President’s Message

Dear Women of St Joseph,

We just went through a busy month with Holiday Boutique and 20 Years Anniversary of the Women of St Joseph! My sincere thanks to everyone for coming together to make it happen.

Now, let the Christmas spirit begin! “Christmas Crèche Exhibit” is on Monday, December 5, 2016, organized by Adrienne Stephens. “Train of Lights” is on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, organized by Nancy Dorighi. Please save your time to join us.

Also, Women of St Joseph’s Annual Christmas Tea this year is going to be at Sherry Dunn's home on Sunday, December 11, 2016 for charity fund raising donations. An evite has been emailed out to our members by Sherry; if you haven’t received it by now, please contact Sherry at 510-471-6224 or email her at solodmom@aol.com. Thank you, Sherry, for your warm hospitality.

As we are going to celebrate the Birth of the Baby Jesus at Christmas, may the peace of the New Born King be with you throughout the year!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Sincerely,

Kim Nguyen
WOSJ President
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 5th</td>
<td><em>Christmas Crèche Exhibit</em></td>
<td>at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints</td>
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<td>3865 Middlefield Road</td>
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<td>Palo Alto, California</td>
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<td>December 7th</td>
<td><em>“Train of Lights”</em></td>
<td>Meet at the station at 4:00 pm</td>
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<td>37029 Mission Blvd. (NOT ON NILES BLVD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 11th</td>
<td><em>WOSJ Christmas Tea</em></td>
<td>Sherry Dunn’s home from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm</td>
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<td>2437 Maraschino Pl., Union City, CA 94587</td>
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<td>JAN 6th, 2017</td>
<td><em>Senior Lunch</em></td>
<td>11:00 am – 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>Church Hall</td>
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<td>JAN 17th, 2017</td>
<td><em>Bowling</em></td>
<td>Bowling at Cloverleaf and fellowship dinner follow</td>
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Christmas Crèche Exhibit  
**Monday, Dec 5**th  
For 28 years the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints of Palo Alto has sponsored a crèche exhibit with over 350 nativities from around the world. A dedicated staff of volunteers artfully and lovingly bring the scenes together, and offer the exhibit as a gift to the community—free admission. Adrienne Stephens will be attending on **Monday, December 5, 2016 leaving Fremont at 2:00 pm.**

Please call Adrienne Stephens at 510-651-8672 to join in getting ready for Christmas. Let's carpool and enjoy dinner afterward. You can visit their web site at [christmascreche.org](http://christmascreche.org)

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All aboard the Niles “Train of Lights”  
**Wednesday, Dec 7th**  
For those who managed to get tickets to the Niles Canyon Railway Train of Lights on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, we will **meet at the station at 4:00 pm.** The station located at 37029 Mission Blvd. (NOT ON NILES BLVD). Please read you Eventbrite confirmation and instructions carefully. You will need to bring your confirmation page to get your tickets. We will board the train together so we can sit near each other. Immediately after the ride, we will gather at **Bronco Billy’s Pizza Palace, 37651 Niles Blvd.**

**Didn’t get a ticket?** Please still plan to join the pizza party. Arrive about 6:00 p.m. Contact Nancy Dorighi at 510-657-7543 or email her at ndorighi@comcast.net; if you have questions.

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WOSJ Christmas Tea  
**Sunday, Dec 11th**  
Our annual tea will be at Sherry Dunn's home at 2437 Maraschino Place, Union City, CA for charity fundraising.

Please bring your special tea cup and a finger food to share, **AND** we will have a COOKIE or CANDY EXCHANGE: Bring one dozen of your favorite cookies or candies (homemade or store bought) and take some home. (Don't forget your recipes) Please contact Sherry Dunn at 510-471-6224 or email her at solodmom@aol.com if you haven't gotten an invitation.

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Senior’s Holiday Luncheon  
**Friday, Jan 6th**  
I would like to invite members to give your time and talent for the Senior Citizen luncheon is going to be held on the Feast of Epiphany, January 6, 2017. **We are cooking in the church’s kitchen in the morning.** Please contact Bea Taus at 510-490-8965 or email her at bea.taus28@gmail.com. More details to follow!

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Bowling  
**Tuesday, Jan 17th**  
We have chosen bowling at Cloverleaf Bowling, and fellowship dinner follows as an activity for January in lieu of our regular general meeting. More detail to come in January’s newsletter!
WOSJ Holiday Boutique
Holiday Boutique with Laura Dauzat was fun! Vendors donated $500. The attendance was fair, but the board agreed that we need to improve publicity next year including local church bulletins, and newspapers.

