

## *Whispers from the Auxiliary*

What a summer! I was able to work Special Needs Family camp and have my best buddy, Stevenson, for the weekend. Went to family camp with my oldest daughter, her husband and my 2 granddaughters. I had the blessing of watching my 3 yr. old granddaughter begin to love camp as much as my kids did! My little peanut went down the zipline!! This year I "qualified" for senior moments. What a blast we had, GREAT messages, dancing and sharing. I was witnessing the generation that helped to form and grow camp, continue to support and love one another and enjoy the fruits of their "yes" and their labor. At a recent small gathering of past presidents, I had the humbling pleasure to hear our one of our co-founders, Bernice, say "this auxiliary has been one of the greatest gifts in my life". This woman has a VERY full life and to hear her say that just increases the depth of my belief and involvement in our ministry.

The Mass of Gratitude on Sept. 10th was so VERY full of gratitude and love for what we have on this Holy Ground. Martin made a comment to us all : "I wouldn't know any of you if it weren't for camp". This has filled my soul ever since. I began to think of all the amazing people in my life now that are from camp. The people present at that mass, my buddy Stevenson, my prayer friends, my spiritual "mothers" and, of course, ALL the women of the auxiliary..... GRATITUDE, GRATITUDE, GRATITUDE! My life- and my family- IS certainly different and BETTER because of camp!

I was feeling these overwhelming feelings and realize that the beating heart of camp has several things that make it beat so well, and that is why it continues to grow, thrive and be able to allow God to change lives. WE women and those before us are certainly a BIG chamber of that beating heart with our prayer, dedication and the scholarships we provide so that even MORE people can come to camp and have their lives CHANGED!

We may reach 200 members by the end of this year. My thought at the beginning of this was "we do this amazing work with only 134 women?" Why are we so small with so many amazing women out there? My main goal as your president was to increase our membership and invite more women to join us. A few months in, when we had already gathered about 20 new people, Kelly our membership chair, very confidently stated at a meeting "OK ladies, we can get to 200 by the end of the year!" Will we do it?



*"Called to His  
Purpose"*

Romans 8:28

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Will you help us invite someone, or two, into our mission that can help us beat even stronger for camp!!!! I promise your heart will beat stronger, and more beautiful as well, from the gift of the auxiliary.

My verse I chose for this year is: 1 Peter 4:10 "Like good stewards of the varied graces of God, use whatever GIFT each one of you has received to serve one

another". To channel Bernice again, I am humbled and it has been such a gift and a blessed year in my life serving as your president during this 35th year of our auxiliary. Thank you Lord for every member of our auxiliary past, present and future!

Shalom Aleichem and  
overwhelming gratitude,  
Andi Finch

# WWWA ADVENT REFLECTION

*Light that enters the darkness*

In sunny Southern California, we're accustomed to blue skies and mild days. We may even expect the same weather in our spiritual lives! But what happens when our expectations fail? What happens when we are struggling, and suffering, and searching? During Advent, we wait in darkness for the light of Christ. Could our "dark days" be the times we actually draw closer to Christ? During this season of preparation and anticipation, we need not fear the dark. Contemplating the life of Our Blessed Mother, Dawn will share how we can open our hearts to His grace while we wait.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH**  
**ST. TERESE SOCIAL CENTER**  
**TIME: 6:30-8:30 PM**  
**6016 CAMINO RICO,**  
**SAN DIEGO, 92120**

JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS,  
FELLOWSHIP, AND REFLECTION

WE WILL BE COLLECTING  
DONATIONS FOR  
BIRTHLINE OF SAN DIEGO.

TOYS FOR 12-36 MOS  
WARM CLOTHES FOR 1-2 MOS  
PULL-UP DIAPERS SIZE 4-5

## Guest Speaker: Dawn Wright

**Dawn Almes Wright** embraces St. Paul's confidence that "in our weakness, He is made strong." After years of single parenting while her husband combat deployed, Dawn lost her mother, 12 year old son, and brother in a five-year span. In her journey through grief, she has opened herself to grace, and even ... joy. Today, she lives in gratitude as a forever mom of three and full-time theology teacher. You will be encouraged by her story!



