



# nova notes

Newsletter of the NOVA Community October, 2008

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## Chair Notes

September found us saying good-bye to our “green cathedral” in Lacey Woods, traveling to the Blue Ridge for rest and reflection and retreat at Shrinemont and returning “home” to Kenmore for the beginning of our indoor liturgical year. There is such a predictable rhythm about these annual passages and yet each year the innovations and creativity of our planning teams make them come alive in a whole new way.

Our final liturgy in the park featured a celebration of Helen and Bob Michie’s 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and a reflection on what it really means to forgive others and yet hold them accountable. Prior to that on September 5<sup>th</sup>, Tim White and Tom Clarkson led the music for the first Mass celebrated by newly ordained woman priest, Janice Sevre-Duszynska at the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker House in DC. Helen chose to use some of that music for her liturgy and thus the community was introduced to a new Peace Prayer and the very rousing, “We Are Marching”.

The week-end at Shrinemont was spirited, refreshing, fun and inspiring. Retreat Leader and former Nova member, Maureen Conners, led the group “Into the Woods” of spiritual path-finding. Using the music and metaphors of the Sondheim classic, we were asked to reflect on the “woods times” in our life when we felt lost, forlorn, perhaps abandoned or betrayed. These most difficult times often become the impetus for finding a new or different spiritual path to help us find our way home. Maureen presented 6 different spiritual paths that many have used to find their way and asked us to consider where our own spiritual practices were leading us at this time. On Saturday evening, Mary Grace told the story of her journey to Iraq with the Christian Peacemaker’s Team. Through photos and stories and personal

experiences we all felt a closer connection with the children, parents and grandparents of this war-torn country. Special thanks to Eric, Marie Keefe, Cece and Kopp, Barb Formoso and all those who helped make this retreat another special experience for the community.

Our return to Kenmore was launched with a spirit-filled celebration of the International Day of Peace. The liturgy ended with the community gathering outside in a circle to hold a minute of silence for peace and then to ring our “church bells” in solidarity with all the other churches around the world who were praying for peace that Sunday. It seemed fitting that we had just completed the project of making Ramadan Baskets as a special help for Moslem families in homeless shelters. Thanks Dianne and Marie for making that peace connection so real for us.

Jeanne Clarkson has agreed to serve with Anne Passin as co-Liturgy Coordinator and Gen Timpane will once again be leading the Liturgy Lottery in October. We are in good liturgical hands with these wonderful women. Please take note of all the special activities coming up in October and November for the Community. It promises to be a busy and fascinating fall season. Don’t miss the General Meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>. This is how our community makes decisions and sets our sights for the year ahead and we need everyone’s input. Besides, you wouldn’t want to miss Joe Bonsignore’s pasta with homemade sauce and sausage!

*~Gloria*

NOVA Catholic Community  
<http://nova.novacommunity.org>  
 NOVA Photos <http://web.mac.com/dicarroll/Nova>

# October Birthdays, etc.

<b>Message Line</b>		<b>703-852-7907</b>
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	Gloria Mog	703-522-1812
Treasurer	Joe Formoso	703-503-9731
Religious Ed. Coordinator	Vacant	
Coordinator, Community Life	Cece Michelotti	703-241-0789
Liturgy Coordinators	Anne Passin	703-538-6545
	Jeanne Clarkson	703-560-2096
Padre Cadre Coordinator	John Mooney	703-425-1639
Music Coordinators	Tom Clarkson	703-560-2096
	Victoria Robinson	703-237-0008
Peace & Justice Coordinators	Dianne Carroll	703-536-2616
	Marie Keefe	301-229-2016
Christ House Coordinator	Kopp Michelotti	703-241-0789
Facilities	Glen Passin	703-538-6545
Newsletter Editor	Marie Pinho	703-569-6080
<b>NOTE EMAIL!!</b>	<a href="mailto:mdpinho@verizon.net">mdpinho@verizon.net</a>	