WOSJ 20th Anniversary Celebration
20 Years Celebration of the Women of St. Joseph was such a wonderful and joyful event with a very beautiful sharing moment of our sisterhood together in our logo T-Shirts.

It was my great honor and pleasure to acknowledge our past presidents. Thank you, Bea Tau, for being our First President (1996). Below is the message from our First President, given at the 20th Anniversary brunch.
"In the spring of 1996, Sr. John Marie invited me to help form a women’s group to be active in the parish. She suggested a few names and ask that we meet to discuss what we can do for the parish. 6 - 8 founding members spent the summer planning to launch the new club in September.

In September we announced “Women of St. Joseph’s group” and invited ALL women of the Parish to join with a pot luck supper in the evening. 102 women appeared!! The Filipino community offered to host the cocktail hour.

We passed out papers asking for suggestions of what the group wanted to do, keeping the theme in mind. We brought a huge bouquet of balloons, making it festive, and at the end of the evening, we all gathered outside and released the balloons. The evening was electric!! This was the beginning of the Women of St. Joseph.

- Our first big project was organizing a parish event. It was called Fiesta Rummage sale! Everyone in the parish became involved and helped us with enthusiasm and stuff. The Vincent St. Paul container was filled to the brim and overflowing. This was the first of many other contribution made to the parish by the WOSJ.
- The Men’s Club and WOSJ sponsored a fund raiser to improve the kitchen. New Appliances were purchased as well as cooking utensils, pots, and pans etc. The kitchen was painted by the Men’s club. What a great transformation!! We had an open house on Sunday after all the Masses so the parishioners could see what their contributions purchased.
- The next big project was the 200 Family Garage Sale held behind the rectory’s office on a Saturday from 8 to 5. Over $15,000 was raised. It was a kickoff for To Build a Church.
- Then followed the Spring Fashion show also a fund raiser for To Build a Church.
- There were other social events as well: Bus trips to San Francisco, outlets.
- We held Hospitality events after all the Masses the first Sunday of the month. In the summer we held Ice Cream socials after all the Masses.
- WOSJ gives an annual baby shower for unwed mothers and the poor. We invite St. Rose hospital and Pregnancy Choices to join our meeting. This project was started in 1998 and still continues to this day.
- The WOSJ and St. Joseph’s Men’s clubs took on a huge project, remodeling both the Men’s and Women’s bathrooms. Sherry and John Dunn were the project managers.

We have been a great asset to the parish in bringing Christian women together for the purpose of lasting friendships, sharing, working and praying together. SPIRITUAL, SERVICE, AND SOCIAL!!

I would like to close on this note because I think that this scripture reading, Proverbs, 31, embodies the organization:

“She is a VALIANT woman; her roots are firmly planted. The Kingdom is within her heart, treasured filled.

She is a JOYFUL woman for whom laughter is no stranger; a song to sing, a smile to give, a hand to give a hand clasp or embrace.

She is a STRONG woman whose heart and arms withstand the pressures and the worries that each day unfolds.

She is a PATIENT woman waiting through storm and night for new life, new growth, rich harvest.

She is a LOVING woman ever giving, forgiving ever caring, and concerned.

She is a SHARING WOMAN who with arms outstretched gives her gifts and treasures to those both near and far.”

(By Bea Taus, given at the 20th Anniversary Mass and Brunch, November 6, 2016)
Happy Birthday to those born in DECEMBER

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gail Noeth</td>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>Miriam Keller</td>
<td>December 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Campbell</td>
<td>December 16</td>
<td>* Krista Phair</td>
<td>December 20</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>* Margaret Purcell-Brisken</td>
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Something to Ponder at Christmas Time

As the Christmas season's upon us
And the children beam with glee,
And angels keep a watchful eye,
Let's pray on bended knee.

Let's give our hearts to those in need
And lend a helpful hand...
So others who have much less are hopeful
That God does have a plan.

Let's show each other the power of prayer,
So prayer will see us through.
Let's show the Lord that all He teaches
Will fuel our wisdom too!

As we give praise to God above,
Remember to praise each other...
And fill the air with song and joy,
Dear sister and dear brother!

Dianne Cogar
Salesian Inspirational Books

Nancy Newman
Spiritual Chairperson