

MOM'S NEWS

Winter 2012



Mary Our Mother
Heart of the Home

From our Lay Director . . .

Happy New Year everyone!

I'd like to introduce myself to all of you. I am Lidia Manieri, your Lay Director for this wonderful ministry. I've been married to my husband, Mike, for 32 years and we have three sons, Nick, 25 and twins Chris and Pat, 24. Nick is getting married this year and we are thrilled. God has blessed us with a beautiful future daughter-in-law so there's a lot of excitement as we prepare for their marriage.

I've been praying for our ministry and for all of you. I've been asking God to help me guide this ministry where He wants it to go. I've also been asking for God to help and guide all the wonderful moms that give of their time and talents to help with the renewal days and all that is needed to put on one of these days. Lastly, I've been asking for God to help and guide the moms that attend our days.

Prayer is very important in our lives and it is the theme of our spring renewal day that will be held in Chester County. If you have a great prayer life, if you are struggling in that area or anywhere in between, come to the renewal day. Learn how to enrich your prayer life. We can all learn a lot from each other.

As I sit and write this letter to you, it is early January. I have, like most of you at this time, looked back over the past year and thanked God for the blessings, the trials, the joys and the sorrows. I'm asking myself how and where I can improve in the coming year. I'm coming up with many of the same things I had come up with before. I want to be kinder, have more patience, be healthier and increase in my spiritual devotions. I read an article that is fitting for this time of year. It said that it was God who created me, after all and maybe instead of trying to fix everything that's wrong with me, I will ask for God's blessings, place myself in God's hands, and trust that God will continue to create me.

This is the same prayer I have for you and for our ministry. Loving God, bless us and our ministry. We place ourselves and our ministry in your hands trusting that you will continue to create us and continue to guide this ministry. Keep us in the coming year, however you see fit.

Looking forward to seeing you and meeting many of you at our spring renewal day in Chester County on March 17.

God Bless!

Lidia Manieri, Lay Director M.O.M.-Heart of the Home

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We'd love to hear from you. Send your comments or articles to the editor at: 856 S. High Street, West Chester, PA 19382

Register Today
Spring 2012
Day of Renewal, page 3



Bucks County Update

By Eleanor Farzetta

The MOMS retreat at Archbishop Wood on November 7, 2011, was a most reflective and prayerful day. The theme for the day was "I will never forsake you or abandon you", St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 13, verse 5. The keynote speaker was Christine Duminiak, an author and Certified Grief Recovery Specialist. She spoke about her early childhood and family and how she was led to her current vocation of helping people cope with the loss of their loved ones. The sharing session in the afternoon was one of the most interactive we have experienced. Christine was able to put the Moms at peace and stress the importance of praying and listening to God during very difficult and sorrowful times; that He never leaves us, that it is us who forget that He is there. Her experiences helped everyone understand that those that have died, try to help us accept this part of life; that the death of a loved one does not mean they are gone but merely changed. Many times they send us signs to show us they are still there for us. Christine also spoke of her own spiritual journey and again stressed the importance of having a close relationship with God.

Our afternoon mom was Georgiann Duggan, from St. Catherine of Siena parish in Horsham. She spoke about the importance of faith when her newborn daughter was diagnosed with a very rare disease. Though her daughter eventually died, there were many times that Georgiann and her family wanted to give up but always found an answer through their own faith and prayers and the prayers of so many others. God never abandoned them and she shared many instances where He proved that He was always there for the Duggan family.

Father David Friel, newly ordained priest, said the Mass and tied the whole day together in a beautiful homily. His own mother suffers very much and Father said it was through her prayers and example that he is where he is today.

Confession, adoration, stations of the cross, and the Daughters of St. Paul were available through the day, with many moms taking advantage of these devotions. The day was one where we were all reminded not only of God's faithfulness to us, but how in turn we must show our faithfulness to Him, with the help of Mary Our Mother. It was another beautiful and faith-filled day. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to put the day together, our speakers, and especially the moms who attended, who made it all worthwhile. Looking forward to next year.

