



# nova notes

NOVA Catholic Community

November 2010

## Chair Notes...

**N**OVA has been a whirlwind of activity in the past two months. In September, led by our Committee for Peace and Social Justice, we selected the “Nicaraguan Women’s Micro Loan Project” as the project of the year. After that we shared our life experiences in our “Telling Our Stories” at the September retreat. In October we decided to launch a “Men Who Cook” (MW C) benefit dinner to support the microfinance project. In October, Nancy Veldhuis and the Mosaic Harmony Gospel choir produced a successful benefit concert for the Ugandan “Educate the Girls” project. Then, a number of NOVA members attended the listening session on issues affecting the Catholic Church in the U.S. Also in October, NOVA members attended the benefit for the Franciscan Mission Service (FMS) at which Father Richard Rohr spoke about how great love and great suffering lead humans to transcendence. Along with all of those amazing moments, we contended with the demands of our daily lives: working, paying the bills, cleaning the dishes, comforting the sick, helping our children, our parents and our political candidates.

How do handle all of this and stay sane? Is it possible to find God in the midst of all of this activity? Father Rohr said at the FMS event that “God comes to us disguised as our lives.” He also said that every human being is connected to God from their beginning and that we are each connected to God and always held by God in a loving gaze, regardless of what we do, how we vote, what we profess to believe, how much we earn, how well we dress or what we think about ourselves. That is a message that we need to repeat to ourselves every day until it soaks deep, deep, deep into our everyday consciousness.

Taking courage from this sublime truth about ourselves a number of men will risk their reputations at the “Men Who Cook” benefit dinner next March 6, 2011, when they provide a meal for 160 people that will not make anyone sick. Be there with your friends and family to see and hear the “Men Who Cook” walk in singing an

inspiring song and trying to look like chefs. Be there to the thrill of victory as they put their cooking skills to the test. Be there to eat. Be there to help.

Will the “Men Who Cook” do it? Yes they will. Will it be fun and exciting? Yes it will. Will there be plenty to eat and drink? Yes there will. Will everything work perfectly? Maybe. Are we organized? Yes we are. But I hope that the entire NOVA community helps out on this event because it can’t be done without everyone’s support. See the following people if you’d like to help out, and if they contact you, say “Yes I will!” John Mooney is in charge of creating the menu. See John if you have some ideas. Ted Miller is organizing the cooks. See Ted if you want to cook. Ted Miller is also in charge of publicity. Victoria Robinson is taking charge of getting the room ready and the tables set for the dinner. Carolyn Miller is looking over the whole operation to make sure nothing falls through the cracks. Marie Keefe is the liaison with the Peace and Social Justice Committee. Mike Timpane is organizing the waiters and the clean-up. Tom Clarkson is organizing the ticket sales. Linda Christie is taking donations to support the micro-enterprise project for those who want to support it that way instead of, or in addition to, buying a ticket to the dinner.

Send your tax deductible donation (not your ticket payments) to Linda Christie, 2307 Galley Court, Woodbridge, VA 22192. Speaking of tax deductible, the estimated fair market value of the \$35 ticket to the “Men Who Cook” dinner is \$17.50; so the rest of it may be deductible from your income on your 2010 tax return if you buy your tickets before 12/31/2010. Here’s a link to an IRS article on charitable contributions. [Ten Tips for Deducting Charitable Contributions.](#)

Congratulations to the Peace and Social Justice Committee and to everyone who has so far supported the effort to raise the \$4,000 for the Nicaraguan Women’s Micro Loan Project. So far we’re at 33% of our goal. Keep up the good work!

~Tom Clarkson, Co-chair

## November Birthdays

NOVA Message Line (703) 852-7907

Chairpersons	Tom Clarkson Teddi Ahrens
Treasurer	Joe Formoso
Coordinator, Community Life	Cece Michelotti
Liturgy Coordinator	Gloria Mog
Padre Cadre Coordinator	John Mooney
Music Coordinator	Victoria Robinson
Peace and Justice Coordinators	Dianne Carroll Marie Keefe
Christ House Coordinator	Kopp Michelotti
Facilities	Glen Passin
Newsletter Editor	Judy Christofferson