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, we celebrate at Lacey Woods Park, George Mason Drive near Washington Blvd, unless otherwise noted.**

[Lacey Woods]  
 Liturgies begin at 9:30 am—Gather at 9:15 am

[Kenmore]  
 Liturgy begins at 10:15 am—Gather at 10:00 am

- 2 Tom Ahrens
- Mahatma Gandhi
- 4 Teddi Ahrens
- 5 Karen Ell Tax
- Ben Brady
- 6 Paul Greenfield
- Chris Swanberg
- 7 Desmond Tutu
- 11 Clyde Christofferson
- 12 Gloria & David Mog Anniversary (40<sup>th</sup>)
- 13 Carolyn Miller
- 14 Dan Perez-Lopez
- 15 Betsy Marron
- 21 Andrew Chase
- David Mog
- 22 Nancy Velduis
- 24 Joe McCloskey
- 25 James Hainer-Violand



**Newsletter Deadline is  
 October 26....2008**



# Liturgies: Year A — Cycle II

For inclusive Readings and Music Selections go to [nova.novacommunity.org](http://nova.novacommunity.org), member section, Documents/Liturgy Info. Please give all music selections to the Music Liaison the Sunday before your liturgy.

**LITURGIES AT KENMORE**

**OCTOBER MUSIC LIAISON**  
**Tim White**

**NOVEMBER MUSIC LIAISON**  
**Linda Rosenberg**

## **October 5 – 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

Joe Nangle – Catherine Schmitt  
Isaiah 5:1-7  
Psalm 80  
Philippians 4:6-9  
Matthew 21:33-43

## **November 2 – All Souls' Day**

Joe Nangle – Victoria Robinson  
Wisdom 3:1-9  
Psalm 23  
1 Corinthians 15:51-57  
John 17:24-26

## **October 12 – 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time** **Mog's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Quinn Conners – David and Gloria Mog  
Isaiah 25:6-10  
Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20  
Matthew 22:1-14

## **November 9 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

Joe Kenna- Clyde Christofferson  
Wisdom 6:12-16  
Psalm 63  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

## **October 19 – 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

Bill Callahan – Jeanne Clarkson  
Isaiah 45:1, 4-6  
Psalm 96  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5  
Matthew 22:15-21

## **November 16 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

Bill Callahan – Nancy and John Veldhuis  
Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31  
Psalm 128:1-5  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6  
Matthew 25:14-30

## **October 26 – 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

Bill Callahan – Peace and Justice Group  
Exodus 22:20-26  
Psalm 18  
1 Thessalonians 1:5-10  
Matthew 22:34-40

## **November 23 – Christ the King**

Joe Nangle – Michael and Joe Kane  
Ezekiel 34:11-12  
Psalm 23:1-6  
1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28  
Matthew 25:31-46

## **November 30 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Bill Callahan – TBA  
Isaiah 63:16-17, 19  
Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:33-37



## IRAQ Casualty Toll

(Operation Iraqi Freedom)

US Military Deaths	4,172
Suicides**	145
Missing or Captured	1
Civilian Deaths*	86,428—94,296
American Wounded***	30,634

\* documented to 9/24/2008. This number may be seriously understated.

\*\*Every day, five U.S. soldiers try to kill themselves. Before the Iraq war began, that figure was less than one suicide attempt a day.

**Afghanistan Casualties: 605**

(Operation Enduring Freedom)

### \*\*\* from Iraq/Afghanistan

This number only accounts for those wounded in combat. When troops who were wounded in other ways are counted, the number more than doubles. Non-battle wounds can range from injuries in vehicle accidents to illnesses. Some are sports injuries that need care outside the war zone. Many of the wounded return to duty.



## Liturgy Tip

### The Lottery is Coming!

Gen Timpane will be coordinating the 2008-2009 “Liturgy Lottery” which will begin on Sunday, October 5. Each household is asked to select two dates in the upcoming liturgical year for which you will be responsible for planning the liturgy. If you would like to plan a particular Sunday next year, call or email Gen before 10/21 and she will save that date for you.

