

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON LADIES OF CHARITY NEWSLETTER

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

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

JANUARY 2024

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON DELEGATION ATTEND BUFFALO ASSEMBLY



Delegation from the Association of the Archdiocese of Washington Ladies of Charity

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

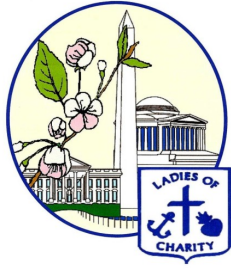
- St. Jane Supports Gabriel Project Cluster
- Farewell Message from Sr. Mary Bader, DC
- OLP Church hosts DC Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Drive
- Calvert County Basket Bingo Fundraiser
- St. Ignatius of Loyola LOC Annual Events
- St. Hugh of Grenoble hosts the PG County LOC Quarterly Meeting
- ADW General Assembly at Franciscan Monastery
- St. Matthias LOC Unite with Knights of Columbus

ADW LOC MEET & GREET AIC INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



Pictured L to R: Guillermina Vergara Macip - AIC Int'l. Vice President, Regina Barrett, Taye de Callatay - AIC Int'l. President, Veronica Neal-Formey and Viola Johnson-Robinson

(story on page 4)



ADW LADIES OF CHARITY 2022 - 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



RELIGIOUS LEADER

Spiritual Advisor

Rev. Michael Barth, S.T.
fr.michaelbarth@trinitymissions.org



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Jamila Stone
jamilastone@aol.com

Vice President

Sharon Graham
Sgrahamie@aol.com

Recording Secretary

Donna Fisher
Starr7564@verizon.net

Treasurer

Toni K. Gaines
tkgaines@msn.com

Correspondent Secretary

Robin Hutchinson-Cole
robinphc2@gmail.com

Immediate ADW LOC

Past President

Deborah "Debbie" Self
yourselfs@aol.com

Junior LOC Moderator

Beverly Motley
cbm460@aol.com

Archivist

Evelyn Nichols
Nicholsenichols@comcast.net

LCUSA Mid-Atlantic Regional Directors

Deborah "Debbie" Self
yourselfs@aol.com

Viola Johnson-Robinson
swmother1@gmail.com

Newsletter

Editor/Layout Designer

Website Manager

Toni K. Gaines
tkgaines@msn.com

Newsletter

Distribution Manager

Jacqueline Bates
JackieWBates@verizon.net

AREA PRESIDENTS:

Calvert County

Kathleen "Kathy" Temple
Kathy.Milor@gmail.com

District of Columbia

Bertha Guerra
Bertha53151@aol.com

Montgomery County

Mary Louise Hand
mmhand@aol.com

Prince George's County

Regina Barrett
rbarrett925@gmail.com

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I am so pleased with all the wonderful service you all have performed throughout the year. Many have been blessed through your efforts. I am proud to be a Lady of Charity and honored to be your President. As we end

the year let us focus on the celebration of our Lord and Savior coming to walk among us, to teach us and to forgive us of our sins.

Through serving others do not forget to love yourselves and your family.

Take time to remember your sisters, the Ladies of Charity during this time who might celebrate alone or in smaller number this year. We come together to serve those in need, then, we part ways. This season I call each of you to find time to pour into each other with just a phone call. We need to care for ourselves and uplift each other providing strength and healing for us all to keep on serving.

Strength, we will need as we prepare to host the National Assembly. That's right! The Archdiocese Ladies of Charity will host the National Assembly in 2025. The work will start after the holiday so if any are interested in helping out please let your unit president know so we can begin to make a list of interested parties. More information to come.

I wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

In Vincentian Spirit,

Jamila Stone

Jamila Stone
2022 - 2024 President
ADW LOC Board of Director

NEW YEAR GREETINGS



The famous author CK Chesterton once said: "The object of a new year is not that we should have a new year, but rather that we should have a new soul." As we enter a new year, 2024, is not simply a time to change the page on the calendar and try to remember to put the correct year on our checks and other things, but rather that we take the opportunity, this sacred opportunity, to change the page on our life and, as Chesterton say, our soul. For us as Christians God is always offering us new moments, new opportunities, to renew ourselves, to set things right and to move forward with new determination and desire. The New Year is a perfect time to do this! We begin the year with the Feast of Mary, as the Mother of God, she who was so key to our Advent & Christmas journey. Let us ask Mary, our Mother, to be our inspiration, our hope, our advocate as we enter this new year with not only resolutions to do this or that, but to have a new soul and a new determination to be good, do good and be a power for good.

