



nova notes

Newsletter of the NOVA Community May, 2005

Chair Notes

THE CITY OF GOD
Η ΠΟΛΗ ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΥ
神の都市
ГОРОД БОГА
LA CIUDAD DEL DIOS
LA VILLE DE DIEU
LA CITTÀ DEL DIO
DIE STADT DES GOTTES

There are words for it in every language. Wherever we are, we need to continue to build the City of God, regardless of whether Italian, Polish, or even German is spoken at far off places, like the Vatican.

At liturgy on April 24, we took stones out of a wheelbarrow and began building a symbolic foundation at the foot of the altar. The wheelbarrow itself is a powerful symbol. It can serve to remind us that we are all responsible for “pushing the wheelbarrow” – using our gifts, whatever they are, to keep the building process going. No need to focus much on things far away, when we have our own wheelbarrows to push.



NOVA has worked consistently at building the City of God. For example, we support over 30 projects through our Social Justice Program. In addition to our financial support to the family in the Adopt-A-Family project, this year there has been a special effort made by Tim, John M-M, Jeanne and others, to tutor and counsel the supported family members. The goal is to help put them back on a track to self-sufficiency. In service to others, Kopp recently accepted responsibility for the Christ House Project.

In service to the community, John M-M has taken the mantle of Padre Cadre Coordinator, from David, who did it so well for five years. At Calling Forth on April 23, twenty-four community members recommitted themselves to NOVA’s ministries, including John Tarrant, who will join Marcelline and Marie as the Community Chairs for the coming year.

In addition, we have begun a process of renewal that is taking several forms. A group is exploring new facilities for NOVA. We also begin a liturgical renewal with a workshop on May 14th. This workshop, on renewing, deepening and refreshing our approach to liturgy, is for all community members.

At Calling Forth and at previous NOVA Nite meetings, we began to ask, what NOVA is called to be, and what it has to offer to others, as an Intentional Eucharistic Community. Have we gotten too comfortable? How do we “let our light shine?” What steps do we take to welcome others, including those who are not just like us and especially families with children?

The answers to these questions may be entwined with the facility and type of worship space that we adopt and how we discern the future of NOVA in terms of liturgical renewal. Along with renewed worship space and liturgy, other concrete steps may help others to find NOVA, such as a professional looking, commercially developed website.

Many hands will be needed to “push the NOVA wheelbarrow” to implement change, while still maintaining the current life of the community. Time and talent, along with treasure, may be needed from many members of the community. If only a few people are doing all the work, the load will be heavy.

Marcelline Niemann and Marie Keefe are two who have worked hard for the community over the last year. They have taught me much. It has been my pleasure to serve with them. I am very grateful to NOVA folks for the support you have given me and I look forward to continuing to work together with you all in community.

~Ken Chaison

NOVA Catholic Community

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The NOVA Catholic Community Invites You To Celebrate The Eucharistic Liturgy With Us Every Sunday In Arlington, Virginia. Beginning Memorial Day Week through Labor Day weekend, we celebrate at Lacie Woods Park, George Mason Drive near Washington Blvd, unless otherwise noted.
Liturgies begin at 9:30 am

Birthdays, etc May

- 3 Cathy Goldschmidt
Piper Powell
- 4 Jean Mendez
Joe Kenna (Ordination)
- 6 Lily Whalen-Peck
Ray Kemp (Ordination)
- 8 Anne Passin
Ken Himes (Ordination)
Kettie Houck
- 10 Dianne Carroll
Jim Hug
- 11 Elena Bailey
- 13 Patricia Greenfield
- 14 Quinn Conners(Ordination'71)
- 17 Katie Chaison
Jorge & Kathy Perez-Lopez
(Anniv. 1975)
- 18 Alex Massey
Jim Hug (Ordination)
- 20 Ella Carroll Teal
- 24 Genevieve Schmidt
- 27 Alicia Puente Cackley
- 28 Tom Perez-Lopez
- 30 John Maussert-Mooney
Doug McNeill (Ordination)
- 31 Elizabeth (Beth) Thompson

newsletter deadline
Sunday, May 21
Please...
Note editor's new
email...
mdpinho@verizon.net
grazie



