

# nova notes

NOVA Catholic Community

August 2012

## Chair Notes...

This marks the beginning of my co-chair writing experience! To prepare for this responsibility, I went back over the past several years to read what other co-chairs had shared and was struck by the thoughtful reflections and commitment to the community in each person's writing. So, I am feeling a little anxious and ask that you bear with me as I grow into this role.

I'm writing this on Sunday night after a most amazing liturgy this morning. Richard and Carol Urban and Marie Schum-Brady collaborated with Jim Hug to bring us a liturgy that really hit home for those of us there. The readings talked about God's warning to the shepherds who are "scattering His flock and driving them away" and His compassion for the crowds following Him "like sheep without a shepherd." Sounds timely and on the mark, doesn't it? Folks who shared during the dialogue had personal stories of recent challenges in a parish to sign letters of allegiance before being allowed to teach Sunday School and others reflected on the impact of the LCWR and the "Nuns on the Bus" initiative on the Church. Later in the day, some NOVA members shared another moving liturgy to celebrate the feast of St. Mary of Magdala with Bridget Mary Meehan and heard a similar challenge to be part of a new emerging Church,

So, where are we? How do we move forward? We had twelve new visitors to Nova in the park today (July 22) looking for new hope and possibilities. Is NOVA to be part of this emerging church? Let's keep talking about what role we can play both individually and collectively. – After all, We Are the Church!

A blessing from the liturgy with Bridget Mary

on July 22 is one for all to remember:

*May the fire of God's love warm our hearts. May God grant our prayers for justice and equality in our church and world. May the love of Christ fill us and radiate through us all.*

~Meg Tucillo, Co-chair



Meg and Cece pledge service at investiture as community co-chairs at July 8 liturgy



Meg receives cross from Anne on behalf of the community

For NOVA photos, click on:  
<http://www.novacommunity.weebly.com>

## August Birthdays

11 Joe Annunziata  
Anne Houck  
12 Eric Carroll  
Bob O'Toole  
20 Rose Barrett  
Marie Keefe  
26 Tom Clarkson  
29 Peggy Meyer

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

*Remember in your prayers. . .*

**Eve Birch**, for the success of her work in assisting the needy

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

**Jody Furlong**, who also appreciates phone calls or notes

**Michael Iskander**, who is going through a lengthy recovery process from extensive injuries following a car accident last year

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



Reminder of why the liturgy was cancelled on July 1

NOVA Message Line	(703) 852-7907
Chairpersons	Cece Michelotti Meg Tucillo
Treasurer	Joe Formoso
Coordinator, Community Life	Marlene Shade
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	John Tarrant
Directory & Yahoo Groups Coordinator; Webmaster	Ken Chaison
Announcements Coordinator	Linda Christie
Newsletter Editor	Judy Christofferson

**September Newsletter Deadline  
Sunday, August 26**

## Liturgies: Cycle B

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. In the summer months, liturgies are held at Lacey Woods Park Pavilion in Arlington, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

### August Music Liaison Victoria Robinson

#### August 5 – 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dan Madigan, SJ

Planners: Michelottis et al.

#### August 12 – 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Priest: Jim Coriden

Planner: Meg Tucillo

#### August 19 – 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dan Madigan, SJ

Planners: John & Carol Reeder

#### August 26 – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Priest: Joe Nangle, OFM

Planners: Linda & Jack Christie

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*When possible arrange any needed exchanges with other planners on dates near your scheduled liturgy. Let Gloria Mog, liturgy coordinator, know of any changes to the schedule. Thanks!*  
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### September Music Liaison Tim White

#### September 2 – 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*(Last liturgy at Lacey Woods)*

Priest: John Haughey, SJ

Planner: Gloria Mog

#### September 9 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Priest: Quinn Connors, O.Carm.

Planners: Rosemarie & Joe Annunziata

[See important details regarding location and time below.](#)

#### September 16 – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time –

*Retreat at Shrine Mont\**

Priest: Quinn Connors, O.Carm.

Planners: Retreat Team

[See details on page 4.](#)

#### September 23 – 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*(Return to Kenmore: 10:15 a.m. start time )*

Priest: John Haughey, SJ

Planner: Kate Doherty

#### September 30 – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Priest: Gerry Stockhausen, SJ

Planners: Kate Doherty & Marie Pinho

### Celebration of Barrett's 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

**On September 9, 2012**, Rose and Jerry Barrett will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. Please mark your calendars for a celebratory liturgy, followed by a picnic. **The liturgy will start at 11 a.m.**, in the backyard of the Michelotti's home, followed by a picnic. Quinn Connors will be the celebrant.

