



# “Chanticleer” ● ● ●

St. Jane de Chantal Sodality Guild

Winter 2012

## Executive Board

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President

**Gina Clansky**  
Vice President

**Cecilia Lewis**  
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**Kimberly Brugnerotto**  
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## Sodality Happenings

Hello to all the fellow Sodalists. These past few months have been very busy and productive. The women of St. Jane’s Sodality continue to make a huge difference through the many projects and ministries that we practice.

The **Communion Breakfast** was held on Sunday Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. Twenty two new members were inducted into the Sodality — with many of them present at the 10:00 Mass — where Monsignor led the congregation in offering them a special blessing. **Mary Hamm** as the speaker offered some very uplifting perspectives and guidance. Thanks to **Cecilia Lewis** for doing such a wonderful job organizing the Breakfast.

**Terri Smith** and **Barbara Coppola** led the effort for the **Giving Tree**. This is such a wonderful ministry that the whole parish looks forward to and participates in. Through the Giving Tree — we provide hundreds of gifts to those who are not as fortunate as we are. This is a huge effort that Terri and Barbara have orchestrated in a way that almost makes it seem effortless. The whole parish thanks both of them and the **Regina Coeli unit**.

**Kathy Pascale** has initiated a new ministry providing canned goods and other food products to the pantry at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart. A box is available in the back of the church after all the masses. This effort also allows the whole parish to contribute to the local community.

**Helen Bollwerk, Gina Clansky** and **Liz Strand** are leading the effort to start a new unit for busy professional women. An organizational meeting was held in December.

The **2<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting** of the year was held on Wed. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>. The mass was held on the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception so many parishioners attended the mass. Many thanks to **Betsey Royston** and the **St. Monica unit** for providing the Christmas craft.

**Maureen Wilkerson** has been donating many hours to keeping the website updated. Please visit the website at [www.dechantalsodality.org](http://www.dechantalsodality.org). If you have any pictures or updates you want posted — please let Maureen know.

We provided gift cards to the staff of the parish for Christmas. Thank you to all of you for your dues as well as participation in our fund raising activities throughout the year that helped us afford these gifts. Thanks to **Abbey Bearer** for purchasing all the gift cards.

Several Sodalists attended the **Dominican Weekend Retreat for Women** — January 27<sup>th</sup>–29<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year was “In quiet and in trust your strength lies.”

Looking ahead — plans for the **Fashion Show** are being spearheaded by **Kimberly Brugnerotto**. Invitations are out and responses are due in mid-February. Please plan on attending the Fashion Show on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We will have a **Morning of Recollection** on March 24<sup>th</sup> in Caulfield Hall. More information will be forthcoming. Enjoy the season!



**We’re on the Web!**

See us at [www.dechantalsodality.org](http://www.dechantalsodality.org)

## Upcoming Events



**Saturday, February 4, 2012**

**9:30 am (Rosary) / 10:00 am (Mass)**

Sodality Union Meeting

*St. Elizabeth, 917 Montrose Rd., Rockville, MD*

**Sunday, February 5, 2012**

**10:00 am**

Mass

*Church*

**Wednesday, February 15, 2012**

**7:30 pm**

Executive Board Meeting

*Scanlon Meeting Room*

**Saturday, March 3, 2012**

**12:00 pm**

Fashion Show and Luncheon

*Columbia Country Club*

**Sunday, March 4, 2012**

**10:00 am**

Mass

*Church*

**Friday, March 9, 2012 –**

**Sunday, March 11, 2012**

**Time to be Announced**

Sodality Union Retreat

*Washington Retreat Center,*

*4000 Harewood Rd., Washington, DC*

**Saturday, March 24, 2012**

**9:00 am–12:00 pm**

Morning of Recollection

*Caulfield Hall*

**Sunday, April 1, 2012**

**10:00 am**

Mass

*Church*

## From the President

Hello and happy winter to all the fellow Sodalists. I hope everyone had a very joyous and spiritual Christmas holiday. We had a wonderful Christmas as our four boys were all home to celebrate with us. And I offer everyone prayers and best wishes for the new year.

I have always enjoyed the winter season as it is a time for organizing and reflecting inward. We organize our finances to prepare for taxes; I organize closets and send lots of boxes to Goodwill; I receive a performance evaluation from my boss which allows great personal reflection on my strengths and weaknesses in my professional life; and I reflect on my spiritual life.

