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Magnificat[®]

A Ministry to Catholic Women

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 06 ISSUE 26

Greetings!

We consider June to be the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. On June 11, 2026, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, our United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) took the opportunity to consecrate the USA to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The faithful were overjoyed! Considering we are **one nation under God**, it was a very fitting and timely reminder of who is ultimately our Divine Savior! Let us fervently pray for the Lord's protection and direction as we continue on the journey. In our weekly Central Service Team (CST) prayer time, we consistently are hearing we can not pray enough! It reminds me of 1 Thess 5:17-19 **"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit."**

Listening to the voice of God and being open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit has never been more important for mankind. There is a tremendous amount of noise and distraction in the world. The Charismatic gifts will help you to discern and maneuver through life.

St. Elena Guerra (6-23-1835 to 4-11-1914) is called the "Apostle of the Holy Spirit". She recognized how critical it is to know and to incorporate the Holy Spirit into our lives and of the Church. Through 12 letters dated from April 17, 1895 to April 9, 1903, she told Pope Leo XIII that the Church was neglecting its own supernatural source of life. She felt the third person of the Holy Trinity had become **the great unknown!** Elena saw this silence as a **catastrophe**. Due to her persistence, the Holy Father responded to the third letter, by issuing his landmark encyclical "*On the Holy Spirit*" (*Divinum Illud Munus*) on May 9, 1897 which is considered the richest doctrine on the Holy Spirit. Thanks to the influence of St. Elena, on January 1, 1901, in St. Peter's Basilica, Pope



Let us pray! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your **Spirit** and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. Amen.
Come, Holy Spirit! Fall afresh on us!

POPE'S INTENTIONS 2026



JUNE

For the values of sports

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

JULY

For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

AUGUST

For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Liturgy of the Hours

A Book of Prayer and Contemplation

Second Reading

From a letter of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, virgin

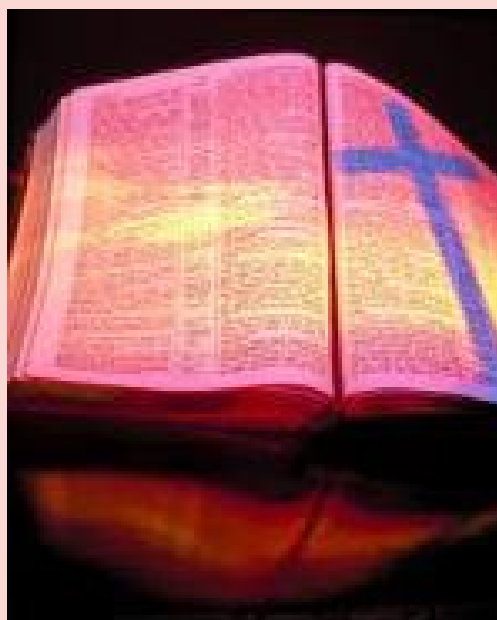
We must know the love of Christ which surpasses all knowledge

It seems to me that our Lord's earnest desire to have his Sacred Heart honored in a special way is directed toward renewing the effects of redemption in our souls. For the sacred heart is an inexhaustible fountain and its sole desire is to pour itself out into the hearts of the humble so as to free them and prepare them to lead lives according to his good pleasure.

From this divine heart three streams flow endlessly. The first is the stream of mercy for sinners; it pours into their hearts sentiments of contrition and repentance. The second is the stream of charity which helps all in need and especially aids those seeking perfection to find the means of surmounting their difficulties. From the third stream flow love and light for the benefit of his friends who have attained perfection; these he wishes to unite to himself so that they may share his knowledge and commandments and, in their individual ways, devote themselves wholly to advancing his glory.

This divine heart is an abyss of all blessings, and into it the poor should submerge all their needs. It is an abyss of joy in which all of us can immerse our sorrows. It is an abyss of lowliness to counteract our foolishness, an abyss of mercy for the wretched, an abyss of love to meet our every need.

Therefore, you must unite yourselves to the heart of our Lord Jesus Christ, both at the beginning of



Then you need only offer God the prayers which the Savior has poured out for us in the sacrament of the altar. Offer God his fervent love in reparation for your sluggishness. In the course of every activity pray as follows:

"My God, I do this or I endure that in the heart of your Son and according to his holy counsels. I offer it to you in reparation for anything blameworthy or imperfect in my actions." Continue to do this in every circumstance of life. And every time that some punishment, affliction or injustice comes your way, say to yourself: "Accept this as sent to you by the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ in order to unite yourself to him."

But above all preserve peace of heart. This is more valuable than any treasure. In order to preserve it there is nothing more useful than renouncing your own will and substituting for it the will of the divine heart. In this way his will can carry out for us whatever contributes to his glory,

your conversion in order to obtain proper dispositions, and at its end in order to make reparation. Are you making no progress in prayer?

