



Archdiocese of Washington Ladies of Charity

“To Serve Rather Than Be Served”
In Humility, Simplicity and Charity

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Spiritual Moderator
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As we look forward to a New Year, it is important to acknowledge those who helped us as Ladies of Charity. There have been a number of past presidents of the Archdiocese Board who have shared their experiences and encouragement. There have also been a number of Ladies who have provided feedback and have been a sounding board regarding ideas and goals, and who have offered their assistance. As Ladies of Charity our decisions must first be based on the teachings of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise de Marillac and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. As Ladies of Charity we are called to see Christ in others and they should see Christ in us.

We experienced the loss of our former Spiritual Advisor, Reverend Carl Dianda this past September. So many Ladies of the Archdiocese paid their respects and his family was deeply touched by their gestures. A number of Ladies also transitioned during this year who contributed many years of service to our organization. They Will Be Missed.

The year of 2016 ended with a new beginning as over 175 Ladies of the Archdiocese of Washington and members of the Vincentian Family gathered at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the beginning of the 400th Anniversary Celebration. The main celebrant was His Eminence Cardinal Donald Wuerl. The Mass was televised live on EWTN which enabled Ladies of Charity from all over the country to share in our experience and to let others know who we are as Ladies of Charity. The National President of the Ladies of Charity USA, Mary Ann Dantuono, along with your President of the Archdiocese of Washington, participated as Gift Bearers for the Mass.

The year 2017 promises numerous activities acknowledging our mission and deepens our knowledge of what it means to serve with a Vincentian Heart. A number of activities will be taking place to help with that goal in mind. I will be traveling to France in March to participate in the AIC celebration in the small village where the Ladies of Charity began. On the National level a documentary will be completed and shown at the Assembly in Kansas City and will also be on PBS featuring members of the District Unit and Calvert County Ladies. A Memory Book will be provided to all who attend the National Assembly in Kansas City with stories written by Ladies of Charity sharing their journey in becoming members. The Archdiocese of Washington along with the Mid- Atlantic Region Ladies of Charity are hosting a meeting at the Shrine of St Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, MD, on Saturday, October 7, as part of our local celebration of the 400th celebration of the Ladies of Charity. Please consider attending one of these events to learn more about the Ladies of Charity which is a part of what has become a larger organization as a result of the prayers and works of Ladies like you.



In the Spirit of St Vincent and St. Louise,
Viola A. Johnson-Robinson,
President Archdiocese of Washington Board
Ladies of Charity 2016-2018

St. Ignatius Loyola Fort Washington, MD

As we close 2016 and welcome 2017, the Ladies of Charity at St. Ignatius have had a year with much success in helping the underprivileged in our area.



The year began with a baby shower to help the Forestville Pregnancy Center. Our sewing group supplied us with an overwhelming amount of handmade blankets, sweaters, hats, and booties. We also collected diapers, clothing, and baby toiletries. This is our 3rd year for this baby drive and we are very happy with the amount of goods we were able to give to the Center.

Our Lenten food drive was very successful and we were able to deliver 66 bags of food to our local area food bank in March.

Our June meeting was the installation of our new board members.

Diana Gritz President, Lynette Smith Vice-President (and our past president), Linda Wilkinson Secretary, Maggie Edmonson Treasury were installed in a ceremony with Deacon Clark Glenn.

Summer brought our 2nd food drive for St. Ignatius feast day and benefited Holy Family parish in Hillcrest Heights.

As we headed into the fall and a new school year began we collected school supplies that went to two of our area schools.

For our Thanksgiving food drive, we delivered 140 bags to Assumption Outreach.



And to close our year we held our first fruit drive fundraiser. Though many of our ladies helped with our drives this year, I want to especially thank one of our members, Jackie Chancio and her husband Joe. Without their dedication, planning, and very hard work with our school and fruit drives, we could not have been as successful as we were.

What lies ahead for 2017 is yet to come but as president and the great support of all our members, I know we can achieve great things to help our neighbors

in need

By: Diana Gritz, President, St. Ignatius Loyola



LOC ADW Board of Directors, Executive Committee: Father Philip Simo, OSB, Spiritual Advisor; Gloria Lessington, 2nd Vice President; Robin Hutchinson-Cole, Corresponding Secretary; Mary Louise Hand, Immediate Past President/Acting Treasurer; Viola Johnson-Robinson, President; Donna Fisher, Recording Secretary; Sr. Sandra Goldsborough, D.C., Spiritual Moderator. February 4, 2017, Providence Hospital Chapel.

