



The Marian Messenger

Newsletter of the Sodality of Our Lady of the Annunciation
St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church
Greenbelt, Maryland

Mary, Mother of Mercy, lead us with grateful hearts to serve your Son, Jesus.”

Prefect's Perspective

Dear Sodalists,

Sodality is a religious organization that seeks to 1) make ourselves good Catholics, sincerely bent on sanctifying ourselves, each in our own state in life, 2) zealous, as our state in life permits, to sanctify our neighbors, and 3) to defend the Church of Jesus against the attacks of the wicked.

Christ established his Church on earth and commanded us to “go and teach all nations.” At the time of Vatican II, 2000 years after the establishment of the Church, it was estimated that there were two billion people in the world who had never heard of Christ.

In our own time and country where most have heard of Christ, membership and participation in churches continues to fall, Catholic schools continue to close, more and more children grow up in one parent households, and abortion and same-sex marriage have been declared “rights” by the highest court in the land. How many TV programs or movies glorify sin, or perhaps worse, treat a life of sin as the usual, not worthy of comment. Lies are so prevalent that it is frequently very difficult to know what is really happening in our town, country, and world. We no longer get upset when an official lies to us or cheats or steals for political or career advantage.

Are we doing enough to bring Christ to these people?

Where are the TV networks that only air programs supporting moral values? Where are the news outlets who report the truth, all the truth? Do we demand better of our officials? Do we perhaps sacrifice and run for that local position that needs integrity and truth? Why can't we make it possible for every Catholic child to have a Catholic school education? Isn't that a basic part of our mission? The Diocese of Wichita, Kansas pays for the Catholic education of every grade school and high school Catholic child.

We live in a rich country. Even if not affluent, most of us have way more than we need. Maybe we need to challenge ourselves to more sacrifice so we can “go and teach all nations”, sanctify our neighbors, and defend the Church against the attacks of the wicked.

To Jesus through Mary,

Rita Radich

Dear All,

These are most unusual times that we are living through. When last we met on Sunday, March 1st, 2020, the nominating committee presented a slate of candidates for officers for the period of June 2020 through June 2022, and I had the honor to be nominated as Prefect. But we have not met again since then and the Membership has not voted, so for the time being I remain a nominee and look to our Prefect Rita Raditch to continue leading us.

I have been graciously invited to share with all of you my hopes and vision for the next term. I have always experienced the Sodality of Our Lady as a welcoming and spirit-filled organization, and wish to continue to grow this experience. Welcoming visitors and potential new members are important activities we can work together to emphasize. Finally, nourishing the spiritual practice of prayer is also vitally important for our Sodality.

At this time in early June, our Church is still closed due to the ongoing pandemic, and we miss being with each other and most especially we miss participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Yet every day we say our prayers and have hope in our hearts for better days ahead. I encourage every Sodalist to pray the Rosary daily during this time of waiting, and like Mary, to ponder these times in our hearts.

To Jesus through Mary,

Candy

Happy Summer Birthdays



June 6 Kathy Labukas

June 10 Rita Radich

June 11 Mame Ellis

June 14 Beverly Dziduch

June 24 Suzanne Lomax

June 30 Peggy Hool

July 31 Ellen Hanyok

Aug 01 Catherine Onunkwo

Aug 02 JoAnn McCarthy

Aug 10 Lisa Abellano

Aug 11 Kathy Sciannella

Aug 14 Donna Peterson

Aug 15 Beth Osborne

Aug 17 Betty Triplett



Sept.4 Candy Culhane

Sept.5 Meg Kaplan

Sept.9 Judith Davino

Sept.11 Rohanie Bacchus

Sept 15 Janet Berard

Sept.27 Mary Bitter

BOOKS, APPS, AND WEB SITES FOR THE SOUL

—by Rita Radich

Christ in Eclipse by Frank Sheed

“...it is possible to live an active, even dedicated, Christian life without very much direct awareness of Christ himself. Without indeed giving very much thought to him.” p.13. “That is what this book is about--- *How real is Christ to us, how well do we know him, what strong desire have we to know him better?*” p.14. (160 pp)

Making Gay Okay by Robert Reilly

The author proposes that there are two fundamental views of reality. One is that things have a Nature that is teleologically ordered to ends that inhere in their essence and make them what they are. In other words, things have inbuilt purpose. The other is that things do not have a Nature with ends: things are nothing in themselves, but are only what we make them to be according to our will and desires.

This is what the same-sex marriage debate is really about—the Nature of reality itself. Since the meaning of our lives is dependent upon the Nature of reality, it too hangs in the balance.

Reilly relies on Christianity, but also philosophy; to reason what is true and what is right or wrong. The book includes legal history, and shows how this same reasoning urging same-sex marriage shows up in the abortion debate, too.

catholictv.org

Catholic TV may be on some cable networks but can be accessed on their website on the internet. It streams live Masses every day and more than one Mass on Sunday. My son in Kazakhstan and I can attend the same live streaming Mass from the basilica at the University of Notre Dame at 10am EDT on Sundays. Pretty cool.

Visit the website the videotaped Masses and 24/7 programming that interest you.

Created Equal: Clarence Thomas in His Own Words Documentary, 2hrs

I actually saw this on PBS in May. It is supposed to be in theaters when they reopen and on DVD perhaps this summer.

