



# nova notes

NOVA Catholic Community

February 2010

## Chair Notes.....

**M**ary Grace wrote “Mom is Free” as she announced the sad news that our dear Grace Birch had passed peacefully into her next life. It seemed a fitting salutation for someone who had lost so much in recent months of her usual feisty, funny, people-loving ways. We will dearly miss her presence among us, her wisdom and witticisms that so often “graced” our liturgies. A memorial service is being planned for Grace in a few weeks. Mary will let everyone know when and where as soon as it is decided. When I think of Grace beaming down from heaven on us, I’m reminded of that old spiritual, “Angels watching over me, my Lord.” Keep us on the right path, Grace, we miss you.

**T**he second Sunday in January was a joyous occasion as we celebrated the 42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of NOVA and The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. John Haughey was scheduled to be the Presider but fell ill and cajoled fellow Jesuit, Dan Madigan, to fill in for him. Aussie Dan seemed to fit like the proverbial old shoe into NOVA. He joyfully entered into the singing and dancing and sprinkling/blessing/washing/bathing of the Community. We brought out some of the flying banners, the beautiful altar dressings and the new NOVA banner for the occasion, and everyone enjoyed the experience. We took the occasion to honor Marie Pinho for her eight years of service as the editor of NOVA’s newsletter. Ted Miller noted how much she had done to improve and expand the newsletter and awarded her a real/fake Pulitzer Prize medal for all her efforts. Then Meg Tuccillo, the Carrolls and the Timpanes led the group in a rendition of that VERY old take-off song, “The 12 Years of NOVA”. It was rollicking and heart-warming and brought memories back from our glorious 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration two years ago. Marie took the occasion to publish the long-awaited special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Newsletter. Thank you, Marie, it is a wonderful keepsake. The other good news is that Dan Madigan has agreed to join the Padre Cadre and celebrate with us again in the near future.

**O**n January 23, 30+ NOVA folks gathered at Meg Tuccillo’s for the annual Peace and Social Justice (P&SJ) Meeting. After opening prayers, the Community was asked to form four working groups for the evening and start with a dinner discussion on how we saw the interface between our 34 P&SJ Projects and the five interest group areas that we have been studying and acting on since NOVA’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We were asked to make a visual depiction of how everything connected and some strange and wonderful poster boards were created. Each group shared their insights from doing this. The groups were then tasked to go back and choose the top three suggestions they would make to the P&SJ Committee for leading us through the next year. This highly interactive and creative process generated lots of ideas for the Committee to chew on. Some common themes were the desire to partner more with other churches on social action; to do more advocacy for change; to improve the information flow to the community about the projects we’re involved in and to let go of the five special interest group areas so that we could integrate and focus our energies more. One group suggested that we consider sharpening our focus in order to have more impact on one or two areas. Suggestions were made about taking on a major project such as building a new school in Haiti. The Committee has lots to think about now and will come back to the community with suggestions for the next steps. Our next General Meeting will be March 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m. at the Barrett’s residence.

**M**eanwhile, the Lenten Planning Group is starting to meet under Jeanne Clarkson’s leadership and we prepare to enter once again into that very reflective and deepening time of year on Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. David and I are taking the month of February off to travel with friends in New Zealand. We will miss all of you and plan to bring back a little bit of sunshine as well as the Kiwi spirit.

~ Gloria Mog

NOVA Photos:  
<http://web.mac.com/dicarroll/Nova>

## February Birthdays

NOVA Message Line (703) 852-7907	
Chairpersons	Tom Clarkson Gloria Mog
Treasurer	Joe Formoso
Coordinator, Community Life	Cece Michelotti
Liturgy Coordinator	Jeanne Clarkson
Padre Cadre Coordinator	John Mooney
Music Coordinator	Victoria Robinson
Peace & Justice Coordinators	Dianne Carroll Marie Keefe
Christ House Coordinator	Kopp Michelotti
Facilities	Glen Passin
Newsletter Editor	Judy Christofferson

- 2 Bonnie Lowrey
- 5 Nicholas Mariscal
- 11 Charlie Boyne  
Ray Kemp
- 12 Monica Rosenberg
- 15 Amy Kyleen Lute  
Justin Mog  
Anna Reich
- 19 Josh White
- 20 Linda Rosenberg
- 24 Amy Bailey
- 26 Lynne Christofferson Tappan
- 27 Catherine Schmidt
- 28 Mary Grace

The NOVA Catholic Community Invites You To Celebrate The Eucharistic Liturgy With Us Every Sunday in Arlington, Virginia.