**There will be no liturgy that morning at Lacey Woods Park.** All NOVA members are invited. Picnic food and drinks will be provided. Jerry and Rose want to emphasize: "Absolutely no gifts. Your presence is enough."

## Food for Christ House

In June, when we served dinner at Christ House, we served our usual scalloped potatoes – but with hot dogs! This was necessary because one of the ovens was still acting up! Let's hope that everything is in working order this month because the folks at Christ House love our meatloaf! And we still have plenty of it saved.

On Monday, August 20, NOVA will prepare and serve dinner for nearly 70 clients at Christ House. **Please mark your calendars to remember to bring scalloped potatoes only to liturgy on August 19.** Alternatively, you may drop off *scalloped potatoes only* at the Michelotti's house anytime on Sunday or until 1:00 p.m. on Monday, the 20th. Just leave them in the coolers on the front porch.

If you want to find out firsthand whether it's hotter in the kitchen or on the street, call or e-mail Kopp Michelotti or Ken Chaison about working in the kitchen and serving dinner. We start food preparation around 4:00 p.m.

Before your calendars get too crowded--here are NOVA's Christ House dates for the rest of 2012:

August 20

October 15

December 17

~Kopp Michelotti



Setting up for liturgy on July 29

## Annual NOVA Retreat Information

NOVA's retreat will be held at Shrine Mont from Friday evening through Sunday noon, September 14-16. You must make reservations ahead of time with Kopp Michelotti because we have to give Shrine Mont a count of participants in advance. Call or e-mail Kopp. Leave a message with the names of all adults and children for whom you are reserving space. Please specify ages of any kids.

Shrine Mont is located in Orkney Springs, VA, approximately two hours from the Washington DC metro area, just beyond the Basye/Bryce Mountain ski resort. However, Friday afternoon traffic on I-66 might make it prudent to allow a little more time. To reach Shrine Mont, follow Route 66 West to I-81 South to Mt. Jackson (Exit #273). Turn left onto Rt. 703 (East), then right (South) on US 11; follow through town, turn right on Rt. 263 and continue approximately 15 miles to Orkney Springs.

Friday dinner will be served from 5:30 till 7:00 p.m. The first session will be held on Friday after dinner. [Editor: Details on the retreat program will be provided in the next issue of the newsletter.] The retreat will end with lunch on Sunday at 12:30 pm.

The mountains are gorgeous and the weather cooler than in DC. It's advisable to bring a jacket; also, insect repellent, extra towels, soap, and shampoo. Please bring snacks of any kind to share during Friday and Saturday evening get-togethers, as well as games and puzzles, soft drinks, juice, wine, beer. Smoking and pets are not allowed.

The cost for the weekend is \$180 for adults and teens, \$80 for children who are ages 8-12 but free for younger kids. NOVA doesn't want anyone to miss the retreat because of cost. We always have subsidies available; just talk to Kopp. Please contact Kopp *as soon as possible* to reserve your space for the retreat.

~Kopp Michelotti

## Gunston Food Distribution

For the AFAC (Arlington Food Assistance Center)

NOVA volunteers distribute bags of nonperishable food, cereal, and perishable items such as eggs, milk, and meat



that are picked up at AFAC



warehouse on the night of distribution. Twice a month Eric Carroll buys fresh produce at the markets in DC, funded by the NOVA peace and

justice budget. They are added to the clients' AFAC food those weeks. The distribution takes place at the Gunston Middle School Recreation Center in Arlington. NOVA volunteers have been active in this project for many years. Having at least three volunteers is best. *If you would like to participate, it is always possible to work with a "seasoned" volunteer.* If you speak Spanish that is very valuable as many clients speak Spanish. If you are interested in volunteering, if you are interested in volunteering, contact Dianne Carroll by phone or e-mail.

~Dianne Carroll

*Below is a piece about AFAC and NOVA's work with them which was sent to the listserv by Eric in response to a question by a community member about food donations.*

The following is some background on the donations to AFAC:

### Bringing cereal:

- Ensures cereal coverage for Gunston clients
- Provides a hands-on approach for those wanting more than just the wallet approach to Social Justice
- Provides an item that is expensive for clients (per pound cost) and is not purchased by AFAC but comes to their shelves through food drives
- Is child-centered more than adult-centered.