Fr. Michael Barth, S.T.
ADW LOC Spiritual Advisor

ADW LADIES OF CHARITY MEET & GREET RECEPTION FOR AIC INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



Daughters of Charity & ADW Ladies of Charity Members

It was such a privileged honor to meet the International AIC President Tayde de Callatay at the reception at St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth & Families. She was the final puzzle piece to the Vincentian Family connection of the Ladies of Charity. She was so very personable and caring. Knowing that the AIC is now present in more than 50 countries with over 100,000 volunteers and We are all of the SAME Spirit, all on one TEAM fight poverty of its many forms. In different ways and different languages and cultures ... but all the same. She was very impressed with all of the units of Archdiocese of Washington.



*L to R: Viola Johnson-Robinson & Debbie Self,
LCUSA Mid-Atlantic Region Directors with AIC Int'l.
President, Tayde de Callatay & Vice President,
Guillermina Vergara Macip*

Calvert County Ladies of Charity gave an awesome presentation, but she listened intently to what each of the areas shared and all were important to her and the Mission we are all together on. I was also very honored that she visited Mount Calvary Church and our Food Pantry. Before closing, I also wanted to mention that there were several Daughters of Charity at the reception and they were so grateful to be invited for what they felt may be a once in a lifetime. Thank you so much to Viola and Debbie for inviting, providing hospitality and transportation for such a memorable event.

Submitted by:
Regina Barrett, President
Prince Georges County Ladies of Charity

ST. JANE LOC

SUPPORT GABRIEL PROJECT CLUSTER

St. Jane de Chantal, Montgomery County Ladies of Charity members held a Baby Shower/Luncheon on October 27, 2023, to gather their donations to the Baby Crib collection in the church's narthex for the Gabriel Project Cluster (www.gpmoco.org) The overall project was organized by the St. Jane de Chantal Pro-Life Committee. The Gabriel Project Cluster of Montgomery County is presently assisting more than 370 very needy pregnant client mothers. Six members each contributed generously to the October 27 crib collection.

Submitted by:
Mary Hand, President
St. Jane de Chantal LOC



(L to R: Margaret Reddan; Merlyn Rodrigues; Young Lee; Joan Muller; Mary Hand)

FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM SISTER MARY BADER, DC



Sister Mary Bader, DC

Greetings from St. Ann's Center! As you are aware, this will be my last holiday season at St. Ann's and my final Sister Mary's Minute! It has been a joy sharing with you all of the wonderful moments and stories. I want to take this moment to say, "Thank You!" The women and children who now have a safe haven and programs to help them learn to manage their complicated lives also thank you. You have been such a great supporter of their journeys toward stability. From the staff, thank you for your gifts of money and your precious time! The impact of both helps St. Ann's succeeding in our mission to build a brighter future for so many.

As we approach the holidays, we celebrate our families' successes. Will you help us create more opportunities for success? The Giving Tuesday campaign is a way to "Give Your Cup" of kindness, which is such a boost – to support their education and life skills for their well-being and their child's. For over 18 years this has been my goal and I know with your continued support St. Ann's Tradition of Caring will continue to provide the safe haven these women and children need.

**Gratefully Yours,
Sister Mary Bader, CEO
St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth & Families**



*Bertha Guerra, DCLOC
President, bids farewell to
Sister Bader at the
2023 Christmas
Open House at St. Ann's*

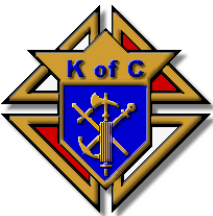
COATS FOR KIDS

On Friday, November 24, 2023, the DC Knights of Columbus held its **Annual Coats for Kids** distribution at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church (OLPH) located at 1600 Morris Road, SE, Washington, DC in the Ward 8 Section of the City.

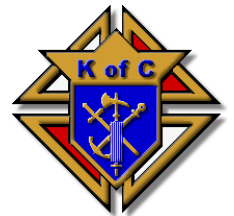
The Most Rev. Archbishop Wilton Cardinal Gregory of the Archdiocese of Washington was on hand to distribute coats to the children. You may have heard that the forecasters are predicting our region of the country to see snowfall totals and winter weather at levels we have not seen in five years. Families throughout the District of Columbia will need warm coats for their children, most especially this year.