Note: Our Liturgy is usually celebrated at Kenmore Middle School, Arlington Blvd. and Carlin Springs Rd, Arlington, VA. Beginning Memorial Day Weekend up to our Fall Retreat weekend in September, we celebrate at Lacey Woods Park, George Mason Drive near Washington Blvd, unless otherwise noted.

Liturgies at Kenmore begin at 10:15 a.m.

Gather at 10:00 a.m.

Liturgies at Lacey Woods begin at 9:30 a.m.

Gather at 9:15 am

Call the Message Line (above) or check the NOVA website , [www.novacommunity.info](http://www.novacommunity.info), for the latest information.

**Reminder: The next Newsletter deadline is February 21.**

*Please send Judy Christofferson your birthday if you would like it to appear here (month/day only).  
 Email: [Judy@crc-law.com](mailto:Judy@crc-law.com).*

### NOVA is praying for...

**Sonja Donahue**, who would love a card, a call or a visit.

**Nancy Veldhuis**, who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

**Carolyn Miller**, who is recovering from eye surgery.

**Rose Barrett**, who is recovering from illness.

**Peggy Meyer**, who has requested prayers regarding her health.

**Mary Louise Fodrocy**, sister of **Judy Christofferson**, passed away the evening of January 24. Please pray for the repose of her soul as well as for her family and friends, who will sorely miss her.

**The Birch Family**, and all of us who mourn the loss of **Grace Birch** and her wise presence among us.

# Liturgies: Cycle C

Inclusive Readings and Music Selections are available in the new NOVA Yahoo Group Files  
Please give all music selections to the Music Liaison the Sunday before your liturgy.  
Liturgies at Kenmore Middle School begin at 10:15 a.m.

**February Music Liaison**  
Barbara Formoso

**March Music Liaison**  
Barbara Formoso

## Feb. 7 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joe Nangle, OFM - Carolyn and Ted Miller  
Isaiah 6: 1-2a, 3-8  
Psalm 138: 1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8  
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11, or 15: 3-8, 11  
Luke 5: 1-11

## Feb. 14 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daniel Madigan, SJ - Tom and Jeanne Clarkson  
Jeremiah 17: 5-8  
Psalm 138: 1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8  
1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20  
Luke 6: 17, 20-26

## Feb. 17 - Ash Wednesday\*

Marlene and John Tarrant  
Joel 2:12-18;  
2 Corinthians 5: 20-6:2;  
Psalm 51: 3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17  
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18

\*Service will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Tarrant residence, 7036 Williamsburg Blvd., Arlington, VA

## Feb. 21- First Sunday of Lent

Joe Kenna - Barbara and Joe Formoso  
Deuteronomy 26: 4-10  
Psalm: 91: 1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15  
Romans 10: 8-13  
Luke 4: 1-13

## Feb. 28-Second Sunday of Lent

Jim Hug, SJ - Jeanne and Tom Clarkson  
Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18  
Psalm 27: 1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14  
Philippians 3: 17- 4: 1 or 3: 20-4:1  
Luke 9: 28-36

## March 7 - Third Sunday of Lent

Jim Hug, SJ - Kopp and Cece Michelotti  
Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15  
Psalm 103-1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11  
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12  
Luke 13: 1-9

## March 14 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Quinn Conners, O.Carm. - Arabians, Christies, O'Tooles  
Joshua 5: 9, 10-12  
Psalm 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7  
2 Corinthians 5: 17-21  
Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

## March 21 - Fifth Sunday of Lent

Joe Kenna - Barbara and Joe Formoso  
Isaiah 43: 16-21  
Psalm 126: 1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6  
Philippians 3: 8-14  
John 8: 1-11

## March 28 - Palm Sunday

Bill Callahan - Mike Timpane, Teddi Ahrens & others  
Luke 19: 28-40  
Isaiah 50: 4-7  
Psalm 22: 8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24  
Philippians: 2: 6-11;  
Luke 22: 14; 23: 56 or 23: 1-49



## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendar

### General Meeting and Pot Luck

Saturday, March 13, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at the Barretts.