Consolation Prayer of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Let nothing
discourage you,
nothing depress you.

Let nothing alter
your heart or your
countenance;

Do not fear any illness
or vexation,
anxiety or pain.

Do not allow
those who hate
my Son turn you
away from Him;

Be steadfast;
your reward in
Heaven will be great.

Am I, your Mother,
not with you?

Are you not under
the shadow of
my protection?

Am I not your
fountain of life?

Are you not in the folds
of my mantle,
in my crossed arms?

Is there anything else
that you need?



REGISTRATION FORM:
Mom – Heart of the Home
18th Annual Spring Day of Renewal



“Pray without Ceasing” -1 Thessalonians 5:17

Welcome Mothers and Grandmothers of all ages! TAKE A DAY OFF! Slow down and replenish your spirit. Reflect on and celebrate your vocation of motherhood. Deepen your relationship with God and others. Be strengthened and inspired.

March 17, 2012 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (check-in begins at 8:30 a.m.)
Bishop Shanahan High School - 220 Woodbine Road Downingtown, PA

Our Theme for the day is “Prayer”

"For me prayer is a surge of the heart, it is a simple look towards Heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy." - Saint Therese of Lisieux

Come to our day and learn how to enrich your prayer life.

Presentations include:

Morning Speaker – Michelle Franci-Donnay Michelle is a writer, teacher, wife and mother of two teen-aged boys. Her column “Catholic Spirituality” appears in the Philadelphia Archdiocese’s paper, the Catholic Standard & Times. She also writes reflections for Liturgical Press’ Give Us This Day prayer resource, Phaith Magazine and Liguorian. Michelle is a member of Our Mother of Good Council Parish in Bryn Mawr. She will be speaking on how we can incorporate prayer into our busy lives.

Afternoon Speaker – Carolyn Roland Carolyn is a busy mom of 4 children. She is involved in volunteer work at her children’s elementary school and the Kennett Cupboard. In addition to being a Girl Scout Leader she also does freelance writing and photography. She is a member of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish. Carolyn will tell us how prayer helped her and her family through difficult times.

Our celebrant will be Msgr. Robert Carroll, Pastor from St. Maximilian Parish, West Chester.

Sister Margaret Scott, ACI, a member of the Congregation of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be our spiritual moderator.

A resource room, opportunities for individual and group devotions, the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation and individual spiritual direction will also be provided.

Registration Fee*: \$25.00 by March 4th (\$30 March 5-11). Fee includes box lunch.

**Sorry, no registrations at door. Unfortunately we can make no refunds. Registration may be transferred to another person if you cannot attend.*

BECAUSE OUR DAY OF RENEWAL IS DEVOTED TO GIVING MOMS A “DAY OFF”, PLEASE LEAVE YOUR CHILDREN IN THE LOVING CARE OF THOSE AT HOME.

REGISTER ONLINE AT www.mom-heartofthehome.org to pay via PayPal or fill out the form below and mail:

DETACH AT LINE

Please Print

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Parish: _____

City: _____ State/Zip: _____

E Mail: _____ Is this your first time attending? Yes ___ No ___
 Add me to the volunteer list ___

Return form with \$25.00 check or money order by March 4th (\$30 March 5 - 11) to:

MOM-Heart of the Home, c/o Barbara Coffey, 1420 Gary Terrace, West Chester, PA 19380



Our Mission:

M O M - Heart of the Home ministry is a movement for spiritual renewal in the Roman catholic church. It is dedicated to Mary our Mother.

Mary, a woman of peace, intercedes for us as we seek to bring peace to our families, and to our world. Through days of renewal and other spiritual opportunities, this movement rejuvenates, elevates and empowers motherhood. Designed, FOR, BY and ABOUT mothers, it builds community through newsletters and various projects.



MOM's NEWS



c/o
532 West Pennsylvania Ave.
Downingtown, PA 19335

Welcome Moms of all ages
...new mothers, grandmothers,
moms to be, married, single,
divorced and widowed mothers,
caregivers

Save the Date

Chester County Day of Renewal

Saturday,

March 17, 2012

Registration enclosed