Although you will be the main “point person” for that date, everyone is encouraged to team up with other community members to complete the planning. If you have never planned a liturgy before, don’t hesitate to select a date and then ask one or two others who have experience planning to help you out.

Readings are available in the members’ section of the NOVA website <http://nova.novacommunity.org>. The Music Liaison person for your month (see newsletter) is ready to take requests a week ahead and/or help you select the music. You can get tips and help with setting up the environment from Cathy Showalter. The Guidelines for Planning a Nova Liturgy are published on the inside covers of the Directory as well as on the website.

If you choose an Advent or Lenten liturgy, you will be working with a team of all the liturgical planners for that season. If you would like to work on Christmas or Easter liturgy, there will also be a small group formed for that special time.

Since we sign up as much as a year ahead for some liturgies, it may happen as the time comes near that you cannot do the date you originally chose. If that happens, look in the newsletter for planners on the dates near to you and call and ask if they can switch with you. Let the Liturgy Coordinators: Jeanne Clarkson and Anne Passin know of any switches. We hope everyone will be a part of creating liturgy at Nova – it is a faith and community-building experience!

~Gloria Mog

# News . . .

## Gunston volunteers needed

*Nova volunteers distribute bags of non-perishable food, cereal provided by Nova, perishable (eggs, milk, meat, etc) items picked up at the Arlington Food Assistance Center warehouse on the night of distribution and produce items every other week picked up by Eric Carroll at the produce markets downtown (funded by the Nova Peace & 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 dozen years and others are more recent. All love their work and would love to teach new Nova folks how it's done. So if you would like to volunteer: email Dianne Carroll [diacarroll@comcast.net](mailto:diacarroll@comcast.net) or call 703-536-2616*



## October Schedule

Oct 2 Cathy Goldschmidt, Marie P, \_\_\_\_\_

Oct 9 Tim, Jerry, Lani

Oct 16 Kopp/Cece + \_\_\_\_\_

Oct 23 Eric, Marie-Claire, \_\_\_\_\_

Oct 30 Glen, Syd, Lani

*~Dianne*

## *Nova Peace and Justice Projects: Some project updates*

### **Ramadan Basket Project 2008**

During Ramadan, "the blessed month of giving", the Muslim Women's Coalition donates baskets to families living in shelters in this area. They invite others to help with this project. At the retreat Nova members were invited to participate in this project by taking a list of items for a family, buying them and dropping them off to be added to the baskets. Marie Keefe and I put the baskets together and Eric helped Uzma Farooq, Director For The Greater Washington DC Area, make the delivery to Sullivan House. Uzma sent me an email stating: "Friends at Nova Community made 6 **generous** baskets and donated the left over items toward other baskets we are making!!"

Also you can see some photos of Nova women who participated in a prayer event with MWC in the spring.

<http://www.mwcoalition.org/id157.html>

*Muslim Women's Coalition's Greater Washington DC Area office stands on its merit in building a positive and consistent relationship within the community. Our work is based on compassion and respect for all humanity. Our volunteers are committed to educating everyone about the beauty of Islam through the true Islamic principles of Ihsan: the perfection of one's character.*



<http://www.mwcoalition.org/id10.html>

*~Dianne*



## Arlington Food Assistance Center

"Fighting Hunger in Arlington"

### AFAC

Nova contributes money monthly for the work they do and Nova volunteers manage the food distribution each week at Gunston in Arlington. Following is some of the latest news from AFAC.

Client count was 918 for the second week of September (and Gunston has @40-50 each week). The latest economic news may mean that we can expect this many families to turn to us for help routinely.

**Volunteer Needs** - We are still looking for daytime volunteers, both to serve as receptionists and to help in the warehouse. Feeding 900 families each week means that we are busy and need your help.