Liturgies

MAY MUSIC LIAISON

Tim White

May 1 – 6th 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

Thursday, May 5 - Ascension

No Liturgy at Kenmore

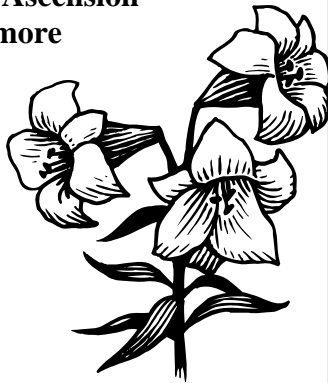
Readings for Mass

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9

Ephesians 1:17-23

Matthew 28:16-20



May 8 – 7th 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

JUNE MUSIC LIAISON

Tim White

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

John Langden - 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

June 5 – 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Abbott Aidan Shea, OSB – Ormando-Kanes

Hosea 6:3-6

Psalm 50:1, 8, 12-15

Romans 4:18-25

Matthew 9:9-13

June 12 – 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

TBA - Emma Violand

Exodus 19:2-6

Psalm 100:1-2, 3, 5

Romans 5:6-11

Matthew 9:36--10:8

June 19 – 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joe Kenna - Betsy Marron

Jeremiah 20:10-13

Psalm 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

Romans 5:12-15

Matthew 10:26-33

June 26 – 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sidney Griffith, ST - David Mog

II Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

Psalm 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19

Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

Matthew 10:37-42

Announcements.....

NOTE: ADDRESS CORRECTION

Liturgy Renewal Day

Nova Catholic Community

Saturday, May 14th

1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Goodwin House East

(Sonja's & Gil's residence)

4800 Fillmore Ave—Anne

Lee Room

Speaker and Facilitator:

Rodica Stoicoiu, PhD

Asst. Professor, Dept. of

Theology

Mt. St. Mary's College

From the Archives...now forming...

Victoria Robinson has taken the initiative to begin an "Archivists' Assembly" -- a group of NOVA volunteers, both "old-timers" and "newer folks" -- who'll be willing to read thru our boxed archives (and some of the "floating" resource materials, like our "Last Things" reference box). Goals will include:

- sort/prune/organize/re-package the material that came out of the Donahues' Kenmore St. basement;
- collect liturgy & newsletter & padre-cadre listings & "other" community-life materials since 2002 -- incorporate into archives;
- designate which materials might be scanned for electronic storage & find volunteers to do that, over time;
- aim for a reduced (total) number of archival boxes that they could be kept in a NOVA member's residential closet/spare room without difficulty;
- Organize and label information in such a way as to be USEABLE for current & future members, and for possible donation to scholars/investigators of "IECs" at some future time.

Interested in participating? Contact Victoria (703) 237-0008 or at ClutterbucksVAR@aol.com

Announcements, continued

Dear Nova Community,

On behalf of the two co-sponsoring bodies, we are pleased to extend a warm invitation to you and other interested members of your group, church or community to a ground-breaking conference titled "Faith, Values and Capital Punishment in Virginia 2005 " on Saturday, May 7, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington (UUCA). Your participation would contribute significantly to this unprecedented, coalition-building gathering of committed individuals concerned with the death penalty in our state.

Running from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., the lively program of presentations and round table discussions will allow ample opportunities for all participants to contribute their insights and inspiration. Specific sessions will focus on such topical questions as the results of the just-completed Virginia General Assembly, the beginning of the sharply-contested race for Governor, and the impact on Virginia of the Supreme Court's recent ruling banning the execution of juvenile offenders. In addition, breakout sessions will discuss priorities for future action as well as practical issues like how best to share information and mobilize broad support.

Luncheon on that day will feature a tasty meal, prominent honored guests, a death penalty exoneree, and an inspirational address by Bishop Walter Sullivan.

To cover the cost of the lunch and materials being provided at the conference, we must charge a modest participation fee of \$15 (\$10 for students and seniors), payment to be made by mail, at the door, or through the VADP website.

Please send one of us the names of people from your group, church or community who expect to attend. In addition, we would greatly appreciate hearing of anyone from your group who may want to serve as a discussion leader in one of the breakout groups.

With heartfelt thanks for your support - and the hope that we will see you on May 7.