As part of that reflection — I am so grateful for the wonderful ladies of Sodality. Sodality allows all of us to channel the need and desire to give back to the community while strengthening friendships. I offer a special tribute to the Sodality Board members and Unit Chairs for all the work they do.

I am also thankful for the parish of St. Jane's — which provides so many opportunities for social and justice ministry. I offer special prayers and condolences to the Sodalists who lost loved ones over the past few months. It is always difficult to lose a loved one — but it is especially difficult if it happens over a holiday season. Our prayers are with you.

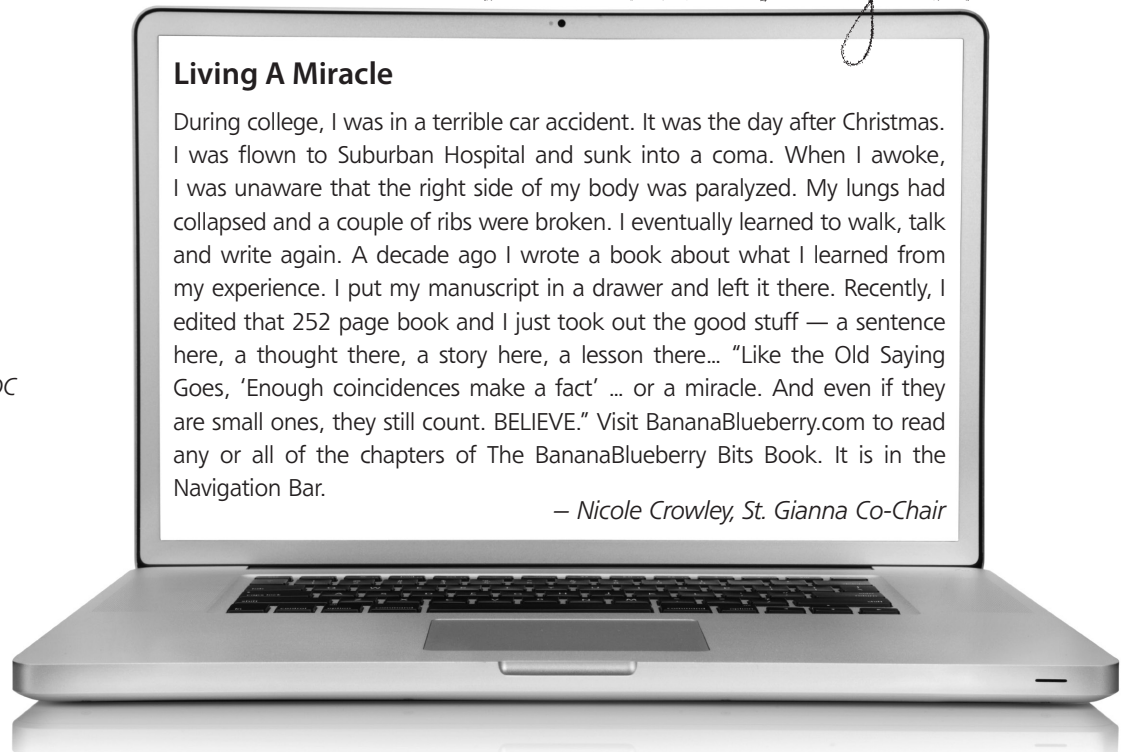
— *Patty Bubar*

*One Among Us*

### Living A Miracle

During college, I was in a terrible car accident. It was the day after Christmas. I was flown to Suburban Hospital and sunk into a coma. When I awoke, I was unaware that the right side of my body was paralyzed. My lungs had collapsed and a couple of ribs were broken. I eventually learned to walk, talk and write again. A decade ago I wrote a book about what I learned from my experience. I put my manuscript in a drawer and left it there. Recently, I edited that 252 page book and I just took out the good stuff — a sentence here, a thought there, a story here, a lesson there... "Like the Old Saying Goes, 'Enough coincidences make a fact' ... or a miracle. And even if they are small ones, they still count. BELIEVE." Visit [BananaBlueberry.com](http://BananaBlueberry.com) to read any or all of the chapters of The BananaBlueberry Bits Book. It is in the Navigation Bar.

