# Whispers from the Auxiliary

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"Called to His Purpose" Romans 8:28

## Special points of interest:

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## From the President......

Ok, so spring is not officially here, yet. We're still hoping for more rain to green up our landscapes. But, on a recent trip to Cuyamaca Mountains, the green is coming in on the drive through Alpine. It's that wonderful green – lime green, where it almost glows it's so limey!

I am honored to represent our group as your President this year. The WWWA Governing Committee (formerly "board") is packed-full of capable, spiritual women. They bring skills, organization, and leadership qualities. It's exciting to be amongst these women.

As our WWWA foundation is based on the scripture Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" give us purpose and direction. Called to his purpose. It means something different to each one of us. Can we hear what he calls us to do? something this morning that reminds me to listen, quietly, for his What comes to your mind when you spend time with him? Ask him what to do. Listen closely, he whispers. I asked him recently, with tears and confusion in my heart. He answered. It wasn't loud, it was soft, one word. Yet, it almost bowled me over with clarity!

My theme for the year is from Psalm 28:7 "My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him." Music moves me and Christian music is my life blood some days. As the old saying goes...if you sing, you pray twice!

We had a terrific year in 2021! It started off with the Women's Retreat with Mary Lenaburg as she shared her personal journey of faith and how God never gives up on anyone. She is the author of the "Be Brave in the Scared" and "Bold in the Broken". Many hearts were healed through the weekend.

The Fall Brunch was an over-thetop event! Erika Torava was the speaker who enlightened us with her experiences of the Holy Spirit in her life. Food by Cupid Catering was generous and delicious, and the fundraising was tremendous! Thank you, ladies for your bighearted donations. We raised \$59,000 toward camper scholarships to send individuals who wouldn't normally be able experience Whispering Winds to have that life altering experience! An additional \$6,000 will be set aside for a special project at Whispering Winds. Letty Peck is the woman of the year - well deserved for all her years of service to the camp and music ministry!

We concluded the year with our annual Advent retreat, this year at The Mission, St Francis Chapel. Laurie Mikolaycik spoke and gave us tremendous reflection exercises while our spirits were lifted by the voices of Letty, Barbara, and the choir of Jubilate Deo.

We will start the year with a Lenten retreat...see the next page for more details!

Wishing you a blessed life, one day at a time, with joy singing in your heart.

Kesa Waddell



# Lent Mini Retreat Redemptive Suffering

Understanding Lent in a New Way

Retreat Leader: Cyndi Peterson Music Lead by Letty Peck & Barbara Wojtach

Everyone is welcome to this Free Event

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:30 PM Social | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Program

Mission San Diego, St. Francis Chapel 10818 San Diego Mission Road, San Diego, CA 92108

https://www.whisperingwinds.org/getinvolved/womens-auxiliary/ RSVP requested, although not required.

A Love Offering will be collected to thank the Mission for hosting our event.

Questions? Contact Judy Lemm 619-583-4055 | judylemm@cox.net



Do you remember the musical GODSPELL? It was a great modernistic play about the life of Jesus.

The most popular song from it is *Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord*. The tune is catchy, too, and I'm sure you will be humming it for the rest of the day... sorry! I personally love this song, especially at this time of the year, as we prepare for lent and the following miracle of Easter.

It just so happens, I have had the privilege of assisting at my grandson's preparation for his First Holy Communion this year too. I'm taking it pretty serious, as I want to be successful as a grandma AND a teacher of his religious education. Preparing the way of the Lord is important for the little ones as much as most of us, who have been dealing with "making this year the best Lent possible". When I was a child, we "gave things up". Now, things have changed. Do you go through all the plans as I do, (every year!) trying to think of many other ways to become closer to Jesus, by DOING things like increase prayer time, extra time helping out at church, or just being kinder to people we meet everyday? At this point in my life, I hope I am doing most of this, but now I think I need to reach out of my comfort zone. I am intimidated by so many holier people at our church. Many are also suffering from sickness, accidents, cancer, advanced aging issues and family problems. I feel overwhelmed in how to help.

I'm naturally drawn to the sick because of my profession. Many times we can't physically help. Guess what? I am reminded over and over about the strength of prayer; singular, with a group, as a married couple, and even outside church, when someone may share a problem or concern...praying for them, over them. I also do silly things, like bring cookies, cakes, pies to them, oh, and flowers as well. This is supposed to be a dormant time of year for plants; flora and fauna. Our God is an amazing God! He has come through with abundant bouquets that I never expected...He wants us to prepare the way of others too, with whatever each of us has to offer.

