

# LOUISA CATHOLIC WOMEN'S GUILD NEWSLETTER

June 2025

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Next Meeting:

**June 9**

## Guild Officers

PRESIDENT:

Margo McCaul

VICE PRESIDENT:

Ellen Casale

SECRETARY:

Meg Hoover

TREASURER:

Michele Miller

## Guild Meeting

Our June meeting will be Monday, June 9. The recitation of the rosary will begin at 5:30 in the church which will be followed by dinner and the meeting. This is the final meeting of the Guild year and includes the election of officers for the next Guild year (September 2025 - June 2026).

Ladies with the last name beginning with M through W are asked to provide the refreshments. We hope to see you there.

## 2025 GUILD SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



On Sunday, May 25, 2025, Margo McCaul (Guild President) and our pastor, Father Cal presented the scholarship certificates to the two winners of the college scholarship awarded by the Guild each year. The two winners are Mollie Reeves and Dalton Allen. They each receive \$1,000 toward their college education. Congratulations to both recipients.

***Have a Blessed  
Summer***

"From the rising of the sun to its  
going down the Lord's name is to  
be praised."  
Psalm 113:3



## GUILD YARD SALE

Another successful Guild Yard Sale was held on Saturday, May 3 in the Hall at St. Jude. The money-making effort was led by Sally Cool and Donna Gray and they extend their thanks to all the ladies who helped during the week as well as on the day of the sale. Their hard work netted over \$3,000. The unsold items were picked up by the local Lions Club.

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



***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 EUSTADIOLA

Eustadiola was born in 594 to the senatorial nobility, to wealthy and politically powerful parents, in Bourges, France. She received an education and "became wise in religious ways" at a young age. Her parents urged her to marry to give them heirs, which she did, and had one son, Tetradius. She was widowed at a young age, which gave her the financial and social independence to live a "semiretired religious life" after her husband died, without any formal vows or submission to outside monastic rules, like many wealthy widows of the time. The little that is known about Eustadiola is because her biography is documented in the early 8th-century hagiography of her patron, contemporary, and fellow saint, Bishop Sulpicius the Pious, who helped her resist her family's pressure to remarry.

Like many wealthy widows of the time, Eustadiola gave away her wealth to the poor, and dedicated the houses she owned as basilicas in honor of the Virgin Mary and the 3rd-century martyr, Saint Eugenia of Rome. She decorated the churches with gold and silver vessels, gems and other jewels, objects used during masses and ceremonies, books, and turrets. She made, with her own hands and assisted by her servants, embroidered vestments, altar cloths with gold fringes, and wall hangings. She built a monastery and a convent, where she and other women, inspired by her example, lived in community as nuns, but without formal recognition. Eustadiola was abbess of the convent she founded, Moyon-Montiers at Bourges, and lived as an ascetic for 70 years, caring for the poor and supporting widows and orphans. She did not live a strictly cloistered life because of her daily trips to the basilica of Saint Paul in Bourges, which she helped build. Like many convents and monasteries of the period, her communities accepted both wealthy and poor women and its residents' ranks and position in society were unimportant.

As historian Jo Ann McNamara said, "She was full of faith, ablaze with charity, affable of speech, amicable of aspect, endowed with prudence, famed for temperance, firm with internal fortitude, steady with just censures, great of spirit, robust with patience and gentle in humility". Many cures and healings were attributed to Eustadiola's prayers. For example, blind people received sight from the water in which she washed her hands and face. Her prayers and the prayers of her fellow nuns ended a drought; she encouraged the sisters at the basilica of St. Paul to pray for rain, which were answered almost immediately; before they were able to return home to the convent, they were drenched by the downpour. According to McNamara, "such proof of divine favor" helped protect Eustadiola's wealth from those who would prevent her from using it to support her communities and charitable works, and provided her with "prestige as a mediator in settling local quarrels".

Eustadiola died in 684, at the age of 90, and was buried at St. Paul's Basilica. The bishop of Bourges, who attended her funeral, reported that "he had never seen such enormous grief at the death of a religious at church or even at the end of anyone in royal power". Her feast day is celebrated on 8 June.

Little is known about Eustadiola; McNamara calls her one of "many forgotten individuals who pursued roads to sanctity not often commemorated by official historians". The kind of informal, unsupervised asceticism she practiced was disapproved of since the time of Pope Gregory I, but it was still widespread in Gaul in the 7th century. According to writer Jane T. Schulenburg, Eustadiola, like many abbesses and saints of her day, was praised for enlarging her churches and monastic buildings, for her role in obtaining relics for them, and for decorating and enriching their appearance.

Many miracles, including healings from blindness and lameness, occurred at her tomb and through her intercessions, both before her death and afterwards. McNamara reports that two people were healed of blindness after applying a mixture of dust from her tomb and oil from the lamp before her sepulcher to their eyes and another when she was anointed with the lamp oil at Eustadiola's sepulcher. McNamara reported that so many people were healed, it was difficult to list them all.