The DC Knights of Columbus have historically responded to this need by each year handing out free coats and this year was no exception. The DC State Council distributed the coats for kids to those in need. All the kids were happy with their selections.

Submitted by:
Toni K. Gaines, OLPH Church



KUDOS!!



**DC KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION & SERVICE
TO THOSE IN NEED**

CALVERT COUNTY LOC BASKET BINGO FUNDRAISER

Submitted by: Maureen Hudson

“Margarita Madness”, “We All Scream for Ice Cream”, “Mama Mia Italiano”, and “Bow Wow Wow”. These wonderful gift baskets – and 19 more – were the stars of the newest “food pantry rebuild” fundraiser hosted by the Ladies of Charity Calvert County on Sunday, October 22. The planning for the Basket Bingo began months earlier, spearheaded by a group of eight LOCCC members who canvassed local business owners for donations, researched the rules and variety of bingo games, created a publicity campaign, packaged the donated gift baskets, and inspired an army of other willing volunteers with their enthusiasm and creativity. Their planning and hard work paid off: all 160-plus seats were filled before the first number was called.



“Margarita Madness” Gift Basket

The Knights of Columbus Calvert Council 7870, who have helped us on so many occasions for so many years, donated their labor in the parish kitchen, allowing the Ladies to sell hot dogs, hamburgers, and barbecue, along with snacks, drinks, and homemade desserts. St. Anthony’s Church gave us the use of their parish hall for the afternoon, and the North Beach Fire Department generously loaned us tables and extra chairs. Dave Temple, husband of LOCCC President Kathy Temple, did a stellar job reading out the numbers for each bingo game. Our Junior



Basket Bingo Committee Members L to R: Phyllis Morgan, Peggy Garner, Marie Thomas, Peggy McCaig, Peg Veith (in back), Peggy Edgington, Benita Gale and Kathy Temple

Ladies of Charity were a big help as well, holding up each prize gift basket before a bingo game began and then delivering it to the lucky winner. A 20-minute intermission gave us the opportunity to share with everyone some photos of our food pantry volunteers in action, statistics on how many people we serve, and our need for funds to rebuild our structurally impaired pantry building.

With ticket and refreshment sales, a 50/50 raffle, and raffle tickets for the gift baskets that were not awarded as bingo prizes, the LOCCC earned more than \$7,800 for the afternoon. But perhaps more important, this first Basket Bingo turned out to be a wonderful community event for neighbors, friends, family members, parishioners, and volunteers of all ages. Another one is already in the planning stages!



LOCCC Members Jeanine Haran & Kareem Spain selling 50/50 raffle tickets



LOCCC President Kathy Temple and her husband, Dave Temple



L to R: Prospective Junior LOC Alaya Brandts with Junior LOC members Anastasia de la Cerda and Ella Hilker

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA LOC 2023 ANNUAL EVENTS

As 2023 ends, we at St. Ignatius of Loyola look back at the successful drives that we have sponsored this year.

In January, we did an Epiphany Appreciation Luncheon to thank all our parishioners for all their support in the past year.

In February, we had our Annual Baby Shower to help the new moms at the Forestville Pregnancy Center. With the parish's participation, our sewing group, and all our members, we were able to contribute to Forestville with much needed clothing and baby supplies.

In June, we said goodbye to our Pastor Fr. John Vidal. We presented him with 2 beautiful crucifixes to add to his collection. He was a great supporter of the LOC.



Epiphany Sunday appreciation luncheon to show our gratitude to the parishioners for their donations throughout the year.



Goodbye luncheon for Father John Vidal in June. Presenting him with two crucifixes for his collection.

In July, we celebrated our patron saint, St. Ignatius of Loyola by having a virtual food drive. The money for this drive went to- five of our local food pantries: St. Stephan's, Fort Washington Food Pantry, ICAC, Homeless Outreach, Project Futures, and Holy Family.

In August, we did our Annual School Drive for one of the area schools. Once again, our parish came through for us and we were able to deliver an abundance of much needed school supplies for the children in our neighborhood.

In October, we held our Thanksgiving Food Drive a little early so that the food pantries would have funds for the coming holiday season.

November is the month that we remember the deceased LOC members with a Mass and reading of the names. We lost one member this year, Irene Geron.

Thanks to generous donations, we were able to donate \$1,100.00 in grocery store gift cards to two of our local schools, Samuel Chase Elementary and J. Frank Dent Elementary, to help twenty-two families with their Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners.