**Turkeys** - We have already begun planning for Thanksgiving. As we have for many years, we are planning to distribute a turkey and the trimmings to each family that comes to us the week of November 17th. The best and easiest way for you to help with our Thanksgiving program is to underwrite a turkey (or ten!) for \$10 each.

**Plant A Row** - Arlington gardeners have been hard at work. The Plant A Row program has brought in over 35,000 pounds of produce to AFAC this season.

~Dianne

## Nova General Meeting Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-9:00 pm

Home of Joe Bonsignore, 9105 Santayana Dr,  
Fairfax, VA 22031

5:30 – Community Dinner

(Joe is cooking the main dish for us – bring appetizers, salads, desserts)

7:00 – General Meeting

### Agenda:

- Adult Education – What do we want and who will lead? (Peggy Becker is stepping down)
- Report on 5 Peace & Social Justice Areas
- Outreach/Partnering with other communities?
- Role of Women and Non-facultied Priests in Nova
- Outreach to Youth and Younger Families?
- New worship space?
- Hands-on All-Community Project?
- Report on the IEC Conference, May '09
- Recognition of Padre Cadre Events

Please see Gloria or Eric if you would like to add anything to the agenda.

### Directions:

From Arlington Blvd (Rte 50) & Gallows Rd:  
approx. 2 mi.

1. Head **west** on **Arlington Blvd/US-50**
2. Turn **left** at **Barkley Dr**
3. Turn **right** at **Glenbrook Rd**
4. Turn **left** at **Santayana Dr to 9105**



*Sponsored by St. Mary of Sorrows Church, Church of the Nativity,  
and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington*

**September 25: What Our Faith Has to Say to Us about Immigrants  
and Immigration**

Speaker: Chris West, the Catholic Relief Services Director of Field Operations  
for the Justice for Immigrants Campaign of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

**October 9: Immigration: the Myths, the Facts, the History**

Speakers

Tony Cube, National Campaign Manager for the Justice for Immigrants Campaign,  
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops  
Immigrants who will tell their own stories

**October 23: Challenges Created by Immigration Issues**

Speakers

John Odenwelder, Executive Director, Hogar Hispano, Catholic Charities  
of the Diocese of Arlington  
Michelle Sardone, Legal Services, Hogar Hispano, Catholic Charities  
of the Diocese of Arlington

**All sessions will be at St. Mary of Sorrows Church, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, 7:30-9pm.  
This series was planned in response to a June 2007 survey at St. Mary's and Church of the  
Nativity parishes.**

*We need a strong and clear immigration policy. It must serve our country's security and prosperity and at the same time be based on the moral values on which all our lives must ultimately rest. We must never forget the Gospel call of Jesus "to welcome the stranger," for in the face of this stranger, we see the face of Christ.*

His Eminence Theodore Cardinal McCarrick, Archbishop of Washington  
in "To Be Clear," an editorial in the June 2, 2005, *Catholic Standard*  
For information on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops campaign for immigration reform, see

<http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org>

## News, Events . . .



### Want To Learn How To Cook?

For seventy?  
The Christ  
House crew  
can teach you  
how to cook  
a meal for

seventy very hungry people in about an hour. And serve an entire dining room in less than 10 minutes! If this sounds like a skill you'd like to acquire, your opportunity to do so comes on Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. That's when NOVA members will prepare and serve dinner at the Christ House shelter in Alexandria.

Members of the community prepare meatloaf and scalloped potatoes to be served by volunteers who take the food to Christ House. (Yes, we are back to our usual routine; we need both meatloaves and scalloped potatoes this month.) Please mark your calendars to prepare food and bring it to liturgy on Sunday October 19, or drop it off at the Michelottis any time Sunday or, on Monday, up till 1:00 PM. The address is 6325 19<sup>th</sup> Street N., Arlington. Just leave your spuds and/or meatloaves in the coolers on the front porch. You need not bother knocking – the front porch is always unlocked.

We start cooking at about 3:30 or 4:00 PM for the first dinner seating at 5 PM. If you want to “feel the heat”, get into the kitchen! If you would like to help prepare and serve, call Kopp 703-241-0789, for directions and details.

