



Our Lady of Hope Parish Women's Group, Potomac Falls, Virginia

LADIES OF HOPE

OCTOBER 2016

VOL. 3 NO. 1



Our
Lady
of
Hope,
pray
for
us!

Show Know Mercy*

President's Message

Dear Sisters in Christ,

In this Year of Mercy, we have Saint Teresa of Calcutta as an example for us. According to Mother Teresa, "Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the worst, the most terrible poverty of all. One of the greatest diseases is to be nobody to anybody." Just think--if each one of us made an effort to make someone feel less lonely, what joy we could bring to the world around us!

Here are some practical suggestions from Mother Teresa:

"Jesus said love one another, He didn't say love the whole world. If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier."

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

"Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person."

"If you want to bring happiness to the whole world, go home and love your family."

I like these suggestions of simple acts of love from our heavenly Sister in Christ and hope you do, too. I look forward to growing in faith and love this year with you, my Sisters in Christ!

God Bless,
Marie

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"Make new friends, but keep the old..."

So goes the traditional Girl Scout song we remember from childhood. As we enter different chapters in our lives--at home, at church, at work--we know that we will enjoy the friendship of acquaintances who inspire us and, most importantly, enrich our spiritual lives. We must bid a fond farewell to two Ladies of Hope who fit this description: Marsha Slick and Viviane Castaneda. Marsha and her husband, Clyde, relocated to Jacksonville, Florida, which was their hometown. In addition to LoH, Marsha was very active in Bible study, Birthright, and Trinity House Cafe. Viv and her family will soon move "across the pond" to London. Viv, a founding member of the Ladies of Hope, has left her mark in so many ways, including being a Work Camp volunteer and with her lovely cross stitch needlework on several of our church kneelers. Without a doubt, these two ladies have enriched our lives. We will miss them, we bless them, and we'll keep them in our prayers because, like the song ends, they are "gold."

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LINKS OF INTEREST:

Our Lady of Hope Parish: <http://ourladyofhope.net/>
Arlington Diocesan Council of Catholic Women:
<http://adccw.org/>



In the family,
everything that
enables us to grow, to
mature and to live is
given
to each of us.
We cannot grow up
by ourselves,
we cannot journey on
our own,
in isolation;
rather, we journey
and grow in a
community,
in a family.

-from [The Blessing of
Family
Inspiring Words from
Pope Francis](#)



Our Lady of Hope Moms' Group

Moms and their young children are invited to attend the events planned for this Fall. The goal of the Moms' Group is to strengthen each other in our spiritual and parental roles. All moms are welcome to join! Please go to www.ourladyofhope.net/activity/moms-group or contact Chris at ChristinaBongiovanni@hotmail.com or 917-301-3287 for more information about the upcoming activities:

September 2016

Sept 8 7:30 pm Moms' Night Out Clyde's – Ashburn
Sept 16 10:00 am Holy Hour & Confession OLOH
Sept 18 After 9:00 & 10:30 Mass Pancake Breakfast
Sept 22 2:00 pm Speaker Series:
Fr. Farrell, "Personal Prayer", OLOH
Sept 27 10:00 am Speaker Series:
Marie Kennedy, "The Hurried Child", OLOH

October 2016

Oct 9 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Oktoberfest OLOH
Oct 16 After 9:00 & 10:30 Mass Pancake Breakfast OLOH
Oct 21 10:00 am Holy Hour & Confession OLOH
Oct 27 3:00 pm Speaker Series: Peggy Kearney, "Children's Learning Styles", OLOH

November 2016

Nov 3 2:00 pm Speaker Series: Fr. Farrell, "Consecration to Mary", OLOH
Nov 18 10:00 am Holy Hour & Confession OLOH
Nov 20 After 9:00 & 10:30 Mass Pancake Breakfast OLOH

About the Events:

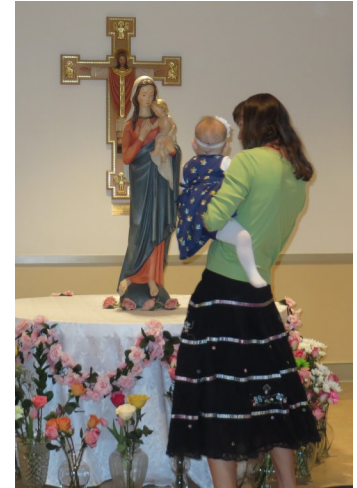
§ Holy Hour and Confession: Children witness how to spend time in prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, followed by optional Confession for the parents.

