



“Chantacleer” ● ● ●

St. Jane de Chantal Sodality Guild

Spring 2014

Executive Board

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Maria Cornelius
Co-Presidents

Cecilia Lewis
Prefect

Liz Strand
Secretary

Suzie Nalls
Treasurer

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Sodality Happenings

Finally we can say, welcome to spring! We all came through a long and harsh winter but the change in season will be all the more beautiful because of that.

While the snow was still on the ground, once again, a dedicated group of Sodalists worked tirelessly to organize the parish Giving Tree at Christmas. The new committee consisting of **Denise Sintetos**, **Kathy Pascale**, and **Gretchen Koch** with help from **Kathy Kitzinger**, collected, organized, and delivered hundreds of Christmas gifts to several dozen organizations in the Metro DC area. Thank you to this wonderful group for all of your efforts and thank you to all who assisted with the project.

Spring fashions were the spotlight of the Sodality Fashion show held on March 1st under the amazing direction of **Maria Cornelius**. Close to \$9,000 was raised which will help to fund Sodality programs and projects throughout the year. We owe a great deal of gratitude to Maria, once again, and her committee for all of their efforts.

Cecilia Lewis — along with our new Prefect, **Poupee Nisos** — coordinated the Morning of Recollection in March. **Father Cusick** was our guest speaker and a continental breakfast was served. His talk on prayer will soon be available on the Parish website under the Sodality link. Keep watching — it was inspiring.

The International Virgin Pilgrim Statue from Fatima graced our Parish on April 1st and 2nd. **Dr. Willie Cruz Lee** made a herculean effort to bring the statue to the Diocese and, with the help of Sodality, presented a beautiful evening and morning of prayer and devotion to Our Lady.

An Anniversary Mass and Brunch, sponsored by Sodality and hosted by **Father Giese**, will be held on April 27th for all couples in the Parish celebrating 25, 40, 50, 51+ years of marriage. The Elizabeth Seton unit has graciously agreed to take this on as their project.

Karen Salah, **Kathy Kitzinger** and **Anne Strand** are hard at work organizing the annual Sodality Plant Sale which will be held this year on May 2nd, 3rd and 4th. This is the perfect time to choose some flowers and plants to beautify your yard or perhaps purchase some for Mother's Day gifts. Lots of volunteers are needed for this event so please sign up to help!

The May crowning will be held directly after the 10:00 am Mass on May 4th. Please try to attend this beautiful event to honor our Blessed Mother.

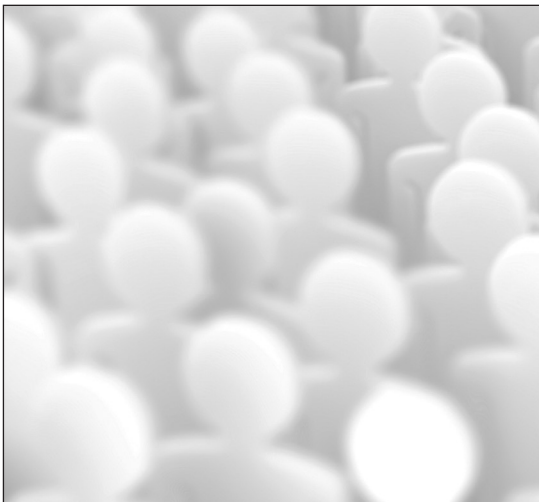
The essay contest for the eighth grade Junior Sodalists was held in April and the winner will be announced at the May General Meeting.

Finally, our last meeting of the year will be held on May 7th. Mass will be at 7:00 pm followed by the meeting in Caulfield Hall. We plan to finish our Sodality year with refreshments, Irish Dancers, and a chance to shop with Christian Bling, a company that features beautiful and trendy Christian jewelry. Come and relax with your friends as we bring another Sodality year to a close.



We're on the Web!

See us at www.dechantalsodality.org



Sodality Plant Sale May 3–4

*Sometimes angels skip around
And in their blissful state of glee
Bump into a daisy or sweet pea.*

– J.L. Adams



From the President

As I reflect on the past Sodality year, I find myself counting my many blessings. I have gotten to know so many amazing women who are committed to carrying on the mission of Sodality. I am continually inspired by the work that is done, and the prayers that are offered, to help those in need right here in our community. We share our faith, support each other in times of need, and share our time, talents and resources with those that are less fortunate in our community. It is truly an amazing organization and I am honored to be part of such a wonderful group of women.

I'd like to thank the Executive Board for all of their hard work this year and also the Unit Chairs who help us to communicate with all of our members. It is because of your time and effort that we are able to accomplish our goals. To all of our members who volunteer throughout the year, thank you for sharing your valuable time. You are all truly a blessing.

I'm excited about our final General Meeting on Wednesday May 7th because I think it will be a perfect way to wrap up a great year. In addition to hearing the Jr. Sodality winning essay, you will be entertained by Irish dancing, and have an opportunity to see and order from a wonderful collection of beautiful, Christian inspired jewelry from Christian Bling. Last but not least, we have dozens of Smashbox cosmetics sets, which were graciously donated by Alice Trone, that we will be giving away at the meeting.

I hope that each of you takes time to enjoy the beauty of the season, your family and all of your many blessings. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

– Maria Cornelius

Update: Sodality Associates

Nancy Cahill was the founder of the Associates around 1995 or 1996. We are grateful to Nancy for having the vision to initiate the unit before she died in 2000. Her daughter, Eileen, believes she started the unit to keep the retired Sodalists connected to the parish through attendance at our social functions, Sodality Masses, and General Sodality meetings, and in a small but effective way, to have the Associates donate to raise funds for key projects supporting the parish. Today, there are 125 prayerful and generous retired Sodality Associates.

