



The Marian Messenger

Bi-monthly Newsletter of the Sodality of Our Lady

“Mary, Our First Disciple, Show Us The Way To Jesus”

Volume 1, Issue 2

January 25, 2009

Prefect's Perspective

The Christmas season reminds us to be joyful because Jesus, the Christ, was born unto us to ensure our salvation and because he will come again in glory. The coming of the new year provides a time for reflection. In the new year let us resolve to focus on what is really important; loving God and loving our neighbor as God has loved us. The love of God and neighbor was evident at St. Hugh's over the past Christmas season through our very successful winter coat and warm clothing drive, the baby shower for the Gabriel Network, and through the hospitality we offered to our fellow parishioners at the St. Hugh's Christmas Dinner held on Gaudete Sunday 2008. My thanks to all Sodalists who worked so tirelessly to make those works of love a success. In the year ahead I pray that your cup will overflow with faith, hope and love and that each of you will continue to grow in personal holiness as you labor in the vineyard of God our heavenly Father.

Cindy Perry

Important Dates:

- Jan.25** Issue 2/newsletter
Sodality Mass/Mtg.
- Feb.1** Sodality Union Mtg.
- Feb.22** Sodality Mass/Mtg.
Raffle Sales End
- Mar.3** Exec Committee
Mtg @ 7pm/Rectory
- Mar.4** UMD Outreach
Dinner
- Mar.6** News Articles Due
- Mar.7** Sodality Union Mtg.
Raffle Proceeds Due
- Mar.14-15** Bake Sale/ White
Elephant Sale/and
Coffee Social
- Mar.22** Issue 3 Newsletter
Sodality Mass/Mtg.

Apostolic Life

In conjunction with the Gaudete dinner, the Apostolic Life Committee conducted a coat drive. Two hundred fifty two coats were collected. They were picked up by Bergmann's Laundry for cleaning and then donated to the Salvation Army.

In addition, over ninety sweaters and sweatshirts as well as hats, scarves and gloves were collected for distribution to the needy.

The December 28th social meeting of the Sodality was also the scene of a baby shower for the Gabriel Network. The donated items will be distributed to mothers in crisis pregnancies.

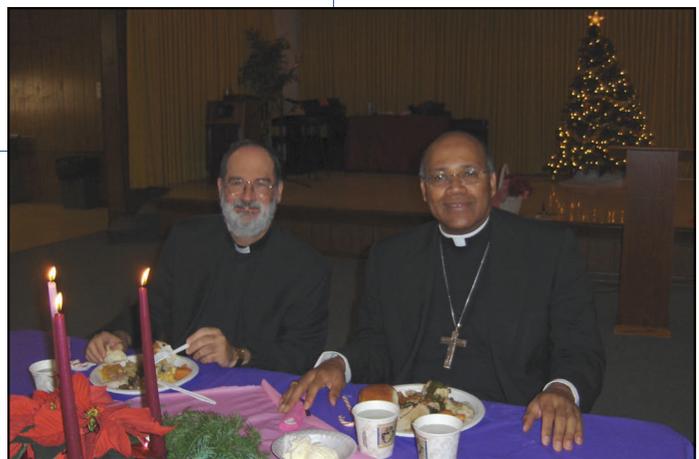
The Sodality of Our Lady thanks all members and parishioners who made these two events a success.

Suzanne Lomax

Junior Sodality

Flyers were distributed to the St. Hugh Catholic School students, the CCD and the Youth Group before the Christmas holiday. We had a light response and; therefore, will continue to advertise for youth through the Sunday bulletin. Mrs. Cepko, the school secretary, invites all of us to join in the recitation of the Rosary at 2:15pm on Tuesdays, in the school.

Mary Wade



Fr. Tappe and Bishop Holley enjoying their meal at the Gaudete Dinner in Grenoble Hall on December 14, 2008.

Raffle Benefits James Cardinal Hickey Scholarship Fund

Each year, the Sodality Union of the Archdiocese of Washington launches a fund-raising campaign to benefit the James Cardinal Hickey Scholarship fund. The scholarship fund helps pay for the education of students who might not otherwise be able to afford to attend a Catholic school. Local Sodalities support this fundraising effort by selling raffle tickets to raise funds. Five cash prizes are raffled. First prize is \$500.00, second prize is \$300.00 and the third through fifth prizes are each for \$100.00 in cash.

Last year, St. Hugh's Sodality raised \$200 for this scholarship fund. Altogether, the 68 Sodalities who are members of the Sodality Union of the Archdiocese of Washington raised nearly \$7000.00 for the scholarship fund. During 2009, St. Hugh's Sodality is aiming to raise \$300. All raffle tickets have been distributed to Sodality members for sale. See a Sodality member after Mass if you would like to purchase a ticket. They cost \$1.00 each or you may buy 3 tickets for just \$2.00. The winners' names will be drawn at noon on April 4th at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Washington, DC.



Mame Ellis, Ruth Morris and Mary Wade pose for a photo before serving Gloria Winfrey's delicious homemade meal for our 5th Annual Gaudete Christmas Dinner.

