



Archdiocese of Washington Ladies of Charity

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

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Message from the President

There is so much that I want to say and to convey in the space allotted. So, let me begin by wishing everyone a Holy, Happy, and Prosperous New Year! Let us all close our eyes and say a warm goodbye to the year 2013. Thank God for everything that HE has given us; ask for forgiveness for all our mistakes; and lastly, wish for an even better year 2014. This year arrives with hope, and it gives us new courage and belief for a brand new start. The New Year gives us a fresh 365 days to play with--fill them up with whatever our heart desires so that we have no regrets at the end of the annual cycle. Along with all the new hopes and promises that the New Year can bring, I hope it also brings us more opportunities to work together and to carry out the mission and goals of the Ladies of Charity.

As we look forward to the New Year and reflect back on the past year, we have the opportunity to pause and renew our commitments on behalf of our Association, Ladies of Charity. As Ladies of Charity, we need to be women of prayers. St. Vincent de Paul was convinced of the value of prayers: "Give me a praying man/woman and he/she will be able to do anything" (Coste XI, 83; CEME XI, 778).

In keeping with Vincent's attitude toward prayer, we will hold our 2014 Archdiocesan Retreat at St. Joseph's Seminary in Washington, DC, on November 15th. We are eagerly looking forward to a time of prayer and reflection, which we hope will lead us to perseverance in our mission and the strength to get our apostolic work done as Ladies of Charity. This retreat will replace the General Assembly Meeting this year.

I want to take this opportunity to remind you of our Annual St. Louise de Marillac Communion Brunch Celebration which will be held on Saturday, March 15th, at St. Anthony's of Padua, North Beach, MD. A letter will be sent to Presidents and members with additional information concerning this event.

I also realize that this is just January, but it is not too early to begin thinking about and making plans to attend the LCUSA National Assembly. This year the assembly will be held in Milwaukee on September 12-13th. Details on the Assembly will be posted in upcoming issues of the Servicette.

Finally, I want to remind all Ladies of Charity to complete their volunteer hours. This information is needed as Presidents complete their Annual Report Forms.

As I bring a close to my message, I want to leave you with the following poem by Francis Ridley Havergal (1874), called "Another Year is Dawning." His words, I think, aptly echo my sentiments and hopes for our future as Ladies of Charity.

*Another year is dawning,
Dear Master, let it be,
In working, or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.*

*Another year is dawning,
Dear Master, let it be
On earth, or else in heaven
Another year for Thee.*

*Another year of service,
Of witness of Thy love,
Another year of training
For holier work above.*

*Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of Thy face.*

*Another year of progress,
Another year of praise,
Another year of proving
Thy presence all the days.*

Submitted by:
Dr. Rita L. Robinson



Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking (CCOAH) November 9th Meeting

Representing LCUSA at the CCOAHT November Meeting, members agreed on prioritizing two action items for 2014:

1. Advocacy:

- Members agreed to focus on supporting national legislation that combats human trafficking and promotes business transparency in supply chains. One such example would be Rep. Maloney's "Business Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act"
 - Primary target audiences would be legislators, policy makers, CCOAHT member networks, USCCB, and the media
 - Activities for 2014 would include stock taking of current (proposed or being developed) bills supporting our position, identifying legislative allies and targets, educational hill meetings, congressional briefings on key issues, developing action alerts for CCOAHT member networks, and conducting advocacy training webinars for CCOAHT member networks.

2. Education:

- Members agreed to focus on educating Catholics about human trafficking and promoting responsible consumer practices by highlighting exploitative and forced labor practices in companies and their supply chains
 - Primary target audience would be Catholic parishes, schools, institutions, men's congregations, Catholic business owners, and diocesan newspapers
 - Activities for 2014 would include building the speakers bureau, hosting webinars, developing and widely distributing resources and educational materials, and conducting sessions during Catholic conferences, workshops, and gatherings

If you suspect that a child or an adult is a victim of human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1.888.3737.888.