§ Mom's Night Out: A great chance for moms to "let their hair down" and enjoy fellowship with each other while the munchkins stay home.

§ Pancake Breakfast: Held monthly after the 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 Masses. Moms, kids – and hubbies! – get together for fellowship and great food!

§ Playgroup: Held at our moms' homes, this is a great time for children to play and for moms to catch up.

§ Speaker Series: The Speaker Series features a variety of speakers who aim to help moms in their many roles as mother, wife, daughter, worker and woman.



*Show Know Mercy

-By Christine Payne

This clever spiritual pun is the theme for the 2015-2016 Youth Ministry of the Diocese of Arlington. It was emblazoned on the tee shirts of the high school participants in Work Camp in June. It is meaningful in so many ways during the Year of Mercy.

As noted at the [Diocese's Youth Ministry](#) web page, this theme was taken from two biblical quotes: "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Luke 6:36) and "Blessed are the merciful, for they will obtain mercy." (Matthew 5:7)

As the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy draws to an end on November 20, the Solemnity of Christ the King, we might ask ourselves, "How have I known and shown mercy in my life?"

Please read the *Legion of Mary* article by Deborah Baird on page 4. Deborah writes about obtaining plenary indulgences during this Year of Mercy.



Opportunities to Enrich Your Catholic Life



By Marie Kennedy

Endow helps women from all walks of life discover their God-given dignity and femininity through the richness and authenticity of Catholic teaching. When we as women grow in understanding the teachings of the Church and in the truth of Jesus Christ, our faith becomes more fully defined, and so does our transforming influence in the family, the community, and society as a whole. We hope you will join us in this adventure deeper into our faith as we embark on our study of "Mother of the Redeemer" this Fall.

"Mother of the Redeemer" draws women into the mystery of the one woman who stands at the center of time. In his 1987 encyclical on Mary, Saint John Paul II explains how the Church understands her unique and exalted role in salvation history. Drawing on Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, this papal writing will help you explore the topic of Mary's place in the life of the Church and Catholic devotion.

John Paul II invites us to ponder the question: Who can I look to as the most perfect model of femininity, virtue and discipleship? Discover how Mary truly is a model for every woman facing her own mission and vocation.

Rich with prayers, quotes, and personal meditations, this study helps Endow women embrace Mary as the most excellent example of the "feminine genius" and see her as a model for all to emulate.

You will have the opportunity to grow in faith with your Sisters in Christ. And, there's no homework!

There will be 2 groups: Wednesday mornings 9:15 -11am (babysitting provided) and Tuesday evenings 7:30-9pm. To learn more or to register for this study please contact Marie Kennedy at: 703-433-0864, dken5854@aol.com, or Therese Bracken at 703-444-1977, tkbracken@gmail.com.

Trinity House Café

-By Christine Payne

Have you been to the Trinity House Café lately? If not, you are missing "a little taste of heaven" as they say at the café. Why not give yourself a treat—both spiritual and physical—and visit this welcoming "home" for a morning break or, perhaps, lunch with friends?

The Trinity House Café is located in Leesburg at the corner of Market and Church Streets. It has a cozy sitting room with tables and comfy sofas. You can buy coffee, tea, or soft drinks to accompany a breakfast treat or a luncheon sandwich or soup. THC always has a selection of yummy sweets, too.

You can relax while reading a book from the café's bookstore, or you can enjoy a musical evening. Trinity House Café also has regularly scheduled activities for children. And, they have a gift shop with religious items for sale. Go to <http://www.trinityhousecafe.com/> to view their menu and calendar of events.

Need a location for your next birthday party or book club meeting? Trinity House Café can accommodate your wishes! Contact them at 703-737-3721 to inquire.

Put a visit to the Trinity House Café on your Fall "to do" list. It will be good for your body and soul!



Thanks to you, here's what we do!

The gentle touch of the Ladies of Hope is felt in many areas of our parish. Here are some of the things we do:

- + support our pastor, Father Saunders, by providing receptions for parish events
- + chair the annual Marian Tea, St. Joseph's Table
- + organize the Advent and Lenten retreats for women
- + provide Endow programs for women and girls
 - + organize fundraisers
- + participate in the parish Christmas Market
 - + support Work Camp in our parish
 - + volunteer as lectors and ushers
 - + manage the gift shop
- + support Knights of Columbus activities
 - + organize monthly Donut Sundays
- + perform Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy

Thank you!