### NOVA Nite Discussion

Sunday, April 11, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Barretts

### Calling Forth Meeting and Pot Luck

Saturday, May 8, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

### Memorial Service for Grace Birch

When information is available, it will be posted on the NOVA website...

[www.novacommunity.info](http://www.novacommunity.info)

## *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatloaf!*

### Christ House

Actually, the meatloaf is a certainty because the NOVA community will prepare and serve dinner for nearly 70 clients of the Christ House shelter in Alexandria on Monday February 15. Members of the community will prepare meatloaf, scalloped potatoes, beans, and salad to be served in the Christ House dining room. Please bring meatloaves and/or scalloped potatoes to the liturgy on Sunday, Feb 14. Alternatively, you may drop off meatloaf and spuds at the Michelotti residence (6325 19<sup>th</sup> St. N., Arlington) on Sunday afternoon or up till 1:00 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 14. There will be coolers on the front porch, which is always unlocked. Just walk right in and set it right down.

If you would like to help in the kitchen preparing and serving the meal the NOVA Community will provide at Christ House, contact Ken Chaison or Kopp Michelotti for information and directions. Generally the kitchen crew starts about 3:30-4:00 p.m.

I wish I could tell you how grateful the clients at Christ House are for your generosity. Nothing beats home cooking!  
~ **Kopp**

## *Women's Ordination*

On Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 3:00 p.m., Dena O'Callaghan of Ocala, Florida and Katy Zatsick of Lexington, Kentucky will be ordained priests. Mary Ellen Sheehan of Tucker, Georgia will be ordained a deacon. The presiding bishop will be Bridget Mary Meehan. The ceremony will take place at St. Andrew UCC at 6908 Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL 34238.

(This is a portion of a press release submitted by Bernie Bryne)



*Hetty Irmer & Clementine  
January 17, 2010*

## *For Your Long Term Planning Retreat*

NOVA's 2010 retreat will be held at Shrine Mont in Orkney Springs, Virginia, **September 17-19**. Kopp Michelotti requests that you don't contact him for reservations until July. Kopp guarantees that anything you say or send to him before July will be forgotten and you'll just have to register all over again!

# Volunteer Opportunities

## *Overflow Winter Shelter*

From January to March St. Clements Episcopal Church in Alexandria operates as an emergency overflow winter shelter for Carpenter's Shelter. NOVA has been participating for the last several years. Every other Monday, two NOVA volunteers are on duty: welcoming the guests, helping them get comfortable for the night, remaining in the church sanctuary with the guests for the night and bidding them a good day in the morning. Volunteers this year are:

**February 1** - Clyde Christofferson and Marie Pinho

**February 15** - Eric Carroll and Michael Kane

**March 1** - Jason Powell and helper

**March 15** - Anna Reich and Tim White



## *Bread for The World*

The present administration and congress have been supporting the efforts of Bread for the World. We are making progress on the action we wanted. However, there is a great deal of pressure on them now to cut spending for both domestic programs and foreign assistance. Therefore, it is very important that as many of us as possible must keep making our voices heard by contacting our representatives in Congress often in every way we can.

Please find ways you can help at [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).

**Please contact Peggy Meyer for additional information.**

## *Gunston Volunteers Needed*

NOVA sends a very big thanks to all the volunteers who distribute food at Gunston School in Arlington. Due to the large number of clients, there has been a need for more volunteers and folks have really come forward to help. Thanks!