Lucy Ann Saunders
LCUSA Past President

Pope Francis, The People's Pope Time Magazine's 2013 Man of the Year



He took the name of a humble saint and then called for a church of healing. The first non-European pope in 1,200 years is poised to transform a place that measures change by the century with a focus on compassion. The leader of the Catholic Church has

become a new voice of conscience.

Illustration by Bryan Drury for TIME; Photo reference: Alessandra Tarantino / AP

In less than a year, Pope Francis has done something remarkable; he has not changed the words, but he's changed the music. Tone and temperament matter in a church built on the substance of symbols—bread and wine, body and blood—so it is a mistake to dismiss any Pope's symbolic choices as gestures empty of the force of law. He released his first exhortation, an attack on “the idolatry of money,” just as Americans were contemplating the day set aside for gratitude and whether to spend it at the mall. This is a man with a sense of timing. He lives not in the papal palace surrounded by courtiers but in a spare hostel surrounded by priests. He prays all the time, even while waiting for the dentist. He has retired the papal Mercedes in favor of a scuffed-up Ford Focus. No red shoes, no gilded cross, just an iron one around his neck. When he rejects the pomp and the privilege, releases information on Vatican finances for the first time, reprimands a profligate German Archbishop, cold-calls strangers in distress, offers to baptize the baby of a divorced woman whose married lover wanted her to abort it, he is doing more than modeling mercy and transparency. He is embracing complexity and acknowledging the risk that a church obsessed with its own rights and righteousness could inflict more wounds than it heals. Asked why he seems uninterested in waging a culture war, he refers to the battlefield. The church is a field hospital, he says. Our first duty is to tend to the wounded. You don't ask a bleeding man about his cholesterol level.

This focus on compassion, along with a general aura of merriment not always associated with princes of the church, has made Francis something of a rock star. More than 3 million people turned out to see him on Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro last summer, the crowds in St. Peter's Square are ecstatic, and the souvenirs are selling fast. Francesco is the most popular male baby name in Italy. Churches report a “Francis effect” of lapsed Catholics returning to Mass and confession, though anecdotes are no substitute for hard evidence, and surveys of U.S. Catholics, at least, see little change in practice thus far. But the fascination with Francis even outside his flock gives him an opportunity that his predecessor, Benedict XVI, never had—to magnify the message of the church and its power to do great good.

The giddy embrace of the secular press makes Francis suspect among traditionalists who fear he buys popularity at the price of a watered-down faith. He has deftly leveraged the media's fascination to draw attention to everything from his prayers for peace in Syria to his pointed attack on trickle-down economics, which inspired Jesse Jackson to compare him to Martin Luther King Jr. and Rush Limbaugh to wonder whether he's a Marxist. When you are a media celebrity, every word you speak is dissected, as are those you choose not to speak.

Why has he not said more about the priest sex-abuse scandal? Ask victims' advocates. (Just this month, he set up a commission to address the abuse of children by priests.) Why does he not talk more about the sanctity of life? Ask conservatives, who note that in his exhortation, abortion is mentioned once, mercy 32 times. Francis both affirms traditional teachings on sexuality and warns that the church has become distracted by them. He attacks priests who won't baptize children born out of wedlock for their “rigorous and hypocritical neo-clericalism.” He declares that God “has redeemed all of us ... not just Catholics. Everyone, even atheists.” He posed with environmental activists holding an antifracking T-shirt and called on politicians and business leaders to be “protectors of creation.”

None of which makes him a liberal—he also says the all-male priesthood is not subject to debate, nor is abortion, nor is the definition of marriage. But his focus on the poor and the fact that the world's poorest 50% control barely 1% of its wealth unsettles those who defend capitalism as the most successful antipoverty program in history. You could argue that he is Teddy Roosevelt protecting capitalism from its own excesses or he is simply saying what Popes before him have said, that Jesus calls us to care for the least among us—only he's saying it in a way that people seem to be hearing differently. And that may be especially important coming from the first Pope from the New World. A century ago, two-thirds of Catholics lived in Europe; now fewer than a quarter do, and how he is heard in countries where being gay is a crime and educating women for leadership roles is a heresy may have the power to transform cultures in which Catholicism is a growing, even potentially liberating force.