I recommended it before I saw it and it did not disappoint. It told the life of Clarence Thomas, a black, Catholic Supreme Court Justice from abject poverty to our nation’s highest court. It tells his story, as well as the history of our nation from World War II, especially in the area of civil rights and Catholicism. Film and pictures help tell the story. Film from his nomination hearing is riveting (remember Anita Hill?)

A Man Called Peter by Catherine Marshall

A heartwarming biography of Peter Marshall, a Scots immigrant who became pastor of St. John’s Church across from the White House (the same one the mob attempted to burn to the ground last month) and then Chaplain of the U.S. Senate. Marshall did not aspire to being a pastor, but as with many other decisions in his life he asked what God wanted him to do and tried to follow. The story encourages us to walk with God every day in our everyday lives. Marshall gave great sermons, too.

PRAYER WORKS or HOW I GOT MY NAME

Months after my parents married my mother was still not pregnant and she was worried that she may not be able to have children. So, my mother prayed to St. Rita, the Saint of the Impossible. My mother promised to name her first daughter, Rita.

And I was born. My parents named me Rita. And then my parents had eight more children. Prayer works. But, you may want to be careful what you pray for.

My mother passed away last month, on May 22, the feast of St. Rita.

SODALITY ACTIVITIES, March 2020 – June 2020

Most of our usual spring activities were cancelled due to the restrictions of the coronavirus, including Taste of Home, the Annual Tea, April and May meetings, the June Dinner, the May Procession, and election of new officers. We want the election of officers and their installation to take place as soon as a meeting is allowed and we hope the June Dinner will happen even if it might be in August.

We were able to present the Religion Awards to a boy, Thomas Serra, and a girl, Fiona Nganou, graduating eighth graders at St. Joseph's Regional Catholic School. Sodalist, Mary Wade was so good as to make the presentation of certificates and statues at the graduation on Zoom. The school will see that the students get the awards. Thank you, Mary. Congratulations to Thomas and Fiona.

Moderator's Message

Since 20-20 is the measure of perfect vision, some people jokingly thought 2020 would be the year of perfect vision. Perhaps they were not wrong. The pandemic of 2020 has helped us see better the fragility of human life and the limits of all human striving. We see that we are creatures after all, and not the Creator. We do not control the world. God does. We do not own the world. God does. The future belongs to him. But we are not helpless. God allows us to share in his work, if we are willing. Here, the words of the Blessed Mother are most timely, "Do whatever he tells you."

I know how dedicated you are to the Mother of God and how earnestly you follow her direction. By entrusting your daily cares to Mary and wrapping yourself in the mantle of her maternal protection, you show us how God wants us to live--always with Jesus and for Jesus through Mary.

Full of grace, Mary preserves the unity of the Church through her maternal intercession. We see how disunity and disagreement over matters of faith and morals mark Christian communities that have lost their strong connection with Mary. Such lack of connection leads to the fracturing of the Church into many sects and denominations and to errant teachings that lead people further from Christ rather than closer to him. Your fidelity to the Mother of God helps preserve our parish from such defects.

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to you and to your officers, especially to your prefect, Rita Radich, for leading us in the Marian Way during these difficult days of pandemic. Although many meetings and activities had to be cancelled because of the pandemic, you have continued to serve the parish through your daily rosaries and spiritual sacrifices. May the Lord bless you for your generosity and keep the Sodality ever fruitful in its mission as we entrust the future into Mary's hands.

Yours in Christ,

Father Walter

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 CRESCENT ROAD
GREENBELT, MD 20770
MARY WADE, EDITOR
CINDY PERRY, ASSISTANT EDITOR

Executive Council

2018-2020

Moderator

Fr. Walter Tappe

Prefect

Rita Radich

Vice-Prefect

Betty Triplett

Recording Secretary

Suzanne Lomax

Corresponding Secretary

Monica Huber

Treasurer

Barbara Ford

Committee Chairs

Spiritual Life

Monica Huber

Apostolic Life

Open

Membership

Franca Onunkwo

Public Relations

Cindy Perry

Hospitality

Donna Peterson

Ways & Means

Mary Bitter

Special Services

Open

Junior Sodality

Open

Historian

JoEllen Sarff

Let us remember to pray...



- for all our deceased Sodalists, parishioners and their family members who have died, especially for Margaret Radich,
- for those who are ill, especially Dalisay Lopez, Barbara Osborne, and Margaret Zanin
- for the intentions of our parish food pantry patrons
- and for all those intentions written in the Sodality Prayer Book.

Calendar of Events*

- July 5 Sodality Mass/No Meeting
- Aug 2 Sodality Mass/No Meeting
- Aug 15 Feast of the Assumption of Mary
- Sept 5 Sodality Union Meeting
- Sept 6 Sodality Mass & Meeting

*These dates are subject to change. If you do not receive the parish Flocknotes, which provide current information about parish events, please email the parish office at sthughoffice@gmail.com to get on the list.

The Big Reveal

We continue the Sodality tradition of revealing our prayer partners in June every year. Even though we can't be together for the banquet to reveal our partners in person, please take a moment to share your identity with your partner. A personal call, email, or a card is a great way to let your partner know you have been offering prayers for their intentions. If you misplaced your partner card, please contact *Beth Osborne* at (301) 982-7464. If you weren't able to participate this year, keep it in mind for next year and hopefully we can share in person next June.



Reminder: Our lector for.



- July 5: Mary Wade
- August 2: Cindy Perry
- September 6: Rita Radich

Keep current on our news by
visiting our webpage:
www.sthughofgrenoble.org