~Kopp



**breadfortheworld**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

### Bread for the World

On October 19, NOVA will observe  
**Bread for the World Sunday.**

This is a time to renew our commitment to overcoming hunger and poverty in our area, our country and throughout the world. It is especially important that we take time to learn, pray, reflect and do everything we can about the suffering of hungry during these days of serious food crisis throughout the world.

There will be no letter writing during or after this liturgy; but I urge you to keep informed of pending legislation by visiting [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org) and communicate with your congresspersons as often as you can.

~Peggy Meyer



# News, Events . . .

## An Election Quiet Day November 4 10am — 2 pm

*“O God, you have bound us together in a common life.”*  
The Book of Common Prayer

During this Quiet Day we will soak all of the candidates, our democratic process, and our vast nation with the mysterious blessings of intentional prayer and listen more deeply for the personal and communal invitations that are the whispers of God dwelling within and among us.

Reflections and prayers for the nation at 10:00, 11:00, 12:00 and 1:00

Come any time and stay as long as you can

Place: Meade Room, Christ Church  
Leaders: Liz Ward and Merrill Ware Carrington

Co-sponsored: Christ Church and The Shalem Institute



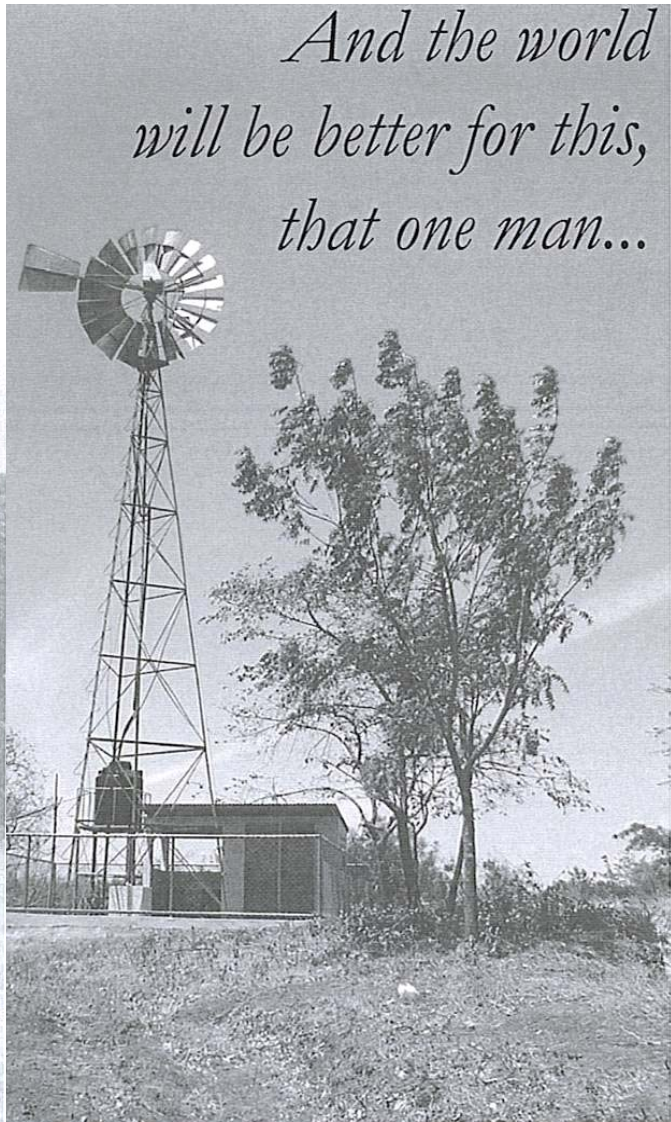
### Schedule

Liturgy—10:30  
Lunch — 2:00  
Music Tribute  
Party — 2:00  
—5:00 pm

You are cordially invited to a retirement celebration for Bill Callahan

Saturday  
October 11, 2008  
at

The Quixote Center  
3502 Varnum Street  
Brentwood, MD  
20722



*And the world  
will be better for this,  
that one man...*

### Bill Callahan is retiring....

Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ can attend the celebration

- Liturgy
- Lunch
- Party

Please check all that apply



I am enclosing a check for \_\_\_\_\_ to help defray the cost.