These days it is bracing to hear a leader say anything that annoys anyone. Now liberals and conservatives alike face a choice as they listen to a new voice of conscience: Which matters more, that this charismatic leader is saying things they think need to be said or that he is also saying things they'd rather not hear?

The heart is a strong muscle; he's proposing a rigorous exercise plan. And in a very short time, a vast, global, ecumenical audience has shown a hunger to follow him for pulling the papacy out of the palace and into the streets, for committing the world's largest church to confronting its deepest needs, and for balancing judgment with mercy.

Dr. Rita L. Robinson
(Taken from Nancy Gibbs,
Managing Editor of Time's Magazine)

SATURDAY - MORNING WHISPER



" So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. "

Matthew 6: 2-4

*This is a wonderful passage to remind us
what giving truly is
and how generosity can affect us.
We give because someone is in need; whether anyone
knows of our gift
bears no weight on our decision to show compassion.*

Joy is yours when give from humility.

District of Columbia Parish Units



The District of Columbia Ladies of Charity Parish Units received a Kathleen Hager Grant at the 13th Annual LCUSA National Assembly held in San Jose, CA, from September 19-22, 2013.

Ms. Cheryl Hamlin-Williams attended the assembly as their delegate. She graciously received the check in the amount of \$1,000 from the Middle Atlantic Regional Vice President, Dr. Rita L. Robinson.

The funds are earmarked to support the District of Columbia's service project which provides shoes to kids aged 6-17 throughout the year. Their "Shoes 4 Kids" project was able to provide 58 families with shoes as a result of the Kathleen Hager Award.

**Submitted by:
Toni K. Gaines, President
District of Columbia Parish Units**

Manifesting the Kingdom Awards

Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination as bishop by honoring 201 members of the Archdiocese of Washington with the inaugural Manifesting the Kingdom Award. This honor is given to those who are making a difference in their parishes. This honor was given to three LOC members:

CONGRATULATIONS

Jacqueline Bates, Margaret "Peggy" Campbell and Sherlene Duckett

LADIES OF CHARITY ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON BOARD ELECTIONS

2014 is an election year for Board of Director Officers of the Archdiocese of Washington Ladies of Charity. If you are interested in being a candidate or would like to recommend someone, please email lers@starpower.net or call 301.259.4553. New board members with new ideas and insights are always welcome. Let's us hear from you.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church Washington, DC

The Ladies of Charity (LOC) of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church received funds to enhance its newly expanded food pantry with a 2013 Kathleen Hager Award; assistance from Our Lady of Victory Parish; and with the help of the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington's Parish Partners Program. The Parish Partners program is lead by Deacon James Nalls who was a tremendous help to us. The support received helped our food pantry with the purchase of new commercial shelving, freezers, tables & chairs for clients, transport equipment, and posted signs. We plan to refurbish the handicap ramp when weather permits.

The food pantry serves approximately 280 people weekly every Thursday from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Emergency food bags are kept on hand in the rectory, if food assistance is requested outside the pantry hours of operation. Clients are provided non-perishable food items, fresh produce, bread & pastries, and meats. The bags of food provided should serve a family of four for at least 3 days. Due to the high demand for food assistance, clients are only allowed to utilize the food pantry once a month.

There is a regular volunteer staff of LOC members as well as parishioners who provide service to the pantry every week. We are truly grateful and blessed to have them.

Also, a special thank you to our Pastor, Father Thomas Frank, SSJ, who provided the space to allow us to expand the pantry; and the many organizations of the parish who provided financial support for the ongoing operation of the pantry. May God bless them all for their dedicated service in helping those less fortunate.

Submitted by:
Toni K. Gaines



Holy Ghost Issue, MD



It has been a busy holiday season for the Holy Ghost LOC. At Thanksgiving the ladies gathered and packed enough boxes to feel 63 families. They followed up Thanksgiving with the Christmas Giving Tree. There were 136 presents given to local needy children. Poinsettias were given to all of the shut-ins in the parish. The two local schools received 150 hats, gloves, and scarves for distribution to children in need.