NOVA also brings some things like oil, flour, sugar, white bread, or pies at special times like Thanksgiving. Sometimes a food drive is held. NOVA also chooses to give money to AFAC through the monthly peace and justice projects (\$100/month) as well as to the NOVA Food Project (\$500/month), which facilitates wholesale purchase of fresh fruits and veggies twice a month using the long standing NOVA food co-op account with a wholesaler in DC. Most of the produce goes to the Gunston distribution directly and part of this also goes to two shelters, Sullivan House of AACH and Doorways, and one or two families who have come out of the AACH shelter program. Most of the cereal purchases are done with whatever is on sale and hopefully close to a wholesale price.

Money or in-kind contributions help AFAC and NOVA's efforts at the Gunston distribution site for AFAC. The wallet approach is very helpful, don't get me wrong. It's the approach we use for most of the NOVA Social Action projects. In addition there has been an off-and-on NOVA discussion about our projects having a hands-on approach as well. Bringing food allows everyone the chance to participate in the AFAC project. Every little bit helps. We are currently serving around 50 families every week at Gunston. On average, AFAC serves 1,600 families (3500 adults and 1500 children) per week.

AFAC information is at: [www.afac.org](http://www.afac.org)

~Eric Carroll

### August Gunston Volunteers

August 2: **Kopp/Cece, Marie K, Marie P.**

August 9: **Eric and Gamboa family**

August 16: **Syd; Glen**

August 23: **Tim; Jerry**

August 30: **Orlando Kane family**



## Blessing for the Rural Women's Center Project

From July 15<sup>th</sup> liturgy for NOVA's annual special social justice project:  
*Co-partners of Campesinas in El Salvador*



### *To Co-partners of Campesinas:*

We bless the work you do for women and youth with La Nueva Esperanza. This year we offer our commitment to help fund the construction of Centro Campesina in El Salvador and to walk together in thought and prayer. May you help us deepen our relationships with those you serve.

### *To our Sisters at La Nueva Esperanza:*

We come to you with open hearts, unable to fully comprehend the struggles that face you daily, confident in the gifts you bring to your communities.

We commit to support you by being open to the Holy Spirit as you are open to Her through your work leading rural women to a better life, and by joining our resources to your determination to construct a center where you can continue to do so.

May the center shelter the growth you have worked so hard to develop.  
May it incubate new efforts to help more women help themselves.  
May it always house goodness and joy.

~Submitted by Marie Keefe



Jim, Meg, Archer and Rosa Flores (former director of La Nueva Esperanza) receive community's blessing

### Save the Date

As part of NOVA's ongoing education about El Salvador, there will be a showing of the film:

**"Romero"**  
**on Sunday October 21**  
**at "Casa Rosenberg"**  
(home of Linda and Rich)

More information to follow.

~Marie Keefe

### Did you know?

Read more about the July 15<sup>th</sup> liturgy on following page.

The "mini fundraiser" (selling tropical fruit) on July 15 earned \$314 for the project.

## Opening Song for July 15 Liturgy

(Composed by Barbara Formoso)

“La Nueva Esperanza” (“The New Hope”)

**Chorus:** We are sisters, we are united. We are sisters. We are one.

**V1:** Distance is not important, language doesn’t separate us.

**Bridge:** With strength in our hearts, with strength in our hands, working in community....

**V3:** We learn all together, sewing in Ilobasco.

*Chorus:* Somos hermanas, somos unidas,  
Somos hermanas. We are one.

*Verse 1:*

La distancia no nos importa; los idiomas no nos separan  
We are together, in the spirit. Somos hermanas; we are one.

*Chorus*

*Verse 2:*

Building bridges with our voices; building shelter with our hearts  
En La Nueva Esperanza, somos hermanas; we are one.

*Bridge:*

Con poder en el Corazon, con poder en las manos,  
Trabajando en la comunidad; we are with you, we are one!

*Verse 3:*

Aprendemos todas juntas; cosiendo en Ilobasco;  
We are learning for the future. Somos hermanas; we are one.



**Pictures (from the July 15<sup>th</sup> liturgy program) are of women sewing and receiving computer skills education in the Co-partners of Campesinas program.**

## Thank You Letters

### **From Emma Violand-Sanchez:**

June 2, 2012

Dear NOVA Catholic Community,

Dream Project is truly thankful to have a supporting champion like you. With your generous contribution of \$100 per month, Dream Project will fund 14 Dream Scholars this year. Thanks to your belief in our mission we will aid high achieving students to continue on their path toward higher education and pursuing their dreams.

At the 2012 Dream Scholarship Awards Ceremony on June 11, 2012 we [awarded] scholarships to 14 Dream Scholars who demonstrate commitment to community service, strong academic backgrounds and perseverance in the face of adversity. . . .

