

Fall Issue DeMarillac News

Ladies of Charity Remember the Past, Embrance the Future "Do not believe that things will always be as they are now"

St. Louise de Marillac



LESS THAN 11 MONTHS AND COUNTING 2018 LCUSA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY **SEPTEMBER 20, 21, 22 2018** SHERATON HOTEL AT STATION SQUARE

YOU ARE THE HOSTS—ARE YOU READY!

YOU ARE HAVING GUESTS COMING SOON. You don't have to change the sheets on the beds, or get the house cleaned, but you **DO HAVE TO BAKE COOKIES**, comb your hair, and put on a welcoming, happy smile. You will be welcoming over 200 guests. Since the house is too small, they will meet you at the Sheraton Hotel at Station Square. Some will be arriving on Wednesday, September 19th and others on Thursday, September 20th. These guests will be traveling from California, Utah, Texas, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Tennessee, Alabama, South Carolina, Florida, Louisiana, Ohio, Washington DC, Maryland, New York, and Massachusetts. They have heard so much about Pittsburgh and the great time that was had here in 2009, they can't wait to get here and meet all of you, see our beautiful city and experience another outstanding LCUSA National Assembly. **Sooo** there is a lot of work we have to do as a Pittsburgh family to prepare for our special guests.

We have less than eleven months to get ready. Each and every one of you are an important part of putting this all together so it runs smoothly. We want everyone attending to receive special attention and get the best out of all that will be offered. This will be an important time in all of our lives as changes from the Church Alive On Mission will also be happening in our parishes. Let's not let that interfere with our own mission of putting on the best assembly ever. Remember this, no matter what changes we may face as a parish we are all still Ladies of Charity and we will go on and do what we have been doing for 400 years no matter what. We may have to change a few things within our groups, but we can do that and we can make our groups stronger than they ever have been. That being said, here is how you can help right now. Along with the 200 women who will be coming from other states, we have our own 1,400 + women right here in Pittsburgh who we want to also be a part of and to enjoy this assembly. On the pages at the end of this newsletter is a survey that explains what we hope to be offering. It would be very helpful if we had some idea how many Pittsburgh women plan on attending the assembly. It will help us in knowing how to arrange the tours, set up meeting rooms and to prepare enough materials, food, etc. that will be needed. It will help us work on the traffic flow of the people moving from place to place. Please take some time to fill out the survey and send it back to the CORE Committee.

Some of you have already signed up to work on committees. You will be contacted as these committees start their planning and preparation. We are going to request that all groups bring displays of their activities as has been done in the past for workshops. We would like someone from each group to be at their display to answer any questions attendees may have. Designated times will be set for this. We also plan to have an LOC choir to sing at our Masses and prayer services. If you would like to join the choir let us know. You can contact us via our web site locpittsburgh.org; call the office 412-456-6924 (leave a message, your call will be returned); or send an e-mail to locnewsletter@gmail.com. DON'T FORGET THE SURVEY



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HERE IS THE FUTURE OF THE LADIES OF CHARITY

St. Bernadette's Monroeville PA

Livia Chase
Clara Eileen Almeter
Madison Long
Rebecca Whealdon
Emma Whealdon

St. Angela Merici White Oak PA

Schae Tatkus-Binger Natalie Makovics Lauren Makovics

St.Catherine of Sweden Allison Park PA

Marissa Canzian Emilia Chrismer Ciara Evans Martha Amelia Lacek Gabrielle Nellis Katrina Schwab Lillian Wolfe





Diocese of Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity are so proud and blessed to congratulate our newly invested Junior Ladies of Charity. In early 2017 St Bernadette's Parish started a new JLOC group. Three moderators got together, Katherine Schuetz, Christine Gurski, and Margaret Bent, and planned a pizza party. Ten girls attended that first pizza party meeting. On Sunday October 1, 2017 eight girls were invested as new JR. LOC. St. Angela Merici Jr. Ladies of Charity joined in the Investiture with the St. Bernadette girls and three new girls were invested into the JR. LOC at St. Angela's.

The girls participated in the Mass as readers and carried up the gifts. The Mass was presided over by Father Anthony Gargotta, who was very welcoming and made it a very special ceremony for the girls. What a wonderful witness for the entire church to see these young ladies dedicate themselves to serve the needy. Each girl received her cross and a red rose. The Ladies of Charity from St Bernadette's parish provided a wonderful reception afterwards for all attending the Investiture Mass.