— *Nicole Crowley, St. Gianna Co-Chair*



## From the Prefect

*Lord, help me to remember that nothing is going to happen to me today that You and I together can't handle. Amen.*

Happy New Year Fellow Sodalists!

As we begin to put away the twinkle lights and Christmas decorations, let us reflect on the blessings and challenges that we experienced in the previous year.

While some may have suffered pain or loss, we are thankful for our family, friends and our faith that help us through those difficult times and make the celebrations so much more meaningful. We also take this time to look forward to new beginnings, new opportunities that may present themselves in 2012.

The above prayer is a simple way to remind us that we are not alone. We are part of a larger family — sisters in faith with our Mother Mary to guide and inspire us and a loving Father with unconditional love.

On February 22, we begin the Lenten season, a very important part of our spiritual growth. It is a time that many think of as having to “give something up.” But, Lent is so much more. It is a time for us to do without something material, or some type of comfort, that part is true. But, the result is not just to sacrifice. The end is to deepen our awareness of God in our lives, our own spirituality. We can try to catch a glimpse of what Jesus may have experienced in the desert during those 40 days. Although our sacrifices are minuscule in comparison, it is only an attempt at trying to do without something physical so we can gain something spiritual. And, if it becomes difficult, let's remember the above prayer to help us through. Let us also remember that Lent is an important step during the winter that we have to take in order to reach the springtime of Easter, of rebirth.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming Sodality events. God Bless.

– Cecilia Lewis

Founded in 1950, St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish is a community of nearly 2,000 families. Its primary purpose is to enable its members to live the life of Jesus Christ, to share their God-given talents for the benefit of each other and of society and to pass on to their children the rich gift of their Catholic Faith.

The patroness of the parish, St. Jane Frances de Chantal (1572-1641) was a French woman who worked with St. Francis de Sales. She founded the Visitation Order of nuns dedicated to the virtues of Mary and works of charity toward the sick and the poor. The Visitation Convent on Old Georgetown Road (now part of NIH) was the first home of the parish.

## Update:

### St. John Neumann Unit

The St. John Neumann Unit (JNU), a longtime mainstay of the Sodality, is small in numbers but vital in spirit. We have experienced some changes in the last two years as members have moved out of the parish or transitioned to Associate status. Although our active membership now numbers approximately one dozen women, we cherish the friendship that binds us, and our enthusiasm for Sodality's missions of faith and charity makes up for the small size of the group.

The members of JNU are active supporters of the General Sodality's many spiritual and charitable projects and have taken leadership roles in several projects in recent years. **Mary Hand** chairs the annual **Anniversary Brunch** for parishioners celebrating milestone anniversaries, and **Charlotte Carneiro** chaired the 2011 **Glorious Garden Sale**, a major Sodality fundraiser.

For our own unit charitable endeavors, our members have found that engaging in defined projects that can be accomplished at our meetings fits well with our hectic schedules and allows us to assist a broad range of charitable programs. Accordingly, in addition to praying the Rosary and discussing unit and General Sodality business at our meetings, JNU regularly collects supplies provided by the members for donation to various local charities or Catholic religious organizations. In recent years, JNU has in this way assisted programs ranging from the Children's Inn at the National Institutes of Health and the National Center for Children and Families to the children's faith formation program at de Chantal's sister parish, the Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Washington, DC. This year, JNU's charitable project involves supporting the families of wounded service members undergoing treatment at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center by providing food and household supplies on an ongoing basis to the Fisher House Complex, which houses the military families while their loved ones are hospitalized. Being able to assist these worthwhile programs in our own small way reminds us to appreciate our many blessings.

– Helen Bollwerk



### In Memoriam

**Anna May Chipman**, Sodalist and mother of Sodalist Louise Hendon  
**Christine Frank King**, daughter of Sodalist Marita Frank

**Publication Information** — The spring issue will be mailed in April 2012. To submit an item, email Julie MacDonald at [jackjuliemac@aol.com](mailto:jackjuliemac@aol.com).



**Save the Date & Join Us!**

St. Jane de Chantal Sodality  
Fashion Show & Luncheon  
Saturday, March 3, 2012

 Visit the Sodality website for more information.

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