Delivery of the school supplies to Samuel Chase Elementary in August.

(cont'd next page)

(cont'd from previous page—St. Ignatius LOC Annual Events)



Christmas meeting luncheon where we packed bags to be delivered to our sick & shut-in within our parishes.



Linda Wilkinson, VP St. Ignatius LOC and Veronica Neal-Formey, VP Prince George's County LOC preparing Christmas gifts for sick & shut-ins.

For December, we did our second Annual Christmas Basket Raffle to raise money for the nursing homes and other charities. Our basket contained a handmade Christmas afghan, \$300 in gift cards and other Christmas goodies.

Our sick and shut-in ministry works all year long with phone calls and cards to brighten our parishioner's day who can no longer attend Mass. They were sent Lent/Easter packages and at Christmas we delivered gift bags filled with goods.

With the help of all our members, including our two new members, we hope to continue the good work the Lord guides us to do.



"Handmade Knitted" donated lap blankets, scarves & hats

Submitted by: Diana Gritz
President, St. Ignatius of Loyola LOC



In Loving Memory of



<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>OF</u>	<u>DEATH</u>	<u>PARISH UNIT</u>
Jean Dodson	Jackson	November 1,		2023	St. Margaret of Scotland
Delores K.	Bryant	September 23,		2023	Calvert County LOC
Florence	Facchina	September 20,		2023	St. John Baptist De La Salle
Irene	Geron	September 9,		2023	St. Ignatius of Loyola

*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*

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE HOSTS PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY LOC QUARTERLY MEETING



On Sunday, September 24, 2023, the Prince George's County, Maryland Ladies of Charity held its first post pandemic in-person new member induction service and luncheon hosted by the St. Hugh of Grenoble Church Ladies of Charity. Over 100 Prince George's Ladies of Charity members and their guests attended. The Prince George's Ladies of Charity members come from Catholic Churches throughout the county and coordinate food pantries, clothes closets and other services for those in need.

Regina Barrett, President of the Prince George's Ladies of Charity, said "how wonderful it was to again meet in person to induct 14 new members and to share a meal together as a community". Mrs. Barrett thanked the St. Hugh of Grenoble Ladies of Charity for hosting the event. Michael Brooks, St. Hugh Archdiocesan Deacon Candidate, presided at the service. Mr. Brooks encouraged the ladies "to maintain their faith and good works in these very challenging times."

Submitted by:
Mary Ann Tretler, President of St. Hugh of Grenoble LOC

(Cont'd from previous page)



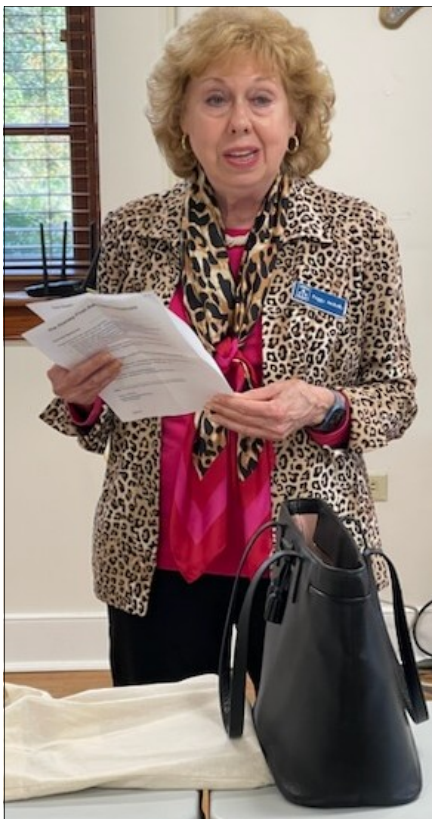
Michael Brooks, Archdiocesan Diaconate Candidate and Mary Ann Treidler, President, St. Hugh of Grenoble LOC



Attendees at the Prince George's County Ladies of Charity Quarterly Meeting enjoying the buffet luncheon, following the induction service of new members.



ADW GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT THE FRANCISCAN MONASTERY



Peggy McKelly

Workshop Presenter on Grant Writing



*Workshop Presenters on Volunteerism
at the Franciscan Monastery*

POEM ENTITLED 'WONDERFULLY GRATEFUL AND BLESSED'

JESUS' life, death and resurrection
Celebrated in world renown Franciscan Monastery
Fr. Michael Barth led spirit filled, awesome Mass
How well he performed his most significant task
An inspirational message, the necessity for humility was had
To focus on titles and honors for oneself
Would be inappropriate behavior and sad.
I WAS WONDERFULLY GRATEFUL AND BLESSED.