10 areas of Spiritual Renewal By Bishop David Toups

Ten Areas of Spiritual Renewal
by Bishop David L. Toups

The Charismatic Renewal's impact on the Universal Church during the decades since the Second Vatican Council cannot be overestimated. Things that seemed like novelties or even oddities at the time have since been mainstreamed into the life of every parish. Allow me to point out a few areas of spiritual renewal brought about by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal following the Council with the following top 10 list:

1. If a Catholic were asked to say a prayer over someone before the Council, they might receive a prayer they know by heart like the Lord's Prayer. Since then, we have learned how to pray spontaneously, moved by the Holy Spirit, for the particular needs of the person seeking prayer.
2. Along the same line would be the practice of the laying on of hands while invoking the Holy Spirit to deeply touch the heart, mind, and soul of the person being prayed over. We believe in the power of healing that comes from any of the baptized, praying in faith for the healing of a sick or struggling friend.
3. Before the Council, the reading of the Sacred Scriptures was often limited to listening at Mass and following along in a missal. Since then, the proliferation of bible studies in parishes and the personal reading of the Scriptures has been encouraged by the Church for all of the faithful.
4. While Catholics have historically been relatively reserved in our expressions of prayer, the Catholic Charismatic Renewal has opened hearts and minds to lift one's hands in prayer and praise in public worship. Such expressions of faith are no longer stifled, and songs of praise and worship have become mainstream, especially amongst our youth. This is very evident in ties of Eucharistic Adoration and nights of praise.
5. A life of deep, intimate prayer has been fostered and many programs in the Church were started by people coming from the Charismatic Renewal: Steubenville programs for young people, the Institute for Priestly Formation, and parish-based prayer meetings, to name just a few.
6. Evangelization efforts have grown by teaching Catholics to offer their testimony and share their faith with others. Prior to the Renewal, this was seen as something particularly Protestant, but now we recognize how important it is to talk about our faith and invite others to share the joys of Gospel living.
7. Ecumenical openness has also defined the Renewal since the beginning. We no longer live in a "ghetto mentality" of not being in relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. There is a renewed openness to work together to build up the Kingdom of God and work together for the good of our communities as we recognize the commonalities of our faith in Jesus Christ. The Second Vatican Council called for this, and the Renewal has helped to implement great ecumenical endeavors.
8. I also believe that a deeper love for the Eucharist, the universal Church, the Prime Office, the ministry of the priesthood, and Marian devotions have been enhanced by the men and women who have been involved in the Charismatic Renewal from the very start and still today, leading to a great spiritual renewal among the faithful.
9. Ultimately, we have grown as a Church in our love for Jesus, devotion to all three Persons of the Blessed Trinity, and a stronger devotion to the Blessed Mother. The Charismatic Renewal has influenced every fiber of our Church's renewal since the Council, and we can be proud and grateful for the Renewal's influence on everyday Christian life.
10. While we still have a long way to go, it is important to recognize, acknowledge, and celebrate what the Holy Spirit has done and is doing in our Church today! Cardinal Lévin Joseph Suessens and the Malines Documents (See: <https://www.pentecosttodayusa.org/malines-documents/>) laid the foundation following Vatican II for a vibrant spiritual renewal of the Church. Having grown up in a home that was deeply impacted by the Renewal, I was raised in such a way that the charisma and an openness to the movement of the Holy Spirit seemed natural. Thus, no one in the Renewal should ever feel like it is fading away when in fact it has shaped the way for the future of how every Catholic can strive to live the "universal call to holiness" of the Second Vatican Council. ■

BISHOP'S CORNER



Bishop David L. Toups is Bishop of the Diocese of Beaumont, Texas. He holds up the dual testimony of both the Renewal through his daily broadcast called "For the Good" based in his spiritual work, *Renewal 101*, "For those who love God, all things work out for the good."

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Fueling the Fire of Renewal

Issue 1 2026

PENTECOST Today

Magazine of Pentecost Today USA



Bishop David Toups Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR Sr. Mary Anne Schaezner
 Fausto Franco Jane Guenther Dr. John Gresham

**MALTA "Star of the Sea"
Chapter Visitation
Happy 30th Anniversary!**



L-R Donna Ross, CST Coordinator, Mariz Cassar, Coordinator, Angela Salomone, Assistant Coordinator, Michelle Seghers, CST Office Manager & Event Planner



L-R Jane Cassar and Myriam England, founding Chapter Service Team Members. Myriam was also the first Regional Rep for Europe.



L- R Service Team Luncheon at Myriam's - Helen Tabone, Annette Cassar, Rosanne Pisani, Donna Ross, Michelle Seghers, Sandrina England, Mariz Cassar, Myriam England, Angela Salomone



L-R Service Team Dinner with Spiritual Advisor - Helen Tabone, Michelle Seghers, Donna Ross, Fr. Marco Portelli, Mariz Cassar, Marly Cassar, Jane Cassar, Myriam England, Sandrina England

ROME

CHARIS International Conference

By Donna Ross, CST Coordinator

Michelle Seghers and I just had the opportunity to represent and pray for all of you - our Magnificat Ministry - in Rome. Pope Leo XIV on May 30th addressed representatives of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and leaders of CHARIS, the international service body of the Renewal for the first time in his pontificate at the Paul VI Audience Hall in the Vatican. He described the movement's **spiritual vitality** as one of the gifts with which God has blessed the Church. He also pointed out the appreciation shown by his predecessors noting that **St. Paul VI** saw in the Renewal a response to the growing secularization of society, while **Pope St. John Paul II** highlighted its missionary impulse and **Pope Benedict XVI** praised its emphasis on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He also recalled **Pope Francis'** description of the Renewal as a "flood of grace" intended for the entire Church.

