

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWSLETTER

August 2024

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Next Meeting:

September 9

Guild Officers

PRESIDENT:

Margo McCaul

VICE PRESIDENT:

Ellen Casale

SECRETARY:

Meg Hoover

TREASURER:

Michele Miller

Guild Renewal

We have started a new Guild, fiscal year. Our next meeting will be September 9, 2024 in the hall at St. Jude. Feel free to renew your membership. Complete the form and mail it to St. Jude or leave it in the Guild folder. (No cash - checks only, please.) OR bring the completed form with your payment (cash or check) to our September meeting.

Please send any ideas for Guild meetings or field trips and/or calendar dates to our President, Margo McCaul at margo.mccaul@gmail.com

Hope you have been enjoying the summer! See you in September!

Guild Application/Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

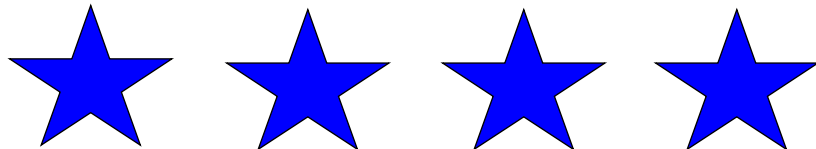
Birthday (mm/dd): _____

No change to information _____

Mail completed form to:
 Louisa Catholic Women's Guild
 1937 Davis Highway
 Mineral, VA. 23117

DUES = \$10/yr reg & \$5/assoc
 Make check payable to:
 Louisa Catholic Women's Guild

Please do not send cash.



Our mission is to unite all women of St. Jude and Immaculate Conception Parishes through Religious and Educational



No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent, for to His Angels God has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways. Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

WOMEN OF FAITH—SAINT CLARE OF MONTEFALCO

Clare was born in Montefalco, in Umbria, likely in the year 1268. She was born into a well-to-do family, the daughter of Damiano and Iacopa Vengente. Her father, Damiano, had built a hermitage within the town of Montefalco. Clare's older sister Joan (Giovanna in Italian) and her friend Andreola lived as Franciscan tertiaries in that hermitage as part of the Secular Third Order of St. Francis. In 1274, when Clare was six years of age, the Bishop of Spoleto permitted Joan to receive more sisters, and it was at this time that Clare joined the Third Order of St. Francis (Secular), moving into the hermitage and adopting the Franciscan habit. In 1278, the community had grown sufficiently large that they had to build a larger hermitage farther from town.

In 1290, Clare, her sister Joan, and their companions sought to enter the monastic life in a more strict sense, and they made application to the Bishop of Spoleto. As the Third Order of St. Francis (Regular) was not yet established, the bishop established their monastery adjacent to the church of Sant'Iluminata in Montefalco according to the Rule of St. Augustine. Clare made her vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience and became an Augustinian nun. Her sister Joan was elected as the first abbess, and their small hermitage (built and funded by their father) was dedicated as a monastery. On November 22, 1291, Joan died, after which Clare was elected abbess. She was initially reluctant to accept her position, but did so after the intervention of the Bishop of Spoleto.

1294 was a decisive year in Clare's spiritual life. During the celebration of the Epiphany, after making a general confession in front of all her fellow nuns, she fell into ecstasy and remained in that state for several weeks. Since she was unable even to eat during this period, the other nuns sustained Clare's life by feeding her sugar water. During this time, Clare reported having a vision in which she saw herself being judged in front of God.

Clare also reported having a vision of Jesus dressed as a poor traveler. She described his countenance as being overwhelmed by the weight of the cross and his body as showing signs of fatigue. During the vision, Clare knelt in front of him, and whilst trying to stop him she asked, "My Lord, where art Thou going?" Jesus answered her: "I have looked all over the world for a strong place where to plant this Cross firmly, and I have not found any". After she reached for the cross, making known her desire to help him carry it, He said to her: "Clare, I have found a place for My cross here. I have finally found someone to whom I can trust Mine cross," and he implanted it in her heart. Clare took her belief in this vision seriously. The rest of her years were spent in pain and suffering, yet she continued to joyfully serve as abbess, teacher, mother and spiritual directress of her nuns. While Clare's reputation for holiness and wisdom attracted visitors to the Monastery of the Holy Cross, she proved to be worldly-wise and canny in the way she governed her monastery. She was careful not to disrupt the communal harmony and the necessary day-to-day management of the monastery's domestic affairs.

In 1303, Clare was able to build a church in Montefalco which would not only serve as a chapel for the nuns, but also as a church for the town. The first stone was blessed by the Bishop of Spoleto on June 24, and that day the church was dedicated to the Holy Cross (Santa Croce); the remnant portion of that small church comprises the frescoed Chapel of Santa Croce connected to the larger Santa Chiara in Montefalco.

Clare had served as abbess for sixteen years. By August 1308, she had become so ill that she was bedridden. On August 15, she asked to receive Extreme Unction, and on the next day she sent for her brother to come to the monastery. Clare made her last confession on August 17, and died at about 40 years of age in the convent on August 18.

The canonization process was initiated in 1328, but it was not until April 13, 1737, that Clare was beatified by Pope Clement XII. On December 8, 1881, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Leo XIII canonized Clare as Saint Clare of Montefalco at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome. She was recognized as an Augustinian rather than a Franciscan.

