



# nova notes

Newsletter of the NOVA Community April, 2005

## Chair Notes

**L**ent has been rich beyond articulation this year. It's tempting to stop here; your direct personal experience in our liturgies and our community's life is livelier and more defining than any chair notes. And Holy Week and Easter celebrations are yet to come.

*Love frees* has been a bountiful theme, leading us sure-footedly through the maze of Gospels and miracles to the foot of the cross and then an empty tomb. Yet on Passion Sunday, I cannot face a love so vast, so incomprehensible that it chooses to participate fully in the human condition of betrayal, abuse, degradation, violence, and physical pain. I need to avert my eyes from a love for us that is so abundant.

In an e-mail, Ted Keating put it this way:

The Holy Saturday sense of abandonment is when we watch the key civil and religious authorities turn on the innocence of God among us in Jesus and torture it to death as a hindrance to the normal order of society and religion. Jesus' heroism is in his revelation of God's ultimate identification with victims and the non-violence and forgiveness with which he, and therefore God, pours forth mercy and healing on human society as the cause of salvation.

In other words, it is all intensely social and throws us back in shock on how we as human beings construct our world and what God's plan is for us in Jesus in continuing power of the Spirit among us. The

Resurrection shatters the world as we know it and truly begins a new creation for humanity.

Joe Nangle in his description of Eucharist says it is standing with those who are bearing the cross.

For me the question becomes: How do we--me, you, NOVA-- reflect/live out this abundant love?

At our last meditation session, Anne Passin, gave us a rewrite of Psalm 106 from *Psalms for Prayer* to contemplate:

Increase our willingness to risk,  
Beloved,

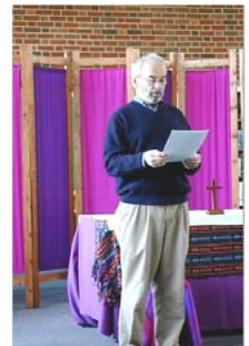
- to be open to change and surprises  
by the Spirit,

- to be willing to suffer that our Souls  
may grow;

For our souls increase as we let go, as  
we release all that diverts and  
separates us from You.

As an alternative community -- an intentional Eucharistic community--we began this way; as a mature alternative community, we can continue this journey.

~Marie Keefe



*NOVA Catholic Community*

Chairpersons	Ken Chaison	301-571-8180
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	Joe Annunziata	703-560-8688
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	Gloria Mog	703-522-1812
	Anne Passin	703- 538-6545
Padre Cadre Coordinator	John Mausert-Mooney	703- 425-1639
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<b>NEW EMAIL!!</b>	mdpinho@verizon.net	

The NOVA Catholic Community Invites You To Celebrate The Eucharistic Liturgy With Us Every Sunday In Arlington, Virginia at Kenmore Elementary School, Arlington Blvd & Glen Carlyn, Arlington Va.  
Liturgies begin at 10:15 am.

**newsletter deadline**  
**Sunday, April 24**  
**Please...**  
**Note editor's new**  
**email...**  
**mdpinho@verizon.net**  
**grazie**

# Birthdays, etc

## April

- 2 Chris Egbulem
- 3 John Marron
- 4 Sarah Gillmarten  
Chris Massey
- 5 Gil Donahue  
David Meyer  
Steve Michelotti
- 7 Archer Heinzen
- 8 Buddha
- 9 Ray Tarasovic
- 10 Victoria Robinson
- 12 Meg Tucillo
- 13 Maureen Flood
- 14 Timothy Showalter
- 18 Jim Weber
- 21 Chris Donahue  
Alicia Swanberg
- 25 Kopp Michelotti
- 27 Jason Powell
- 28 Emelia Formoso  
Patricia Violand Mercado **(RIP)**
- 29 Benjamin Ferguson



# Liturgies

**APRIL MUSIC LIAISON .....**  
**Gloria Mog**

**April 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Joe Nangle, OFM - Joe Annunziata  
 Acts 2:42-47  
 Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24  
 I Peter 1:3-9  
 John 20:19-31

**April 10 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

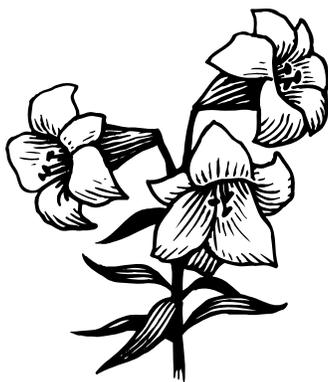
Sidney Griffith, ST - Cackleys  
 Acts 2:14, 22-28  
 Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-11  
 I Peter 1:17-21  
 Luke 24:13-35