Treasurer's Report

By Pat Garman, Ladies of Hope Treasurer

You will see from the Treasurer's Report below that our past year has been a busy one for the Ladies of Hope! We have worked hard to raise money for our charities and activities through our Donut Sunday, Thanksgiving Pie Sale, and Christmas Market fundraisers. At our Advent and Lenten Retreats, women of the parish enjoyed a morning of prayer, reflection, and fellowship. Our two Teas--the Christmas Fashion Show & Tea and the annual Marian Tea in May--provided opportunities for ladies to honor Our Blessed Mother and socialize. Additionally, this year the Ladies of Hope purchased the Hymn Boards that are installed in the church. Last, but not least, we sponsored and supported the ENDOW studies by providing babysitting during the morning classes. We can't wait to repeat these joyful works of charity and fellowship this year!

Ladies of Hope Treasurer's Report

Balance 6/30/15 \$4445.88

Activities 2015-2016	Income	Expenses	Net
Donut Sunday	2036.33	1103.62	932.71
John Paul II Shrine Trip	280.00	277.50	2.50
Thanksgiving Pie Sale	3310.00	2645.65	664.35
Advent Retreat	590.00	191.56	398.44
Christmas Market	554.85	16.10	538.75
Fashion Show & Tea	1455.00	1317.83	137.17
Lenten Retreat	750.00	648.24	101.76
Marian Tea	1150.00	1191.03	(41.03)
Mass Intention Cards		140.00	
Gifts to Priests/Sister		82.29	
Snacks and Supplies		517.82	
Pantry Supplies		191.36	
Hymn Boards		894.16	
Babysitting for Endow/LoH		875.00	
Books for Moms' Group Library		87.09	
Work Camp Donation		250.00	

Balance 6/30/16 \$4142.81

Holy Doors in the Year of Mercy

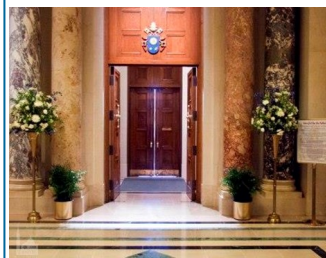
By Deborah Baird

Coordinator, OLOH Legion of Mary

Last December 8th, Pope Francis pushed open the huge bronze Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica in Rome to launch the Catholic Church's "Year of Mercy", saying it was a "Door of Mercy, through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons and instills hope." For the first time, he has instructed churches and cathedrals to take part in the tradition of the Holy Door, to help Catholics mark the jubilee at home rather than coming to Rome. Pope Francis encourages each diocese to open a Holy Door, to which pilgrims can journey. This door represents the compassion, love, mercy, and consolation of God working in our lives.

Special Indulgence for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

"During this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis concedes a plenary indulgence, with the customary conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer in keeping with his prayer intentions) to all members of the faithful starting on 8 December 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and the 50th anniversary of the closing of Vatican II, until 20 November 2016, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. The Jubilee Indulgence can also be obtained for the deceased." (from: www.nationalshrine.com/mercy)



On December 8, 2015, Bishop Paul S. Loverde opened the Holy Door for the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy at Saint Thomas More Cathedral, and Cardinal Donald Wuerl opened the national Holy Door, pictured above, at

the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Take the opportunity to visit one of these beautiful churches, and pass through a Holy Door of Mercy before November 20th!

Parish Service Partnership

By Tess Torres

Parish Service Partnership seeks to assist parishioners by providing services, lending a helping hand or a listening ear, and encouraging participation in ministries and activities. Services we hope to provide include warmly welcoming our newcomers to the parish and the neighborhood. We hope to provide rides to and from parish events for those who cannot drive and visits with home-bound parishioners. We hope to provide meals to those families who are welcoming our tiniest parishioners home, facing unexpected emergencies such as hospital stays, difficult recoveries, or dealing with bereavement.

If you know of a parishioner who could use assistance, is new to our church, or if you would like participate in any aspect of this rewarding ministry please send an email to psp@ourladyofhope.net. Please visit the parish website <https://ourladyofhope.net> for additional details. The PSP tab is under Parish Life - Activities and Groups.

A Tale of Two Teas

Christmas Fashion Show and Tea

On December 13, 2015, the Ladies of Hope held their first Christmas Fashion Show and Tea. “Femininity and Fashion” was the title of this event coordinated by Virginia Rowell and Marie Kennedy who wanted to present examples of modest, chic clothing styles that emphasized our *feminine genius* written about by Pope St. John Paul in his *Letter to Women*.

