



# The Marian Messenger

Newsletter of the Sodality of Our Lady of the Annunciation  
St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church  
Greenbelt, Maryland

“Come Holy Spirit! Help us to give ourselves entirely  
to Jesus through Mary.”

## Prefect's Perspective

Dear Sodalists,

We are different. The Sodality is different. We are not just another parish organization.

We are a religious organization.

Our founding documents tell us we are a religious body fostering in its members an ardent devotion to the Blessed Mother as we seek to become good Catholics sincerely bent on 1) sanctifying ourselves, 2) zeal to serve and sanctify our neighbors, and 3) defending the Church of Jesus Christ against the attacks of the wicked.

How well are we “sanctifying ourselves”? We can do much better working for goals 2) and 3), if we are actively pursuing goal 1). We get so busy with our lives, families, parish projects, politics, and good works, that maybe we forget to prioritize and spend the time on sanctifying ourselves, making ourselves saints.

We can use this Thanksgiving and Advent to review our program of personal sanctification, and make some changes or decide to put in more effort. The Sodality Rules suggest these daily exercises of piety:

Every morning:

- Make the Acts of Faith, Hope and Charity
- Thank God for His benefits
- Pray a Morning Offering
- Pray three Hail Marys
- 15 minutes of mental prayer

During the day:

- Be present, if you can, at the Daily Sacrifice of the Mass
- Recite the Rosary or some Office of Our Lady

Every evening:

- Examine your conscience
- Make a fervent Act of Contrition for the sins of your whole life,  
and especially for those committed on that day

Let us all set up a similar daily regimen, and if we already have one, review it for beneficial changes. May God give us the grace to be faithful to it daily.

What changes will we see in ourselves by Easter?

To Jesus through Mary,  
Rita Radich

## Rosary Celebration on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

The Sodality celebrated its sixth annual Rosary Celebration on October 7 after the 11am Mass. Our Prefect, Rita Radich, suggested some changes to our previous Rosary Marathon format where we prayed 26 rosaries ending after 9pm. The new format includes a shorter time frame (12:30-6pm) and praying 15 rosaries.

Each Rosary began with a prayer intention announced before the Rosary was recited. The intentions included: “Each can be a saint”; “God loves each one of us personally”; “Prodigal son, sin and forgiveness”; “God is powerful, loves me and keeps His promises”; and “Mary filled with grace”. Each reflection linked the prayer intention with scripture passages and commentary with a message of God’s constant love for us. Most of the reflections shared were chosen from Fr. Francis Fernandez’s book series *In Conversations with God: Meditations for Each Day of the Year*, volumes 4 and 5.

Eleven Sodalists led the rosaries prayed during our celebration. The Rosary leaders were: Marti Galvin, Mary Wade, Donna Peterson, Melissa Bowman, Ellen Hanyok, Cindy Perry, Peggy Compton, Lisa Abellano, Rita Radich, JoEllen Sarff and Franca Onunkwo. About 25 Sodalists and 20 other parishioners joined us in praying the Rosary during the program.

Our Rosary Celebration ended at 6 pm with closing comments from Rita Radich. As a finale we sang the beautiful “Immaculate Mary” under the leadership of JoEllen Sarff. St. John Paul II wrote in his Apostolic letter, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* about praying the Rosary: “With the Rosary, the Christian people sits at the school of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love. Through the Rosary the faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer.”

- -Story by JoEllen Sarff

## Rosary Reflection: Each Can Be a Saint

from: “Theology for Beginners” by Frank Sheed

Each can be a saint, for the saints are the people who have accepted wholeheartedly all that Christ, through His Church, offers them.

In other words, it is by the saints, and not by the mediocre, still less by the great sinners, that the Church is to be judged. It may be seen a loading of the dice to demand that any institution be judged solely by its best members, but in this instance it is not. A medicine must be judged not by those who buy it but by those who actually take it. A Church must be judged by those who hear and obey, not by those who half-hear and disobey when obedience is difficult.

