Hopefully, you and your families are all well. This year has been very confusing, weather-wise, to our bodies and our gardens! Is it Spring, or is it still Winter…hard to tell. I love the sun, but we are all worried about the water supply and the only way to fix that is RAIN. Yuk

March 21st the WOSJ will be cooking soup for the Lenten Soup Night at the Hall. Usually there are about 20 people who attend. If you would like to bring some soup, drinks, or bread for this event, please let me know ASAP. Thanks.

Last week, a few ministry heads met with Father Manny to talk about Pope Francis’ thoughts on helping the poor. Father Manny has asked for ways that we can help the poor.

We are filling Easter bags for Abode again this year. Since Easter is not until April 20th, we will be doing only bags—no cookies or cupcakes. I will have a box at the hall for wrapped candies, pencils, or other treats, for those of you who are unable to attend the meeting.

We have some good events happening in the next couple of months and I hope you can come to them. If there is something you think we might all be interested in, please let me know!

Hugs and Blessings to you,

Sherry Dunn
President
**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS--- Mark Your Calendars!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>Lenten Retreat, San Damiano</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Board Meeting 1:30pm at Nancy Dorighi's Home (NOT CHURCH HALL)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General Meeting 2:00pm at Nancy Dorighi's Home (NOT CHURCH HALL)</td>
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**Membership Notes**

Those ladies that have not yet paid the June 2013 - June 2014, please send a check to Diana Skokan. The dues still remain at $20 for the entire year, which is from June 1 to May 31, according to the by-laws.

Financial contribution by joining the WOSJ is valued; to support the WOSJ's various charities, events; even though the member may not be able to actively participate.

**Helping Hands**

If you know anyone that would like to attend our meetings and/or events but needs transportation, please contact Liz Hormel (656-8495). She will arrange for one of our members to assist in having the need met. Also, let Liz know of anyone needing help from WOSJ.

**Women of St. Joseph polo shirts**

Sherry has WOSJ polo shirts, if you would like to purchase one. The prices are according to size: S-XL: $16.75, 2XL: $20.01, 3XL: $23.28, 4XL: $26.54.

**Coming Events**

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**Lenten Day of Renewal Retreat** 9:30am to 3:30pm Wednesday, March 5th

Our annual retreat will be on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. Those wishing to car pool can meet at the church parking lot at 7:45am. This retreat is hosted by Brother Mark Schroeder, OFM, a Franciscan Friar, who will lead this day with a focus on the Stations of the Cross. Lunch is included in the cost of $35.00. Holy Eucharist will end the day including the distribution of ashes.

Anyone wishing to attend, please contact Nancy Newman at [ncynrsern@gmail.com](mailto:ncynrsern@gmail.com) or 510-657-7693.
**St. Patrick’s Day Dinner & Music**  
**Saturday, March 15th**

Don’t miss this year’s good old-fashioned St. Patty’s Day feast hosted by the St. Joseph Men’s Club. There will be live Irish music by Kerbside and a Pot O’ Gold Cash Raffle so big you’ll want a shot at it. Book a whole table so your family, friends, and neighbors can enjoy St. Patty’s Day together. The Men’s Club single fundraiser supports their entire year’s activities such as “Christmas in May,” other service projects for the less fortunate, and an annual scholarship award.

St. Joseph Parish Hall 6:30 to 11:00 p.m.  
$18 Dine-in / $15 Take-out  
Menu: Corned Beef & Cabbage, Red Potatoes, Carrots, Dessert

You can purchase tickets after all the Masses on Sunday or contact Gary Dorighi at gdorighi@comcast.net, 510-657-7543.

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**Master Gardener, Nancy Dorighi**  
**Saturday, April 12th at 2:00pm**

Smart Gardening considers how our garden practices affect our lives and the health of the planet. Nancy will present an overview of Seven Sustainable Practices, appropriate for new gardeners and for experienced gardeners ready to move in a more sustainable direction. Weather permitting; we will have a brief garden tour.

**SAVE THE DATE:**  WOSJ volunteers. We Need Your Help!

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**#1 Easter Vigil**  
**Saturday, April 19th**

The WOSJ have been asked to help with the Easter Vigil this year. They are looking to have the WOSJ donate food/desserts for a light reception. If you have been to the Easter Vigil in the past, it will be the same.

If you are able to make and/or donate something, please let Sherry Dunn know as soon as possible.

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**#2 Picnic in the Park**  
**Sunday, July 20th**

Our 4th annual Picnic in the Park will be held at the Quarry Lakes Osprey Park again this year. It is a really beautiful park with lots of parking and easy access to the picnic area.

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**Mystery Writer, Nancy Curteman**

Mystery writer, Nancy Curteman, spoke on her characters in her books, how she came up with them, traveling to other countries for her inspirations, and how long it takes her to write her books. It was really wonderful listening to her.
Happy Birthday to those born in March

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<td>Fulks Gerry</td>
<td>3/19</td>
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<td>Calkins Charlene</td>
<td>3/18</td>
<td>Kandefer Chris</td>
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<td>Young Michele</td>
<td>3/18</td>
<td>Samuels Pat</td>
<td>3/19</td>
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**Spiritual Corner**

**God’s Miracles**

The chill of Winter now is past
And signs of Spring are here...
On barren branches warmed by sun,
    The tender buds appear.
The black and white of wintry days
Have changed to colors bright...
The brilliant sun throughout the day
Now warms the dark of night.
This miracle comes every Spring,
    A wonder in God’s plan...
The secrecy of “how” and “why”
Unknown to every man.
New life should be inspiring
    And a joy to everyone...
Awakening the sleeping earth
Means new life has begun.
Since Nature has a quiet way
Of saying, “Peace, be still”
We just might hear Him whisper,
    “It’s according to My Will.”

Anna M. Matthews
From Salesian Inspirational Books

Nancy Newman
Spiritual Chairperson

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Name ______________________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________________
City, state, zip __________________________ Phone _______________________
E-mail Address __________________________ Birthday (month & day) ___________
Husband’s Name __________________________