**April 17 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Jim Scullion, OFM - H Michie & B Pugin  
 Acts 2:14, 36-41  
 Psalm 23:1-6  
 I Peter 2:20-25  
 John 10:1-10

**April 24 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Joe Kenna - Carrolls  
 Acts 6:1-7  
 Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19  
 I Peter 2:4-9  
 John 14:1-12



**APRIL MUSIC LIAISON .....**  
**Tim White**

**May 1 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Jim Coriden - Ormando Kanes  
 Acts 8:5-8, 14-17  
 Psalm 66:1-3, 4-7, 16, 20  
 I Peter 3:15-18  
 John 14:15-21

**May 8 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Raymond Kemp - Christoffersons  
 Acts 1:12-14  
 Psalm 27:1, 4, 7-8  
 I Peter 4:13-16  
 John 17:1-11

**May 15 - Pentecost**

Jim Scullion, OFM - Marrons & Rosenbergs  
 Acts 2:1-11  
 Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-34  
 I Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13  
 John 20:19-23

**May 22 - The Holy Trinity - Solemnity**

Joe Kenna - John Mausert-Mooney  
 Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9  
 Psalm: Daniel 3:52-56  
 II Corinthians 13:11-13  
 John 3:16-18

**May 29 - Corpus Christi -(Body and Blood of Christ)**

TBA - Jeanne Clarkson  
 Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16  
 Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20  
 I Corinthians 10:16-17  
 John 6:51-58

**at Lacey Woods Park!!!**

**Note: Liturgy starts at 9:30am**

### Liturgy Tip Music Selections

One of the most important parts of Liturgy Planning is selecting the music that will enhance and surround the entire liturgical experience. There are two song notebooks that contain most of the music we use at Nova. Two to three weeks before your liturgy, pick up one of the books from the closet and begin to think through what kind of music you wish to have. The readings for your Sunday, the overall theme you have chosen, and the season of the liturgical year offer the best guides to musical selections. You might also think about the mood or ambience that you wish to set for your particular Sunday. For instance, if it is a theme of celebration and good news, you will probably want to select songs that are upbeat and celebratory. We are in the Easter Season now, generally a time for lots of Alleluias! and resurrection songs. In general, the opening and closing songs are more up-tempo and brighter pieces. Offertory and Communion songs are often slower and more reflective as they introduce and conclude the most solemn time of the Mass. Don't forget to consider the Responsorial Psalm and if you would like it sung or read. Tim White has put the majority of psalms to music or, if not, the Music Group will compose a responsorial if the planner wants it to be sung. The Music Group is also very open to input on the Mass Parts if you have preferences. All selections **MUST** be given to the Music Liaison for the month (check your newsletter to see who that is) by the Sunday before your liturgy. There is quite a bit of work that goes into preparing the music and the group needs the week to get ready. Need help with selections? Contact the Music Liaison for ideas.

*-Gloria Mog*

## Liturgy Renewal Day

Nova Catholic Community

**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Goodwin House West

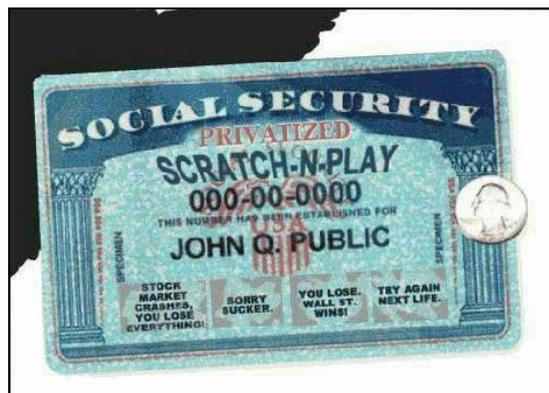
**Speaker and Facilitator:**

**Rodica Stoicoiu, PhD**

*Asst. Professor, Dept. of Theology  
Mt. St. Mary's College*



Recently visited NOVA — Paul Visokay!



A sign of things to come??