Opportunities for the March/April schedule will come out in the email at the beginning of February. Volunteers for February are:

**February 4:** Joe/Michael Kane, Don/Ann

**February 11:** Tim/Jerry, Kopp/Cece

**February 18:** Joe/Michael Kane, Don/Ann

**February 25:** Glen/Syd, \_\_\_\_

**Please contact Dianne Carroll, if you can assist.**



**Marie Pinho**  
**Newsletter Editor for 8+ Years**

## Cochabamba, Bolivia

### *Centro Villa Candelaria*

NOVA members provide 32 scholarships at the school where 1st to 8th grade education is provided, along with a new day nursery for 170 children from 1 to 5 years old.

In the area, school education is not only a question of personal ability but rather a question of the financial options of the family. Scholarship programs promote equal access to a high quality education and are set up for disadvantaged children and youth.

Over 330 students attend - **75%** of them are living in poverty. Some students finish eighth grade and go on to high school with a scholarship. Scholarship holders' families also receive emergency help in the form of medicine, food, beds, blankets, etc. If you would like to help, please contact Dianne Carroll.

### *Photos received from the school in 2009*



Additional photos at... <http://bit.ly/Candelaria2009>

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### *Amanecer*

The following is a portion of a letter received by Emma Violand-Sanchez in December from the Amanecer, a foundation established by the Daughters of Charity to serve abandoned and mistreated boys, girls, women and babies living on the streets of Cochabamba, Bolivia. Solomon Klein is a home for 150 children between birth and seven years. [Note: Omitted portion included Christmas wishes and an example of a specific case of a small child who has been helped by Amanecer.]

*Dear Friends:*

*... We are most grateful for your solidarity and the great help that you give us, which makes it possible that our children can live and grow in a healthy atmosphere, receiving the love that they so need.*

*...*

*In the name of all of the children of Hogar Solomon Klein, . . . we ask you to continue to carry in your heart love for these many abandoned children. With your help we can give them the needed care and affection that will restore to them the right to have a healthy and happy life.*

*May God bless each of you for your great generosity!*

*Héctor Fernández Rivera, Director*

*Emma Rojas Ayala, Directora*

## Thank You Letters/Notes

*In 2009, Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP) weathered the abduction of one of its field workers in the southern Philippines--fortunately he was released unharmed by his captors, but gained recognition from the Philippines government as well as the various groups involved in the conflict on Mindanao. In the fall, Nonviolent Peaceforce was invited to provide unarmed protective services to peace negotiations involving the major players in the Philippines conflict. NP continues to protect internally displaced people in Sri Lanka, where it has worked since 2002. In a few weeks, core training begins for NP team members who will work in Sudan to protect people at risk. A preliminary team is already on the ground in Sudan. The New Year starts with many changes for NP as founding director Mel Duncan steps down from his role as executive director and a consolidated headquarters office grows out of the European regional office in Brussels. The Minneapolis office becomes the North American regional office of NP and Mel will continue to work as a speaker and fund-raiser on behalf of the global organization. Despite the growth, so much change brings its own challenges and the contribution that NOVA makes to NP's ongoing mission of providing nonviolent alternatives to war is critical.*



*P.S. I was recently interviewed about nonviolence and NP on Rosie O'Donnell's Sirius radio program. You can hear the interview at: <http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/nick-mele-nonviolence-and-conflict-transformation>*

*Peace to all NOVA sisters and brothers!*

**Nick Mele**

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*Dear NOVA Friends,*

*This month marks the beginning of the eighth year of the Chrysalis Program at York Correctional Institution, the 7th year for me as its Coordinator. I continue to work with 25-30 women three times each week, two afternoons for teaching and one evening for Prayer Partners, when Chrysalis women "inside" have the opportunity to sit down with women from local faith communities "outside." At this point we have had over 500 women participate in the program for at least 2-3 months, and 200 have completed the full curriculum and graduated. For these graduates, most of whom have been released, the rate of return to prison on new charges is still holding at about 12%, as compared with the national and state recidivism rate of 40-50 %. Last fall Chrysalis received a significant grant to help support the program for another year. So we continue to plant seeds and give thanks for the moments of growth and bloom that we see week by week.*