Please list attendees and the amount of your check

Donations may also be made online at [http://quixote.org/bill\\_retirement](http://quixote.org/bill_retirement)



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Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

At 7:30 pm

St. Barnabas Episcopal  
Church

4801 Ravensworth Road  
Annandale, VA. 22003

Tickets \$ 20.00 in advance, \$ 25.00  
at the door

To order tickets contact

[www.cbu2000.com](http://www.cbu2000.com)

or call 703-750-1670

*Adult Education Evening*

**Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

*Potluck Dinner 6:00 pm*

*Talk & Discussion at 7:30 pm*

*Meg Tuccillo's, 2532 N. Ridgeview Rd, Arl.*

### **On Politics and Faith – Maureen Fiedler**

Maureen Fiedler is the host and creator of Interfaith Voices, a national radio show airing on 43 stations. The program debuted in 2002 and was originally a project of the Quixote Center. She has a long history of working with interfaith coalitions on human rights, social justice, women's rights and peace. Maureen is a Sister of Loretto, a progressive and often controversial activist within the Church. She is fascinated with the subject of the interplay between politics and faith and what better time to dive into this topic than now. Maureen holds a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University. This is a not-to-be-missed special educational event for the community.



# News, Events . . .

## **All Souls Day at Arlington National Cemetery**

George Washington Parke Custis (George Washington's adopted grandson), built a home on a hillside in Virginia and named it Arlington House. In 1802, this was intended to be a testimonial to his beloved grandfather. He married in 1804 to Mary Lee Fitzhugh and had one daughter, Mary Anna Randolph Custis. In 1831, Mary married Robert E Lee and lived in Arlington House. Mary's parents also lived there until their death.

During the Civil War, the Union confiscated this property and began the construction of the military cemetery. Some of the earliest Union casualties are buried around the perimeter of Arlington House, also known as the Custis-Lee Mansion. However, there are graves of people who have served in all wars here, before and after the Civil War.

Today there are 340,000 people buried in Arlington, including the original owners of Arlington House. After liturgy on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, NOVA will tour Arlington National Cemetery. Among many noted people interred there (Presidents Taft & Kennedy, Medgar Evers, Mr. & Mrs. George Washington Parke Custis, Bobby Kennedy, Todd Lincoln, etc.), are 4 NOVA members, namely; Grover & Nancy Stock, Dean Houck and Louis Mendez. The tour will pause for prayer and to lay wreaths at these sites.

While mostly a walking tour (please wear appropriate shoes), some provision will be made for people who have problems for walking approximately 1-2 hours. Rain or Shine.

*~Marie Pinho*

## **How much is \$700 Billion?**

According to the United States treasury, a One Dollar Bill has a thickness of 0.0043 inches. One thousand One Dollar Bills would be one thousand times thicker -- 4.3 inches.

One million is one thousand thousands, so the thickness of \$1,000,000 is 4300 inches. Converting to feet and this becomes 358.3 feet, an American football field.

One billion -- \$1,000,000,000 is one thousand times thicker still or 358,333.3 feet. This is 67.866 miles, the driving distance from New York to Milford CT.

One Trillion is one thousand billions -- one trillion One Dollar Bills stacked one on top of another is 67,866 miles. This would circumnavigate the globe 2.73 times.

A stack of One Dollar Bills totaling the current national debt cap of 10.6 trillion dollars would go around the equator 28.93 times. The proposed cap of 11.3 trillion dollars would go around 30.85 times. Is creating a debt that is the equivalent of a stack of One Dollar Bills rounding planet 31 times a responsible act?