Sincerely,
/s/ Paul and Albert

Paul Blackburn
Chair, Task Force to Abolish the Death Penalty
Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
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Several NOVA folks were among dozens who attended the Lay Spirituality Conference at the Benedictine Pastoral Center, Bristow, VA. on April 16.

We EXPLORED lay spirituality from an ecumenical perspective, ENGAGED in conversation to recognize and to integrate lay spirituality within the church and DISCOVERED new symbols for dynamic lay spirituality. Our close friend, Joe Nangle, OFM, was one of the presenters.

Thanks to Anne Passin, the center's Board Chair, for introducing us to this great location and for informing us of the opportunity of this conference, where the Spirit was among us.

~Ken

From the Archives.....

From Sonja Donahue's handwritten notes, attached to a liturgy program from the mid-1980's. Theme: refugees & the immigrant experience. Thank you, Sonja, for your wisdom & personal witness!

If this was true in the 80s, it's even more appropriate now, given our USA changing demographics.

“Not all refugees are created equal – so to speak. And “common sense” is very culture-bound. So, for anyone intending to work with refugees, it helps to know something of their background, their culture, their worldview. For instance, many foreign visitors will be happy if you can greet them in their own language and style. But while you can pump a German's hand for quite a while, a Chinese will feel uncomfortable with eye & hand contact.

Refugees differ from native-born citizens in that they do not think in terms of inalienable rights. Mostly, they just hope for a “break”, so they can start their life over. Refugees are also suspicious of government, of bureaucracies and institutions. They need help to work the system, American style, and they appreciate the personal touch, even after they have plugged into the local structures.

I have been a displaced person not just once, but repeatedly. So I know that rootlessness and insecurity, as well as the experience of multiple cultures, can make for detachment and a critical attitude. But it also makes one very appreciative of home, friends & “community” if one can succeed in establishing a base. So, if you observe some ambivalence in immigrants – negativism on the one hand, heavy gratitude on the other – remember where it comes from.

Although all immigrants must be willing to start new life on the bottom of the socio-economic ladder, it does not mean that all immigrants are peasants. Immigrants may not yet speak their new language idiomatically, but they could be bilingual, trilingual exposed to good education ... and perfectly capable of moving in polite society (except, perhaps, for using forks & knives differently).

Often, people who move to America for political/ ideological reasons find adjustment more difficult than those who come to better themselves economically. So, for the new-comer to avoid blunders and embarrassment, one needs facts & information, primarily.

Let me give you a trivial-but-funny example which makes the point: In the late 1940s, (having only arrived from China a couple years earlier) I'd just met Gil & he invited me on a date. We went to a “sock hop.” All I knew was it was a “dance”, and I dressed up. I was *really* overdressed and out-of-place for a “petal-pushers & bobby-sox & tee shirts & sweaters” scene! Who knew?!

Also, resist asking an immigrant or foreign visitor how they like America – at least not during their first week or month. America is a big and diverse nation. It takes time to figure out where America typically resides. Besides, most people are either unable or too polite to show their real feelings. How would you feel if your stomach ached from the unaccustomed food ... your only contact to date has been with institutional or official personnel ... and what you are most conscious of are all the country's “don't” rules?

Generally, refugees are glad to share their homeland's culture and their personal recollections. But do not limit them to only such contributions. Otherwise you help them persist in their self-image as outsiders. Instead, give them a chance to show off their unique, personal talents and help them to manifest their new learning. I still remember, gratefully, the Quaker church-group which asked me (a foreign student) to make a presentation at their Thanksgiving meal-celebration about the “meaning of Thanksgiving.” When I was able to relate history with tradition, and with other countries' harvest festivals, they made me feel like an honored guest, not a charity case.”

Submitted by Victoria Robinson,
NOVA “Archivists Assembly”, 2005

[Editor's Note: Please see announcement on page 5 for more information on this new initiative.]

Thank You, NOVA ...

Dear NOVA:

Thank you very much for the children's books, and the check deposited to our account. The books will be going to our kindergartens, literacy programs and primary school. Find enclosed a few photos of our programs. As you can see, school-age children are still in kindergartens or literacy programs. The beautiful thing is that the children and the women only need some encouragement and they like to learn. Our priority in these years has been education and preparation of leaders at all levels. Thanks be to God and to generous people like you, our activities are progressing. A number of young people, women and men, have been trained as professional nurses as well as kindergarten teachers and all of them are already working in our clinics and schools.