Peaceful fellowship followed
Listening, sharing, learning
Prince George's, Calvert and District of Columbia Queens
Committed LOC members
Eager to share resources and means.
I WAS WONDERFULLY GRATEFUL AND BLESSED.

Presenters proved well chosen
They gave of their talents and time
Informed about volunteer opportunities
And fundraising using grants is fine.

A global organization
Serving those in need
Following the example of JESUS
He's the One we strive to please.
I WAS WONDERFULLY GRATEFUL AND BLESSED

Written by:
Sharon Graham, Vice President
ADW Board of Directors



LADIES OF CHARITY UNITE WITH THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TO RAISE FUNDS



St. Matthias the Apostle Catholic Church Ladies of Charity teamed with the Knights of Columbus to raise funds to support their multiple charitable programs. Like many charitable organizations, the challenge to fill the coffers is an on-going concern. Busily striving to offer services and address the requests of those in need, the financial income can become a deterrent. Fundraisers are plentiful as every school, church and community strives to meet their monetary demands. St. Matthias Church LOC was no different.

Having partnered with the KOC during several other projects, including Food Pantry Distributions and COVID Vaccination Clinics, we knew that they are always helpful and generous with their time, talent and treasure. Therefore, when we asked KOC for fundraiser ideas, without hesitation, we were offered the opportunity to work alongside them at FedEx Center’s food concessions during the football season. Well, our ladies never had this idea. We wanted to know more.

We invited a very active KOC member to speak at one of our meetings and tell us what this “fundraiser” entailed. He told us the jobs included several different tasks such as preparing food, selling food, operating the register, cleaning the area and even record

keeping. The dates would be weekends and some weekdays usually in the evenings, beginning in September with “pre-season” events and continuing through the football season in January. We were informed that each participating person or group would have to commit to a minimum of 5 events to earn funds. Therefore, for example, five volunteers had to work at a total of 25 events! Each event might last up to 8 hours or more. Surprisingly, at least 6 ladies volunteered to try it out. Eventually the numbers increased with family and friends contributing hours wherever possible.

We are so very pleased with our new comradery with the KOC! The “FedEx LOC Volunteers” have proven to be awesome. Kudos to each person who supported this fundraiser endeavor with their time, energy and dedication, especially Anoucheka Cherisca, Xavier and Sabrina Cherisca, Jeannette Davis, Charity Ezeani, Julie Gill, Blanche Mahop, Florence Nwoko, Marion Prout, Pat Richards and Debbie Self. They are true examples of the Vincentian Spirit...tirelessly, generously giving to help provide for those in need.

Submitted by:

Arlene Taylor, President
St. Matthias the Apostle LOC



Debbie Self



Pat Richards



Florence Nwoko



Ladies of Charity
National Assembly
September 7-9, 2023



"We Choose Love"

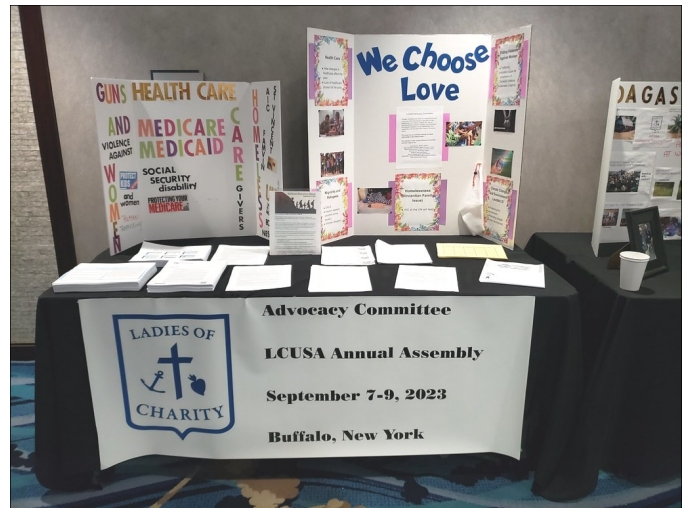
The 2023 LCUSA National Assembly in Buffalo, NY was truly an awe-inspiring gathering of so many Ladies of Charity. We had a good group of Ladies from the Archdiocese of Washington.