He went on to express his desire to strengthen the relationship between the See of Peter and the worldwide family of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Pope Leo XIV reflected on five key dimensions of the Renewal experience: **Baptism in the Spirit, prayer of praise, the Word of God, communion, and charity.** He said "the personal experience of the Holy Spirit" enables the grace of Baptism to become effective in the lives of believers and leads them to a deeper awareness of God's love. "From this experience of the Holy Spirit comes the inner desire to be witnesses and heralds of His love." The Holy Father went on to reflect on the place of praise and worship within the Charismatic tradition. He feels the experience of the Holy Spirit gives rise to a more spontaneous and sincere dialogue with God and opens the heart to thanksgiving and adoration. **To read his entire address, [click here.](#)**

It was a wonderful experience to be with spirit-filled people from around the world for the 5 day event. There were a number of speakers sharing their testimonies and insights during the week including several that we know: Patti Mansfield from LA, Alicia Hartle from PA, Johnny Bertucci from LA and Fr. Hayden Williams, O.F.M. Cap, previous Malta Spiritual Advisor.

This Conference was very helpful in understanding the purpose and uniqueness of CHARIS. In 2017, Pope Francis received a delegation from ICCRS (International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services) and the Catholic Fraternity. He appointed four people to create a **new single service** for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal for the world. It was named CHARIS, an acronym standing for Catholic Charismatic Renewal International Service. Statutes were approved on December 8, 2018. CHARIS is unique in that it is not a Public Association of Lay People but a body established by the Holy See through the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life endowed with the public juridic personality. As I understand the restructuring, this was a very strategic move by Pope Francis to bring even more credibility to the Renewal in the broader Church. This is an incredible opportunity for international Charismatic leadership to unite like never before and make it a priority to effectively communicate the message critical for all faithful to hear and understand regarding the **flood of grace!**

Sometimes we just need to be reminded that Charismatic spirituality and Baptism in the Holy Spirit is **not new** or **for just a few!** The "**current or flood of grace**" of the Holy Spirit is for the **entire Church**.

Jesus said in Luke 12:49: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! ..."

The Holy Spirit breathes life into us. Ruach! This spirituality is for everyone. It should be mainstream! Do not be afraid to embrace it. It is the spirituality of the Church, the Body of Christ.

We are called to set the earth on fire! We exist to evangelize ... and according to 1 Corinthians 12:3, Paul explains that no one can genuinely confess that Jesus is Lord except through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

St. Catherine of Sienna said: **Be who God meant you to be and YOU will set the world on fire.**



Donna Ross, Patti Mansfield and Al Mansfield



Pope Leo XIV holding our Magnificat Rosary while blessing Fr. Hayden Williams, O.F.M. Cap



Sr. Rita, DLJC from The Ark and the Dove, Laretta Froelich, Pentecost Today USA Board member from Chicago and Christine Miles, Coor. of our Pittsburgh Chapter



International Charismatic Leaders speaking to attendees at the Conference



Donna Ross in St. Peter's Basilica in front of the extraordinary Holy Spirit image



Pope Leo addressing the leaders of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and of CHARIS on May 30

LUCCA



Donna Ross with picture of St. Elena Guerra



St. Michael's Basilica situated right in the heart of the city's historic center.



Exploring the streets of Lucca with Sister, Michelle Seghers and Maryse Gregoire



Attending Mass in the Church of Sant' Agostino



Group picture of pilgrims after Mass with Oblates of the Holy Spirit sisters



St. Elena Guerra in the altar of Sant' Agostino which is a Gothic style, Roman Catholic parish church located in central Lucca in the piazza. Her body is kept and venerated in this church.

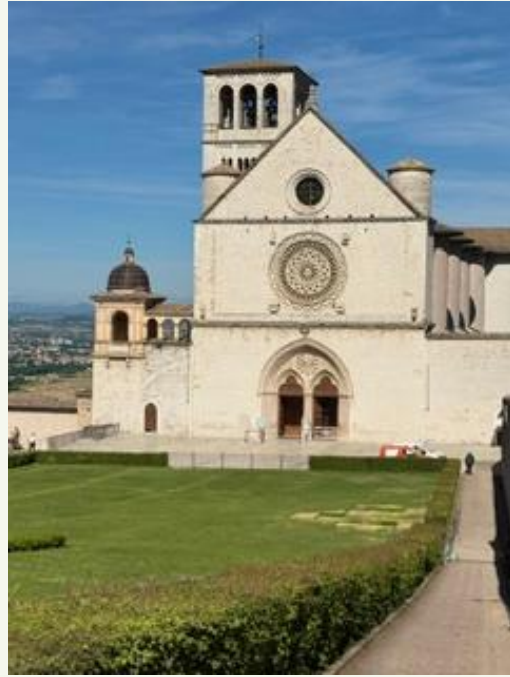


Visited St. Elena's bedroom in the Convent of the Oblates of the Holy Spirit.

