

Our Lady of the Family Herald



REGNUM CHRISTI OF ST. PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS

Our Lady of the Family, Pray for Us!

Renewal Process Kick-Off

(by Jane Stone)

Please see attached a letter from our General Director, Fr Eduardo Robles-Gil, LC. His letter announces the beginning of the process of renewal for Regnum Christi members.

It may seem that we are getting many resources and announcements at this time and it might be challenging to keep up with the latest information. Here are a few things to keep in mind during the renewal process:

- In the next few days, we are setting up a tab on our local website ([missionnetworkmsp.org](http://www.missionnetworkmsp.org)) where the letters and resources will be posted so you can read them and go back to re-read if needed.
- Our local convention on **Saturday October 25** will be a vitally important time to gather and learn together. Registration is open on our website and will close on October 20th.
- In the meantime, the most important aspect of this renewal time is to pray for each other and the entire Regnum Christi Movement. We can especially ask during this month of Our Lady of the Rosary, that Mother Mary encourage, inspire, and guide us.
- There is a new RC Prayer for Renewal, attached, which we will use at our meetings, Encounters, and gatherings in upcoming months.
- Also, there is a special prayer initiative which begins on **Friday October 3th**, preceding and during the Territorial Convention. To learn more about this initiative or to sign-up to pray for one hour for this intention, please go to this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0448a5aa22a4f49-theoctober>


Yours in Christ, Jane

Pope Francis' Prayer to the Holy Family for the Synod

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

Thy Kingdom Come!



REGNUM CHRISTI

Prayer for the renewal of REGNUM CHRISTI

Lord Jesus, our King and faithful Friend, you have called us to be part of this spiritual family, born from your Heart.

In obedience to your Church, we live this special moment of grace for the Regnum Christi Movement. We feel called to an authentic renewal, which is born from a desire for holiness and a passion to evangelize, as our love for you impels us. (2 Cor. 5:14)

Today, Lord Jesus, we call your name (Jer. 14:9) with greater intensity. We are yours; we abandon ourselves to you with total confidence. You wish that we give glory to God by working for the coming of your Kingdom in all hearts and in society.

Help us to better know your will for us at this moment of our history. Send us an abundant outpouring of your Spirit, so that, in a spirit of prayer and under the gaze of your most holy Mother, we may contemplate our charism with new eyes and be able to incarnate it and articulate it more fully.

Amen

Engage in RC Renewal Process!

Saturday, October 25th, 8am-3:30pm at OLG in Edina

Mass • Continental Breakfast • Meditation Talk • Confession • National Convention report • Guest Speaker • Catered Lunch • Flyer Attached

RSVP at www.missionnetworkmsp.org (cost \$30)



**Catholic Women's Retreat at Marytown, Libertyville IL,
November 14-16, 2014**

Fr Thomas Vendetti, LC will preach a Spiritual Exercises on the weekend of November 14-16, 2014 at Marytown Retreat Center in Libertyville IL. This retreat is open to all Catholic women. Details can be found on the **attached flyer**.

Note that there is an early bird discount for registrations received by October 14, 2014.

MONTHLY RETREAT

You and your friends are invited to our October Monthly Retreat on **Wednesday, October 8th, at 7 pm at the Center**. The title of this retreat is, A Mother's Tears, A Retreat Guide on Our Lady of Sorrows. September is the month dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows but October is also dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. It would have been more timely if this had been our September retreat, but I am sure the Blessed Mother will be very pleased if we remember her sorrows throughout the year.

Many of our members were able to spend time with consecrated member Jennifer Ristine when she visited our area last year. Here is an update from Jennifer on her new assignment in Jerusalem.



Triple blessings

One week into my "new life" in the Holy Land and I am overwhelmed by the blessings and newness of this place. There are constant paradoxes...a place of strife amidst varying cultures, yet a place where many discover peace of heart; a place of much division of beliefs, yet belief in the one same God.

This week brought a triple blessing as I contemplated the principal mysteries of my faith in the actual places where they took place some 2000 years ago. A trip to Bethlehem brought me to my knees in the heart of the cave where Jesus was born, receiving my Jesus in the Eucharist. At the same time, on top of the cave, the Greek Orthodox celebrated the Assumption of Our Lady and a Muslim guard protected both areas to assure that the celebrations went undisturbed.

The next day, I participated in Mass in a Franciscan Church that stands alongside the Upper Room, the revered place of many sacraments: the first Eucharistic celebration (Last Supper), Pentecost, Confession and Holy Orders (Jn 20:19-23). Yet it belongs to the Jews who guard it and invite people to enter the first floor where tradition has placed the Tomb of David.