## Announcements.....

### Conference on Lay Spirituality

Saturday, April 16, 2005  
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

- To discover new symbols for dynamic lay spirituality
- To explore elements of lay spirituality
- To engage in significant conversations that recognize, build and fully integrate lay spirituality into the Church community

#### Keynote: New Symbols for Dynamic Lay Spirituality

Melanie Starr Costello PhD., Psy. A  
(Story, symbol, images that ground or center and make a connection with one's soul, The Self)

#### Workshop Theme: The Tree

**THE ROOT** - Rootedness – Rev. Jane Piver – Episcopal

**THE SHOOT** - Nurturance – Matushka Sasha Safchuk – Orthodox

**THE BRANCH** - Relationships – Rev. Joseph Nangle – Catholic

**THE BUD** - Harmony – Dr. Ellen Cronin – Quaker

**THE BLOOM** - Creativity & Vision – Ms Jo Ann Staebler – Presbyterian

**THE HARVEST** - Balance – Rev. Jeff Carter – Church of the Brethren

**Location:** Benedictine Pastoral Center  
9535 Linton Hall Road, Bristow, Virginia 20136

**Cost:** \$60.00 per person (\$50/person for groups of 3 or more)  
Lunch, refreshments & materials included

**Registration:** Telephone (703) 393-2485  
Email bpcosb@comcast.net  
Fax (703) 361-0254 (to Attn: "BPC / Sr. Louise")

#### I Find You in All These Things

I find you in all these things,  
to which I am a brother in all,  
in which minuscule seed you minutely hide yourself  
and in the Great, you greatly reveal yourself.

This wondrous game of power  
which unfolds itself in submission:  
stretching through the roots, thickening in the trunks,  
and resurrecting through the treetops

~*Rainer Maria Rilke*

### NOVA CALLING FORTH SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2005

#### Discernment Prayer of St. Francis

**MOST HIGH, glorious God,  
enlighten the darkness of  
our hearts,  
and give us true faith,  
certain hope and perfect  
charity,  
wisdom and understanding,  
that we may carry out  
Your holy and true  
command.**

**Amen.**



## Announcements.....(continued)

### To The Members past and present, and Guardian Angels of the Nova Community,

My name is Eve Birch; many of you know my Father Bob, my Mother Grace Birch, or my sister Mary Grace. My 7 siblings and I grew up around Nova and I spent puberty watching and hugging the Nova babies that are all taller, older, and wiser than I nowadays.

I loved the music and candles, the Easter sunrise services with daffy-dils and balloons. How many of you remember Assateague island? It was like paradise there with the ponies walking the dunes, and guitar playing by the fire. A curly haired tall man singing Jennifer Juniper with such love in his eyes. And my Mom having fun. Paradise. Of course I was all of ten years old if I remember right.

So, Dad/Bob is hanging with me in the mountains these days, on Spring Gap Mountain up over Paw Paw in West-by-Goddess-Virginia with visits to Mom/Grace in Falls Church at the Sleepy Hollow Manor every other week when things go smoothly and we're not snowed in!

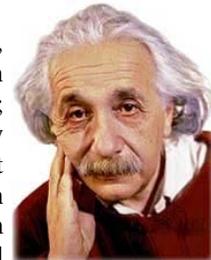
We have the best view for miles, with a vista of three mountain ridges visible from the east side of the house. He'd like you to know he's not dead yet, and is looking for a Rosary buddy. He's also looking for interesting books on tape (or CD- his eyes have failed now so he can't see type), and welcoming phone calls and visits anytime, as always. We have a cozy guest room with a breathtaking view, and the cooking is pretty good if you'd like to come visit. Chicken and very fluffy dumplings tonight. A little warning though-- this is a gated community over a Naturist (Nudist) resort -very tame, mostly Grandmas and Grandpas; a very charming group-but the fauna here does get interesting. Dad loves it and he's enjoyed going to the hot tubs down the hill on free days.

He's happy and relaxed most of the time; excellent company while I Mommy my 9 year old Erin Gwendolyn, who attends the Romney School for the Deaf, and work on two pieces I hope to submit this year, as well as the candle making in the basement shop that Mom/Grace guided me into. We watch the History channel a lot and his granddaughter (my daughter) Christina and his 15 month old great grandson Bryan come out every other weekend or so with her young groom-to-be, leaving us dazed, happy, exhausted, and

finding crumbs and toys in the oddest places.