The life of St. Clare reminds us that we are all called to a life of prayer and dedication. Still, we must not expect or anticipate special favors. We are to be satisfied with the simple relationship we establish with God.

Her feastday is August 17.



Guild Book Club - Next Meeting & Book

Wednesday, September 18 @ 2:00 pm @ St. Jude

The Garden of Martyrs, by Michael C. White



This novel is based on historical events in Massachusetts in the early 1800's. The main characters are Catholic immigrants.

All ladies are invited to join - light refreshments will be served

The last book club meeting for the current Guild Year was held. The book club meets on odd months from September through May. The club reads books with a Catholic/Christian/Religious theme. A variety of fiction and non-fiction books are selected. Questions are sent out in advance (usually about 7 questions). Meetings will be the third Wednesday of September, November, January, March and May at St Jude's at 2 p.m. The first meeting for the 24/25 Guild year will be September 18.

If you have questions, please contact Laura Foussekis (lfoussekis@comcast.net) or Judy Kavanagh (momkavanagh@hotmail.com).

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

Join in helping craft items for the upcoming Christmas Bazaar scheduled for Saturday, November 23, 2024. The sessions will be on Friday mornings from 9 - 11 in the St. Jude parish hall. No crafting experience is needed. All are welcome and feel free to attend as many or as few as possible. Come and share the fun! For additional information or questions, please contact Connie Fuller at cmfuller2016@gmail.com.

Schedule:

- August 2 - Shoelace Charms & Christmas Crafts
- August 9 - Button Book Markers & Christmas Crafts
- August 16 - Tea for Two Kits & Christmas Card Hangars
- August 23 - Prayer Bracelets led by Kim Moyer
- August 30 - Labor Day Weekend - No Craft Session
- September 6 - Bits & Pieces



August 22
National Be an Angel Day

Birthdays of the Month

- 4 - Maria Mader
- 17 - Billie Markowitz
- 22 - Ann Marie Worosz
- 27 - Lizzie Gregor
- 29 - Patricia Harbin



TEAM LEADERS

| Team | Chair | Co-Chair |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Advertising | Laura Foussekis | |
| Bake Sale | Donna Gray | Sally Cool |
| Banquet | Julie Phelps | Amber Harman |
| Book Club | Laura Foussekis | Judy Kavanagh |
| Christmas Bazaar | Connie Fuller | Donna Gray/Wendy Smith Shirley Willis—Silent Auction |
| Church Beautification | Kathleen Cunningham | Meg Hoover |
| Lenten Fish Dinners | Michele Miller | Julie Phelps |
| Martha & Mary Ministry | Kim Liebsch | Lil Connor |
| Newsletter | Meg Hoover | |
| Refreshments | Connie Fuller | |
| Scholarship | Wendy Smith | |
| Sunshine/Guild Mass Cards | Mikee Thompson | |
| Yard Sale | Donna Gray | Sally Cool |

For Guild Members Health & Healing:

Lavonne Simmons, Maria Mader, Mary Carole Weiner, Alona Wiedel; Sue Morlino; Sue Handrahan; Virginia Whitehurst; Lorraine Costello; Helen Winston; Ellen Casale; Cathy Austin; Laurie Kane; Ann Marie Worosz; Mary Ann Ptasznik; Marilyn Gutekenst; Ro Ayres

For Family & Friends Health & Healing:

Dawson Dholen, nephew of Billie Markowitz; Vern Balery, close friend of Billie Markowitz; Bess Haile, cousin-in-law of Jane Bono; Carson Ayres, Grandson of Ro Ayres; Jonathan Grimm, Husband of Jennifer Grimm; Judy Stenglein, friend of Sue Handrahan; Joyce Holley, friend of Sue Handrahan; Laura McCaul, Mother-in-Law of Margo McCaul; Allene Arvin, sister of Mikey Thompson; Stephanie Krueger, friend of Donna Gray; Gisele Harris, great niece of Laura Foussekis; Butch Connor, husband of Lil Connor; Diana, friend of Sandy Brassard; Sophia Patsy, cousin of Phyllis Riccelli; Bud Stouch, husband of Mary Stouch; Chris Graeber, nephew of Mary Stouch; Joe Randazzo, husband of Fran Randazzo; Judy Havel, friend of Sandy Brassard; Jessica Gilbreth, daughter of a parishioner; Frank McAlkich, brother of Connie Fuller; Deborah Brassard, sister-in-law of Sandy Brassard; Roberta Blomberg, mother of Laura Foussekis; Great grandchild-to-be of Ursula Canada; Patrick Noto, husband of Karen Muelhauser; Greg Tynes, friend of Becky Chidester

Repose of the Soul:

Sr. Vita M. Pierce IHM, friend of Sr. Carrine; Jennie Breeden, Mother of Jennifer Grimm; Albert Anick, cousin of Karen Donnelly; Erni Heimberg; James Austin, father of Ann Moore and grandfather of Veronica and Victoria Moore; Arlene Walsh, sister of Lil Connor; Patricia Nagle Hastings, aunt of Mikey Thompson; Robert Caffro, brother of Ro Ayres and Julie Phelps; Dianne Cool, niece of Sally Cool; Barbara Gretencord; Joe Miller, uncle of Michele Miller; Kyle Myhre, nephew of Billie Markowitz; Laura McCaul, mother-in-law of Margo McCaul

For additions or deletions to the listing; please send an email message to either:

megger1025@yahoo.com or lcladiesguild@gmail.com