Father God, have mercy on us; love us through this upcoming season of Lent. May we prepare the way of goodness and compassion. May we be the living gospel to all we meet. Amen

## **Mattie Scull**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
doing random a	on of Lent more m cts of good and lo nds, strangers and	ving deeds to	ASH WEDNESDAY 1 Skip a meal and give what you saved to charity	Talk with someone you wouldn't usually chat with	Do something good to someone in your work place/school	Call a distant relative or a friend in need and chat
FIRST SUNDAY <b>5</b> Spend an hour in the Adoration Chapel after Mass	Ask someone, "How are you?", mean it and listen	Refrain from judging others	Give someone something just to give a cheer	Affirm somebody with the good he/she has done	Buy lunch or dinner for a co-worker (ex. janitor, messenger)	Learn more about God, your faith and beliefs
SECOND SUNDAY 12 Do something fun & special with your family at home	Offer help to people in need all day	Smile at everyone and anyone all the time	Bring home something special for everyone	Refrain from bashing or saying bad things to others	Pray for your family, the Church and friends	Give away things and clothes that you do not need
THIRD SUNDAY 19 Treat your family with lunch in a park	Thank someone who helped you become better	Give someone a gift for no reason anonymously	Fast from Twitter, Facebook & internet	Do or buy something special for yourself	Say thank you to people who helped you this day	Spend an hour in the Adoration Chapel
FOURTH SUNDAY 26 Spend quality time with the people you live with	Be positive, think positive, and say positive words only	Be extra kind to someone you do not like	Reward someone for a good deed that he/she did	Greet warmly every person you meet all day	Embrace your mistakes and shortcomings	APRIL 1 Forgive all who had offended you through the week
FIFTH SUNDAY <b>2</b> Create a prayer list and spend some time in prayer	Uplift & encourage someone who seems depressed	Bring something to share in your workplace/school	Be earth friendly and encourage others as well	Praise and affirm others even in little the things they do	Be extra generous in donating to charity or Church	Spend some time examining your conscience
PALM SUNDAY 9 Reconcile with God through prayer and the Sacrament	Make amends or reconcile with someone	Reach out and relate with a difficult person	Pray for the Pope, Bishops, priests, all w/ consecrated life	HOLY THURSDAY 13 Change or quit a bad or unhealthy habit/behavior	GOOD FRIDAY 14 Spend an hour in Church and pray for the people there	BLACK SATURDAY 15 Watch a movie or read a book on spiritual growth
EASTER SUNDAY 16 Celebrate this day in gratitude in the Presence of God	them, asked him, "V Israel! The Lord our soul, with all your n	Vhich is the first of all God is Lord alone! Yo nind, and with all you	the commandments u shall love the Lord or strength. The secon	outing and saw how w ?" Jesus replied, "The your God with all you d is this: 'You shall lo MARK 12:28-31 NA	first is this: 'Hear, O r heart, with all your ove your neighbor as	i am a Catholic

The 2022 link to join or renew annual membership is now active on the Whispering Winds webpage. Please remember to pay your \$30 annual membership fee for the 2022 calendar year. You can also update any personal information using the link on the website. This can be done by clicking the button below or by going to

https://whisperingwinds.tofinoauctions.com/ membership2022/register/ticket sales

## Click here to Register, Renew or Update your membership

If you are unsure of your current membership status, please send me an email, Avarela@san.rr.com and I'll happily check for you.

Next time you are out to lunch with a friend, tell them all about the Women's Auxiliary and ask them to join us!!

Thank you, Angela Varela

Blessings to all of you! Val Spooner and I want to welcome Patricia Viescas to our Ways & Means committee. Hopefully we'll see many of you at our Lenten Mini Retreat on March 9th, 6:30-8:00pm This spiritual evening will be in the St. Francis Chapel at Mission San Diego de Alcala. Our speaker will be Cyndi Peterson.

Our annual WWWA Women's retreat will be held at our beautiful Whispering Winds May 13, 14, and 15th. Liz Kelly, noted speaker, retreat leader, and author, will present the retreat. Her theme is: Jesus Approaches: A Retreat for Women. She is dedicated to helping women to flourish in their faith.

A part of our activities during the weekend that we can all contribute to is our raffle. Our gift card trees are sponsored by all of you who donate gift cards. Last year your response was overwhelming and also helped us raise funds at our Fall Brunch. We are thankful for all your generosity and are asking again for your support.

You can bring us the gift cards to our Mini Retreat in March or send them to the Whispering Winds office through the coming months:

4636 Mission Gorge Place, Suite 203, San Diego 92120.

Remember all our donations go to our camp.

God bless you, Val Spooner, Patricia Viescas, & Claudia Penczar

Shine little Glo-Worm, Glimmer Glimmer. Gloria Hickey Walton was born on February 2, 1927, and born into eternal life on January 8, 2022 at the tender age of 94. She passed peacefully in her "sunny room" at home that she inhabited for the past 2 years. She loved that room. It had windows on 3 sides — an addition put on by her husband Ted so many years ago. Each visit over the past 2 years, she would tell me how she decided to CHOOSE to be

happy and joyful. Yes...it was a choice and she even had a Post-it<sup>TM</sup> note to remind her and encourage others to do the same.