His weight is down some and he sticks with his favorite comfort foods these days, my job is to put as much tasty nutrition into those as possible. He's in charge though, his body, his day, his thing. His Hospice team is the best I've ever seen. It is the most precious thing to have my Dad with me, I can't express it well, but there is a completion with him here that I haven't felt before. I have been so blessed to be able to take the time with him now that my somewhat flamboyant youth is done and I can pay attention for more than ten minutes at a time.

Old, Bob, my Dad, your friend, our mentor. Such a hoot and an excellent teacher all these years; he's also gonna be my study buddy as I wander into college for the first time in 20 years with his inspiration and awesome reference skills. I'm in the application process now and hope to start my undergraduate work (in psyche) online this spring or summer session. After that, I plan on going for a law degree so that the service I was raised in and continue in my life has a little more kicking power.



I'm rambling. Thanks to those of you who have stayed in contact, it means the world to him, and me too. Hey Eric Robinson, he loved the telephone visit with you, if you have time for more of those.

So please keep in touch, and May the Lord Bless & Keep you All in Her loving palm,

**~Eve Birch**

Bob Birch  
304-947-5991  
Rt 1 Box 169 G  
Paw Paw, WV 25434

## Announcements.....(continued #2)



Sunday, April 10, 2005

Its that time of year again!! Please join the M.O.M. Team for the MS Walk. Dianne and Monica will both be joining the folks who walk this year. Last year the MS Walk raised \$1,000,000!!!! There are two ways that you can participate - one is to walk and raise money **yourself and the other is to make a donation in support of a team member.** If you walk we will be walking at the Reston site. **We will meet at the Reston Town Center by the fountain between 9:00 and 9:30.** "Check in" is between 8-10 and we will start walking about 9:30 right after taking a picture of the team altogether.

### The easiest way to register is to:

1. Go to <http://www.msandyou.org>
2. Click on the MS Walk icon on the left
3. Click on Register Now!
4. Click on the words that say "Register... at the top
5. Fill out the form include **Jennifer Carroll** as the team captain and the **MOM Team** as the team name.
6. Submit your form and you will receive your registration packet!

### If you would like to make a donation:

1. Go to <http://www.msandyou.org>
2. Click on the MSWalk icon on the left
3. Click on Donate online
4. Under gift information: Choose "One day Walk contribution (April)" and state the name of the participant on the team where the donation is intended.

**OR you can bring your checkbook to church** and make a donation/pledge!!!

**OR** mail to Dianne or Monica.

If you have any questions or difficulty in accessing the website to register and/or make a donation you can email Jenny Carroll ([jlcarro@yahoo.com](mailto:jlcarro@yahoo.com)) phone 703-560-4081 or Dianne ([diacarroll@comcast.net](mailto:diacarroll@comcast.net)) 703-536-2616 Thank you to everyone who has walked and donated in the past and in the future!!!!

### Warren T. Reich to teach at the Smithsonian "Great Minds on the Art of Living"

The following course will be offered by the Smithsonian Institute's Resident Associate Program in Spring, 2005. The six sessions will be held in the Ripley Center. To register, call (202) 357-3030. Online:

[www.ResidentAssociates.org](http://www.ResidentAssociates.org).

This course will examine the art of living, the task that shaped the origins of western philosophy but has generally been neglected. We will see how leading philosophers as well as the foremost spiritual writers have pursued the art of living by placing the highest priority on the requirements of the care of self and soul. This includes a consideration of how to seek relief from the worries and agonies of life and to achieve a sense of the meaning of one's own life through the search for consolation, wisdom, virtue and happiness. We will also learn how exemplary people through the ages have integrated their spiritual, moral, and political beliefs around what it is that one should care about.

April 21, 2005: Socrates and the Care of the Soul

April 28, 2005: A Roman Goddess Challenges Today's Society

May 5, 2005: Seneca, the Stoics, and Their Modern Counterparts

May 12, 2005: Mysticism and the Art of Living

May 19, 2005: Goethe's Faust: Care of the Soul in a Rationalist Era

May 26, 2005 Contemporary Approaches to the Care of Self and Soul

See [http://residentassociates.org/com/art\\_living.asp](http://residentassociates.org/com/art_living.asp) for session details...

## Announcements.....(continued)

### Angels Among Us!



On **Saturday, April 23, 2005**, the 12th Annual 5K Run and Family Fun-walk, to raise funds for brain tumor research, will be held on Duke's Campus. The Brain Tumor Center at Duke houses one of only three Federal brain tumor research programs recognized by the National Institutes of Health.