If you change 700 Billion into us quarters and put them back to back you will have to circumnavigate the earth roughly 122 times. Or if you stack them they will reach roughly 3 Million miles into space.

How much is \$700 billion? It is more than \$100 for every person in the world. If the \$700B bailout is passed, it would increase the National Debt to \$11.3 trillion.

# Thank you, to NOVA. . .

*from Jim Hug, SJ*

To all my friends and “family” at NOVA,

Thank you for your thoughtful card and note at the time of Mom’s death. I really appreciate your support. In many ways, Mother’s dying couldn’t have been more beautifully orchestrated for us all, but it is always hard to let her go and to live with the hole that is there. I know it’s trite, but I do find myself saying, “Oh I haav e to tell Mom that ..... “ and then catching myself. Both Betty and I seem to be doing well at this point, though.

I apologize for the long delay in writing, but my life has been hectic since June. Please know, though, that I have been grateful for your prayers and support throughout the last two months. Many blessings,

/s/ Jim Hug, SJ

*“May all our ‘passings’ be as graced!”*

*from Escuela Bolivia*

On behalf of Escuela Bolivia, thank you once again for your generous contribution of \$200.00. Because of your donation, Escuela Bolivia will be able to provide scholarships to needy students to attend our Saturday School.

As you know, this provides for the Saturday School program which offers Spanish classes to children from pre-k through twelfth grade, and Spanish, English, and Computer Literacy classes for adults; the Emerging Leaders Program which prepares Latino high school students for college while pairing them with young, professional Latino mentors; and the Family Involvement Initiative which trains Latino parents to improve communication in the home, and learn about the American education system to become advocates for their children’s education. Recently we raised the School tuition for the first time in three years, and your support will ensure that students who cannot afford to pay tuition, are still able to attend classes.

*Sincerely, Natasha Quiroga*

*from Sister Adriana, Leer, South Sudan*

Greetings of peace to you and to all the members of the NOVA Community. Thank you for the letter and check (\$200.00 USD) you sent us. Thanks be to God, all the checks that you have sent we were able to cash without any problem. Of course, all the mail reaches Nairobi and it is there that the transactions are done. Here in Leer, we are in the interior of South Sudan and still communications are difficult. The only way that we can send mail outside is through people who travel to Nairobi, and there are very few. I am sending this letter with a sister who is going to Nairobi for medical treatment together with a Comboni priest who is also going out for treatment. Yes, missionaries are not exempt from sickness. Please keep them in your prayers.

I am happy in the school ministry at present teaching Christian Religious Education in the primary school and English Level I, II and III to adults. The other three sisters too are doing well in teaching. Lorena, a sister from Costa Rica, is teaching in the catechetical center, Myriam, a Mexican sister is teaching in the secondary school and Agata, an Italian sister, is guiding the kindergarten and women’s programs. The construction of our house is still at the beginning due to the difficulties in getting construction material and because the rainy season is in full swing.

I hope to meet Fr. Michael Schulteis, SJ one day. Here the distances are very great and the transportation is poor. God bless all the projects that the Bishops’ Conference of South Sudan have in mind....a hospital and a nursing school in Wau, where we Comboni sisters have taken the responsibility to direct. People are thirsty for education.

The rainy season is with us and we have been able to cultivate our plot of land. Any seed that you plant comes up. Not all the soil is good but we have planted maize, beans, ground roots and cassava and other vegetables and we hope that soon we’ll have fruit.

Well, my dear friends, you are all in my prayers. May God bless you and keep you close to God’s heart.