ASSISI



Beautiful view from the front of St. Francis Basilica



St. Francis Basilica



Portiuncula (meaning small portion) is a tiny, 4th century chapel that serves as the symbolic birthplace of the Franciscan order. St. Francis of Assisi rebuilt the chapel and lived most of his life there. It is located in the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels in the town of Santa Maria degli Angeli, just outside of Assisi.



Donna Ross celebrating her birthday in Assisi!



Pax (peace) and Tao cross on the grounds of St. Francis Basilica



Lauretta Froelich, Maryse Gregoire and Donna Ross on the stairs exiting St. Francis Basilica.

Czyzowice Chapter in Poland Holds an April Meal

By Cecila Soporowska, Region 9 Rep

The Czyzowice Chapter in Poland held a Meal on April 17th in the Catering Hall. There were 120 women in attendance. Their invited speaker was Jola Stankiewicz. A personal blessing was given by their priest at the end of the Meal.



Poland Blessing



Blessed Mother Statue



Introducing the Guest Speaker, Jola Stankiewicz.



SOME WOMEN

LUKE 8:1-3

NEW MAGNIFICAT PODCAST

Some Women has a panel of 3 - 4 women discussing timely topics, often featuring a special guest and lasting about 30 minutes. New programs in this series will be available on the 2nd and 4th Fridays each month. [Click Here](#)

Las Vegas Chapter Hosts Speaker with a 'Certificate in Evangelization'

By: Sarah Larmore, Historian

Our Lady of Miracles Chapter held a Magnificat Meal at Christ the King Community Center on March 7, 2026. In a reverent yet joyful atmosphere, women gathered for fellowship, worship, and an inspiring testimony of faith. Fr. McShane opened the event with a spiritual reflection and blessed the Meal.

Following the Meal, there was a time of praise and worship that filled the room with heartfelt devotion. Sara Ford introduced the featured speaker, Barbara Heil. Barbara recounted her remarkable journey of faith. After her mother left the family when she was young, she remained with her father, a devoted atheist. During those difficult years, Barbara would look out her bedroom window and speak to the "Man in the Sky," an imaginary friend she later recognized as God. She credits the prayers and encouragement of faithful "Little Old Ladies" (LOLs) with helping her navigate the challenges of the 1970s.

As a young adult, Barbara committed her life to Jesus and pursued ministry training, including earning a certificate in evangelization. Alongside her late husband, she traveled extensively on missionary journeys, proclaiming the Gospel around the world.

During a chapel service where Fr. Sandy Thompson was speaking, he shared a prophetic word that someone present had been incorrectly told they could never conceive. Despite doctors' assurances that she would never have children, Barbara continued to trust God. Encouraged by a friend, Barbara came forward for prayer. The following year, she returned to introduce Fr. Thompson to her firstborn child, eventually followed by three more children.

Barbara described her gradual conversion to the Catholic faith. Through reading the lives of the saints, studying the Catechism, and exploring Church history and Scripture, she was led to embrace the authority of the Chair of Peter. Her story of surrender, humility, and spiritual transformation is detailed in her book, *Journey Into His Heart*.

Today, Barbara enthusiastically encourages the "Little Old Ladies" in every family to continue praying boldly, "rock the boat," and ensure that future generations are brought to Christ through the sacraments. As she joyfully proclaims, she is now "Catholic and loving it!"



Sara Ford praying over guest speaker, Barbara Heil.

SUCCESSION PLANNING AT WORK

TERRY SHINE MOVES TO REGION 2 REP

Terry Shine began attending Magnificat meals in 2007 and fell in love with the Ministry and the community of women that it provided.

In 2009, she attended her first Magnificat Conference and received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and it was life changing!

Initially Terry served as a table hostess and then became Hospitality Chair. She became the Chapter Assistant Coordinator in 2009. Later she became the Coordinator of the Tallahassee Chapter and was instrumental in its reformation in 2012. Terry continued to serve as the Coordinator for the Mary, Mother of Mercy and Hope Tallahassee Chapter until December 2025.

Terry is currently Regional Rep #10 serving Africa. She resigned as the Regional Formation Service Team member (R4ST) for Region 5 to accept her new role as Regional Rep in Region 2 which she assumed officially on May 1, 2026.

Thank you, Terry, for your faithfulness to Jesus, Mary, and the Ministry.



PAT FOREST RESIGNS AS LEADERSHIP CHAIR

After serving as the Magnificat Leadership Ministry Chair for the past 3 1/2 years, Pat Forest has heard the Lord calling her to new endeavors. Pat has been instrumental in solidifying the Leadership Ministry and forming Regional Leadership Service Team members (RLST). She leaves a legacy of commitment and faithfulness to Ministry guidelines. In her letter of resignation, Pat writes:

"It has been my honor and privilege to work with everyone in making our Chapters the best in all aspects of the Ministry. I have been greatly blessed to get to know everyone. I will continue to pray for all as you do important work for the Lord. May He bless you abundantly and keep you in His care."