No Catholic is compelled - not by the Church, not by Christ - to be holy. His will is solicited, aided, not forced.

Every man must make his own response. The saints have responded totally; the rest of us respond partially, timorously (afraid to lose some sin in which we especially delight), or not at all. The saints in their thousands upon thousands stand as proof that in the Church, holiness is to be had for the willing.

Every saint is certain evidence that, if you and I are not saints, the choice is wholly our own.

## DAY OF REFLECTION

### *Truth in Crisis: What do you think, pray, and do in a crisis?*

Father Andrew Hofer, O.P. led our Day of Reflection on Saturday, October 20, 2018, on this topic. Father presented 15 points for consideration and discussion in the midst of any crisis: the Church scandal, our country's problems, health concerns, second guessing some major commitment, being hurt by our own sins or those of another and more.

Father Andrew is the youngest of ten children from Kansas. He has degrees from Benedictine College, St Andrews, Scotland, and a Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame. He was ordained in 2002, spent two years as a missionary in Kenya, was an Associate Professor of Patristics and Ancient Languages at the Dominican House of Studies. His research is published in many articles and books. You may know him as one of the Dominicans who said Mass at St. Hugh's on the weekends. He is now at the St. Dominic Priory near L'Enfant Plaza and will not be coming to St. Hugh's on the weekends.

Father presented the fifteen points as the day began. The participants broke into groups of five to discuss and comment and share on any of the points they desired. After a light lunch, the full group gathered for questions and comments. The crisis selected first was that of the Church scandal. Participants were able to comment on it and ask questions. Both Father Andrew and Father Tappe, our pastor, gave detailed information on the selection of candidates for the priesthood.

The information presented gives a basis for thought and discussion way beyond the time limits of the program. Many complimentary remarks were heard after the program and Father Andrew received warm applause.

A few of the fifteen points:

- What is it that you really want? What is it that you really need? Think about the Lord. 'Jesus when he said to the Twelve, 'Do you also want to leave?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God'' (John 6:5-6).
- When confused about making the next step, and things seem so uncertain, go back to what is sure. What is certain for you? 'I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, or depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord' (cf. Rom 8:28-37).
- If other people made some really bad decisions that precipitated your crisis, do you know how to forgive them? What would it mean to forgive them? How would forgiveness help you? 'Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.' (Matt 6:12).
- What other actions can you take, especially regarding justice, when you experience a crisis?"



**Pictured on the left:**

Fr. Andrew Hofer, our guest speaker for the Day of Reflection, with Rita Radich, our Sodality Prefect.

--Photo taken by St.Hugh Sodality Member, Barbara Ford

## Sodality Union Celebrates 100th Anniversary

By Cindy Perry and Marti Galvin

October 6, 2018: A full day of celebration that was two years in the planning began in the chapel of the St. Pope John Paul II Shrine in Washington, DC. Reflecting on and praying the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary got attendees into a celebratory mood. Sodalists from parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Washington attended, including six Sodalists from St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church in Greenbelt, Maryland (See photo below).

His Excellency Bishop Roy Campbell, Jr. presided at the anniversary Mass. In his homily, Bishop Campbell drew parallels between the New Testament story of Mary and the Old Testament story of Job. His Excellency pointed out that Mary and Job never cursed God because of their pain. Both had great humility and great faith. The Prayer of the Magnificat glorifies the Lord as did the prayers and deeds of these two unshakable servants of God. To reap the benefits of God's blessings, we must emulate the life of Jesus Christ, for if we walk by faith, as did Mary and Job, we do not walk by ourselves.

Reverend Father Pawel Sass (Our Lady Queen of Peace), current Moderator of the Sodality Union, concelebrated along with Moderators of several member Sodalities. Afterwards, attendees headed to the Washington Navy Yard Catering Center for a luncheon and program. Dr. Patricia McGuire, President of Trinity University was the keynote speaker. Dr. McGuire reminded us that we look to Mary not as an ephemeral icon but as a true exemplar of the real work of women in our Church and our society. We and all our generations continue to call her, "Blessed."