This is an election year for the Holy Ghost association. The election was held in November and the new officers are: Judy Fisher, President; Bobbi Caron and Lucy Saunders, Co-Vice Presidents; Nancy Roach, Treasurer; Judy Cabos, Secretary. Many thanks go out to our past officers for their years of service.

The ladies finished the year with a trip to the annual Christmas Tea hosted by the Jesuits at the Loyola Retreat House in Faulkner. As you can see a good time was had by all.

**Submitted by
Judy Cabos, Secretary**

St. Matthias the Apostle Church Lanham, MD

On June 18, 2013, the Ladies of Charity of St. Matthias Church hosted the June Birthday Party for the residents of Sacred Heart Home in Hyattsville, MD.

There were 42 residents in attendance including the 10 with June birthdays.

Entertainment was provided by the Seasoned Players of Prince Georges County. The residents enjoyed tap dancing routines, favorite old songs, and performances on the piano and violin. The player's eight ladies and one gentleman were attired in sparkly silver and black outfits.

Refreshments of home baked cakes, ice cream, and punch were served. Gift bags were given to each celebrant.

**Submitted By:
Romaine Pinchback**

"God is satisfied with a soul of good will."
-St. Louise de Marillac

St Ignatius of Loyola Fort Washington, MD

The Ladies of Charity at St. Ignatius have been busy with many programs this year. We have had an ongoing campaign to recruit new members. In June we hosted a Tea inviting all the ladies of our parish to join us and see what the Ladies of Charity are involved in.

In July we decided to do an additional food drive for the year. Our parishioners were very generous and the Oxon Hill Food pantry was very appreciative. Their supplies were very low and their demands are very high.

Also, in July we had our annual memorial Mass. We lost 3 of our members this past year. Ethel Hands, who was our long time President, also Evelyn Armstrong and Mary Baumgartner, who were both long time members.

In August we hosted the monthly birthday party that is held at Sacred Heart Nursing Home. Forty-five residents were served a lovely homemade cake made by one of our members, with ice cream and punch. A wonderful magician entertained all. Afterwards he visited with each resident and made them balloon animals. Each birthday person received either a shawl or a lap robe made by the St. Ignatius sewing group. In October, we did a coat drive to benefit local charities. We collected over 50 new and slightly-used coats.



In November, we did our annual Thanksgiving food drive. Once again our parishioners came through for us. The food was delivered to Assumption Outreach in the District. In February of 2014 we are planning a Baby Shower with all parishioners invited to join us for refreshments. Everyone is asked to bring a gift. These baby gifts will be distributed at the March Quarterly meeting.

As we close this year and look forward to 2014, we thank God for our many blessings, and we find ourselves thankful that we as Ladies of Charity have been able to make a difference in the people we try to help that are less fortunate.

**Submitted By:
Diana Gritz**



Visit our website <http://ladiesofcharityadw.org/>

This website is designed to keep you informed about events in our Archdiocese.

**"Proceed quietly, pray a great deal and act together."
-St. Vincent de Paul**

Junior Ladies of Charity St. Margaret of Scotland Seat Pleasant, MD

It is better to give than to receive

To serve rather than to be served is what it means to be in the Junior Ladies of Charity (JLC). I, Jasmine Stokes the second term president, have been an active member in the St. Margaret of Scotland chapter for over five years and have had the opportunity to participate and lead over 50 projects. The 2013 year was very productive for our chapter. The Junior Ladies created a busy schedule of events that spanned the entire year. Members traditionally focus on holidays and events that can make a difference in the lives of the people we touch. The following events are a brief summary of the community service projects that the St. Margaret of Scotland Chapter participated in during the year.

In February the JLC gathered to make Valentine's Day gift bags for children. Bags included stuffed animals, toys, and hand crafted cards.

During the Easter season members prepared various Easter baskets for children that included eggs with candy inside, stuffed animals, and small treats.