The blessing has certainly gone both ways. Thank you, Pat, for your years of service and continued

prayers.

MARIA LUQUE-RAUTIO ACCEPTS LEADERSHIP CHAIR POSITION

Maria was born in Madrid, Spain, but has lived in the United States since 1993. Over the years, the Holy Spirit has equipped her with a joyful passion to proclaim the Good News of Salvation - with healing, joy and victory in the name of Jesus. Her desire is for others to experience the unconditional love of our Heavenly Father for themselves – and the freedom and joy that comes when we keep Jesus first in our lives.

She is a Lay Minister, serving as Coordinator for the “Jesus is Lord” Miami Magnificat Chapter and has been the Region 5 Leadership Service Team member (RLST).

Maria assumed her responsibilities as Leadership Ministry Chair in April.

Thank you for your "Yes!", Maria!



LISTEN TO OUR PODCAST

You can hear great Magnificat testimonies, teachings, Conference 2025 talks/homilies and encouraging words on your computer, tablet, or phone. Click on the Podcast icon and enjoy listening to the variety of programs available. Save programs as a favorite to your computer or phone and listen to them anywhere and anytime. Tune in regularly and don't forget to sign up for updates!



Rochester, NY Hosts December Meal

By Jeanne Walker, Assistant Coordinator

It was another spirit-filled event on December 13, for our last Magnificat Meal of the year. A record breaking 157 members were in attendance, both men and women with 50 people being 1st time attendees. All giving glory to God with the music ministry leading us in song and praise.

It was an uplifting morning with a heartfelt testimony by our guest speaker Deacon Pat Shanley whose authentic joy, humor and passion illuminated the room. In summary, he learned so much about Jesus and his faith from ordinary everyday people, like these 3 holy people filled with God. He thanks God every day for them. 1. Adell, his mother, taught him how to cloth the naked, feed the hungry, care for the sick and imprisoned. 2. Fr. Bob Lee (pastor/friend) taught him how to minister to others. 3: Jeanne, his wife, taught him how to love and to unselfishly give of himself. Because of them and so many others, he hopes to be just like them when he grows up.

Our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Ed Palumbos, explained 3 scriptural ways of Christs' coming; the birth of Christ, Christ comes to us in the NOW, and the end of time.

The winner of the raffle drawing received a beautiful nativity set with items purchased in Rome and blessed by Pope Leo XIV.



Guest Speaker
Deacon Pat Shanley



Spiritual Advisor
Fr. Ed Palumbos



Attendees



Musicians



Raffle - Nativity Set

April Meal Hosted by Rochester, NY Chapter

By Jeanne Walker, Assistant Coordinator

Spouse of the Holy Spirit Chapter had another faith-filled Magnificat breakfast Meal at St. Pius X Parish. It was a wonderful event featuring guest speaker Alexandra Andrews. She shared the powerful ways God has carried out his plan for her life. From being an abortion survivor to becoming a pro-life speaker, she revealed the many difficulties she has faced, and the healing and mercy God has provided through forgiveness. We were all truly blessed to hear her testimony.

We had another delicious breakfast cooked and served by the Knights of Columbus. Our raffle theme was 'Life is a Gift'. The Praise and Worship music was led by Steve and Denise Ferferino. A teaching was given by Fr. Ed Palumbos, it was a beautiful way to celebrate Life.



Speaker Alexandra Andrews



Fr. Ed Palumbos, Spiritual Advisor



"Life is a Gift" Raffle winner



Service Team (Left to right): Ann Iten, Coordinator; Jeanne Walker, Assistant Coordinator; Karen Chin, Treasurer; Alexandra Andrews, Speaker; Cece Crawford, Assistant Treasurer; Fr. Ed Palumbos, Spiritual Advisor

New Proclams Series - click on image to watch



Saturday May 2nd Our Lady Queen of Peace Orange County Magnificat was thrilled to host Father Sy Nguyen who is currently the presiding pastor of Holy Family Catholic Church in Orange California. The Meal was held at the beautiful Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove. This was Father's second time giving his powerful testimony as he was a featured speaker over 23 years ago! Father shared his story about growing up in Communist Vietnam. His message was one of hope, trust in the Lord and his deep love for our Mother Mary. His story about the power of the Rosary was truly inspiring. Hearing about his personal journey with the Lord moved the room to tears and there was much laughter at the same time as Father has an incredible story to tell that truly inspired all who were present.

The music of Donna Lee brought us all into the presence of the Holy Spirit and there were many first-time attendees and those who have not been able to come for a few years were also present. It was almost a complete sellout crowd. The perfect time together to prepare for Mother's Day honoring our Mother Mary in a very special way as the morning would not have been complete without our May crowning of Our Lady of Fatima statue.