October 29,2017 St Catherine of Sweden Parish invested 7 more new JR. LOC at their 6:00 p.m. Mass. Father Steven Neff , Pastor presided and presented the girls with their crosses. Again this was another chance for an entire parish to witness the Investiture and be made aware of the JR LOC presence in their parish

Three other Parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh are also planning to start new Junior Ladies of Charity groups this coming year.





ALL SAINTS CELEBRATE 40 YEARS AS LADIES OF CHARITY



The Ladies of Charity from All Saints Church in Etna celebrated their 40th Anniversary at a Mass, presided by Administrator Rev. Doctor James R. Gretz on Saturday, October 28, 2017. The current officers Co-Presidents Debi Katich and Ramona Piotrowski; Vice President Dolly Chavez, Secretary April Giel and Treasurer Karen Tomaszewski renewed their commitment as Officers of the Parish Association and all the members present at the Mass renewed their commitment as Ladies of Charity. Sister Mary Victor, SC the Diocesan LOC Spiritual Moderator gave a very informative and heartwarming talk on the life of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. A special presentation was made to Anna Mae Kenst as the longest living member (invested in 1978) of the All Saints Parish Association. A delicious breakfast provided and served by the members was held after the Mass.



ALL SAINTS LOC MAKE YEARLY VISIT TO RACHEL'S GARDEN

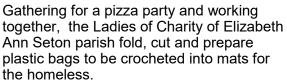
Before making their way to the top of the hill to the St. Vincent de Paul monument on the site of the unclaimed dead, the All Saints Ladies of Charity make a yearly visit to Rachel's Garden. Rachel's Garden is a burial site for children.



BUSY LADIES AT ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON









ST. CATHERINE OF SWEDEN JUNIOR LADIES OF CHARITY

A little spring/summer remembering from the Junior Ladies at St. Catherine of Sweden.

- Easter Egg Hunt for preschool found the girls preparing and hiding the plastic eggs. One girl dressed as the Easter Bunny. The girls really enjoyed sharing this time with the children. Admittance for this event was a donation for the food bank. So while working with their young parishioners they were also helping the hungry.
- Girls provided baby sitting service for parents attending the parishes Discovering Christ program.
- Some of the girls recently went to Appalachia. There, they repaired homes, did some roofs, siding, ramps, etc.
- A baby shower for Genesis of Pittsburgh in August. Everyone was asked to bring a baby gift for Genesis and the girls planned games and desserts.
- They go to the Orion Nursing Home (a home for Alzheimer's and dementia patients) monthly to help the residents play bingo.

These are just a few examples of how these JLOCs use their talents to serve the needy wherever they are needed.









ST. THOMAS A' BECKET 25+ YEARS SERVICE AWARDEES

At the June celebration of the Ladies of Charity of St. Thomas A' Becket parish Rev. Daniel Maurer, pastor, presented nineteen Ladies of Charity the Diocesan Service Award Medal which was presented to Ladies of Charity who have served 25 years or more. The original presentation was held during the 2017 Diocesan Investiture dinner in April. Receiving this award for St. Thomas A'Becket are as follows: Top Row—Theresa Soffa, Barbara Terihay, Mary Ann Nelis, Sandy Como, Chona Arriola, and Father Daniel Maurer, First Row—Arlene Bredel, Dolly Schalles, Lois Breisinger, and Carol Maola, President. Seated—Elissa Sichi and Sister Mary Judith, SCN, Spiritual Moderator. The other nine are not shown.

ST. THOMAS A' BECKET MAKE PILGRIMAGE TO THE SISTERS OF DIVINE REDEEMER IN ELIZABETH, PA

The Sisters of the Divine Redeemer are one of the many congregations of religious women and men that we are blessed to have in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. This international religious order has a community in Elizabeth, PA. The Motherhouse is home to 17 spirit-filled women who have dedicated their lives to Christ and His Church, in the pattern of their foundress, Venerable Alphonse Marie Eppinger. July 31, 2017 marked 150 years since this holy woman fell asleep in the Lord. To celebrate her life and the founding of the Sisters of the Diving Redeemer, The Vatican has recognized a special Jubilee period of celebration for the Sisters. **AND**, those who visit them at their Motherhouse and pray with them during this special period have the opportunity for a special indulgence.

