interest you.

As soon as all the definite information is available, it will be provided to all Ladies of Charity Groups and sent to parishes in the diocese. Keep on the look out for this information and give some thought and consideration if this is something that might be a part of your calling as a Lady of Charity. There will be a segment at the 2018 National Assembly about Ladies of Charity Caregiving, Inc. As stated by Marilyn Martone, Chairman of the Executive Caregiving Committee, "Although we will only open one office at a time, our eventual goal is that when someone, anywhere in the United States, thinks of quality, compassionate, holistic, mission-driven homecare, they think of the Ladies of Charity."



LET US PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED MEMBERS

Doris Benick – Corpus Christi

Helen Kiebart – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Antoinette Carrozza – St. Patrick, McKeesport

Jacqueline M. "Jackie" Mastrocesae – St. Irenaeus

Laurita Churma – St. Therese of Lisieux

Dorothy McClelland – Our Lady of Grace

Margaret Conway – St. Louise de Marillac

Virginia Myers—St. Columbkille

Anna Della Salla – St. Joseph, Verona

Margaret O'Malley – St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Sister Jane Fadgen, Moderator – St. Raphael

Patty Ondash– Immaculate Conception, Washington Pa

Emily Febrarro - St. Paul Cathedral

Pearl Pavelko - St. Mark

Maureen Foreman – St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Veronica Rearick – St. Joseph, Verona

Angela Gogniat – St. Bernadette

Mary Jane Scholl – St. Sebastian

Agnes Guzewicz – Corpus Christi

Fran Stilz – All Saints

Barbara Hirst – St. Raphael

Nancy Strueber – St. Sebastian

Betty Ann Horensky – Corpus Christi

Janet Thomas – Corpus Christi

Mary Ihrig – St. Bernadette

Rose Venanzi – St. Dominick of Molokai

Margaret Kearns – St. Maurice

Irene Vogt – Resurrection, Brookline

Mary Ann Kernan – Risen Lord

Helen Yurko – Good Shepherd



“Those who love the poor in life will have nothing to fear in death, as I have seen on many occasions myself.”

St. Vincent de Paul

2018 LCUSA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Ladies of Charity Remember the Past; Embrace the Future

"Do not believe that things will always be as they are now"

St. Louise de Marillac

TOUR REGISTRATION FORM

Thursday, September 20, 2018 – Two Options

Registration Deadline is August 10, 2018

Please type or print clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Association: _____

() Flight 93 Memorial No. Persons _____ x \$70.00 = _____

() Saint Anthony Chapel No. Persons _____ x \$55.00 = _____

Amount Enclosed: \$_____

Make checks payable to **Ladies of Charity**

Mail registration form with check in full payment to: **Ladies of Charity**

**111 Boulevard of the Allies
Pittsburgh Pa. 15222**



Ladies of Charity Remember the Past; Embrace the Future

"Do not believe that things will always be as they are now"
St. Louise de Marillac

September 20th, 21st, & 22nd, 2018
Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel at Station Square
300 W Station Square Dr

Please make checks payable to LCUSA and mail this form to

LCUSA National Service Center
c/o Ashley Larson
2816 East 23rd St.
Kansas City, MO 64127

Please print or complete online. Send e-mail to office@ladiesofcharity.us

Name _____

E-Mail _____

Phone # _____

Address _____

City-State-Zip _____

May we publish your contact information in the assembly roster? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Name only

Your LCUSA Region _____ Mid-Atlantic _____ North Central _____ Northeastern _____ Southern _____ Western

Please check below all that applies to your current status:

CITY ASSOCIATION STATUS: _____ President _____ Officer _____ Member _____ Vincentian Spiritual Advisor/Moderator

_____ Individual Member _____ Lady of Charity Junior Lady of Charity Moderator

HOTEL CAN ACCOMMODATE ONLY 400 ATTENDEES EACH DAY

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE BASIS

Please complete registration Worksheet

Registrations must be in by August 1, 2018

Full Assembly Registration Includes— \$175.00 \$ _____

- Bridges Out of Poverty Seminar
- Will attend _____ Yes _____ No
- Breakfast—Friday and Saturday
- Plenary Sessions and Workshops—Friday and Saturday
- Box Lunch on Friday
- Late Nite Catechism Presentation on Friday
- Banquet Dinner w/cash bar on Saturday

**Due to the generosity of an anonymous donor we have been able to reduce full registration fee for this year.*

Thursday Only Includes—

- Bridges Out of Poverty Seminar (No charge)
- Will attend _____ Yes _____ No

Friday Only Includes—

- Breakfast
- Plenary Sessions and Workshops
- Box Lunch
- Late Nite Catechism \$ 90.00 \$ _____

Saturday Only Includes—

- Breakfast
- Plenary Sessions
- Dinner w/cash bar \$100.00 \$ _____

Saturday Evening Only Includes—

- Mass**
- Dinner w/cash bar** \$ 80.00
- \$ _____

Guest : Name _____ \$ 80.00

Association of Ladies of Charity
Diocese of Pittsburgh
111 Boulevard of the Allies
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOARD MEETINGS

Saturday, July 14, 2018
St. Paul's Seminary
9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 11, 2018
8:15 a.m.
St Elizabeth of Hungary

Saturday, September 14, 2018
St. Paul's Seminary
9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 12, 2018
St. Paul Seminary
9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP

Saturday, August 11, 2018
9:00 a.m.
St. Elizabeth of Hungary

2018 Annual NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Sept. 21— Sept. 22, Pittsburgh Pa.
Sheraton at Station Square

PRESIDENT'S MEETING

Saturday, November 10, 2018
St. Bernards
9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

SUBMIT ALL ARTICLES & PARISH NEWS TO:

**Ladies of Charity
Attention: DeMarillac News Editor
111 Boulevard of the Allies
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222**

OR

Send by e-mail to locnewsletter@gmail.com

Please note: THANK YOU, ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED YOUR ARTICLES AND PICTURES. KEEP THEM COMING. THE NEXT ISSUE SHOULD BE OUT IN OCT. OR NOV. DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES AND PICTURES IS FRIDAY, SEPT. 28, 2018

REMEMBER TO

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.locpgh.org