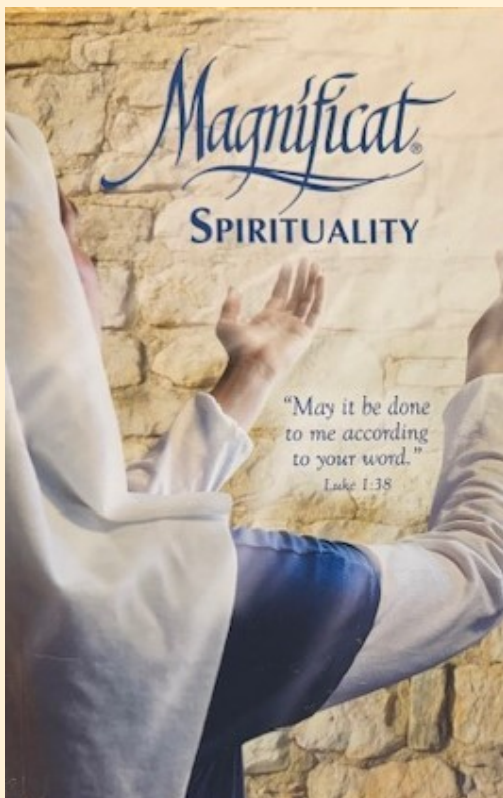
The White House restaurant in Anaheim provided a delicious Meal for us. Dr. Elizabeth Kim led us in a short teaching about the Holy Spirit. It was a day to remember. So blessed to have had Father Sy come and touch our hearts with his beautiful message of peace.



Guest Speaker- Fr. Sy Nguyen



Orange County Service Team & Donna Lee -
LF to RT Donna Lee, Michelle Harnish,
Donna Dostalík, Fr. Sy, Dr. Elizabeth Kim,
Pam De Marco



MAGNIFICAT SPIRITUALITY

The Magnificat Spirituality book brings the principles of Magnificat into one concise volume. Now, we can be informed and instructed in what it truly means to say "yes" to God like Mary and join her in proclaiming His greatness in word and deed through Magnificat membership.

"But the hour is coming, in fact has come, when the vocation of woman is being achieved in its fullness, the hour in which woman acquires in the world an influence, an effect, and a power never hitherto achieved. That is why, at this moment when the human race is undergoing so deep a transformation, women impregnated with the spirit of the Gospel can do much to aid mankind in not falling ..."
– Second Vatican Council message to women

"Magnificat Spirituality is a response to this proclamation, echoing in our times, calling us back to personal holiness, community, and service in obedience to the Holy Spirit. The world needs a compelling manifestation of God's love and power to heal broken lives and institutions. With Mary, as our model and greatest intercessor, we believe Magnificat,

[Click here](#)

North County San Diego Meal Speaker serves the Homeless

By Elise Botch, Communications Liaison

Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapter hosted a Meal on May 16th at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Escondido, CA. Guest speaker, Annamarie Piconi Snyder, shared a powerful testimony of faith, healing, and service.

Annamarie recounted her lifelong spiritual journey, beginning with her Catholic upbringing and early encounters with God's love through dedicated teachers, family influences, and a growing devotion to prayer. She candidly shared seasons of struggle, including battles with low self-worth, anorexia, depression, and a life-changing moment when God's intervention pulled her back from the brink of despair.

Through marriage, family challenges, financial hardship, and personal loss, Annamarie discovered the healing power of the Eucharist, Adoration, the Divine Mercy devotion, and the loving intercession of the Blessed Mother. Along the way, she learned that God's grace often appears through unexpected people, faith communities, and moments of profound mercy.

A pivotal encounter with a homeless man at a parish office transformed the direction of her life. He challenged her with the question, "What are you people going to do at the judgment? You're supposed to be apostles of Jesus." It became the catalyst for a new mission. Inspired by Matthew 25 and guided by prayer, Annamarie stepped beyond fear and founded "You Did It for Me," a nonprofit dedicated to accompanying individuals experiencing homelessness in San Diego's East County.

Today, with nearly 100 volunteers, the ministry provides practical support, compassionate relationships, and hope to neighbors in need. Annamarie shared moving stories of transformation, reminding listeners that every person is known by name, loved by God, and worthy of dignity.



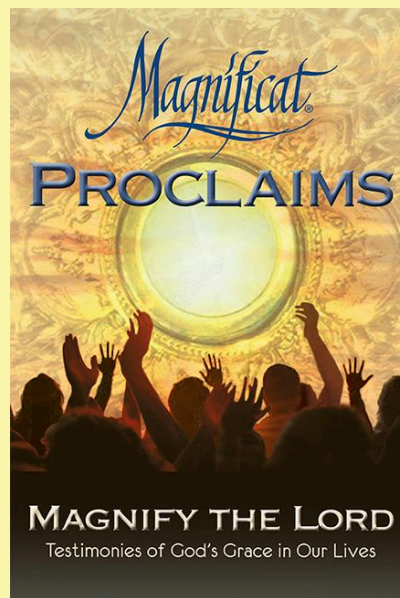
Guest Speaker- Annmarie Piconi Synder

Magnify the Lord!