It is sad to say but the situation of the country is not promising. The drought and famine have hit various regions. The Southern region, where we Comboni missionaries have most of our missions, is very much affected. In collaboration with the missionaries of charity and other organizations we have been bringing relief to the people, especially the children. The famine is not in the minds nor on the agenda of the politicians who at the moment are getting ready for the country's elections in May. Even though the country has been undergoing fast development, poverty is more visible and so is unemployment and the number of street children is on the rise. In the face of all this what is there to say? Only let us do our best where we are and let us try to help the people the best way we can. We pray that the Lord may give us the strength to continue our mission with much joy and dedication despite the difficulties that we encounter along the way.

May God bless you abundantly with all the gifts and blessings you most need. United in the Risen Lord!

Con carino,

~Adriana

About those Birthdays....

It used to be fun being a baby boomer... 'til now. Some of the artists of the '60s and '70s are updating their hits with titles and lyrics crafted to appeal to their maturing fans. They include such smash singles as:

Herman's Hermits —
Mrs. Brown, You've Got a Lovely Walker
The Bee Gees —
How Can You Mend a Broken Hip
Bobby Darin —
Splish, Splash, I Was Havin' a Flash
Ringo Starr —
I Get By With a Little Help from Depends
Roberta Flack —
The First Time Ever I Forgot Your Face
Johnny Nash —
I Can't See Clearly Now
Paul Simon —
Fifty Ways to Lose Your Liver
Commodores —
Once, Twice, Three Times to the Bathroom
Marvin Gaye —
I Heard it Through the GrapeNuts
Procol Harem —
A Whiter Shade of Hair
Leo Sayer —
You Make Me Feel Like Napping
The Temptations —
Papa's Got a Kidney Stone
ABBA —
Denture Queen
Tony Orlando —
Knock 3 Times on the Ceiling if you Hear Me Fall
Helen Reddy —
I am Woman, Hear me Snore
Willie Nelson —
On the Throne Again
Leslie Gore —
It's My Procedure and I'll Cry if I Want To
Eurythmics —
Here Comes The Pain Again
Annie Lennox —
Put A Little Pacemaker In Your Heart
AC/DC —
Parkinson's Shook Me All Night Long

Manifesto

by Wendell Berry
as read on last Holy Thursday

Love the quick profit, the annual raise,
vacation with pay. Want more
of everything ready-made. Be afraid
to know your neighbors and to die.
And you will have a window in your
head.

Not even your future will be a mystery
any more. Your mind will be punched in
a card and shut away in a little drawer.
When they want you to buy something
they will call you. When they want you
to die for profit they will let you know.

So, friends, every day do something
that won't compute. Love the Lord.
Love the world. Work for nothing.
Take all that you have and be poor.
Love someone who does not deserve it.
Denounce the government and embrace
the flag. Hope to live in that free
republic for which it stands.
Give your approval to all you cannot
understand. Praise ignorance, for what
man has not encountered he has not
destroyed.

Ask the questions that have no answers.
Invest in the millennium. Plant sequoias.
Say that your main crop is the forest
that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest.
Say that the leaves are harvested
when they have rotted into the mold.
Call that profit. Prophecy such returns.

Put your faith in the two inches of
humus that will build under the trees
every thousand years.

Listen to carrion - put your ear
close, and hear the faint chattering
of the songs that are to come.

Expect the end of the world. Laugh.
Laughter is immeasurable.

Be joyful though you have considered all
the facts.

So long as women do not go cheap
for power, please women more than
men.

Ask yourself: Will this satisfy
a woman satisfied to bear a child?
Will this disturb the sleep
of a woman near to giving birth?

Go with your love to the fields.

Lie down in the shade. Rest your head
in her lap. Swear allegiance
to what is nighest your thoughts.

As soon as the generals and the politicians
can predict the motions of your mind,
lose it. Leave it as a sign
to mark the false trail, the way
you didn't go. Be like the fox
who makes more tracks than necessary,
some in the wrong direction.

Practice resurrection.

Painting by Joe Kenna

Screens by Cathy Showalter



Easter Gifts Easter Gifts 2005



Ella and Piper

Amy Kyleen's liturgical dance



NOVA
May, 2005
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Burke, VA 22015-3372