The Assembly was dedicated to the ten victims and three injured persons in the supermarket mass shooting in Buffalo, NY on May 14, 2022. It was out of this tragedy that the theme of the Assembly "We Choose Love" was originated.

The Assembly schedule was full with: daily morning rosary, Mass and prayer services, guest speakers, opening reception, visit to Niagara University, Niagara Falls, NY, LCUSA workshops; and, plenary sessions: on domestic violence, pro-life advocacy, human trafficking, mental health, parish response to "Love in Action" and care for refugees. The closing Mass and banquet was wonderful. Father Gielow, LCUSA Vincentian Spiritual Advisor, gave an encouraging Day of Reflection presentation on "A Lady of Charity is a Lady of Prayer" and Sister Ellen LaCapria, DC, keynote speaker, spoke on "Who is My Neighbor?" The Good Samaritan Parable.

Finally, on behalf of the Archdiocese of Washington District of Columbia LOC Units, the President, Bertha Guerra and Irene Jamison DCLOC member presented a \$500 check as its donation toward the LCUSA Madagascar Twinning Project.

The main points that stood out for me from the Assembly were: 1) Love is an action, 2) Time is a gift - use it wisely; and, 3) To be a true Lady of Charity, WE MUST BE KIND, BE COMPASSIONATE, BE EMPATHETIC and BE FORGIVING.

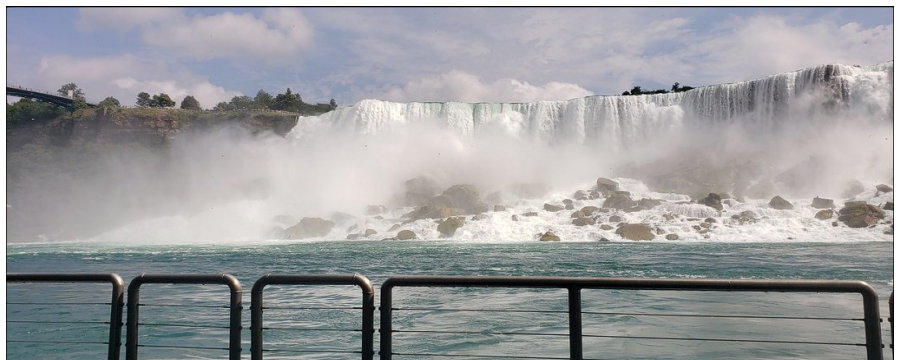


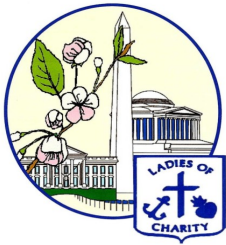
Submitted by:
Charlene Hursey
Our Lady of Perpetual Help LOC

(continue more photos next page)



DCLOC present donation to the LCUSA Madagascar Twinning Project





Ladies of Charity
 Archdiocese of Washington
 P.O. Box 313
 Brentwood, MD 20722

PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE

2024 UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
February 3	ADW LOC Board Meeting Reflection 10:00 am	ZOOM
March 9	DC Parish Units Quarterly Meeting 10:00 am	Conference Call
March 10	Prince George's County Quarterly Meeting 2:00 pm	TBD
April 14 <i>(Date Tentative)</i>	FUNDRAISER Western Hoe-Down Bull Roast 4:00 pm—8:00 pm	OLPH Church 1600 Morris Rd SE Washington, DC
May 4	May Day Crowning of the Blessed Mother & Feast of St. Louise Luncheon 10:00 am Mass in Chapel	St. Ann's 4901 Eastern Ave. Hyattsville, MD
June 1	ADW LOC Board Meeting Mass 10:00 am	ZOOM
June 8	DC Parish Units Quarterly Meeting 10:00 am	Conference Call
June 9	Prince George's County Quarterly Meeting 2:00 pm	TBD

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON LOC NEWSLETTER:

News Deadline:

The deadline to submit articles and photos for the July 2024 issue of the ADW LOC Newsletter:

- ◆ Deadline is **June 15, 2024** at the latest. Earlier submissions are encouraged and appreciated.

Newsletters are issued twice a year (January and July). Please share information about your LOC unit projects, fundraisers and other activities with fellow LOC members. We would like to hear from you.

Articles and photos can be sent via email to: tkgaines@msn.com indicating as the subject, **"Newsletter Submission."**