WELCOME TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE ADW BOARD

Recording Secretary
Donna Fisher

Corresponding Secretary
Robin Hutchinson-Cole

Public Relations
Robin Parker

LCUSA Middle Atlantic Region
Director
Deborah Self

A Family Called “Holy”



Our hearts were warmed when we contemplated the Christmas manger scene—Jesus, Mary and Joseph, a new family, a Holy Family.

Pope Francis says that most families do not appear perfectly formed. Families need constantly to grow and mature in their ability to love.

Cardinal Carlo Martini suggests four proposals to all families: First, Strive for good understanding. Reach out in hope every day. “I can change for the better and so can others.”

Second, Look inside yourself. Look at the gifts you have received as well as the gifts others have, especially those whom the Lord has put near you. Each person has within a treasure given to that person by God. It is important to give a hand in making that treasure shine.

Third, Look beyond yourself; go outside the family and open up to the larger community which is given us as Ladies of Charity by God’s loving grace, especially to our brothers and sisters in need. May we never lose heart because of our limitations, or ever stop seeking that fullness of love and communion which God holds out for us.

Fourth, Entrust all concerns to Mary. Invite her into your family. Do not separate Mary from St. Joseph and thus grow closer to the common object of their love: Our Lord Jesus Christ! Become a “Holy Family.”

Spiritual Moderator
Sr. Sandra Goldsborough, D.C.

You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do.

Eleanor Roosevelt

St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families

Members of the LOC ADW including Board members joined the staff, residents, families and His Eminence Cardinal Donald Wuerl at St. Ann's Christmas Open House on December 3, 2016!

The annual Christmas party is a chance for St. Ann's to say “thank you” to their wonderful friends, and to offer them the opportunity to tour the facility, meet residents and chat with their staff.



Pictured are Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, third from left; Sister Mary Bader, CEO St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth, and Families, and several Ladies of Charity, ADW at St. Ann's Christmas Open House on December 3, 2016.

Manifesting the Kingdom

On Sunday, Jan. 8, His Eminence Cardinal Donald Wuerl recognized 156 Catholics from the D.C.-area parishes and community organizations for their exceptional service to the Archdiocese of Washington. The “Manifesting the Kingdom” awards were individually presented by Cardinal Wuerl, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

AND THE AWARDS WAS PRESENTED TO THE FOLLOWING LADIES OF CHARITY, ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON:

- Rosemary Collier, Saint Ignatius of Loyola,**
- Barbara Glover, St. Anthony**
- Carmen Kosko, Saint Matthias the Apostle Church**



Holy Ghost LOC Archdiocese of Washington Create Advent Giving Tree

The Holy Ghost Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington decorated an Advent Giving Tree for local school and community children, in December. The Giving Tree signified a beginning to the Advent season for parishioners to share in the act of giving to brighten the lives of children on Christmas Day. Tags identified sizes for clothing obtained from school counselors and local families. Gifts were delivered on Monday, December 19, 2016. Approximately 80 – 90 tags were on the tree with four envelopes each containing more than one child in a family. Parishioners have requested that any family with more than one child be identified so that comparable gifts are purchased for each of them. The Holy Ghost parishioners have always been so generous in supporting the works of the Ladies of Charity in their support of local community and schools. The gifts reflected a joy-filled and faith-filled Christmas for all involved—including those who gave and those who received



While taking a picture of the gifts for local school children, the Deacon paused to say:
“Yes, the gifts are for the children but the Ladies are the gift to the church.”



Visit our website <http://ladiesofcharityadw.org/> This website is designed to keep you informed about events in our Archdiocese.

Archdiocese of Washington Newsletter:

Please send articles, stories, pictures for the July newsletter. We issue two newsletters, per year. Please share with other LOC ADW members what you have been doing for the 6 month period.

Send articles to:

locdioceseofwashington@yahoo.com

or mail to: Jacqueline Bates, 5523 Center Avenue, Lanham, MD 20706. Be sure to include your telephone number with any mail copy.

BACKPACKS JUST IN TIME FOR SCHOOL

St. Anthony’s Ladies of Charity offers **Backpacks** filled with school supplies to our Food Pantry clients each year. This year we began asking clients in July to sign up for backpacks for their school age children. In the church bulletin, we asked parishioners to donate school supplies. One very generous parishioner donates most of the backpacks, in an assortment of sizes from pre-K to high school and designs appropriate for girls or boys. Our LOC members checked with local schools to see what supplies were needed, by grade level.