As if this weren't enough graces for one week, I rose early on Monday morning and walked 15 minutes from the Notre Dame Center to the Holy Sepulcher. With so few pilgrims I was able to enter the tomb and participate in Mass. Kneeling before the stone upon which Jesus was lain and placing my hands upon it, I thought of the power of the resurrection and prayed for faith for those who do not believe.

Exiting the tomb of the Holy Sepulcher you can walk within the Church to Mount Calvary. (Jn 19:41). I knelt within 3 feet of where Jesus' cross is believed to have stood. Four feet to my left a priest was celebrating Mass. At the consecration I thought of how the blood of Christ continues to be shed for the sins of many. Every Eucharistic celebration "re-presents" Jesus' Last Supper, suffering on Calvary and Resurrection and outpouring at Pentecost.

We have it all...the grace of all Christ's mysteries are present to us again in each Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. His love is very creative! Thank you Jesus!



Women

Learn about the genius of women, and letting this genius be more fully expressed by supporting and building the dignity of women in the life of society.

Our Lady of the Family, Pray for Us!

You are cordially invited to attend a one of the Familia groups that will begin in October. Not able to go to your regular Encounter with Christ? Looking for a deep transformational formation? Being called to let the light of the Gospel shine before other women? There are 4 teams beginning very soon:

-Familia will meet on Thursdays (twice/month, 7pm) at St. Anne's in Hamel beginning 10/9/14.

-Familia will meet on Tuesdays (twice/month, 7pm) at St. Micheal's in St. Micheal beginning 10/7/14.

-Familia will have two meeting times on Thursdays (twice/month) at Ave Maria Academy, daytime team 8:45 am (with childcare) and evening team at 7 pm, both beginning 10/9.

Cost: \$32 • For questions or registration information please contact: kvogelmn@gmail.com

Men

"Fathers & Christian Marriage" Men's teams are forming as well! Any Catholic man is welcome to join this team. It is a very-well laid out and they study two documents: **Humanae Vitae**- On Human Life by Pope Paul VI, 1965 and **Casti Connubii**-- On Christian Marriage by Pope Pius XI, 1930.

The men's team will meet at Ave Maria Academy in Maple Grove. The team meetings will take place in October through May, two evenings a month for 90 minutes. Fathers are the protectors and leaders of families, and this study will be a gift to men. Please see the **attached** flyer for more information.



**Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions
October 2014**

Peace. That the Lord may grant peace to those parts of the world most battered by war and violence.

World Mission Day. That World Mission Day may rekindle in every believer zeal for carrying the Gospel into all the world.

The flyer features a decorative background with a large, ornate golden chalice on the left side. The text is arranged in a clear, readable layout. At the top, it says 'RCMC: Come & See' in large white letters, followed by the subtitle '[Come see what life is like as a missionary]'. The event dates and times are listed as 'Friday, 11/14 @7pm to Sunday, 11/16 @11am'. Below that, it specifies 'Who: Any Rising College Freshman or older'. The location is 'Where: 100 N Lavergne Ave Northlake, IL 60164'. The cost is '\$50 (checks made payable to: Mission Network Activities)'. At the bottom, it mentions a 'Parent Session held by Eleanor Seagraves, Director of RCMC Chicago girls' and provides contact information for Sam Blaser: 'For more information please, contact Sam Blaser at 678-459-7405 or email her at sblaser10@gmail.com'.

Virtue is a Living Treasure

By Formation Coordinator Kathy Vogel

The formation tidbits for the **2014-15 year** will be based on the virtues associated with the **PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM**, excerpts taken from: "Learning the Virtues that lead you to God" by Romano Guardini. We will look briefly at one virtue each month:

Truthfulness • Patience • Loyalty • Disinterestedness • Courage • Kindness
• Understanding • Courtesy • Gratitude • Unselfishness • Recollection

October Formation Tidbit: Loyalty

It remains true that our life rests on loyalty. Let us try to imagine it.

Two persons have met, have fallen in love, and decide to marry. This relationship is at first supported by the desire of the one vitality for the other, feelings of congeniality, common experiences, harmony in relation to nature and men, similar preferences and inclinations, and so forth.

These feelings at first seem to guarantee a life-long bond. But they can easily cease. Differences, such as we always find between different persons, appear. And now is the time for true loyalty: each of the two must be aware that the other trusts him, depends upon him, that they have formed a bond which determines their life, that this must be supported by what is best in them, the core of their humanity, the person and his dependability. And now self-conquest begins: to stand by the other and keep him—not in order to possess and dominate, but to preserve the life that rests upon the bond and to bring it to full fruition and unfolding; to know that one is responsible for the other....to accept him again and again and stand at his side.