Sister Alojziana, Regional Superior of the Sisters of Divine Redeemer invited the parishioners of St. Thomas A' Becket for a time of prayer to receive this special indulgence. The Ladies of Charity and their van driver made this special pilgrimage on May 23, 2017





'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

LET US PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED MEMBERS

Alice Frankwitt—St. Mary of the Mount
Christian Kail-St. Benedict the Abbot
Janice LeWinter—St. Angela Merici
Virginia Myers—St. Columbkille

Helen Olearchick—St. Alphonsus

Millie Orpikowski— St. Thomas a' Becket

Pearl Pavelko—St. Mark

Margaret (Margie) Rea—Resurrection, Brookline

Mary Lou Roos—St. Alexis

Ann Ruffing—St. Bartholomew

Mary Salamancha—Risen Lord

Dolores Snyder—St.Columbkille



CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES

Congratulations & best wishes to Sister Rosemary Fleming, former Spiritual Moderator to the Diocesan Association of Ladies of Charity.

Sister Rosemary celebrated her 50th anniversary as a Sister of Charity of Seton Hill this past summer. Sister worked with the Ladies of Charity for over thirty years before retiring to the Motherhouse in Greensburg, Pa.

We can never say "Thank You" enough for her time and guidance.

She will forever be in our prayers.







Congratulations & best wishes to Father Robert Boyle. Father was Spiritual Advisor to the Diocesan Ladies of Charity for a number of years.

Father started his retirement this summer.

As our Spiritual Advisor he was always present with us for Investitures & Workshops and always the 2nd Sunday in November for Cemetery Sunday (even if there was a Steeler game).

Father will forever be in our prayers

After a cold, blustery week, all arrived at Calvary Cemetery for our annual service for the Unclaimed Dead to find the weather, sunny, a little chilly, but no wind. Once again our ladies gathered to pray for the Unclaimed Dead. Father Ed Litavec and Sister Mary Victor were there to lead us in our prayers. All who were there knew that was just where they were supposed to be at that time on that day. If you've never been to this service, you might want to consider coming next year to share in that special feeling.

WE PRAY FOR ALL THE UNCLAIMED DEPARATED SOULS







Receive our prayers, dear Lord, for those who have none to pray for them. They departed this life without loved ones to mourn their going. We implore you to stretch forth your paternal arms to those forgotten ones and bring them into your celestial abode of happiness, light and peace. Amen

PITTSBURGH & DC MEET IN EMMITSBURG

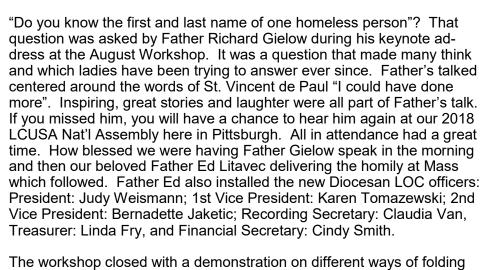
Ladies of Charity from Pittsburgh, Washington DC and Maryland met this October in Emmitsburg to join in celebrating the 400th anniversary of the Ladies of Charity on the site of one of our Vincentian patrons, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. The ladies had free time to visit the grounds, pray at the Basilica, and visit the grotto at Mt. St. Mary. They enjoyed lunch together and then joined in a closing Mass before boarding their respective buses to head back home.

A few quotes from the ladies:

- "What still amazes me is that a saint lived and walked on the grounds".
- "What an uplifting day! So much peace and serenity.
- "I always get a feeling of contentment when I am in the company of my fellow Ladies of Charity".
- "I loved the Grotto and the sacred feeling when visiting".
- "Our patroness and role model".
- "Spending time with our LOC's meant so much".
- "I'd go back in a heart beat if we do this again".



2017 WORKSHOP "I COULD HAVE DONE MORE"



The workshop closed with a demonstration on different ways of folding dinner napkins.

napkins



A very good President's meeting was held at St. Columbkille on Sat., Nov.4th. Laura Vincente, Executive Director of the Family Promise program and Sandy Mertens of St. Benedict the Abbot who has worked with the Promise program gave a very informative presentation. Those who received grant money from the Hager Grant reported on their projects. The board gave reports from all working committees and an update was given on the progress of the 2018 LCUSA Nat'l Assembly which Is being hosted by all

who receive this

newsletter.

MADONNA/WORD OF GOD PICNIC & BINGO FOR P.O.W.E.R

LOC of Madonna/Word of God held a picnic/bingo this fall for the women in the recovery program at P.O.W.E.R. (Pa Outreach for Women in Early Recovery). The P.O.W.E.R. residence is on the Word of God parish property and the LOC are there to give a hand up when needed. When their schedules allow, some P.O.W.E.R residents go with the LOC and volunteer at the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank.