For Fathers' Day we donated boxes of toiletries to the local men's shelter.

In August we reached out to our parish in order to maximize the amount of school supplies we were able to collect to ensure that the children of Shepherd's Cove Women and Children's Shelter and the teenagers of the Sasha Bruce Center for runaway teens were able to have a productive 2013-14 school year.

For Thanksgiving the JLC tried to focus on one specific family in our community that we believe deserved the opportunity to have a warm meal on Thanksgiving Day. We cooked, baked, and gathered all types of delicious traditional foods. Then several members of the chapter delivered the items and handmade cards to the family.

We closed the 2013 with our Christmas bake sale to help the chapter raise money for toys for homeless children. Our goal was to top any previous goal for a fundraiser set by original members over the last ten years. With the support of our parish, we were able to raise \$365.50. These funds and donations enabled us to provide gifts for over 70 children ages 1-12 and gift cards for all teenagers in the Sasha Bruce Center.

In 2014 two members of the chapter will graduate from high school and begin their college journey. As they embark on their college years, we know that they will carry on in the spirit of the Junior Ladies of Charity and continue to serve those less fortunate.

**Submitted By
Jasmine Stokes, President**



Saint James Mount Rainier, MD Annual Visit to the Sacred Heart Home

The Annual Christmas Party at Sacred Heart Home in Hyattsville was held on December 17th, 2013, at 2:30. The Ladies of Charity were accompanied by Father Walter, Brother Simon, Brother Andreas, and other members of our church including two little two year olds, Chase and Colin (who stole everyone's hearts). We handed out 100 stockings filled with a Christmas teddy bear, a magnifying glass, a pen, paper, and a religious bookmark. We also presented LED flashlights to the eight residents with birthdays in December.

Since there are several priests and brothers among the residents, it was really great to have Father along. Father Walter had been in Bronx, New York, for several years before coming to St. James, and one of the resident priests was also from the Bronx so they had a great conversation about their mutual parish. Singing, dancing, and good conversation made for a lively and lovely time. Then we all enjoyed delicious cake and ice cream. After the party, all of us went up and down the corridors on the 3 floors giving out stockings to the residents who hadn't made it to the party.

Each year, we say we will come back during the year to visit our new friends, but time gets away from us. This year we will return, God willing.

Submitted By:
Celia Wendel



Ana Higgins, Celia Wendel, Brother Andreas, & Colin Brown



Colin Brown with the gifts for the residents

"Our Lord has no use for our knowledge or our good works if he does not possess our hearts; and even this heart he does not wish if we do not give it to him when he asks."

-St Vincent de Paul

Saint Anthony of Padua North Beach, MD

St Anthony's Ladies of Charity and Junior Ladies of Charity have been busy this past Christmas Season with several projects that have been fixtures on our calendar for a number of years. We began with our Christmas Food Basket Distribution—151 families were given groceries to make a complete Holiday Meal including a 12 lb turkey. The morning of distribution calls many Parish volunteers together, from Daisy Scouts to our most senior supporters, to help the LOC in this distribution as we pack and carry food to our clients' cars. In addition to foodstuffs, thanks to our Junior LOC's hard work, we also offered a visit thru our "Santa Shop." In the Santa Shop, clients could find very gently used toys which had been donated and then cleaned up and ensured operational by our Jr. LOC. There were even some donated adult gifts available (toiletries, clothing accessories, etc.)

The next day, the LOC participated in our Parish's Giving Tree project. Clients from our Pantry as well as from St. Bernadine's Parish in Suitland (whom we sponsor) and from Birthright of Prince Frederick "sign up" to receive Christmas presents. An invitation is extended to the entire Parish to purchase these gifts and bring them back wrapped to the Parish for distribution on the Sunday before Christmas. LOC members purchased gifts and were the "elves" organizing and distributing the gifts to our Pantry clients on that busy Sunday afternoon. In all, nearly 300 folks received donated gifts thru the Giving Tree effort.