## Saints in Training

Another crisp Fall morning's dawned, and as the Holy Spirit prompts and guides my key strokes, it's with great joy I'm composing this article. Yesterday was All Saints Day and today we're celebrating the Solemnity of All Souls. What a great blessing it is having these days set aside to honor and venerate, remember and reflect upon the lives of loved ones and those who've gone before us on life's pilgrimage to eternity. Unlike many who don't share in the observances of these Feast days, I feel so grateful to be Catholic and graced with having an understanding of the significance of these glorious days, as well as that of the Communion of Saints.

Saint comes from the Latin word *sanctus*, which means holy and set apart. Such individuals were by no means perfect, but simply ordinary humans who've made it to their heavenly reward by persevering in their efforts to be Christ's followers. Rather than living "picture-perfect holiness", some Saints even lived a life that was quite the opposite. As recorded by Jesus in the Beatitudes, (Matthew 5:1-12), surprisingly many saints were like Him, and also lived as "revolutionaries" in their respective times because they behaved so differently from the accepted norms!

During an All Saints Day homily Santa Sophia's Pastor, Fr. Corey Tufford, posed the question, "How do you make Holy Water?" He quickly responded by going on to say, "You boil the hell out of it." That creates quite a visual doesn't it? Father then segued by describing how each of the saint statues adorning the colonnade in Vatican's St. Peter's Square, is depicted holding the instrument attributed to the cause of their death. Although martyrdom



isn't a prerequisite for sainthood, heroic measures or suffering ill fates often have occurred in the lives of individuals as they ventured toward sainthood.

In sharp contrast to the martyrdom of other saints, Pope Francis shared a bit of St. Mother Teresa's journey in his catechesis on the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time. He referred back to a moment in 1979, just after she had received the Nobel Peace Prize. When a reporter asked her if she had illusions about changing the world she replied, "Me no, I never thought I could change the world! I only wanted to be a drop of clean water, through which God's love could shine." Not always easy, the Pope went on to say that Christians

need to forget other things and take this first step and become this little drop of "holy water" in order to reflect the Father's love like mirrors. "This is how Mother Teresa, who was so little, was able to do so much good - by reflecting God's love just as would a little

drop. If at times, looking at her and other saints, we might be moved to think that they are heroes that cannot be imitated, let us think again about that small drop: love is a drop that can change many things.", the Pope concluded.

In one of his classic All Saints Day homilies Bishop Barron explained to be holy means to follow the will of God, to love, for that is what God is and what God is does. He went on to say that love is focused on mercy which is also what the love of God is. It follows then that a saint is one in whom God is alive and indwelling, and whose life is attuned to loving and expressing God's tender mercy. This is what makes a saint happy because they are able to be all that they were created by doing the will of God.

Many times it has been said, "Christians



## Saints in Training (continued)

are like tea bags; their strength is not drawn out until they are steeped in hot water!" Knowing that we're called to be saints seems like a tall order. However, we don't necessarily need to be martyrs, but simply to love and be merciful wherever we are located, right here and right now. Like Mother Teresa who simply wanted to be a water droplet reflecting God's love, may we also do the same. Better still, like the fountain of

water gushing forth on the Divine Mercy image, may we also be fountains of love and living water that also sprays about sprinkling droplets. May we all be reflections of God's love and mercy, inspiring and assisting others along this earthly pathway toward our glorious eternal heavenly reward!

Your Fellow Saint  
in Training,  
Linda Crabtree  
Spiritual Advisor

## WWVA Woman of the Year

A well deserved, and probably long overdue, Woman of the year award went to Claudia Penzar! Many women who do things day on and day out for camp and the auxiliary are ok with just a thank you, they don't want to be publicly recognized. However, this finally happened to Claudia at the brunch! Ever humble and even refuting a comment made about her as "not true" as I hugged her she is the epitome of "let me work and leave me alone!" She has presided over our ways and mean (fundraising) for close to 10 years! A

buddy (Thanks Mattie Scull) drags you in and you stay! We are all ever grateful to Claudia for all she has selflessly done for so many years to help us raise funds for whatever it is we are trying to accomplish! Your dedication has helped sponsor many people to be able to attend camp! Your behind the scenes work goes unknown to many, your daughter's congratulatory letter said it best: "now sit down and just be recognized and receive your award!" We love you Claudia! Well deserved good and faithful servant!