Each year, the Associates are asked to contribute toward the expenses of a particular project designated by Father Giese. This year, the Associates helped to fund the new security system for the parish school. Last year, their generous contribution was given to the pipe organ fund. In past years, they have purchased new flower stands for the altar, contributed to a new sign for the driveway entrance to the church, and helped to pay for the improved church audio system. In addition, the Associates have provided the church with the outdoor statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as well as a beautifully woven banner depicting St. Jane de Chantal, and have purchased new stage curtains for Caulfield Hall, new vestments, and new altar linens.

The lifetime of service the Associates have provided to the parish and our community stands as a model for all Sodalists to emulate.

– Ellen Larsen, Unit Chair

From the Prefect

My Dear Sodalists,

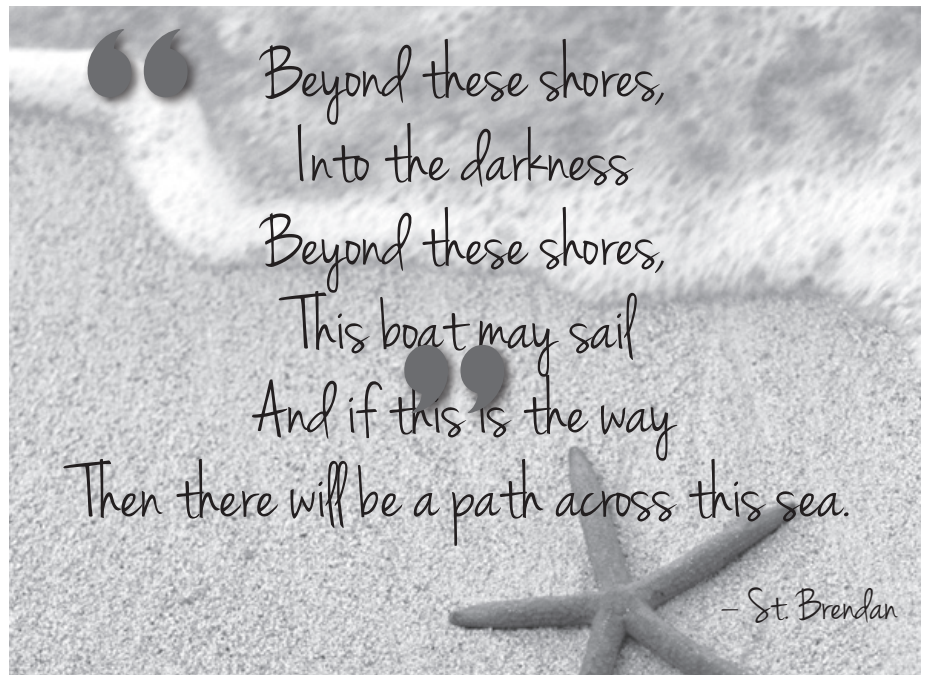
What another wonderful year we have had in our very active Sodality! With strong leadership to guide us, and our many, many volunteer projects, we have once again experienced our faith in action. The Fashion Show was again a fun success! Father Cusick reminded us of the importance of daily prayer and constant self-examination during the Morning of Recollection.

We were able to experience true peace and humility in the presence of Our Lady of Fatima thanks to Willie Cruz-Lee. And now, we look forward to another of our most popular events, the Plant Sale; a sure sign of Spring and the close of another Sodality year. As my tenure as Prefect ends, I take with me many beautiful memories and an

enrichment of my soul. I thank each and every one of you for your kindness, your friendship, and your faith in me. And like St. Brendan's prayer of complete trust and faith in The Lord despite his fragile boat in deep waters, I too, now launch towards a different path as my family and I prepare our move to Florida. I ask for your prayers for everyone who is "letting go" of something familiar and moving into an unknown. May the love, courage, and peace of Our Lady be with all of us as we continue our journey of faith.

God Bless!

– Cecilia Lewis



What Is A Sodalist?

Being a member of the Sodality is not just a series of activities, but a way of life; not just a club one joins, but a life one leads; not a hobby for spare time, but a vocation, affecting one's whole day and one's whole life.

– from *The Sodality Union, Archdiocese of Washington*

Prayer Tree

The Christ Child Unit has offered to become Sodality's go-to unit for prayer requests. If you have an important event or circumstance in your life that needs prayers, contact Gail Quigley at gailq@verizon.net and she will pass along your intention to her unit.



In Memoriam

Beverley B. Kitzinger, Mother-in-Law of Sodalist Kathy Kitzinger

Joan Stetina, Sodalist

Rachel Stewart, Sister of Sodalist Ellen Larsen

Helen Sulkovsky, Sodalist

Publication Information — To submit an item, please email Julie MacDonald at jackjuliemac@aol.com.



Tip of the Day:

Looking for ways to deepen your faith? Set one of your radio stations to 91.9 FM WGTS. This is a contemporary Christian station that plays music that is truly inspiring. It is funded by listeners so there are no commercials.

Final General Meeting — Wednesday, May 7th

We will have a representative from "Christian Bling" at the meeting showcasing their beautiful faith-based jewelry and taking orders.

We will also hear the Junior Sodalist read her winning essay from the Annual Essay Contest.

We're on the Web!
See us at www.dechantalsodality.org

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