Finally, our Junior LOC bake and distribute cookies to emergency services personnel in a project aptly named "Cookies for Cruisers." The young women arrange cookies in holiday tins and distribute the tins to our local state police office, sheriff office, and fire department. It's hard to say who enjoys this more—the givers or the receivers! This year the Junior Ladies added another fun holiday project—they decorated the Christmas tree in our Spiritual Moderator's home, Sr. Ann Parker.

Our holiday projects required an extra burst of energy as we maintained our year-long projects during this busy season as well: weekly Food Pantry food distribution, emergency monetary assistance to the needy and disadvantaged in our community, knitting and crocheting shawls for our Prayer Shawl Ministry, and cooking meals for the homeless shelter Project Echo.

Submitted By: Barbara Glover



Photos from St Anthony of Padua Christmas Basket Distribution December 2013

Ladies of Charity St. Jane Frances de Chantal Bethesda, MD

St. Jane Frances de Chantal celebrated their annual Christmas Party with the residents at Bethesda Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Every Monday for almost Fifty (50) years, the LOC of Saint Jane have faithfully visited with residents, assisted at mass or held communion service at the local center. The Christmas party is always well attended and a fun event enjoyed by many of our friends.

Submitted By:
Maryann Rooney



SUPER BOWL Bound



Prayer of the Faithful for Super Bowl Sunday

FEBRUARY 2, 2014

Loving God, as our nation celebrates the annual Super Bowl event, we pray for those men, women and children for whom the Super Bowl means abuse, exploitation, and entrapment.

For all vulnerable victims of human trafficking, and domestic abuse, we pray...



School Sisters of Notre Dame

Human Trafficking Is Not a Sport

Super Bowl 2014

Human slavery – also known as human trafficking is still happening today!

An estimated 21 million people, including children as young as age five, are trafficked for commercial sex or forced labor across our world today.

Large sporting events, such as the Super Bowl, are known to provide a lucrative market for human traffickers. During the days leading up to the Super Bowl event, Federal, State, and Local Law Enforcement Authorities will conduct surveillance operations in an attempt to prevent human traffickers from conducting their "business."

Faith communities and many civil society groups have been active educating hotel staff and the wider public about human trafficking.

It is our hope and prayer that Super Bowl XLVIII will be a Big Win in our nation's efforts to end Human Trafficking.

PRAYER FOR THE END TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Gen Cariani, SSND

O God, our words cannot express what our minds can barely comprehend and our hearts feel when we hear of children and adults deceived and transported to unknown places for purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor because of human greed.

Our hearts are saddened and our spirits angry that their dignity and rights are being transgressed through threats, deception and force. We cry out against the degrading practice of trafficking and pray for it to end.

Strengthen the fragile-spirited and broken-hearted. Make real your promises to fill these sisters and brothers with a love that is tender and good and send the exploiters away empty-handed.

Give us the wisdom and courage to stand in solidarity with them, that together we will find ways to the freedom that is your gift to all of us. Amen.

Trafficking Information & Referral Hotline 1-888-373-7888



EIGHTY-FOUR YEARS OF VINCENTIAN SERVICE

The Holy Ghost Ladies of Charity, Archdiocese of Washington, lost a special friend, Sister Denise Simms, Daughter of Charity. Sister Denise celebrated her 103rd birthday on November 8 and died on November 12, 2013 in Emmitsburg, MD. Sister Denise and her family were parishioners of Holy Ghost Church, Issue, Maryland. Sister was the eighth child of thirteen. Two of her sisters were also Daughters of Charity and another joined the order of St. Francis.

Visiting Sr. Denise in Emmitsburg was very special to the Holy Ghost Ladies of Charity. She had so much to share about her life and service to the poor during the 84 years she was a Daughter of Charity. As Ladies of Charity, Sister was always anxious to hear about the Ladies service to the local community and how the parish supported their ministries. Sister Denise was a true friend and inspiration to all of us as Ladies of Charity. She will be missed but knowing that she is still with us in spirit will encourage and strengthen each of us as we continue to serve and share the Vincentian spirit in southern Maryland.