# MEMBERSHIP



FALL in line and invite a new member to join this amazing group of women in the Whispering Winds Woman’s Auxiliary! We have 175 members to date and we hope to hit 200 by the end of 2023 **so just 25 more to go!** We got this!

<https://whisperingwinds.tofinoauctions.com/membership2023>

Join, Renew or Update Here

## Welcome new and renewed members:

Diana Adams  
Denise Casinelli  
Joyce Desrochers  
Heidi DiPaolo  
Julie Dudziak  
Ann Folstad

Gloria Jean Foti  
Adriana Genna  
Noelea Gilbert  
Amy Helpers  
Tammy Knapp  
Rosemary Laff

Monica Larsen  
Claudia Penzar  
Shannon Piagentini  
Anne Reiman  
Daphne Sanchez  
Dawn Wright

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Once again, our annual Brunch on Saturday, October 28th was a great success! We had a wonderful speaker, Kathy Keubler, who shared her unwavering faith through the many difficulties that have occurred in her life. Sharing her devotion to the Divine Mercies, she was an inspiration to all.

Our committee appreciates all the donations, gift items and gift cards, we used for our silent auction. Your generosity is inspiring and allows us to contribute our

support for our beloved camp! With your help we are able to fulfill our mission to contribute to the success of Whispering Winds. Thanks to all who assisted our committee with donations, basket assembly, and set up for the silent auction.

Congratulations to Meggie Gonzalez, 2024 retreat raffle!

God bless all of you,  
Patricia Viescas, Val Spooner, Mattie Scull  
and Claudia Penczar



## Meet Your Board Member

Picture this:

A fall fashion table centerpiece with rust orange satin runner going down the center, a beautiful bouquet of chrysanthemum and yellow sunflowers, the vase wrapped with twinkle and tea light candles and a prayer card at each table setting. Behind this welcoming, beautiful environment is the hands of Gloria Rosales.

Many words describe Gloria Rosales but some of the top descriptors are authentic, giving and extremely talented. Gloria currently blesses our community as the Hospitality Chair on the Auxiliary Board.



*Gloria Rosales  
Hospitality Chair*

Gloria spent her early childhood years in Point Loma. While growing up, she discovered she had many gifts and talents, especially with décor and crafting. Eventually she developed a love of ceramics, mosaics and decoupage.

Early in her career, she became a beautician and later married her business partner, who was a barber. Eventually, their career paths took a different turn. Gloria's husband became one of the first Elvis Presley impersonators, entertaining many on cruise ships. Gloria made his costumes and together they became famous celebrities while cruising the Samoa Islands.

Gloria eventually settled in San Diego, residing in East County, and her family has become the focus and love of her life. She enjoys spending time with her five children (3 boys and 2 girls), 23 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Following Jesus is the most important aspect of Gloria's life. For over 25 years, her home parish was Holy Trinity, where the roots of her faith took hold. She was very active in volunteering in the parish ministries and became involved in the Mom's Prayer Group Ministry. The parish held an annual Jamboree – the event was a huge community builder and Gloria managed all the event's vendors. From there she was led into the Cursillo movement. Gloria saw great value in the Whispering Winds community and became part of the Auxiliary Board as Hospitality Chairman, where she has served for the past 8 years.

Gloria enjoys traveling. She spent three months traveling the East and Gulf Coasts in an RV, and a few years ago she walked the Camino de Santiago.

Anyone who knows Gloria and has shared a need with her has heard her constant response: "Put it in Prayer." Her words match her life – she is a prayer warrior.