Prayer Corner

Please remember in your prayers all of the intentions listed in the Sodality Prayer book found on the table at the entrance of St. Hugh's Church. Please remember to pray for the following people and their families:

Margaret Kivlin: This long-time member of our Sodality is battling cancer again.

Wayne Williams: Mr. Williams is the Greenbelt resident who was beaten and robbed before Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in College Park.

Beatrice Baning: Our Treasurer's husband passed away on Christmas Eve. His funeral will be held on Feb 7th.

Donna Mangum: Sodalist Eunice Barber's daughter passed away on Jan. 15th. Her funeral was Jan. 19th.

Pearl Keeney: This former member of St. Hugh's Sodality who passed away on January 1, 2009.

Margaret Zanin: Our past Prefect's husband, Bruno Zanin, passed away on January 9, 2009. His funeral was Jan 13th.

Gail Sockwell-Thompson: Our Vice-Prefect's father suffered a stroke on Jan. 5th. He is now recuperating at home. Prior to his stroke, he was very active with the **Knights of Columbus** and Meals on Wheels.

Prayer and Spiritual Reading

Have you read any good spiritual books or come across an especially effective prayer technique lately? Why not tell us about it at our February meeting? Bring a copy of the book or prayer and be prepared to give a brief summary (3 minutes or less). Add your name to the list of speakers by contacting our Prefect by email at cindy.perry.k@verizon.net.

One book I recently finished reading is entitled, "The Faith We Profess, A Catholic Guide to the Apostles' Creed." The book is written by Monsignor Peter J. Vaghi, copyright 2008, Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, Indiana. It breaks down the Apostle's Creed into its component parts and examines how the Creed sums up our Catholic faith. It provides scriptural passages, quotations from the saints and popes, and the reflections of the author. All of these together help illuminate, in very easy to understand terms, why we believe what we do. It was well worth the modest purchase price of \$11.95. Monsignor Vaghi, who is Pastor of the Church of the Little Flower in Bethesda, Maryland, told me recently that the book is now in its second printing. Apparently, others are finding it useful, too. I'd be happy to lend my copy of it to anyone interested in reading it.

Cindy Perry

History Corner

Did you know that on November 7, 1947 the Sodality of Our Lady was formed at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church? Its original title was the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin and of Our Lady of Fatima. Rev. Victor Dowgiallo, the director, invested a large number of Sodalists as they stood on the stage of the Greenbelt Theatre which was serving as a place for Sunday Masses. Margaret M. Baldovin was the first Prefect.

Thank you Margaret Zanin for sharing this bit of history with our members.

A Little Taste of Home at UMD

On March 4, 2009, the Sodality will lead a parish-wide outreach effort benefiting students at the University of Maryland's Catholic Student Center in College Park, Maryland. Throughout the fall and spring semesters, churches in the area are invited to reach out to the Catholic students at the UMD. Each Wednesday evening a participating church prepares and serves a home cooked meal for Catholic students and their friends at UMD. On a typical Wednesday, over 100 ravenous students come for dinner following the daily Mass offered at 5:30 p.m.

The idea behind this effort is to help students feel they are never far from home when they are with their church family. It also helps the students and the local churches build lasting relationships. This year marks the third year that our Sodality and other interested parishioners of St. Hugh's have stepped in to assist with this project. This year's menu will include baked ham, baked potatoes, broccoli casserole, corn pudding, peaches, and home made desserts. "Cooking for over 100 people sounds hard," says Prefect, Cindy Perry, "but by breaking down the food preparation among many willing hands, it's really not hard at all." She goes on to explain, "Each person who wants to help takes a recipe home in advance, prepares the dish on the day of the event, and then brings it, piping hot, to St. Hugh's between 4:00 and 4:25 p.m. From there, we transport the hot food over to the Catholic Student Center, set it out and serve the meal. We provide a little taste of home. In doing so, we demonstrate to the students at UMD that we're all part of the universal church family."

If you would like to prepare a part of the dinner this year, or can help serve the dinner, you may **contact Suzanne Lomax**, the chairperson of the Sodality's Apostolic Life Committee.

New Parishioner Orientation

The Sodality was asked to share a little about its history and mission with new parishioners at the orientation following the 11:00am Mass on Sunday, January 18, 2009. We were one of six ministries represented. The four new families in attendance enjoyed lunch and fellowship together.

Our Prefect, Cindy Perry, generously prepared a statement which Mary Wade read in her absence. It included a brief history of the Sodality, our motto and purpose, and a summary of the many ways we serve our parish and local community through spiritual and apostolic works. As Cindy said, "Although we do not wear holy habits, we do work to develop holy habits."

We extended an invitation to both Catholic men and women to join us in our ministry, noting that if the 8:00am Mass is too early, they could come to our meeting (4th Sunday of each month) at about 9:30am and then attend the 11:00am Mass.