WELL ATTENDED





2018 LCUSA NAT'L ASSEMBLY

Once again Pittsburgh had a contingent of members attend the Nat'l Assembly in Kansas City. The main focus of the 2017 Assembly was to celebrate our 400th Anniversary as Ladies of Charity. Sister Joyce Rupp was the Keynote speaker. There were many other interesting speakers on the program. Pittsburgh also had it's time in the limelight inviting all to come to Pittsburgh in 2018 where we will host next year's assembly. Our ladies were dressed in black & gold, wearing Pittsburgh aprons, babushkas, waving terrible towels and passing out black & gold smiley cookies. Our special Pittsburgh video was shown while the cookies were being passed. The tours, the speakers, the meals and all the fun we had in between made this a very special experience with all our friends from across the United States. An excellent Assembly!



VINCENTIAN LAY SPIRITUAL MODERATOR FORMATION PROGRAM

Pictured to the right is the first graduating class of the Lay Vincentian Moderator Formation Program. Peggy Keene & Judi Damon were among the first women who attended this class after the 2016 Assembly. Peggy belongs to Madonna/ Word of God LOC and serves as Spiritual Moderator for St. Mary of the Mount LOC. Judi is a member of Transfiguration LOC and also serves as their Spiritual Moderator.







Pictures to the left and below is the Lay Vincentian Spiritual Modertor formation session that was held after the Assembly in Kansas City. Nancy Bianculli and Mary Diaddigo both of Madonna/Word of God LOC attended this class and will be mentored throughout the year. They will received their certificates at the 2018 Nat'l Assembly.

Ladies of Charity are encouraged to pray and discern if you feel the call to be a Vincentian Spiritual Moderator. Most LOC groups have been spiritually led by a religious sister. Like some of the rest of us our spiritual moderators are getting older and retiring or they just aren't in our parishes anymore. So we are searching into our own groups, looking for women to fill the role of LOC Vincentian Lay Spiritual Moderator. Anyone interested in taking this Lay Vincentian Moderator Formation Session which will be held the Sunday morning/afternoon and Monday morning following the 2018 Assembly. This is a great opportunity for Pittsburgh women. You will be able to take this class without having to travel. Grant money has been obtained so there is no charge for participating in the formation program. If interested call the office 412-456-6924 and leave your name and number. Peggy will return your call to give you more information.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY AT ST. MAURICE









On November 15, 2017 fifteen Prayer Shawls from the St. Maurice Ladies of Charity Prayer Shawl Ministry were packaged and mailed to Texas to be given to family members of a deceased victim of the mass shooting which occurred on Sunday November 5, 2017 at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. Mr. Michael Hoffman, one of the funeral directors in nearby San Antonio, Texas, whose Funeral Home, Mission Park Funeral Chapels South, had volunteered to donate coffins to these families, was kind enough to say that he would try to get the shawls to family members in Sutherland Springs for us. Like all Americans we wanted to do something to help these families. We hope that our Prayer Shawls bring them some comfort.

What is a Prayer Shawl Ministry? The Sisters of Mercy in Pittsburgh began a Prayer Shawl Ministry in 2003 based on one started in 1998 by Janet Bristow and Victoria Galo in Hartford, Connecticut. The Pittsburgh version spread into many parishes in the Pittsburgh Diocese. On April 6, 2006 under the direction of Bernadette Ogurchak the Prayer Shawl Ministry began at St. Maurice Church in Forest Hills, Pennsylvania. Approximately ten women mostly Ladies of Charity members but anyone can join this ministry meet twice a month to pray for and finish shawls that are made at home. At each meeting women finish the knitted or crocheted shawls. To finish a Prayer Shawl means symbols are tied on each shawl. The symbols include A Cross to represent God in our lives. An Angel to remind us of our guardian angel who protects and guides us, Three beads which represent the Blessed Trinity, A feather which reminds us of the Holy Spirit, A Silver Thread which reminds us to look for a silver lining behind every cloud and finally, A Seashell to remind us of our Baptism. The finished shawls are then blessed and each recipient of a Prayer Shawl is prayed for by the ministry members. Prayer Shawls can be given for any number of reasons. Most are given to those who are sick but they can also comfort a person during time of bereavement or they can be given to a newborn or a pregnant mom. Some have been given to brides, or for birthdays, graduations, retirements, or maybe just to say "I care about you". Prayer Shawls are given free of charge to anyone who would like to present them to a loved one. Donations of money and yarn are used to cover the cost of making the shawls. As of this date over 1300 Prayer Shawls have been given away in our parish. Many blessings are "knitted into every shawl" we make.