- 3 Ken Chaison
- 4 Tom Marron
- 5 Emma Violand-Sanchez
- 6 Marie Schum-Brady
- 7 Joe Houck
- 8 Rosemarie Annunziata  
Phyllis Houck
- 12 George Lowrey
- 17 Jennifer Powell
- 22 Carmela Ormando
- 25 Bernie Byrne
- 27 Mary Gillmarten  
Mike Timpane  
Natalia Mercado-Violand
- 29 Rich Rosenberg  
Julia Hainer-Violand
- 30 Arthur Rosenberg

*Please send Judy Christofferson your birthday if you would like it to appear here (month/day only).*

### NOVA is praying for. . .

**Eve Birch**, who is looking for a home and items to provide temporary housing for the homeless

**Sonja Donahue**, who appreciates a card, a call or a visit.

**Jody Furlong**, who would also appreciate a phone call or note.

**Victoria Robinson**, who has had serious eye surgery.

Remember these and any other NOVA members and their friends and family who need our prayers.

**December Newsletter Deadline:  
Sunday, November 21**

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 for the latest information.

## 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 and print **65 copies** of the liturgy program. Liturgies at Kenmore begin at 10:15 a.m. and at 9:30 at Lacey Woods Park.

### November Music Liaison Linda Rosenberg

#### November 7 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dan Madigan, SJ - Peace and Justice Group

2 Maccabes 7:1-2, 9-14

Psalms 17

2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5

Luke 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38

#### November 14 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Quinn Conners, O.Carm. - Victoria Robinson

Malachi 3:19-20

Psalms 98

2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

Luke 21: 5-19

#### November 21 - Christ the King

Joe Kenna - Jim and Archer Heinzen

2 Samuel 5:1-3

Psalms 122

Colossians 1:12-20

Luke 23:35-43

#### November 28 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Aidan Shea, OSB – TBA

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalms 122

Romans 13: 11-14

Matthew 24:37-44



### December Music Liaison Linda Rosenberg

#### December 5 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Joe Kenna – Jeanne and Tom Clarkson

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 72

Romans 15:4-9

Matthew 3:1-12

#### December 12 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Quinn Conners, O.Carm. – Cathy and Larry

Goldschmidt

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

Psalms 146

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

#### December 19 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Aidan Shea, OSB – Linda Rosenberg and Kathy Scheimer

Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalms 24

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24

#### December 24 – Christmas Vigil

**Barcroft Community Center, 7:30 p.m.**

Jim Hug, SJ – Bailey, Cackley and Kane Families

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalms 89

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

Matthew 1:1-25 or 18-25

#### December 26 – No NOVA Liturgy

#### Liturgy Lottery

The Liturgy Lottery began on October 3. If you have not already signed up to work on one or more liturgies in the upcoming year, please do so as soon as possible. Many thanks to Gen Timpane for her work on coordinating the liturgy lottery.

## Social Action Projects

### Gunston Volunteers Needed

Nova volunteers distribute bags of non-perishable food, cereal provided by Nova, and perishable items such as eggs, milk, and meat that are picked up at the Arlington Food Assistance Center warehouse on the night of distribution. Produce items are picked up every other week by Eric Carroll at the produce markets downtown (and funded by the Nova Peace and Justice budget). The distribution takes place at the Gunston Middle School Recreation Center in Arlington. Many volunteers have been active in this project for a lot of years. Every Thursday there is already a seasoned volunteer, so this is your chance to try out your skills. Having someone who speaks Spanish is a real plus for each of the teams. Volunteers are still needed for November and December. **Please help.** If you are interested in being a volunteer, call or email Dianne.

#### November Gunston Schedule:

**November 4:** James H., Tim, Jerry

**November 11:** **Volunteers Needed**

**November 18:** Glen, Syd

**November 23:** **Volunteers Needed**

(Note: This is a Tuesday as Thanksgiving is on Nov. 25)

### Scouting for Food:

On **Saturday, November 13** area boy scouts will be in your neighborhood in the morning to pick up non-perishable food items. Mark your calendars to set out food for them. We especially need low-sugar cereal and canned proteins (tuna, salmon, chicken). Last year, Scouts collected 43,000 pounds of food for AFAC. Let's do our best to break that record!



Kopp and guest discuss AACH

### Items Needed for the Homeless

Eve Birch is seeking donations of blankets, warm hats and mittens or gloves for the homeless. The cold days and nights of winter are coming, so please bring what you can the next two Sundays to Kenmore, and Teddi and Tom Ahrens will make a trip to Martinsburg in mid-November and in December as well.