By mid-August, we had 126 requests for backpacks from clients and lots of donated supplies and backpacks. The LOC had a “stuffing” party one evening in the church hall; about 20 Ladies were there to help. We used an assembly line approach to pack each bag based on the grade and sex of the child. We loaded the finished bags in wagons and took them to the Pantry House. On the following Sunday afternoon we asked the clients to come to the Pantry House where a dozen LOC members distributed the “stuffed” backpacks to the clients. The kids seemed pretty excited about the new backpacks so it made it all worthwhile!

Back to school we go a-runnin’. We have our supplies, and we’re lookin’ stunning!”



Before



After

By: Susan Wilson, President,
Calvert County Ladies of Charity

”Ladies of Charity: Women of Mercy“



2016

36th Annual National Assembly, Queens, NY

**February Black History Month
Catholic Woman in American History**

The first known African American woman to enter religious life was Nellie Morgan (Sister Clare), who was the sixth member of the Kentucky-based Sisters of Loretto, the first Catholic sisterhood with an American foundation. The daughter of a white man and an ex-slave mother, Morgan passed for white in her order.

Black women also co-founded the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Monroe, Michigan in 1845 and the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania in 1995.

Archives Performance and Plan Report

The meeting of the LOC ADW Archives Committee was held at Saint Margaret's Church- Capitol Heights, MD, in the Archives Room. (Under the leadership of Gloria Rose, LOC ADW Historian and Archives Chair, LOC ADW, the Archives were moved in the summer, 2016, from St. Francis de Sales to their new space at Saint Margaret of Scotland). The second meeting of the Archives Committee was held in October 2016. In attendance were Toni Gaines, Evelyn Nichols, and Gloria Rose.

- File Cabinets are in place
- All records of history received
- Plan of action has been established

Our Goal:

To update and organize a historical directory for the Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington.

Steps needed to meet our goal.

1. List all parishes in the Archdiocese of Washington.
2. List all parishes with Ladies of Charity
3. List all parishes with dates of establishments-chronologically with names of presidents and dates of service.
4. List outstanding accomplishments- locally, nationally and internationally

Volunteers are needed to assist with organizing history files.

Gloria M. Rose
Ladies of Charity
Archdiocese of Washington
Historian



"To Serve, Rather than to be Served in Humility, Simplicity and Charity"

Prince Georges County Ladies of Charity

**Inductees: Sunday, December 11, 2016
St. John the Baptist de la Salle**



Viola Johnson-Robinson, President ADW; Barbara Chotiner, St. Hugh Grenoble; Kathy Simontis, Patty Rowland, Mary Sheridan, Anita Munno, St. Mary of the Mills; Bernice John-Gray, St. John the Baptist de la Salle; Linda Carr, St. Ambrose; Beverly Motley, President Prince George's County

Advocacy Alert

In December 2015, the Senate unanimously passed the Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act, which would require the development of a national strategy identifying ways the community, providers, the government, employers and others can recognize and support family caregivers. The result would enable more people to live at home and prevent costly care and save taxpayer dollars. Roughly 40 million people provide unpaid care valued at about \$470 billion annually, helping adult family members with activities such as bathing, dressing, cooking and managing medications, as well as transportation.

The bill is pending in the House, where AARP and over 50 national organizations have called for action. Ladies of Charity are urged to call Toll Free 844-259-9351; listen to a recorded message from AARP then press "1" to be connected to your representative's office. Urge him or her to co-sponsor the RAISE ACT.

Please remember that Family Caregiving is LCUSA's Advocacy Theme for the next two years. Thank you for making your voices heard.

By Dr. Rita Robinson





Outward Signs of a Special Celebration Year CAN WE COUNT YOU IN?

Lucy Ann Saunders, 400th Anniversary Chair

Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington (LOC ADW) began their anniversary year of celebration gathering on December 8, 2016, in the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception for a noon Mass. In attendance were 175 Ladies and members of the Vincentian Family. This was the beginning of the LOC ADW celebrations uniting and inspiring members to recognize their Vincentian heritage during this special 400th Anniversary year.

What a special feeling knowing that the service the LOC ADW Ladies render today began 400 years ago in a parish community in Chatillon France. Today the Vincentian Family collaborates and serves those in need by advocating for a just society by spreading the Vincentian tradition of hope to all our brothers and sisters around the country and the world.