## Guild Book Club - 2025/2026 Year



*All ladies are invited to join*

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 are the third Wednesday of September, November, January, March and May in the Hall at St. Jude at 2 p.m.

If you have questions, please contact Laura Foussekis (lfoussekis@comcast.net) or Bobbie Dorr (bobbiedorr1@gmail.com)

September 17 - *Brideshead Revisited* by Evelyn Waugh

November 19 - *The Rocking Chair Prophet* by Matthew Kelly

January 21 - *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph* by Adam Hamilton

March 18 - *Jesus the Bridegroom: The Greatest Love Story Ever Told* by Brant Pitre

May 20 - *Life of Union with Mary* by Father Emile Neubert



**Saturday - July 19 - 10:00 am**  
**St Jude Hall**

The Social Ministry Committee is hosting a Meals of Hope meal packaging event on **Saturday, July 19th, 10am** at Saint Jude. These meals will be given to our local Food Bank and Restoration Ministries. 80 volunteers are needed (ages 8 and above) to achieve our goal of packing 35,000 + meals. Laura Foussekis is the Social Ministry volunteer coordinator for this event. You may sign - up on the sheets posted in each Church or contact Laura by email at lfoussekis@comcast.net or by text (540 )223-5303. Sign up will be a first come first served basis and limited to 80 VOLUNTEERS.

Participating in this event is a great way to get involved in our Church while meeting other Parishioners and helping those in need. Please sign up and mark your calendars accordingly. Becky Chidester, Social Ministry Chair

## BLOOD DRIVE

**Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus**

**Wednesday - July 9, 2025 - the Hall at St. Jude - Noon - 6:00 pm**

The Knights of Columbus regularly sponsor Red Cross Blood Drives on the odd months (Jan-Mar-May-Jul-Sep-Nov). **All** blood types are always needed. You may sign-up online by going to redcross.org. Search on the zip code 23117 and select St. Jude plus your desired time to give. **Help Save A Life!**



### Birthdays of the Month

2 - Carol Allen  
 6 - Cindy Honchar  
 11 - Ann Gastoukian  
 21 - Mary Stouch  
 26 - Kim Moyer



### TEAM LEADERS

Team	Chair	Co-Chair
Advertising	Laura Foussekis	
Bake Sale	Donna Gray	Sally Cool
Banquet	Julie Phelps	Amber Harman
Book Club	Laura Foussekis	Bobbie Dorr
Christmas Bazaar	Connie Fuller	Donna Gray/Wendy Smith Shirley Willis—Silent Auction
Church Beautification	Joan Kelly	Kathleen Cunningham
Lenten Fish Dinners	Michele Miller	Julie Phelps
Martha & Mary Ministry	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; Mary Ann Ptasznik; Ro Ayres; Diana Rivera; Sr. Carrine Etheridge; Shirley Willis; Joan Kelly; Billie Markowitz

For Family & Friends Health & Healing:

Joseph Noto, brother-in-law of Karen Muelhauser; Margit Mertiny, sister of Ursula Canada; Bruno Noto, father-in-law of Karen Muelhauser; Alene Arvin, sister of Mikee Thompson; Debbie Brassard, sister-in-law of Sandy Brassard; Alice Hensley, Mary Adams, & Nancy Lloyd, cousins of Karen Donnelly; Marian Green, sister of Judy Kavanagh; Dan Russell, husband of Jane Russell; Ethan Cody, friend of Billie Markowitz; Janine Broadhurst, sister of Shelly Bocci; Chip Broadhurst, brother-in-law of Shelly Bocci; Candy Ricketts, family friend of Shelly Bocci; Grace Kopf, daughter-in-law of Maureen Kopf a member of the choir; Rita Schalk, sister of Ellen Casale; Ron Brassard, husband of Sandy Brassard; Dana Steele, wife of George Steele; Ann Russell, sister of Jane Russell; Margie Smith, friend of Jane Russell; Steve Fleger, friend of Jane Russell; Dennis Harbin, husband of Patricia Harbin; Les Shigley, cousin of Margo McCaul; Mark Slater, cousin of Jane Bono; Helen K. Hicks, cousin of Jane Bono; Jenevie King; George Mader, brother-in-law of Maria Mader

Repose of the Soul:

Kathie Fridley; Grant Adkins, brother-in-law of Ro Ayres and Julie Phelps; Ann Marie Worosz; Patricia Martin, the daughter of a friend of Ursula Canada; Kris Horton, cousin of Laura Foussekis; Vicki Ashwell, friend of Michele Miller; Sigrid Gastoukian, mother-in-law of Ann Gastoukian; Jack Bohler, friend of Michele Miller; Judy DeGroot, friend of Meg Hoover; Alyssa Valdez, niece of Diana Rivera; Linda Phelps, sister-in-law of Julie Phelps; Kathy Largo; Cathleen Morgan, sister-in-law of Ellen Casale; Lee Herbermann, brother of Maria Mader; Vito Morlino, husband of Sue Morlino

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

megger1025@yahoo.com OR lcladiesguild@gmail.com