### AFAC Virtual Food Drive

Through AFAC's Virtual Food Drive the funds you donate will put more food on the tables of our clients faster and with less expense than through traditional food collection drives. We buy from selected vendors in large quantities at big savings. In many cases, we can buy over four times as much as you can at the grocery store for the same money, not to mention that you don't have to make an extra trip to the store in order to participate in a food drive! Click the connection below to learn more: [http://www.afacinfo.org/afac\\_virtual\\_fooddrive.html](http://www.afacinfo.org/afac_virtual_fooddrive.html)

### 2010 Help the Homeless Walkathon

Saturday, November 20th  
9:00 am  
National Mall, Washington, DC

There will be plenty of opportunities for fun for you and your family at this event:

- Sign the "Why I Walk" wall.
- Take pictures with your favorite team mascot -- the Nationals' *Bobbleheads*, the Capitals' *Slapshot*, and DC United's *Talon*.
- Get an autograph from a Redskin cheerleader.
- Enjoy the high-energy stage program.

### Fifth Co-partners of Campesinas

### Christmas Sale

**Sunday, December 5**  
Before and after liturgy

**Crafts from Guatemala and  
El Salvador and  
a few miscellaneous other places**

### Sale of Nicaraguan Pottery at Kenmore

Beautiful Nicaraguan Pottery is coming! Dolly and Roz will be at NOVA on **Sunday, November 14**, with handcrafted Nicaraguan pottery and a selection of Christmas cards and note cards for the benefit of the Nicaraguan Cultural Alliance. (The Quixote Center building is for sale, and we can help empty shelves while we purchase some wonderful gifts.)



Nicaraguan pottery purchased by the editor

### Keller Williams Realty Fundraiser for AFAC's Permanent Home Campaign

The agents at Keller Williams really know how to throw a party! On Wednesday, November 10, 6:00

to 9:00 p.m., Keller Williams Realty, Arlington, is hosting their Third Annual Benefit Fundraiser, "Pay It Forward, Pay It Down," for AFAC's Permanent Home Campaign. The event will be held at the Clarendon Ballroom on Wilson Blvd. Don't miss out on a great evening of fun with special guests Chef Carla Hall and DC United's Bryan Namoff, a silent auction, and food and drink by Bites, Drinks and Fun. For details and tickets, click [here](#).

### Thank You Note

Thank you each and all for the many prayers, visits, the hospital blessing, soups, desserts, and cards over the last few months during John's recent medical challenges. Your loving support has made and incredible difference in John's rapid recuperation and our ability to face a very difficult time with the best of spirits and hope for the future.

~Nancy and John

### Search for New Worship Space

One of the issues/concerns that was mentioned frequently at the Nova General Meeting in late spring was our worship space, i.e., can we look for an alternate place for Sunday liturgies, a location which has even more to recommend it than Kenmore MS and Lacey Woods park? Several Nova folks have already volunteered to form a "search committee" for location(s) that better meet our needs, outdoors and indoors. If you are interested in exploring this issue, please contact Teddi.

### Listening Session Survey Deadline

NOVA members who participated in the October 9 "Listening Session" (to get a sense of where we are as Catholics in preparation for the American Catholic Council to be held in Detroit next June 10-12, 2011), please complete the online survey by **November 13 no later than 5:00 p.m.** Table facilitators and recorders have an additional survey with the same deadline. ~ Clyde and Rosemarie

## The Nicaraguan Women's Micro Loan Project

### The NOVA Catholic Community (In cooperation with The Institute of John XXIII)

Women with a trade can feed their children and send them to school. But a seamstress without fabric cannot; a pastry maker without ingredients cannot; a hairdresser without shampoo cannot. Such small, practical things, but such a huge barrier for women in poverty.

Please join us as we do the small, practical things. We are going to make trades possible for women in Nicaragua by creating a micro loan fund for the basic equipment to start their businesses. Only after the women successfully complete technical courses given by The Institute of John XXIII will they receive loans which must be used to purchase the basic equipment and initial materials to start businesses in their local community. The \$100 loans must be paid back in monthly payments and will form a revolving loan fund for future loans for other local women to start businesses.