Let us embrace this special year by focusing on what we are about and how we can continue this legacy of bringing the message of love to all who are looking for a kind face, a smile or a helping hand. Let us as members of the LOC ADW embrace that charity by spreading love and care to those we serve as we reflect on the words of St. Vincent de Paul, "It is certain that charity when dwelling in the soul takes complete possession of all its power." Have you as a Lady of Charity considered the power of charity in your service to others? The LOC ADW Board is asking you and your parish to be a part of this anniversary celebration. Together we will journey in spirit and prayer while recognizing the example given to us as Ladies of Charity by St. Vincent and St. Louise who are counting on you as an outward sign of God's love during this jubilee year, 2017.

Ladies, please email your association members telling them how grateful and overwhelmed I was to have so many Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington present for the December 8 Mass at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception. Approximately 175 were present for the Mass and recommitment ceremony in the Miraculous Medal Chapel. How meaningful and spiritually uplifting it was as His Eminence Cardinal Donald Wuerl celebrated such an inspiring liturgy. It seemed that everyone present could feel the unique closeness of each other and the common goal we all have in serving those less fortunate. Ladies you are very special!! Together we will strive even more to invigorate and invite other Ladies to share in this special ministry. For those of you who could not attend, I have included a couple of pictures taken by both Regina Barrett & Tony Myer (husband of Carol Holy Ghost LOC Member). Even though you weren't there in person, your spirit was felt as you were represented by all of us.

As we continue this journey or maybe we should call it a "pilgrimage", your prayers are needed. A brief article is attached that tries to sum up that special day. Please share it with all your members. The scarves seemed to be pleasing to everyone and can be used in your parishes for Ladies of Charity events.

Thanks again for all you do in sharing yourself and your talents with others.



*Lucy Ann Saunders
400th Anniversary Chair
Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington*

A Special Celebration in the Nation's Preeminent Marian Shrine

The Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington, 175 strong in numbers representing all members of the archdiocese ladies, gathered for the noon Mass at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception on December 8, 2016. The Ladies together with LCUSA President MaryAnn Dantuono, were recognized by His Eminence Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, for their 400th Anniversary. December 8 is very important to the Ladies of Charity as the first association of the Ladies was canonically recognized by Rome in 1617. Being present in the national basilica dedicated to Mary the patroness of the United States under her title of Immaculate Conception enriched this celebration beyond words.

After Mass, the Ladies gathered in the Miraculous Medal Chapel dedicated to St. Catherine LaBoure, St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac. In this Chapel, the Ladies of Charity recommitted themselves to the service of those less fortunate by saying these words, "In the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul, we desire to be a reflection of your loving compassion and of your tender mercy. Mindful of those who suffer many injustices, we will reach out to them in loving service." Once the words of consecration were ended, a gentleman approached Lucy Saunders and asked with tears in his eyes that the Ladies pray for his country of Venezuela. Lucy assured him that the Ladies would keep him and his country in prayer. It is now being asked of you, all of you as Ladies of Charity and Vincentian family members, to pray for this special intention so that peace and comfort will find its way to the country of Venezuela, especially to this man who heard us pray that we may be mindful of those who suffer many injustices because we will reach out to them in loving service. What better way to respond to this man's humble request than to bring those words to reality through prayer.

Reflecting on this gathering that culminated with this unexpected request, December 8 encompassed all that is and has been happening in our lives as Ladies of Charity. Celebrating together in what is often referred to as America's Catholic Church whose surroundings entwine the fabric of the Catholic faith and the mosaic of our great nation, was very spiritually rewarding. For the Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington this is just the beginning of a pilgrimage for all of us to focus on prayer and thanksgiving for 400 years of saying "yes" to the call of St. Vincent.



*Lucy Ann Saunders
400th Anniversary Chair
Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington*

The Ladies of Charity Archdiocese of Washington celebrated the opening of their anniversary year on December 8, 2016, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, at the noon Mass. In attendance were the Ladies of Charity USA President Mary Ann Dantuono, 175 Archdiocese of Washington Ladies of Charity, and members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Daughters and Sisters of Charity. After Mass, the Ladies renewed their Act of Consecration in the Miraculous Chapel where their founder St. Vincent de Paul's statue can be found.

By: Toni K. Gaines



Picture on Left: Mary Ann Dantuono, LCUSA President (third from left) with several LOC ADW attendees at the Basilica on December 8, 2016. *Picture on Right:* (From Left to Right): Sister Claire Debes, D.C., Dr. Rita L. Robinson, Mid-Atlantic Region VP, Mary Ann Dantuono, LCUSA President, David Barringer, CEO of St. Vincent de Paul, Viola Johnson-Robinson, ADW LOC Board President, and Lucy Saunders, Former LCUSA President and 400th Anniversary Chair, LOC ADW.