*I also continue to chair the Prison Ministry Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of CT, Faith Behind Bars. The purpose of the group is to raise public awareness of the needs of incarcerated men and women and their families as well as to encourage faith communities to work with those returning home from prison.*

*Finally, I give thanks for your ongoing encouragement and support of this life transforming ministry.*

*Sending blessings and love to you all,  
Valerie Dixon*

## Thank You Letters/Notes

### **Action Africa, Inc.**

2903 Mills Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20018

Phone: 202-529-8350 www.actionafrica.org Fax: 202-529-1912 Email: actionafrica@verizon.net

January 12, 2010

Marie Keefe & Community NOVA  
28 Froude Circle  
Cabin John MD 20818

Dear Marie:

The NOVA Community graciously continues its monthly support of \$250 for Action Africa health programs in sub-Saharan Africa. Back in 2007, we informed you that we were expanding our free clinic programs from Southern Nigeria into Northern and Southern Sierra Leone. We did, thanks to the very dependable support from NOVA. Exciting components of our Sierra Leonean health programs include poverty alleviation, nutrition education, and feeding programs. These initiatives were inspired by the needs on the ground and the recommendations of the volunteers. From our Washington office, we are still able to make payments directly to food importers in Sierra Leone who subsequently supply bags of rice, beans, and other nutritional supplies to our feeding centers. We are placing our focus on prevention of illness and disease. Our traditional and signature free clinics continue in some villages.

During 2009, Action Africa was blessed immensely by your support. Through your prayers and financial support, we were able to support the growth of the various initiatives we have in the two countries of Nigeria and Sierra Leone. More women have been assisted to start up or strengthen their local businesses so that their families and villages have increased economic resources and financial independence. We provided medical supplies so that volunteer medical personnel and their assistants were able to hold free clinics for the very vulnerable. These clinics include disease prevention and health maintenance education. And of course there is our pioneer educational support program for at-risk kids which continues to send and keep hundreds of children in schools in various regions.

We have the blessing of sharing the enclosed video-CD with you at this time. One day in the life of one village in Northern Sierra Leone - a few months ago, Action Africa's mission was celebrated in the school graduation ceremony of some of our supported children, thanks to your support and that of others. We received this video in a foreign format which could not initially play on the American systems. We just recently succeeded in re-formatting it, and we are glad to share it with you. Please make this video available to members of the community who may want to view it at a group gathering or in their family settings. All the people you see in this video send you thanks and blessings.

The New Year promises to be both exciting and challenging. We have invitation to help inspire our programs in other Africa regions. Each time we have the opportunity to bless another life, our goals are being met. Children continue to form the focus of our efforts. We hope that NOVA will continue to support Action Africa efforts in 2010.

Sincerely in Christ,

Chris N. Egbulem  
President

NB: Action Africa, Inc. is a Washington DC based 501-c-3 tax-exempt organization founded in 2000.

# *Epiphany*

## *January 3, 2010*



<b>Kathy Scheimer</b>	<b>Offertory – Anne Passin</b>	<b>Offertory – Cathy Showalter</b>
<b>Rev. Jim Coriden</b>	<b>Blessing – Shelter Volunteers</b>	
<b>Three Kings</b>		

Additional photos at... <http://web.mac.com/dicarroll/Nova>

# *NOVA 42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary*

## *January 10, 2010*



<b>Peace Prayer and Candle</b>	<b>Blessing – Nancy Veldhuis</b>	<b>Award to Marie Pinho – Newsletter Editor 8+ Years</b>	<b>Procession – Gloria Mog</b>
<b>Sprinkling Rite – Dan Madigan</b>	<b>42nd Anniversary Altar</b>		<b>Opening Song “All Are Welcome”</b>
	<b>Procession – David Mog</b>	<b>Daniel Madigan, S.J.</b>	<b>Blessing – Carolyn Miller</b>

Additional photos at... <http://web.mac.com/dicarroll/Nova>