Con carino, Adriana

# From Christian Witness for Peace in Iraq:

## Events:

<http://christianpeacewitness.org/>

### October 2008: Week of Nonviolence in Iraq

During the first ten days of October, members of the Iraqi nonviolence network *LaOnf* will engage in its third annual "Week of Nonviolence" throughout Iraq, promoting a peaceful, stable, democratic and united Iraq through nonviolent means. This year, *LaOnf* asks for solidarity from the international community. CPWI requests your local support of *LaOnf's* efforts through vigils, actions and a showing of a DVD of last year's *LaOnf's* events. To participate, contact [peacefultomorrow.org](http://peacefultomorrow.org) for more information on *LaOnf* and the solidarity campaign, or to sign up to host a DVD screening at your local congregation. Prophetic Service Opportunities! For information on how your local congregation can support the efforts of Iraqi groups working for peace and healing for and with Iraqis, contact Noah Baker Merrill, convener of CPWI's Prophetic Service working group, [noah@directaidiraq.org](mailto:noah@directaidiraq.org).

### January 19-20, 2009: "Rebirthing America - Rebirthing King's Dream"

Monday, January 19 and Tuesday, January 20 converge to unite the birthday of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., with the inauguration of a new President of the United States. Olive Branch Interfaith Peace Partnership and Christian Peace Witness for Iraq encourage you and your faith community to join in public worship and action to point the United States toward fulfilling Dr. King's vision of justice and peace. An interfaith event is planned in Washington, D.C. on January 19.

### April 29-30, 2009: Join Christian Peace Witness for Iraq in Washington!

On the 100th day of the new administration, come to Washington, D.C. for the third national Christian Peace Witness for Iraq event. Join us in the nation's capital for witness and worship Wednesday evening and nonviolent action and advocacy on Thursday to call on the new president and Congress to end the war and occupation in Iraq, support a comprehensive peace process, end the policy and practice of torture and meet human needs at home. As we seek together to be faithful followers of that "radical rabbi from the ghettos of Nazareth" (Rev. Rafael Warnock, CPWI witness 2007), we need your help. We need:

- [partner organizations](#) to recommit with funds and volunteers;
  - volunteers to serve on committees:
  - Building Diversity (reaching out to young adults and racial/ethnic leaders)
  - Prophetic Service (humanitarian relief and peace building with Iraqis)
  - Engaging the Church (resourcing & empowering local congregations)
  - D.C. 2009 Event Planning
  - Communications (website, newsletters, etc.)
  - Olive Branch Interfaith Peace Partners (strengthening our relations with people and groups of other faiths);
- [financial donations](#).

# Recently at NOVA . . .

**NOVA and Muslim women at prayer**



**Retreat 2008.... on the porch**



**Grandmoms Plus . . .**

**Special Michie Blessing on their 30th Anniversary**





**International Day of Peace, September 21, Moment of Silence after Liturgy**



October, 2008



### NOVA Calendar

Every Thursday.... Food distribution at Gunston, see page 5  
Every Sunday ... Cereal boxes brought to liturgy for Gunston  
First Sunday of Month ... Paper products (towels, toilet) for Doorways

**Saturday, October 4 – General Meeting of the Community**, page 6  
**Thursday, October 9 -- Immigration: the Myths, the Facts, etc.**, page 7  
**Saturday, October 11 – Bill Callahan’s Retirement Party**, page 9  
**Saturday, October 18 – NPR’s Maureen Fiedler on “Politics and Faith”**, page 10  
**Sunday, October 19—Bread for the World Sunday**, page 8  
**Monday, October 20 – Christ House**, page 8  
**Thursday, October 23-- Challenges Created by Immigration Issues**, page 7  
**Saturday, October 25 – Mosaic Harmony Concert Fund-Raiser for Central Buganda University**. St. Barnabas Church in Annandale, page 10  
**Sunday, October 26 – Deadline** for November *Nova Notes*, page 2.  
**Sunday, November 2 – All Souls Day Tour of Arlington Cemetery**, page 11  
**Tuesday, November 4 – Election Quiet Day**, Christ Church, Alexandria, page 9  
**November 7-9, Milwaukee, WI, Call to Action Conference**, <http://www.cta-usa.org/>  
**December – Watch for news of an Advent Day of Reflection** at the Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville, VA.  
**January, April 2009 Christian Peace Witness**, page 13