We must consider, too, that when two persons come together, each one comes with a definite character. But "to live" means to grow and consequently to change. The disappointed feelings may rebel. But to the extent to which this loyalty is practiced, it (loyalty) grows deeper and brings about what truly constitutes a marriage.

Loyalty is something that outlasts the flow of time. It has within it something of eternity. God's loyalty accomplished the inconceivable, taking upon Himself the responsibility for man's guilt, stepping into history by the Incarnation, and so accepting a destiny.

The life of Jesus is one entire expression of loyalty. This is shown by the way in which He persevered in remaining in narrow, hostile Palestine, because He knew that He had been sent as a party to the covenant of Sinai, even though the wide pagan world would readily receive Him. He persevered even to death—and what a death!

It is from God that loyalty comes into the world. We can be loyal only because He is so, and because He has willed us, who are made in His image, to be loyal also.

Excerpts from: "Learning the Virtues that lead you to God" by Romano Guardini originally published in 1963, this edition by Sophia Institute Press, pp. 69-76.

Todd and I would love to share with our RC Locality our family's joy and joy of Regnum Christi and the Legionaries at the new young men who entered the novitiate and received their cassocks on Sunday, September 14, 2014. One of whom is our son, John. Thank you for your prayers for our family over the years. Attached is a picture of the fruit of God's Mercy, and, according to John, the works of Familia, Cedarcrest, ConQuest, Regnum Christi and the Legion, and the striving of many families to live their authentic identity! Praise God and thank you for your faithfulness, it matters! Love, Karen Sester.



John Sester (far left) on the day he received his cassock.

All 17 young men (left) who received their cassocks on Sept. 14, 2014.

"If you are what you should be you will set the whole world on fire!" (St. Pope John Paul II quoting St. Catherine of Siena.)

Novitiate Formation (by Fr Joseph Brickner, LC, Novice Instructor)

As a young man sets out on his missionary journey one identifies certain qualities and gifts that God has provided to him. These qualities are like seeds that need to grow. The Latin root for seminary is *seminarium*, or seedbed; a garden allowing virtue to grow. One who begins religious life is *novus*, one who is new, a novice who enters the novitiate, or place for beginners. Hence the formation your son will receive here is tailored to the priesthood, and specifically to missionary priests that live in community with vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience. Looking ahead ten or twelve years, what qualities will he need in order to carry out his priestly and missionary ministry? How can we help him develop those qualities? Every activity has some trait or virtue in mind that he will need later on as a religious priest, and we can group these traits into four main areas.

1. Spiritual formation

As priests our most important tasks are to be close to God and to draw other people close to God. Throughout his entire formation, but especially in the novitiate, your son will be striving to grow in his friendship and closeness to God. A priest must be a professional in the spiritual life, and the novitiate provides young men the appropriate time, training, and environment necessary to develop a close friendship with Christ and the foundation he will need for the rest of his life. The novices will spend much of their time in prayer, and in a special way, prayer before the Eucharist. They will also grow in their devotion to Mary.

2. Human formation

While the life of a priest and consecrated soul is dedicated to helping men and women spiritually, our men will also have to live just like any other adult and overcome daily challenges in life, all the while reflecting their Christian dignity. This demands will power and strong convictions. As priests they need an entire array of human virtues, such as fortitude, constancy, kindness, gratitude and sincerity, and even such external virtues as good manners and order. These and other human virtues allow them to open doors to Christ and bear fruit in their vocation.

3. Intellectual formation

Priests are for many people the reference point in difficult situations and moral dilemmas. Those who approach priests expect not only holiness and manners, but wisdom and understanding. As Legionaries much of our priesthood will be devoted to spiritual direction and confession. Thus our religious must have a solid intellectual preparation in order to handle the wide variety of problems encountered in our current culture. Academic formation during the novitiate is foundational and includes reading and memorization skills, Christology, Spirituality, Ascetic Theology, Latin, Greek, Spanish, and formation in religious life.

4. Apostolic formation

The Legion of Christ is both a contemplative and evangelizing congregation. In the novitiate we strive to instill in the young men a sense of the needs of others and the desire to help them grow closer to God. While the time available for apostolic work is quite limited the novices do have time each week for contacting friends and acquaintances in order to offer prayers, support, or vocational assistance. We will also have parish missions to help local pastors and a number of novices will also teach CCD classes.