



*Cynthia Lampkin*

*Director*



Women's ACTS Retreat #28 November 6-9, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Wow! What a weekend! I am filled with great joy and gratitude as I reflect on our formation and retreat. The theme of the retreat was, "Love is patient, love is kind. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails." 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.

We were "The Love Team". Our patron saint was Saint Pope John Paul II, who exemplified pure love throughout his life.

As our Spiritual Director, Msgr. Tim Schwertner was a very peaceful presence and delivered powerful sermons and talks throughout the weekend. My favorite lesson he described to us is that it is possible to miss Heaven by 18 inches. This is the distance between one's head and one's heart, and if one is to follow his head with all of it's rules about why he may or may not be worthy of the Eucharist or a relationship with Jesus, he will miss out on the true love of Christ which only an open heart will allow.

ACTS Missions offered recommendations for change in many aspects of the retreat weekend. This team willingly accepted these guidelines and creatively implemented them in such a way that the power of each event was strengthened.

Our "Love Team" was made up of very hard working, dedicated women. Their diligence and willingness to serve allowed for the weekend to flow smoothly. My heart is truly filled with so much appreciation for every single team member.

The transformation in the retreatants throughout the retreat was very bright and visible. These beautiful ladies were able to receive the love that Christ has for them, as shown to them by the team members, the ACTS Community, and through the many services, ministries and sacraments they received while on this retreat. It is with great joy and love that we welcome our newest sisters to our ACTS Community.

With Love,

Cynthia Lampkin

## *Claudia McQueen*

### *Co-Director*

#### ACTS Retreat #28

It was awesome to see how the Holy Spirit worked during this retreat. From team selection all the way to the closing Mass, we could feel His hand upon every activity. I'm so blessed and honored to have served with so many Spirit filled women, who only wanted to bring Christ and His love to the retreatants. The ladies that answered the call to attend were amazing. They were eager participants right from the very beginning. We saw retreatants and team members flourish and bloom that weekend. These ladies left on Sunday with a renewed spirit, ready to carry Christ and His love out into the world. God's love never fails! We are so grateful to our ACTS community for support with scholarships, prayer, and presence at send off, candlelight, closing Mass and potluck.



## *Carla Castle*

### *Team*

#### ACTS Retreat #28

In one of Fr. Tim's homilies, he reflected on the parable of the lost sheep and the lost coin. He pointed out that in worldly terms; it makes no sense for a shepherd to leave 99 sheep to rescue one lost sheep. Most people would put little effort into finding a coin that was worth less than a penny. Then he said something that touched me profoundly. He asked, "What if you were that sheep?... What if you were that coin?" That statement has led to much reflection. It is human nature to measure a person by how attractive they are, by how much money they make, by the car they drive, etc. How does Jesus measure us? I have decided that he measures us by the love He feels for us. By that measure, every



one of us has worth beyond anything we can imagine. But if you want a more tangible idea of what you are worth, look to the cross. You are worth one life. Jesus offered His for you. Our formation and retreat were all about measuring ourselves as Jesus measures us and learning to measure others in the same way. It was about learning to love as Jesus loves.

YSIC,

Carla

## *Susan Kitten Team*



Formation was definitely a growing experience. Watching the way the Holy Spirit worked through so many individuals and helping them to mature in their faith...WOW! As for the retreat, the retreatants were just so ready to begin the healing journey. There was so much LOVE for each other and for their brokenness. May the Holy Spirit continue to work through all of these beautiful women!



Love Never Fails - Brandon Heath



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## **UPCOMING IMPORTANT RETREAT DATES**

*Women's ACTS*

June 11-14, 2015

*Teen ACTS*

July 16-19, 2015

*Men's ACTS*

August 20-23, 2015

Registration questions-email Raquel Padilla at  
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