The New Parishioner Orientation is a result of the new **Greeters Ministry**, which was formed in late 2008. The ministry now has about fifteen Greeters, but is in need of more Greeters for the Saturday evening Mass at 5:00pm and the Sunday Masses at 8:00am and 11:00am. If you might like to assist the parish as a Greeter, please contact the Rectory or introduce yourself to a Greeter before or after Mass.

Special Services

All are invited to attend this event during Black History Month.

*The Oblate Sisters of Providence
and members of
the Mother Mary Lange Guild
cordially invite you
to make NOW your intentions as we celebrate a
Novena of Masses
In preparation for celebrating life and
127th anniversary of the death of
Mother Mary Lange
beginning January 25th – February 2nd.
Then JOIN us
February 8, 2009 at
1:00 p.m.
Mt. Providence Convent
701 Gun Road, Baltimore, MD 21227
at a Mass of Thanksgiving
celebrated by Cardinal William Keeler.
Give glory to God for
a life lived in heroic sanctity and deeds of love.*

Come and be inspired by the life and legacy of this great woman!

Light refreshments follow the service.

November, December, January Birthdays

Anne Chukwu December 16

Margaret Zanin January 2

Rosemary Sorber January 13

We do not want to exclude anyone's birthday, so please be sure you have given your birth date to Candy Culhane, our Membership Chairwoman, so we can celebrate your special day.

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Sodality of Our Lady

**St. Hugh of Grenoble
Catholic Church**
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Mary Wade, Editor

**2008-09 Committees and
Chairwomen**

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Apostolic Life

Suzanne Lomax

Hospitality

Mary Anne Schulz-Tretler

Membership

Candy Culhane

Public Relations

Mary Wade & Gail Sockwell-
Thompson

Special Services

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Mary Wade

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Cindy Perry

VP

Gail Sockwell-Thompson

Recording Secretary

Mary Wade

Corresponding Secretary

Cleopatra White

Treasurer

Beatrice Baning

Visit us
on the parish website:
www.sthughs.com

Put Aside Mediocrity In the New Year

On New Year's Eve, seven Sodalists from St. Hugh's attended an overnight retreat at the Washington Retreat House in Washington, DC. Retreat Director, Rev. Paul Henry encouraged us to lift ourselves up to Jesus' level in the new year. He reminded us that settling for mediocrity in our faith is akin to pulling Jesus down to our level.

Paraphrasing St. Francis de Sales, he said everyone, without exception, is called to unify themselves with Christ through prayer. Prayer, he explained, doesn't have to be scripted. It is a dialog with God that begins by quietly putting ourselves in God's presence and by our putting ourselves into the mystery of God's love for us. To achieve unity with Christ in prayer, Father Henry said we must set aside five times for prayer during the course of each day. By praying in this way each day, we raise ourselves to an extraordinary ordinary way of Christian living.

The first time of prayer is during morning prayer. This is when we say our good morning to Jesus. During this time of prayer, it can be helpful to reflect on what the image of God with us will look like today and to ask ourselves how God is going to be with us this day. Father Henry added that we need to reflect, too, on what virtues we will need to make it through the day.

The second time of prayer during the day is through brief ejaculatory prayers and aspirations. Through brief prayers such as "Jesus, I trust in you", or "God, have mercy on me a sinner," or other brief acknowledgements of God's ever present help, prayer becomes a part of everything we do.

The third time of prayer during the day is a spiritual retreat. Thirty minutes of silence, says Father Henry, is something everyone can fit into their schedule. Stuck in traffic? This is your chance to pray. Standing in line at the grocery store, the cafeteria, or riding on the bus? Everyone can find 30 minutes somewhere in their day. This is when you should make your spiritual retreat.

The fourth time of prayer is an examination of conscience and for this reason, it needs to happen later in the day. During this time of prayer, says Father Henry, ask yourself where you encountered God today in your life. It is a simple question that helps to remind us that God is always with us. During this time of prayer, we need to consider whether we responded to God with our best effort.

The fifth time for prayer each day is night prayer. This is when we thank God for another day of opportunity to be his hands and eyes and ears and we ask him for mercy when we have settled for good instead of the best.

The Sodalists who attended the retreat were there along with two other St. Hugh's parishioners and about thirty others from as far away as California. Featured activities on New Year's Eve were the mid-evening mass, time for private prayer & reflection, and a holy hour that straddled the old and new years. In the morning, Father Henry shared his reflections on the extraordinary ordinary way of Christian living. Following the morning conference, participants had the opportunity to receive the sacrament of penance. A late morning Mass was then celebrated to close the retreat.

As always, the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement who run the Retreat House were gracious in their hospitality. The meals and New Years' Eve refreshments were prepared with love and consumed by all with relish. They promised to pray for us and asked our prayers for them.

Father Henry is the Spiritual Director for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. He lives in Havre de Grace, Maryland. Father Henry will lead the Palm Sunday weekend retreat at the Washington Retreat Center April 3-5, 2009. To reserve your place at the Palm Sunday retreat for women of St. Hugh's, please contact the Washington Retreat House at (202) 529-1111 or via email at washretreat@juno.com. Suggested donation for the 3-day, 2-night retreat is \$150.00.