Your support is essential for Dream Project to continue providing Dream Scholars with funding and mentoring opportunities. We appreciate everything you have contributed to our organization, and especially to fulfill our aspiration to double our financial support to low-income immigrant students. Our students are eternally grateful and encouraged by your support.

Thankfully yours,

Emma Violand-Sanchez  
*Chair, DREAM Project Inc*

### **From Father Peter Henriot:**

Very chilly here in Malawi – winter arrived early in June to the “Warm Heart of Africa” – yet another sign of the reality of “climate change” for us here in southern Africa!

I’ve been more than plenty busy with the “fund-raising” task for our new Loyola Jesuit Secondary School – no “FUN-raising,” that’s for sure! This is our effort to set up a real “option for the poor” school here in Malawi. Really a challenge, but well worth the effort to try to make a difference for at least some young women and men trapped now in a very poor educational system in one of the poorest countries in the world.

Loyola Jesuit Secondary School will be located in a poor rural area, Kasungu, and be a co-educational boarding school for 500 students. (Gender equity is very important!) The Government of Malawi will pay faculty salaries, which means fees will be more accessible to families of lesser means.

With help from many different groups (including a generous and very much appreciated monthly gift from NOVA!), we are starting up construction now of Phase One, with hopes of enrolling the first year in mid-2014. Still a lot of funds to raise, but interest is high in what we are trying to do in the best of Jesuit traditions. Please pray for us! More information is available here: [www.loyola-malawi.org](http://www.loyola-malawi.org); [www.facebook.com/loyolamw;phenriot@jesuits.org.zm](https://www.facebook.com/loyolamw;phenriot@jesuits.org.zm)



## **From the Mendez Family:**

*Dear, dear, dear Joe and Rosemarie, Warren and Anna, and the entire NOVA Community,*

*It is so hard to find the right words to express our gratitude for all the love and support you have given to my Mom over the past 65 years, in the ways you touched our hearts with your words and readings and music and the songs and the memories so deep in her soul which she has taken with her to be with Dad and Rico et al. You have always been there for her, with her and by her bedside in all endeavors and trials and beliefs and fun-filled parties. With your love for her you made her a better person, a better wife and definitely a better mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and great-great grandmother, aunt, daughter, sister, sister-in-law, friend, confidant, leader and godmother! We will remember her spirit, her caring ways and the guidance she gave to so many along the way, her never-ending tales and travels and pictures and so much more. I can't remember everything but know that the good she spread to all will remain in my heart, my soul, my mind and my body. Because of her we have all become better people, parents, etc, etc, etc. God bless each and every one of you for the rest of eternity. May the peace of the Lord be with all of you each and every day. You will be in our thoughts and prayers eternally and forever.*

*All our love always and thanks for everything and for being there for Mommy and all of us.*

*Hope to see all of you in the near future. Take care.*

*Keep in touch please!*

*Pam, Terry and the entire Mendez Family*

## **Welcome to the Following NOVA Newcomers**



Margaret Kurtz Randall first joined us at the July 22 liturgy. She learned about NOVA from her sister, who found NOVA on the ACC's list of Intentional Communities. Margaret works for the State Department.



The Callahan Family: Mike, Madelyn, Nora and Max, who live in Arlington and like attending the liturgies at Lacey Woods Park.

## More Photos from Liturgies in the Park



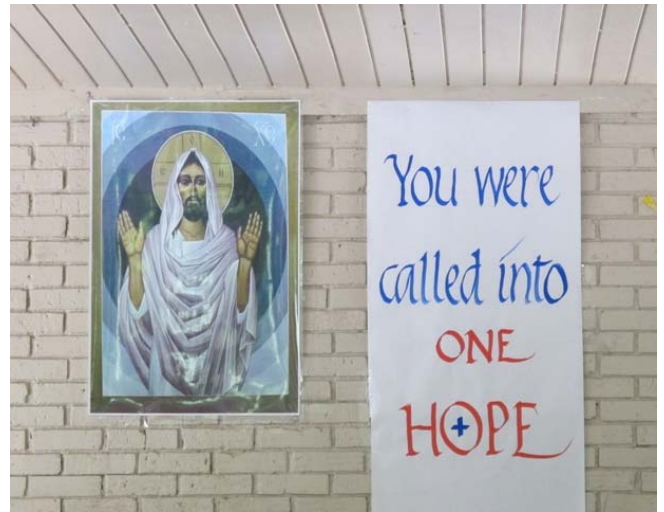
Isabella enjoys playing in the park



Joe, John, Richard and Carol listening during dialog



Grandmother Kate watches Isabella and Nico



Father Kenna's work enhanced the environment of the July 29 liturgy



From the liturgy on July 22



Praising with joyful song