Please remember Sister Denise and all the Daughters of Charity who have inspired and mentored us as Ladies of Charity. May she and all the souls of faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

MEMORIES FROM THE PAST & HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Ladies, as we welcome in the New Year let us not forget the memories and friends we made in 2013. With the months and years passing so quickly, it is sometimes hard to keep track of where our energies were spent. Preparing for a new church year that takes us on Christ's life journey, we also have to remember our own life's journey. Have we grown in our faith and actions? Have we thought about what comes next in our lives? Are we ready for change? The answer to these questions will differ for all of us but united as Ladies of Charity we should have a vision for the future.

This upcoming year means election of board members, local officers and commitment of self to continue the ministries we have so gladly served. Facing the realization that we are all getting older, another word would be 'more mature', we need to engage somehow, somehow new faces for Ladies of Charity of the Archdiocese of Washington. Why not share your successes in this area so other local associations can benefit from your experience.

As we look forward to a faith-filled New Year, let us unite in a cause that addresses today's issues of poverty and justice for all those we serve. "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.



Catholic Woman In American History

Lindy Boggs, a former U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See and pro-life Democratic politician, died July 27 at the age of 97, and is being remembered for her legacy of public service.

“We thank God for her life of faith and her life of service to the people of Louisiana and beyond. May she know the fullness of God’s peace and love,” Archbishop Gregory Aymond of New Orleans, Boggs' hometown, said July 27. He offered the “prayers and condolences of Louisiana and especially New Orleans” to Boggs’ family.

Boggs served as the United States’ fifth ambassador to the Vatican, from 1997 to 2001 under the Clinton administration. She died Saturday at her home in Chevy Chase, Md., a suburb of Washington, D.C.

She was born Marie Corinne Morrison Claiborne in 1916 on a plantation home near New Orleans to a prominent Louisiana family, the Washington Post reports. A Catholic, she attended St. Joseph’s Academy in New Roads, LA. She married Thomas Hale Boggs in 1938 and had three children with him. She was a campaign manager for her husband, a successful politician who would go on to become Democratic majority leader in the U.S. House of Representatives.

After her husband’s October 1972 disappearance in an apparent plane crash over Alaska, Lindy Boggs won a special election to succeed him. Both before and after her election to office, she focused on civil rights, anti-poverty efforts, and equal treatment for women. She also had a strong pro-life voting record.

In 1976 she became the first woman to chair the Democratic National Convention. She was considered a possible Democratic vice-presidential candidate in 1984. Boggs believed her stand against abortion hurt her chances, the New York Times reports.

Boggs retired from Congress in 1990. She is survived by Thomas Hale Boggs Jr., a Chevy Chase lawyer and lobbyist, and ABC News political analyst Cokie Roberts. Another daughter, Barbara Boggs Sigmund, a mayor of Princeton, N.J., died in October 1990. Her survivors also include eight grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

"The virtue of gratitude will prepare our hearts to receive the graces we need to serve the sick and poor with meekness and compassion."

-St. Louise de Marillac



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Catholic Charities

You are invited to attend “Networking to Enhance Ministry,” a Catholic Charities gathering of parish priests, staff and volunteers serving those in need. St. Vincent de Paul, Ladies of Charity and Social Concerns Committees throughout the county are invited to attend. Also invited are all parishes and volunteers thinking about starting future ministries to serve those in need.

Networking discussions will enhance our ministries and capacity to serve. Special guests will offer presentations on how to assist the most vulnerable populations in the county, including low-income seniors and the homeless. More details to come.

Thursday, February 13
6:30 to 8:30 pm

St. Joseph Catholic Church
2020 St. Joseph Drive
Largo, MD



SAVE- THE- DATE
November 15, 2014
10AM-4PM

Ladies of Charity
Archdiocese of Washington

RETREAT

St. Joseph's Seminary
1200 Varnum Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017

VINCENTIAN SPIRITUALITY

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR JULY 2014
ARCHDIOCESE NEWSLETTER IS JUNE 15, 2014.
LOCDIOCESEOFWASHINGTON@YAHOO.COM