Visit <http://www.curebraintumors.org> for registration and other information. Please see Ken Chaison for event brochures, when they become available.

Brain tumors are the second leading cause of cancer death in children and young adults, and one of the fastest growing causes of cancer in the elderly. There are over 120 different types of brain tumors, making effective treatment very complicated. Members of the NOVA community know several people who have been affected by brain tumors.

Donations, large and small are welcome. Please help if you can.

[Editor's Note: *Please see page 9 for more about Mary*]

Mary Chaison and many others have turned to the caring people at Duke. This was Mary's preferred charity...At Duke there is Hope!

More information can be found at the Brain Tumor Center website, <http://www.angelsamongus.org>.

**Donations** to sponsor "**TEAM CHAISON**"\* can be made via the following website...

<https://www.cancer.duke.edu/events/angelsamongus/registration/donate.asp> .

Please select **TEAM CHAISON** on the designated line.

**\*Mary's brother, Ken Spenner, will run for TEAM CHAISON in the race this year.**

Ken Chaison also has brochures and information for making donations by mail. Checks should be made payable to "**Duke - 05BT**" with **TEAM CHAISON** written on the memo line. Checks can be given to Ken Chaison or mailed separately to [Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center - Angels, DUMC 3828, Durham, NC 27710](#).

On May 1, 2005, The Brain Tumor Society will kick off its Annual 5K Run in Washington, DC, for those who would like to participate in a local 5K to benefit brain tumor research.



**Mary at Bar Harbor - 1996**

## Thank You, NOVA ...

### Thanks to the St. Clements Overnight Shelter Volunteers

Winter has come to a close, we hope.

Every other Monday from January through March, Nova volunteers were welcoming homeless guests at St. Clements Episcopal Church in Alexandria where the guests spent the night in a warm and quiet environment. These volunteers were on duty from 7pm-7am making sure that the guests were comfortable.

A big thank you to those who participated this year. Jerry Barrett, Eric Carroll, Clyde Christofferson, John Mausert-Mooney, Ted Miller, Jason Powell, Harish Rao, Anna Reich, and Ray and Jan Tarasovic.

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### CENTRO VILLA CANDELARIA

A Children's Project – Educating and Supporting the Child and the Family—Cochabamba / Bolivia \* Casilla 4297 \* Tel. 00591 4 4302152 Fax 00591 4 4287490 \* e-mail: [cvc@cochabamba-bolivia.net](mailto:cvc@cochabamba-bolivia.net) / [joaband@supernet.com.bo](mailto:joaband@supernet.com.bo)

### Annual Report 2004

This past year was the first of three years that will bring significant changes to the program. During this year, many important improvements in the infrastructure of CENTRO VILLA CANDELARIA have taken place, and in the future more changes are in store, in order to gain more area for the school and the daycare. Also the medical center will change focus and will work in Villa Candelaria with our schoolchildren and work more in preventive medicine. It is also possible that the medical center will move to work in another location. Thank you for helping us to meet the needs of almost 400 disadvantaged children and to help them have a better future.

[Editor's Note: This is the school where the 35 Nova people support a child.]

### In Loving Memory of Mary Chaison March 12, 1950 – June 13, 2002

In 1997 Mary felt a little numbness in one or two fingers on her right hand, which became bothersome over a few months. It was very noticeable to Mary because it interfered with her playing the piano. Piano was her major in college and she loved playing since she was in the fourth grade. Various tests eventually led to a CT scan, which disclosed a brain tumor. MRI scans and a biopsy further defined it as an oligodendroglioma, inoperable due to its location.

Mary decided to follow treatment at Duke Medical Center, because of the positive, upbeat attitude of the staff at the Brain Tumor Center there. She was always positive and upbeat herself.

Chemotherapy options kept the tumor stable from 1997 to 2001. Then it began to change and radiation was required. All seemed well for a while, but change happened again. A biopsy in 2002 revealed that the tumor had become a glioblastoma, the most aggressive type of brain tumor. Mary received more chemo, but the tumor would not be defeated.