DID YOU KNOW?

Archdiocese of Washington Ladies was started in 1962 under the direction of Washington's Catholic Charities and formed as the Archdiocesan Ladies of Charity Central Council. The Executive Secretary Katharine V. Nally was appointed by the Spiritual Director James F. Montgomery & the Executive Director was Mrs. Carmine S. Bellino. This was the beginning of bringing the Ladies of Charity in the Archdiocese together.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE ON LOC ADW BOARD:

Two positions are available on LOC ADW Board – 1st Vice-President & Treasurer. Why not share your talent by offering to serve in one of these positions. As mentioned in the bible, let your light shine and not hide it under a bushel basket. Fulfill the motto, “to serve rather than be served”. For more information contact LOC ADW President Viola Johnson-Robinson at vvv3john@aol.com.

LADIES OF CHARITY
ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON



PERPETUAL ENROLLMENT OF DECEASED MEMBERS
2016

NAME OF MEMBER	DATE OF DEATH	CHURCH
1. <i>Patricia Mehalic</i>	<i>December 1</i>	<i>St. Mark the Evangelist</i>
2. <i>Jessie Harley</i>	<i>November 24</i>	<i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</i>
3. <i>William Brown</i>	<i>September 29</i>	<i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</i>
4. <i>Ruth S. Block</i>	<i>October 20</i>	<i>St. Mary of the Mills</i>
5. <i>Gloria Wilson</i>	<i>September 7</i>	<i>St. Hugh of Grenoble</i>
6. <i>Rev. Carl F. Dianda</i>	<i>September 1</i>	<i>ADWLOC Spiritual Advisor</i>
7. <i>Juanita "Johnnie" DeSimone</i>	<i>August 13</i>	<i>St. Ignatius of Loyola</i>
8. <i>Mary Dorothy Durkin</i>	<i>July 22</i>	<i>St. Jane Frances de Chantal</i>
9. <i>Margaret Callaghan</i>	<i>July 10</i>	<i>St. Mark the Evangelist</i>
10. <i>Ann Gibson</i>	<i>May 26</i>	<i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</i>
11. <i>Annie Smothers</i>	<i>May 14</i>	<i>Holy Ghost</i>
12. <i>Mary Jane Hathway</i>	<i>May 7</i>	<i>St. Jane Frances de Chantal</i>
13. <i>Barbara Barnes</i>	<i>May 2</i>	<i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</i>
14. <i>Jane Parvis</i>	<i>February 19</i>	<i>St. Ignatius of Loyola</i>
15. <i>Caroline Leverone</i>	<i>February 14</i>	<i>St. Anthony of Padua</i>
16. <i>Helen Page</i>	<i>January 11</i>	<i>St. Ignatius of Loyola</i>
17. <i>Barbara Jackson</i>	<i>January 5</i>	<i>St. Margaret of Scotland</i>

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May their souls through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen*

By: Toni K. Gaines



Ladies of Charity
 Archdiocese of Washington
 5523 Center Avenue
 Lanham, MD 20706

Calendar 2017

Ladies of Charity—Archdiocese of Washington

Ladies of Charity Documentary

. Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Anthony of Padua, Archdiocese of Washington Ladies of Charity will be features in the upcoming Ladies of Charity Documentary, "Acting with a Vincentian Heart".

The film is being produced by Joan Ball, Ph.D., St. John's University, and her husband Martin who have been traveling around the United States filming and interviewing Ladies of Charity.

Dr. Ball and her husband Martin spent the morning of December 17th filming and interviewing Our Lady of Perpetual Help Ladies of Charity as they prepared and distributed Christmas Baskets to those in need.

Attendees at the 2016 National Assembly were treated to a preview of the Documentary. We all wait in anticipation for the completed Documentary!

By: Dr. Rita Robinson

May 6

May Day Celebration

10:00 am Mass

St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth & Families

4901 Eastern Avenue

Hyattsville, MD 20782

September 7 – 10

LCUSA National Assembly and 400th Anniversary

Kansas City, MO 64105

October 7

Mid-Atlantic Region LOC

400th Anniversary Celebration

Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

339 S. Seton Avenue

Emmitsburg, MD 21727

December 8

Archdiocese of Washington LOC

12:00 pm Mass (*gather at 11:00 am – lower church*)

Closing – 400th Anniversary Celebration

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

400 Michigan Avenue, NE

Washington, DC 20017