President’s Message

Dear Women of St Joseph,

The years go by so quickly, and another one is already here. As we begin 2017, it is fitting to think about blessings. God has blessed us and we are called to bless each other. To bless someone is to say nice things or to speak well of him or her. May we begin this New Year with a resolution to always speak well of others and to give people blessings wherever we go.

Henri Nouwen beautifully put it: “To give someone a blessing is the most significant affirmation we can offer. It is more than a word of praise or appreciation; it is more than pointing out someone’s talents or good deeds; it is more than putting someone in the light. To give a blessing is to affirm, to say ‘yes’ to a person’s Belovedness. And more than that: To give a blessing creates a reality of which it speaks. There is a lot of mutual admiration in this world, just as there is a lot of condemnation. A blessing goes beyond the distinction between admiration or condemnation, between virtues or vices, between good deeds or evil deeds. A blessing touches the original goodness of the other and calls forth his or her Belovedness.”

As we begin this New Year, may the Lord bless us and keep us! May the Lord let his face shine upon us, and be gracious to us! And may the Lord look upon us kindly and give us peace!” (Numbers 6:24-26).

Happy New Year to everyone!

Sincerely,

Kim Nguyen
WOSJ President
UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS--- Mark Your Calendars!

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JAN 6th, 2017 Friday</td>
<td>11:00 am – 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Church Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAN 17th, 2017 Tuesday</td>
<td>5:00 pm – 6 pm</td>
<td>Church Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm – 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Bowling and Potluck Dinner at Cloverleaf 40645 Fremont Blvd #3, Fremont, CA 94538</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEB 21st, 2017 Tuesday</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Church Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Church Hall</td>
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<td>General Meeting</td>
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**Membership Notes**
Dues are still $20. Please bring your dues payment to the meeting (check or cash in an envelope please) or send it to Nancy Dorighi, Membership Chair at 44142 Boitano Dr., Fremont, CA 94539.

**Helping Hands**
If you know anyone that would like to attend our meetings and events but needs transportation, please contact Madelyn Rudy 510-683-3816. She will arrange for one of our members to assist in having the need met. Also, let Madelyn know of anyone needing help from WOSJ.

**Women of St. Joseph Polo Shirts are still $15**
Good news! WOSJ polo shirts will continue at the sale price of $15 for the remainder of this membership year, through June 20, 2017. Our polo shirts are a sign of unity and can be worn to any function where WOSJ gather as a group such as the senior luncheon in January, the Easter Vigil reception next April, and to the monthly meetings. Available sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL. Contact Nancy Dorighi at ndorighi@comcast.net or 510-657-7543.

**Offer to Women Of St Joseph’s members**
Vacation home for rent in SOUTH LAKE TAHOE: 4 bedrooms, two baths. For more details, please contact Pamela Randolph at 510-656-2414 or email at pamelaer@hotmail.com.
Senior’s Holiday Luncheon  Friday, Jan 6th from 11am to 1pm
Many thanks to the Women’s Club members who have volunteered to assist Bea Taus in our Parish’s Annual Senior Luncheon celebrated on the Feast of the Epiphany, Friday January 6th. All seniors are welcome to attend the 11am mass and luncheon that follows. This event requires reservations. Please contact Hellen Campbell at 510-795-7958 or email hbcampbell1@gmail.com.

Bowling  Tuesday, Jan 17th from 6pm to 8:00pm
The Women of St Joseph are bringing in the New Year hosting a fun event at Cloverleaf Bowl on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017; 6 - 8:00 pm. Join us to bowl, schmooze, and eat! Bring your favorite finger food, chips and dip, sandwiches, or dessert for our “Pot Luck Snack Dinner”. Drinks must be purchased at Cloverleaf Bowl.

Cost of bowling and shoe rental is $9.25 paid directly to Cloverleaf Bowl. Arrive early to get your shoes and pick out your lucky ball! We have 4 lanes reserved. Each lane can accommodate 4 - 5 people. All non-bowlers are encouraged to join in the potluck, fellowship, and to cheer us on!

Let’s have some fun whether you bowl a 25 or a 125+. Please RSVP no later than Friday, The 13th of January to Sara Rozzano at 510-490-7539 or email SRballet@hotmail.com. If you need a ride, please contact Madelyn Rudy at 510-683-3816 or email mgrudyfit21@gmail.com.

Cloverleaf Family Bowl is located at the corner of Grimmer Blvd and Fremont Blvd. 40645 Fremont Blvd, Suite 3 Phone 510-656-4411

Muslim Faith and Culture  February, 21st 7:30 pm
Moina Shaiq from the Muslim Support Network will speak at our Women’s Club meeting about Muslim Faith and Culture. Open to the Parish and local community.

Lenten Day of Renewal Retreat  Wednesday, March 1st
Our annual retreat will be at San Damiano retreat center on Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017. More detail to come!
**Christmas Crèche Exhibit**
A small group of women’s club members attended the Church of Latter Day Saints 29th annual crèche exhibit in Palo Alto. Over 300 crèche were exhibited from around the world. This exhibit is always a site to behold. The crèche were not just set on tables! Beautiful fabrics were draped and wood and stone accents made them come to life. The seven exhibit rooms were all dressed for the beauty of Christmas. To get a small peak of the exhibit go to their web page: [http://www.christmascreche.org/events/](http://www.christmascreche.org/events/)

Fellowship continued with dinner at Pedro’s Mexican Restaurant in Santa Clara. We shared our exhibit favorites and even a pitcher of Margaritas! Plan to attend next year to begin Advent with a sharing of, peace, love, and joy.

**All aboard the Niles “Train of Lights.”**
WOSJ members and their family and friends made a group of about 32 who braved chilly temperatures and light rain to ride the Niles Canyon Railway “Train of Lights” on Dec. 7th. The festive trains were elaborately decorated inside and out, and Santa was on board to greet all the children. After the 90-minute round trip ride to Sunol, we enjoyed pizza and fellowship at Bronco Billy’s Pizza Palace in Niles.

**WOSJ Christmas Tea**
Christmas Tea at Sherry Dunn’s home was so much fun! Thank you, Sherry, for her warm welcome and hospitality. We had a group of about 26 ladies with lots of munchies and lots of cookies for exchanging. Sherry’s home was beautifully decorated with 6 Christmas trees!! (Some were under one foot) We had a couple of surprise guests: Eleanor Chesterman and Sister Mary Teresa Parker.
Prayer for a Blessing on the New Year

O sacred and adorable Trinity, hear our prayers on behalf of our holy Father the Pope, our bishops, our clergy, and for all that are in authority over us. Bless, we beseech Thee, during the coming year, the whole Catholic Church; convert heretics and unbelievers, soften the hearts of sinners so that we may return to Thy friendship; give prosperity to our country and peace to the nations of the world; pour down Thy blessings upon our friends, relatives and acquaintances, and upon our enemies, if we have any; assist the poor and the sick; have pity on the souls of those whom this year have been taken from us; and do Thou be merciful to those who during the coming year will be summoned before Thy judgement seat. May all our actions be preceded by Thy inspirations and carried on by Thy assistance, so that all our prayers and works, which having been begun in thee, may likewise be ended through Thee. Amen.

Catholic Online

Nancy Newman
Spiritual Chairperson