The program continued with liturgical dancers performing to spiritually uplifting music and by the angelic voices of "Say Yes," a vocal trio, singing "Immaculate Mary." Both groups were from St. Teresa of Avila parish. Recognition followed for those who have contributed to the longevity of the Sodality Union, including the ten still-active Sodalities that originally founded the Sodality Union, the past and current Moderators, and all the priests, deacons and religious in attendance. One of the past Sodality Union Moderators present was Msgr. Karl Chimiak, now pastor of St. Joseph's in Beltsville.

Also recognized were the contributions of the thirteen living past Presidents and those who have gone to their heavenly reward. Last, but not least, the planning committee, chaired by Liz Colston, which organized the day's events was introduced and thanked for all their efforts. Msgr. Charles Pope offered the closing prayer reminding us that Mary, the perfect mother, had a perfect Son, so if we are to do everything that her Son tells us to do, then anything less than 100 percent effort won't do. We must strive for perfection.

Pray for us, O holy mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.



**Photo on the left:** Rohanie Bacchus, Cindy Perry, Ellen Hanyok, Marti Galvin, Betty Triplett, and Monica Huber

**Photo Above:** Chapel in the St. John Paul II Shrine, Washington, DC.

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 CRESCENT ROAD  
GREENBELT, MD 20770  
MARY WADE, EDITOR  
CINDY PERRY, ASSISTANT EDITOR

**Executive Council**  
2018-2020

**Moderator**

Fr. Walter Tappe

**Prefect**

Rita Radich

**Vice-Prefect**

Betty Triplett

**Recording Secretary**

Suzanne Lomax

**Corresponding Secretary**

Monica Huber

**Treasurer**

Barbara Ford

**Committee Chairs**

**Spiritual Life**

Martha Loutsch

**Apostolic Life**

Open

**Membership**

Franca Onunkwo

**Public Relations**

Open

**Hospitality**

Donna Peterson

**Ways & Means**

Open

**Special Services**

Open

**Junior Sodality**

Open

**Historian**

JoEllen Sarff

**PRAYER CORNER**



*Let us remember to pray...*

- for all our deceased Sodalists, parishioners and their family members who have died, especially for
  - for those who are ill, especially for Tom Lonsbury, Dalisay Lopez, JoAnn Kellaher, and Joe Flick
- ...and for all those intentions written in the Sodality Prayer Book.

**Autumn Birthdays**

- Oct.6 Vicki Focht
- Oct. 13 Martha Galvin
- Oct. 28 Mary Wade
- Nov.14 Cleopatra White
- Nov.15 Franca Onunkwo
- Nov.21 Vickie Claflin
- Nov.25 Eunice Barber
- Dec.15 JoAnne Kellaher
- Dec.27 Mary Moien

**Calendar of Events**

- Nov.3 SU Meeting
- Nov.11 Mass & Meeting
- Nov.17 EC Meeting @10am in Grenoble Hall
- Nov.18 Sodality hosts Coffee and Donut Social in Grenoble Hall
- Dec.1 SU Meeting
- Dec.2 Mass & Christmas Party
- Jan.6 Mass & Meeting

**Sodality Prayer: To Jesus through Mary**

O Mother Mary, may you continue to bless our lives as we journey in faith, hope, and love. Be our model and guide as we live in the grace won by your Son, Jesus, by his suffering and resurrection. May your motherly intercession for us bring healing, strength, and renewal.

O Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners. Help us to bring all people to your Son, especially those in most need of his mercy. May our Sodality help us grow in your image as disciples of Jesus. We pray this in his name.  
Amen.

**Reminder: Our lector for...**

- Nov.4: JoEllen Sarff
- Dec.2: Cindy Perry
- Jan. 6: Rita Radich



Keep current on our news by visiting our webpage:  
[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)