Models represented groups from our parish including Our Lady of Hope School faculty, Ladies of Hope members, and high school students. They were Chelie Billingsley, Mary Collins, Gwenn Fennelly, Katherine James, Peggy Kearney, Gabby Lopez, Victoria Orosa, Mary Beth Pittman, Teri and Holly Scharf, Snow Schofield, Pam Skojec, and Holly Smith. Lord and Taylor at Dulles Town Center provided the fashions that ranged from casual wear to elegant formal gowns.

Mark your calendars for December 11, because the Ladies of Hope will present their second Christmas Fashion Show and Tea again this year!



Photos courtesy of Cristina Tudor and Christine Payne

A Tale of Two Teas *cont.*

Marian Tea

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Mother, and this year on May 14, the Ladies of Hope presented their annual Marian Tea. The first Marian Tea was held on the same date in 2011. Trish Daquano and Peggy Kearney, who was the Ladies of Hope President that year, coordinated the premier Marian Tea, and it has been a much anticipated yearly event for the ladies, young and old, of our parish ever since.

This year's Marian Tea committee consisted of Therese Bracken, Marie Kennedy, Pat Garman, Sharon Hohn, and Christine Payne who coordinated ticket sales, programs, table assignments, door prizes, food, volunteers, and hostess duties. As always, it was a lovely luncheon with savory and sweet treats to enjoy with a selection of teas. Attendees sang traditional Marian hymns, played by Suzanne Yerks and led by Sabine Morson, as they processed toward a statue of Our Lady and presented Mary with a rose. So many ladies have fond memories of May Processions when they were children, and the Marian Tea gives them an opportunity each May to celebrate the special place that Our Blessed Mother has in our lives.

While the official day is yet to be decided upon, the Ladies of Hope will hold their sixth annual Marian Tea in May, 2017. We cordially invite all ladies of the parish to join us for this wonderful event in honor of Mary, Our Blessed Mother.



2016 *Marian Tea*



Photos courtesy of Mary Meli and Marilyn Marzacco

Ladies of Hope Calendar 2016 - 2017

September 2016

13, 20, 27 Tuesday evening Endow Study 7:30 PM
 14, 21, 28 Wednesday morning Endow Study 9:15 AM
 18 Commitment Sunday

October 2016

1-16 "Women Giving Back" service project collecting used jewelry, purses, scarves
 2 Donut Sunday
 4, 11, 18, 25 Tuesday evening Endow Study 7:30 PM
 5, 12, 19, 26 Wednesday morning Endow Study 9:15 AM
 27 Thursday evening welcome reception with wine and cheese 7 PM
 29, 30 Thanksgiving Pie Sales after all Masses
 TBD Pilgrimage Trip

November 2016

1, 8, 15 Tuesday evening Endow Study 7:30 PM
 2, 9, 16 Wednesday morning Endow Study 9:15 AM
 6 Donut Sunday
 12 Advent Retreat with Father Saunders 8:30 AM
 5, 6 Thanksgiving Pie Sales after all Masses
 20 Thanksgiving Pie pickup after morning Masses
 TBD Pilgrimage Trip

December 2016

3 Christmas Market: Catholic used book sale & bake sale 9:00 AM
 4 Donut Sunday
 11 Holiday Fashion Show and Tea 2:00 PM

January 2017

8 Donut Sunday
 15-31 Birthright service project: Baby Bottle Drive
 17, 24, 31 Tuesday evening Endow Study 7:30 PM
 18, 25 Wednesday morning Endow Study 9:15 AM

February 2017

5 Donut Sunday
 7, 14, 21, 28 Tuesday evening Endow Study 7:30 PM
 1, 8, 15, 22 Wednesday morning Endow Study 9:15 AM

March 2017

7, 14, 21, 28 Tuesday evening Endow Study 7:30 PM
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Wednesday morning Endow Study 9:15 AM
 18 Lenten Retreat with Fr. Farrell 8:30 AM
 19 St. Joseph's Day Table and Celebration 2:00 PM
 TBD Pilgrimage Trip

April 2017

16-31 Birthright Baby Shower service project collecting maternity and baby clothes
 TBD Pilgrimage Trip

May 2017

13 Ladies of Hope provide cookies for First Communion reception
 TBD Annual Marian Tea