Book three in the Magnificat Proclaims series has another 19 powerful testimonies of clergy, religious and laity to inspire and touch hearts. Available in the Magnificat Store or Amazon.com

Order a Proclaims book at:
store.magnificat-ministry.net

A Great & Inspiring Read!



Antelope Valley Chapter, CA Meal

By Linda Reynolds, Assistant Coordinator

Our Meal on May 16th, 2026, was another spirit-filled day! It was a very special day where friends from all over the Antelope Valley and surrounding areas gathered in fellowship with old and new friends. Our guests were delighted with our raffles and amazing prizes that were donated.

Our speaker, Fr. Andrew Kang, is a Dominican serving the parish of St. Dominic's in Eagle Rock, California. Fr. Andrew shared his journey of discerning a vocation as a young man and college student, as his relationship with our loving Trinity grew deeper.

His expressive charismatic nature was a gift to everyone, bringing laughter to all and tears to some. He brought the Holy Spirit closer to our souls and helped us to see his love for Our Lord. Everyone was excited and eager to speak with Fr. Andrew after his testimony. He was attentive to all and made each one of us realize how much we are loved by God. In his closing prayer, Fr. Andrew prayed a powerful prayer over us - this brought tears to many and encouragement to all.



Service Team with Fr. Andrew
LF to RT: Megan Rutherford, Celia Cedillo, Daria Ongsing, Stephanie Gilbert, Fr. Andrew, Deacon Dale and Linda Reynolds, Belinda Vigil



Nataly Arnoudts and raffle winner
Sandy Berry on the right



Fr. Andrew Kang sharing his testimony



Service Team



Praise & Worship

Praise Report



Each time I attend a
Magnificat Meal,
I witness the power of the
spiritual gifts and grow in my
love for God,
Mary and the Church.

Visitation Chapter Welcomes New Bishop and Former CST Treasurer

By Janice Lane Palko, Secretary

In July 2025, the Diocese of Pittsburgh installed Bishop Mark A. Eckman as its 13th bishop, and the Magnificat Visitation Chapter invited its new shepherd to be the speaker at its March 7, 2026 Meal at the Marriott North - Cranberry Township hotel. Nearly 370 people welcomed Bishop Eckman, who in his testimony, admitted that he didn't know much about Magnificat when first contacted but revealed now how highly impressed he was with the Ministry. With humor, humility, and honesty, he regaled the crowd with his journey from being a youngster growing up in Pittsburgh to becoming its spiritual leader. The bishop took a selfie with the crowd and graciously featured that photo and the Magnificat Meal in his weekly newsletter to his flock, Mark My Words. He also stayed for over an hour after the Meal concluded to personally greet each attendee.

Kim Rodriguez-Torres, former Magnificat CST Treasurer, was the featured speaker at the Chapter's May 16 Meal. Father Tom Sparacino welcomed the attendees to his home at the Diocese of Pittsburgh Pastoral Center, the Seminary, where he, as well as Kim, emphasized that we were in the period between the Ascension and Pentecost, waiting on the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Kim fired up the crowd with her testimony and the story of her young niece's illness and death, and how her faith inspired the Bella's Blankets ministry. Kim generously brought four blankets with her and raffled them off for the attendees.



Bishop Eckman & Fr. Tom
confer a blessing over the attendees



Visitation Chapter Founders welcome
Kim Rodriguez-Torres left to right
Kay Burkot, Kim, & Mary Samsa



LF to RT - Donna Melnick, Treasurer; Sheila Derian, Historian; Christine Miles, Coordinator,
Bishop Mark A. Eckman; Fr. Tom Sparacino, Spiritual Advisor;
Janice Palko, Secretary; and Rosemary Taddeo, Asst. Coordinator

2026 Giving Opportunity

Please consider supporting Magnificat in our mission to evangelize and serve Catholic women through joining our Five Star Share giving program. Your financial gifts enable the Ministry to support Chapters worldwide, develop new programs and materials for individual and community spiritual growth and development. These funds also help women forming Magnificat Chapters in new locations.

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Together, let us proclaim the greatness of the Lord to all the world!

God loves a cheerful giver! (2 Cor. 9:7)

Five Star Campaign



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Star of the New Evangelization
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Walnut Creek Chapter Invites Speaker Paul Kim

By Elise Botch, Region 1 Communications Rep.

I had the distinct pleasure to attend Walnut Creek's Chapter Meal on May 9th, held at Christ the Light Cathedral, in Oakland, CA.

Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Erick Villa opened the Meal with a warm welcome and later gave a short teaching. The Lord's Flock and Psalm Ministry Charismatic group composed of 20 members: 13 adults and 7 youth spread throughout the hall, leading the 140 attendees in song and praise. Their exuberant voices with their hands raised high, spread Holy Spirit joy throughout the elegantly decorated setting and into our hearts.

Guest speaker, Paul Kim, shared a deeply moving and faith-filled message of his family's greatest trial: the sudden illness and passing of his five-year-old son, Micah. Paul offered a powerful witness of Christian hope and the promise of eternal life through his family's experience of heartbreak, grief, and surrender.