Gloria's life purpose has been to give in service to others. Because of this, she has made many treasured, lifelong friends. Gloria has truly fulfilled our Auxiliary's Scripture theme: *"We know that God makes all things work together for the good of those who love God and are called to His purpose."* – Romans 8:28

Submitted by Marla Carter

# WWWA Fall Brunch 2023



About 150 attendees were in attendance for our annual general meeting and brunch at the Mission de Alcala on Oct 28th! A wonderful mass and message by Fr. Ed (called to His purpose, did he know our WWVA verse!?)



Patty suggested led us into a hope and trust filled witness of several miracles to



Kathy Keubler and family, may we all be inspired to pray with conviction! Divine Mercy is well and alive, we are grateful for her time to give us a message meant to be spread to the world!

Good food, thanks to Cupids Catering ;



good music (as always) from Letty and friends with a great song on miracles that



## WWWA Fall Brunch 2023 (continued)

Paula Bott then challenged us to plant seeds as she motivated and inspired us to give after a witness as to how camp continues to change lives by Alyssa Mechling



faith/food/friendship and funds! That is always our goal!!!



(teen CCA/camp jack counselor). All of this led us into why we do what we do, thank you for your generous donations! (over \$40,000.00 raised) Let's get everyone to camp that wants to go! It was a very successful morning in

Thanks to all who helped the morning be a great success, especially to Angela Varella our VP and chair of the event along with the hospitality and ways & means committee gals! Our WW staff is SO helpful with registration and set up- but ALL GLORY goes to God for our camp, our mission, success, and our purpose as women of the auxiliary!

*Save the Date*  
WHISPERING WINDS GALA  
LIGHTS SHINE BRIGHT  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024**  
NEW LOCATION! HILTON SAN DIEGO BAYFRONT  
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BE A SPONSOR CALL US: (619) 464-1479 | [WHISPERINGWINDS.ORG](http://WHISPERINGWINDS.ORG)



## 2023 WWSA Governing Board

	<b>ADMIN TEAM</b>	
<b>President</b>	Andi Finch	momfinch4@gmail.com
<b>Vice-President</b>	Angela Varela	avarela@san.rr.com
<b>Past President</b>	Kesa Waddell	kesa1@cox.net
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Paula Crowely	paulawaulatwin@gmail.com
<b>Finance Manager</b>	Karen Goodman	goodmank619@gmail.com
<b>Board Liaison</b>	Nelda McComb	nsm3359@sbcglobal.net
	<b>SPIRITUALITY TEAM</b>	
<b>Spiritual Advisor</b>	Linda Crabtree	linda.crabtree@gmail.com
<b>**Spiritual Events Chair</b>	Cathy Sperrazzo	cathy@eyetoeyep.com
<b>Spiritual Events Co-Chair</b>	Linda Aguilera	laguilera@me.com
<b>**Hospitality Chair</b>	Gloria Rosales	gloriarosales1@me.com
<b>Hospitality Co-Chair</b>	Marla Carter	marlacarter77@yahoo.com
<b>**Ways &amp; Means Co- Chair</b>	Claudia Penczar	cmpenczar@gmail.com
<b>Ways &amp; Means Co- Chair</b>	Val Spooner	sv4grls@cox.net
<b>Ways &amp; Means Co- Chair</b>	Patricia Viescas	relaxandrefresh@cox.net
	<b>COMMUNICATIONS &amp; PUBLICITY TEAM</b>	
<b>Communications Chair/ Prayer Chain</b>	Joni Deiters	jdeiters@san.rr.com
<b>Newsletter/ Graphic Designer</b>	Tammy Knapp	knapptnt49@gmail.com
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Debbie Bradel	bradeldebbie9@gmail.com
<b>**Membership Chair</b>	Kelly Sinclair	ksincl505@cox.net
<b>Membership Co-Chair</b>	Susan Galichon	susan@galichonlaw.com
<b>**Historian/Photographer Chair</b>	Chris Villalobos	chrisvillalobos5@gmail.com

### WWSA Mission Statement

Our Mission: As women united by faith in Jesus Christ and by a common interest in WWCC, we propose to contribute to the growth and development of the Camp through prayer and fellowship, assisting in fundraising, disseminating information, and providing support for functions held at the camp, providing monies for scholarships/camperships and projects!