

# St. Paul VI Women's Society News

April/May 2023

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ST. PAUL VI PARISH

40 E. Burlington St., Riverside, IL 60546

708-447-1020

www.stpaulviparish.org

## Mendez duo voted Women of the Year

Theresa Mendez and Nicki Mendez were together voted as 2023 St. Paul VI Women of the Year at the April 12 Women's Society meeting! They were nominated twice, both times as a pair. Best friends, they co-chair our Social Commission or "fun committee" as Nicki calls it and have planned some amazing programs for us this past year! Here, they share a whimsical moment after a Chicago church tour Nicki planned.

Nicki and Theresa will be honored May 20 at the Vicariate IV Woman of the Year Luncheon at Allegra Banquets in Schiller Park. Join us for their tribute and a pork tenderloin luncheon. Checks for \$40 payable to ACCW Vic.IV are due by May 15 or at our May 3 meeting. More about their joint and individual contributions will appear in their profiles in the May 20 parish bulletin.



## May 3: A Holy Land sojourn

Our May 3 gathering will take us on a video pilgrimage to the Holy Land, through the eyes of Nicki Mendez, who traveled to Israel this spring. Share your own experiences there and enjoy a taste of the region! We will also vote for the historical portrayal or lecture that Leslie Goddard will present for us in September. Join us at 7:00 in the Marian Room at Mater Christi, or in church first for the rosary at 6:30.



## A return engagement for retreat

The Rev. Francis Bitterman, priest in residence at Mater Christi from 2015-2016, returned Wed., April 19, to lead our St. Paul VI Women's Society retreat. Forty women welcomed him back for the daylong event in the Marian Room. Father Bitterman has been pastor of St. Josaphat Parish in Lincoln Park since 2017.

Father Bitterman spoke on "Keys to Building a Stronger Faith," beginning with placing our trust in God. He said that ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of God and recommended the Catholic Youth Bible from St. Mary's Press for all ages. He played a powerful video clip from The Chosen series about spiritual and physical healing.

After a catered box lunch from Rose's, Father Bitterman concluded his lecture and invited retreatants upstairs to church for reconciliation and general absolution. The retreat concluded with Mass. Thanks to Bern Gordus for arranging the retreat.



## Send prayers, cheer to Fr. Cy

Father Cy could use our prayers and expressions of love and encouragement now more than ever, in his challenge with congestive heart failure. Please send your prayers and well-wishes to Rev. Cy Nemecek, Mercy Circle, 3659 W. 99th St., Chicago, IL 60655.



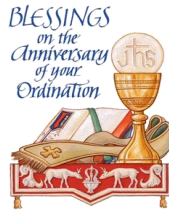
## RSVP for June 7 appreciation dinner

Our final gathering before summer will be Wed., June 7, in the Marian Room at Mater Christi Church. Rose's Catering will cater part of the meal. We will gather in church for Mass at 6:00, followed by dinner at 6:30. You must RSVP if you plan to join us for dinner, so that we can order the appropriate amount of food. A signup sheet will be available again at our May 3 meeting, or call Sue Kahler, 708-805-1007.



## Sweets invited for Father Tom's celebration

As Teresa Hall announced, members of our society are being asked to bake for the sweets table for Pastor Tom May's 40th anniversary celebration, May 13. A signup sheet will be available at our May 3 meeting. Your contributions will be most appreciated! Sweets can be dropped off May 12 from 4:00 to 6:00 at the Parish Center on the St. Mary campus, or May 13 after 3:00.



## Calendar

- May 3:** Monthly gathering
- May 6:** Society Mass; SM, 4pm
- May 13:** Father Tom's 40th anniversary Mass and reception
- May 14:** May Crowning  
\*more details will be available at the monthly gathering
- May 20:** Woman of Year luncheon
- June 3:** Day of Reflection; SM, 10am-3pm  
"Empowered by the Spirit"
- June 7:** Society Mass and appreciation dinner (**must rsvp**)
- June 11:** Society Mass; MC, 11am
- June 17:** Women, Wine, and the Word; SM, 7pm
- July 9:** Society Mass; SM, 10am
- August 5:** Society Mass; MC, 5pm

## Butterflies add color, whimsy in April

Society member Mary Plunkett treated us to an enlightening talk about the life cycle of butterflies and the plants and herbs that attract them to our yards as the highlight of our April 12 gathering.



Mary, whose vast experience includes the Chicago Botanic Garden and Lincoln Park Zoo, shared photos of her own yard, where she developed her obsession with the exquisite creatures! Thank you for the memorable presentation, Mary. The program ended with a clip of the Monarch migration Carol Dvorak filmed in Mexico!

## Fund helps another veteran

Air Force veteran Deanna Williams is the second veteran this year to be assisted by the Women's Society's Veterans Burial Fund, according to Linda Johnson of our Respect Life



Committee. Deanna became an organ donor upon her death and was cremated. Please pray for the repose of her soul. The committee works with Hines VA Hospital and a low-cost cremation service to embalm or cremate deceased veterans whose families are in dire need of assistance. Veterans receive free interment at any national cemetery, but embalming or cremation services are not included.

## Keep In Your Prayers

Pray for healing for the sick members of our Society, including Del Burns, Carol Dvorak, Bern Gordus, Linda Johnson, JoAnne Kosey, Dolores Messlein, and Virginia Novak.



## Membership

Have you paid your Women's Society dues yet? They are only \$15. Please see Nancy Sima or Ida Clary.

## Join or Renew Your Membership



## May



- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Chris Alfred    | Mary Binder      |
| Annette Corgiat | Carol Davidson   |
| Jean DiMonte    | Maddelena Flight |
| Kathy Lipinski  | Tina Lubrano     |
| Theresa Mendez  | Mary Plunkett    |