Drawing inspiration from the story of Saint Monica and Saint Augustine, Paul reminded parents and families never to stop praying for their loved ones. He reflected on the role of mothers and fathers as primary witnesses of faith and emphasized authentic Christian discipleship includes carrying the cross. The lives of the saints were characterized not by comfort, but by perseverance through suffering united to Christ.

Paul recounted Micah's hospitalization, the prayers of millions around the world, the support of the Church, and the extraordinary miracles that followed his son's death. He shared stories of conversions, healings, answered prayers, and signs of God's presence that strengthened his family's faith during their darkest hours.

At the heart of his talk was the profound message: heaven is real, suffering has purpose, and God never abandons his children. Paul expressed the power of intercessory prayer, and the hope that comes from trusting in God's providence even when His plans are difficult to understand.

Paul encouraged us to persevere in faith, embrace childlike trust in God, and remember that our ultimate home is not here on earth but in heaven. Through Micah's life and legacy, Paul invited us to live with greater hope, love God and neighbor more deeply, and hold fast to Christ's promise of eternal life.



Walnut Creek Service Team Left to Right
Josie Santos, Tammy Vo, Jennifer Lantin,
Annette Friedeberg, Belinda Russo, Fr. Erik Villa,
Michelle Heckle, Coordinator - not pictured



Elise Botch Reg 1 Communication Rep
Josie Otto - Secretary



Tammy Vo, Asst Coord &
Fr. Erik Villa, Spiritual Advisor



Crowning of Blessed Virgin Mary



Paul Kim, Speaker, son Micah



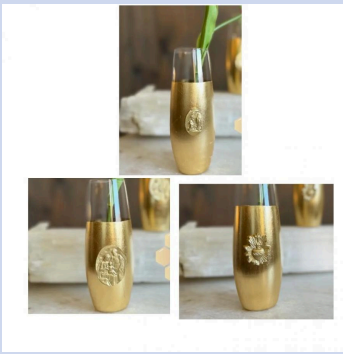
Fr. Erik Villa



Lord's Flock Music Ministry

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Our Lady of Fatima Chapter Meal in April

By Elvira Gonzales, Historian

Our Lady of Fatima Magnificat Chapter from San Angelo, Texas held a Prayer Meal on Saturday April 22, 2026 at St. Mary's Catholic parish hall. Father Felix Archibong was our honored speaker. Father Felix serves the communities of Our Lady of Guadalupe in El Dorado and St. Ann's Parish in Sonora, Texas. His presence brought warmth and depth to our event, as he shared insights rooted in his faith, pastoral experience, and personal life.

Father Felix began his talk with the beloved song, "Lord Prepare Me a Sanctuary." As the opening notes sounded, the entire audience joined him in singing. The collective voices created a beautiful and moving atmosphere, setting the tone for the morning, and inviting God's presence into our midst. The song emphasized our desire for spiritual openness and readiness, echoing the themes Father Felix would explore in his message.

The focus of Father Felix's address was the Virgin Mary, the mother of Our Lord, and the qualities she embodies. He spoke passionately about Mary's virtues—her humility, faithfulness, patience, and unconditional love. Father Felix drew parallels between Mary's virtues and those he saw in his own mother, highlighting how maternal love reflects the divine love experienced through Mary. He shared personal stories about his mother's nurturing spirit, her unwavering support, and her gentle guidance. Just as the Virgin Mary went with Jesus throughout his life, offering comfort and encouragement, Father Felix's mother has been a steadfast presence in his journey. The similarities—sacrificial love, deep prayer, and a heart open to God—were beautifully illustrated, reminding the audience of the importance of mothers shaping our spiritual lives and our Life's-roadmaps.

The SACRED SOUND band, led by Nora and Edward Hernandez, delivered uplifting praise and worship music that supported our prayer, reflection, and connection with the LORD.



LF to RT: Vicky Rivero, Roxanne Adame, Mary Padilla, Father Felix, Elvira Gonzales and Isabel Gonzalez



Sacred Sound Band



Fr. Felix Archibong, Speaker



Roxanne Adame, Coordinator



Attendees

MAGNIFICAT Prayer Booklet

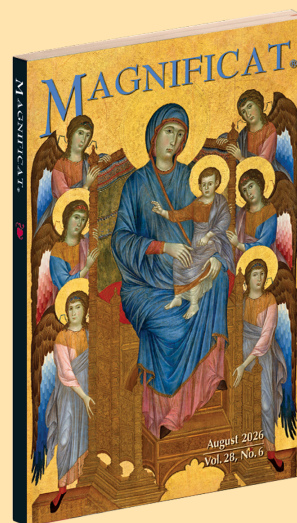
The MAGNIFICAT prayer booklet has been a daily companion to thousands on their spiritual journey, enriching their prayer life and helping them grow in love and knowledge of Christ and the Church. Every subscription to the MAGNIFICAT publication directly benefits our Magnificat, A Ministry to Catholic Women worldwide.

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New submissions can be sent to elisembotch@gmail.com*

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