The women come from Ciudad Dario, Villa El Carmen and Tipitapa in Nicaragua. In each community, these women will form a committee to collect the loan repayments and send them to The Institute's local offices. This method of loan collection has been used successfully in home loans for over 10 years. In 2009, only 72 loans could be distributed to start businesses. The success of that program has increased demand for both the training (660 anticipated in 2010) and the micro loans.

If you are interested in joining us in this one-time investment for the Nicaraguan Women's Micro Loan Project, we encourage you to make a tax-deductible contribution.

Please make checks payable to "NOVA Community"\* with "Micro Loan Project" written on the memo line and send your contributions to the NOVA Community, c/o Linda Christie, 2307 Galley Court, Woodbridge, VA 22192.

This social justice project is a small, practical thing with unimaginable consequences for women in these communities.

\*The NOVA Community is a charitable organization, under IRS Code 501(c)(3). Contributions are tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. See IRS Publication 1771 (<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p1771.pdf>) for additional information.

**See the following page for more information about an upcoming fundraiser for this project that you won't want to miss: "Men Who Cook."**



Fighting global poverty one meal at a time

Dine Well!  
Do Good!

**Buy your tickets now** and mark the date so you won't miss the 'Men Who Cook' feast, featuring the tantalizing culinary creations of some of NOVA's finest chefs!\*

# Men Who Cook

A sumptuous supper to benefit the Micro-Finance Revolving Loan Fund of the Institute of John XXIII, supporting the dreams of entrepreneurial women in three Nicaraguan communities

Sunday, March 6, 2011 at 5 p.m.

UU Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA

Only \$35, must purchase tickets in advance

**Buy your tickets at liturgy this week!**

\*Including (so far): Eric Carroll, Tom Clarkson, Mike Marron, Bill Meyer, Ted Miller, John Mooney, Bob O'Toole, Mike Timpane, John Veldhuis and Tim White

## In Memoriam

November 1 is All Saints Day. It's a good time to recall all those NOVA members who have passed away. Some of them were with us for short periods, others for many years. We were blessed by their presence and lovingly remember them all. Included in the alphabetical listing below (courtesy of Marie Pinho) are former members of our Padre Cadre as well as Bishop John Russell, who helped us charter the community.

Bob and Grace Birch

Ruth Mausert-Mooney

Paul Birch

Brenda McCormick

Rose Birch

Louis Mendez

Madeleine Bonsignore

Paty Violand Mercado

Julie Byrne

Michelle Murray

Father Bill Callahan

Father Aubrey Osborne

Mary Chaison

Father Al Perreira

Tony and Pat Chavez

Jim Provost

Michael De Groot

Nathaneal Robert

John DeOrnellas

Frances Schimpf

Gil Donahue

Grover and Nancy Stock

Jim Furlong

Peggy Taylor

Fran and Jim Grady

Jim Thomas

Dean Houck

Lisa Todaro

Father Bob Hovda

Henrietta Walsh

Arlene Hynes

Marjorie Weber

Marcy Jacomet

George White

Father Phil Land

Kate Wholey

Tom Leckey

Jesse Zinn

Tom Lowrey

Bishop John Russell of Richmond



## Food for Thought

The following excerpts were included in Abbot Aiden Shea's homily at the liturgy on October 24. Abbot Shea offered the readings to give us further insights into Luke's Gospel reading on the "puffed up" prayer of the Pharisee applied to our lives today.



Abbot Aiden Shea at October 24 Liturgy

“He drew a circle that shut me out—  
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.  
But Love and I had the wit to win:  
We drew a circle that took him in!”

~ “Outwitted” by Edwin Markham

“If we banish the act of contemplation and of contrition from our midst, then even now we are dead men and the future dead with us. For the enduring future is a product not solely of the experimental method or of outward knowledge alone. It is born of contrition and compassion. It is born of inward seeing.”

~ from *The Night Country* by Loren Eiseley

“I lived in a house  
with two real windows and the other two painted on.

Those painted windows caused my first sorrow.  
I'd touch the sides of the hall  
trying to reach the windows from inside.

I spent my whole childhood wanting  
to lean out and see what couldn't be seen  
from the windows that weren't there.”

~Gloria Fuertes



## October NOVA Community Photos



Blessing of the Arabians before their departure



Anne (right) thanks Jeanne for her work as liturgy coordinator as Tom looks on



Guest speaker Robert describes the work of VOICE



Arthur Rosenberg chats with Ella at the Maryland Renaissance Festival - with family joining in the fun



NOVATones leading the community in song