Gloria was a charter member of WWWA in March of 1989. She was friends with Bernice Mascari – one of the many side benefits of Cursillo. Bernice was quick to recruit Gloria to be on the board because she was such a positive person and "she made us laugh." She kept others laughing, singing, and praising God for the next 27 years on the WWWA Board. I was personally reprimanded more times than I have appendages, for side-laughing/talking at our bi-monthly meetings...and each time it was when I sat by Gloria.



Gloria Walter He years

She was the Editor of our Bi-monthly Newsletter for 20 years. She teamed up with Mo Kojis to produce a wonderful publication that was delivered right to the member's mailbox. She would edit stories, add in clip art, cut and paste (when this was literally what one did) so it all fit like a puzzle. "Words on the Winds" was started in 1989 and Glo reluctantly handed over the reins to Tammy Knapp in 2009 when we went with an electronic version. She LOVED the board bimonthly meetings so much so that she created a new position, Email Prayer Chair, so she could still attend the meetings. She received and emailed prayer requests for the next 7 years.

Known for her storytelling, she received the honor of "WWWA Woman of the Year" in 1994.

In addition to sharing so many wonderful stories that kept us in stitches and often taught important life lessons...she enjoyed the craft making meet-ups, the silent auction basket making gatherings, and donating her meticulously and lovingly knitted blankets for the Angels in the Wind store and our annual brunch raffle.

In her final years, she watched basketball, knit, color, do puzzles, and read...short stories as her memory was not all that good (her words not mine). When I walked in she would say...JONI...and then pause and say "now remind me again how we met." Then we would chat about Whispering Winds and all the beautiful faith-filled women that she loved and cherished in the WWWA.

Glo-Worm, Light the path below, above, and lead us on to Love.



Patricia Viescas Fundraising Co-Chair

New committee members are valuable and needed to keep our organization fresh and updated. Patricia Viescas is no different. She brings a creative mind and charismatic energy to the team and even comes from...you guessed it, San Diego! Patricia is the youngest of 5 girls. Her parents had her 4 older sisters in Canada, and came down to Southern California, and made San Diego their home. She continues to incorporate her religion and ministry into her life and welcomes her sisters to attend the Women's Retreat – this past year, 2 attended!

Her name, Patricia Josephine, has a story of its own. Her parents wanted to honor both saint's days she was born between. That of which being, St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day.

Patricia recently retired from UCSD as a Radiologic Technologist in Orthopedics after 38 years! In her retirement, she hopes to travel and continue to incorporate 'DIY' projects into her home, with the help of her husband, Mario. He is a Broadcast Engineer for KFMB news which means he makes sure the news is on air! Together, they have two children, Zane and Lana. Zane is 21, and recently attended Mesa College. He works the very early shift at UPS and is pursuing becoming a UPS driver. Lana is 20 years old and attends Mesa College and plans to study Mortuary Science & Funeral Service. She is currently employed at Glen Abbey Memorial Park and Mortuary, assisting families in need. While Patricia's carpooling days are over, her kids are a significant part of her life.

Patricia attributes her spiritual growth to two individuals, that of which being, her sister Sharon and Fr. Alex from St. Vincent's. Her sister Sharon is very faithful and has continuously been a spiritual model throughout her life. Fr. Alex is a great speaker and really cares about his parishioners, in teaching the importance of prayer and healing. Patricia has also joined a Wednesday evening Discipleship Immersion program at the parish which has helped her to grow more in her faith. Last year she did the Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz and is currently doing it again this year. She has become a Lecture for Mass at her new parish as well, to be more involved within the parish community.

Words to describe her are humble, generous, and witty. Her husband Mario loves her sense of humor, her ability to be so generous, and to love fully. You've got to spend some time with her – her laughter is infectious!

Patricia is thankful for the extra time she now has since she's retired. She has more time to delve into prayer and read the Bible. The task of saying the Rosary daily is no longer something to just do, but something she looks forward doing.

She has served on the Spirituality Committee of WWWA for many years, managing special tasks at the Women's Retreat in the spring as well as being the queen of selling raffle tickets. Patricia also made her Cursillo last October. It's our pleasure to have Patricia as a member of the Ways.

## 2022 Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary

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Please consider volunteering for a committee. We especially need help on committees marked with \*\*

## **Purpose of the Auxiliary**

As women united by faith in Jesus Christ and by a common interest in Whispering Winds Family Camp, we propose to contribute to the growth and development of the Camp through prayer and fellowship, assisting in fundraising, disseminating information, and providing support of functions held at the Camp, providing monies for scholarships and projects.