Mary had a radiant personality that reflected her love for people. She was first a loving mother to Katie. Mary also reinvented herself several times, when my employment required us to move. She taught music in middle school for a number of years in Illinois. She was employed as a Campus Minister at a private school in Bethesda after our first move, then coordinator for Family Intergenerational Religious Education at our parish, when we moved to North Carolina. When we moved yet again, she was employed as a director of the children's program at an Episcopal Church in Gaithersburg. In these endeavors she was always successful with the children (and their parents) from the very beginning. It was her love for the children that reflected from her and made them feel at ease and important.

If God is love, then God was always with Mary. Now, Mary is with God, and we will miss her always.

~Ken Chaison

# *NOVA in step ...*

## **MS Walk 2004**



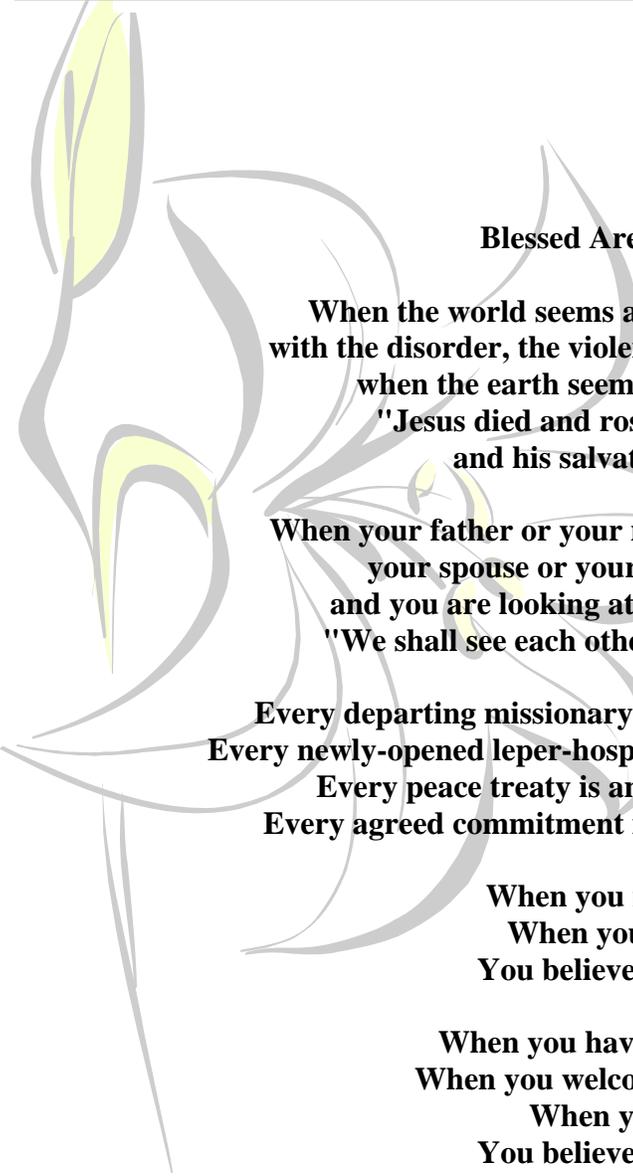
## **Team Chaison, DC**



at the "4th Annual Brain Tumor Society 5k Run & Walk".



It was held in 2001 on April 22 in Washington. Funds raised benefited the Brain Tumor Society. Mary is left (2002) and center, wearing a hat...her last race.



### **Blessed Are You Who Believed**

**When the world seems a defeat for God and you are sick  
with the disorder, the violence, the terror, the war on the streets;  
when the earth seems to be chaos, say to yourself,  
"Jesus died and rose again on purpose to save,  
and his salvation is already with us."**

**When your father or your mother, your son or your daughter,  
your spouse or your friend are on their deathbed,  
and you are looking at them in the pain of parting, say,  
"We shall see each other again in kingdom, courage..."**

**Every departing missionary is an act of faith in the resurrection.  
Every newly-opened leper-hospital is an act of faith in the resurrection.  
Every peace treaty is an act of faith in the resurrection.  
Every agreed commitment is an act of faith in the resurrection.**

**When you forgive your enemy  
When you defend the weak  
You believe in the resurrection.**

**When you have the courage to marry  
When you welcome the newly-born child  
When you build a home  
You believe in the resurrection.**

**When you wake to a peace in the morning  
When you sing to the rising sun  
When you go to work with joy  
You believe in the resurrection.**

**~Carlo Carretto**

6027 Ticonderoga Court  
Burke, VA 22015-3372



**NOVA**

April, 2005