MADONNA/WORD OF GOD LOC & JR. LOC WORKING TOGETHER



Junior Ladies of Charity and the LOC from Madonna/Word of God worked together making blankets that were added to KB's Chemo Care Kits. The kits were delivered to the children at St. Jude's Children's Hospital in Memphis, TN.







SURVEY FOR 2018 ASSEMBLY

Because we have the largest number of Ladies of Charity in the United States it is difficult for us to know the number of attendees we will have at the 2018 LCUSA National Assembly. It will be most helpful if you take some time to fill out this survey and return it to us in some manner either via mail or e-mail. At this time we don't know what the assembly fees will be. There will be activities on Thursday, Sept 20, Friday, Sept 21, Saturday Sept. 22, and possibly on Sunday Sept. 23. Tour days will be Thursday & Sunday and those charges will be on an individual tour basis. There will be daily rates for Thursday, Friday and Saturday if you choose to only come on certain days. There will be a rate to include the entire assembly and closing banquet and there will be an individual rate for the banquet only.

Hotel room rates are \$139+tax/night. Rooms are available for single, double, triple or quad occupancy and of course the more people you have staying in your room, the more you are able to split the cost. The cost is available during the assembly days plus three days prior and three days after the assembly.

accombly days plas ands days prior and and	any - and and	
Do you anticipate staying in the hotel at any () Yes		after the assembly?) No
THURSDAY:		
Bus tour to St. Vincent's College for Mass Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville. Cost aro () Mos	und \$55—\$60 all inclu	
St. Anthony's Chapel on Troy Hill. The hom-	e of the largest collecti	from the one above. This tour will include a visit to ion of publicly venerable Christian relics in the world)Will Not Attend
Getting Ahead in a Just Getting by World. T people from the community to address & findment to better understand their current living for a "Future Story".	This program deals with discolutions. Brings und gronditions, communit	Vincent de Paul program "Bridges Out of Poverty & learning the causes of poverty and how to attract der-resourced individuals together in a safe environy resources (or lack of) and to develop their own pla (i) Will Not Attend
4. There will be a "Meet & Greet" at the hote If you are not staying at the hotel, would you	l in the early evening posterior	probably lasting until 9:30pm or 10:00p.m.
FRIDAY:		
Opening Mass—8:30am. Father Ed. Lita () Mos	avec homilist. If you st Likely to Attend (are not staying at the hotel are you ()Will Not Attend
 Keynote Speaker—Father Richard Gield Panel Discussion Box Lunch—Regional Meetings Speaker (to be announced) () Mos 	7. 8.	Workshops (to be announced) Dinner on your own Presentation of <u>Late Nite Catechism</u> Will Not Attend
SATURDAY:		
If You are not staying at the hotel 1. Prayer Service 2. Presentation - Father Joseph Mele 3. Presentation—To Be Announced 4 Business Meeting & AIC Presentation 9 Cocktails 10 Banque		Lunch on your own Speaker—(to be announced)3 Closing Presentation—Father Richard Gielow, CM Closing Mass—Bishop Zubik—Presiding
() Mos	st Likely to Attend ()Will Not Attend
Do you anticipate attending the entire assembly? or a single of	day? or j	ust the Mass & banquet?

Please mail survey forms to the office—Ladies of Charity, 111 Blvd of the Allies, Pittsburgh Pa. 15222 OR Association of Ladies of Charity Diocese of Pittsburgh 111 Boulevard of the Allies Pittsburgh, PA 15222

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOARD MEETINGS

Saturday, January 13, 2018 St. Paul's Seminary 9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 10, 2018 9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
St. Paul's Seminary
Saturday, March 10,
8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m.
Venue to be announced
Saturday, April 13 2017
St. Paul Seminary
9:30 a.m.—12:00 a.m.

PRESIDENT'S MEETING

Saturday, March 10, 2018 9:30 a.m.—12:00 a.m. Venue to be announced

2018 INVESTITURE

Sunday, April 29, 2018 3:00 p.m. St. Paul Cathedral

2018 ANNUAL WORKSHOP

Saturday, August 11 2018—8:30 a.m. St, Elizabeth of Hungary , Baldwin, Pa.

2018 Annual NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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

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

<u>Please note</u>: THANK YOU, ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED YOUR ARTICLES AND PICTURES. KEEP THEM COMING. THE NEXT ISSUE SHOULD BE OUT IN MAY DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES AND PICTURES IS FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2017

REMEMBER TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE www.locpgh.org