

St. Paul VI Women's Society News

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ST. PAUL VI PARISH

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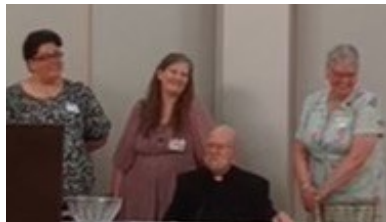
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Mendezes feted as they prepare to lead Women's Society

Theresa Mendez and Nicki Mendez were honored jointly as our Women of the Year and are about to assume the top leadership of our society.

At our April 12 gathering, the society voted them the 2023 honor together because of their close friendship and shared contributions to St. Paul VI Parish, the Women's Society, and former St. Hugh Parish. Theresa and Nicki were among those celebrated at the Vicariate IV Woman of the Year luncheon, May 20.



Theresa, Nicki, Fr. Unz, and Carol Davidson

At our May 3 gathering, they accepted a new challenge: serving as co-presidents for 2 years. This ensures our society of continuity and strong leadership! The dynamic duo are longtime best friends but unrelated.

The icing on the cake: they will continue to chair the society's Social Committee, or "fun committee," as Nicki calls it. This past year, they have planned amazing programs for our monthly gatherings, from a prayer mosaic experience to a Holy Land video (see next page).

Accepting the position of vice president, Lauri Bukowski will fill an important support role to the new co-presidents. Ida Clary will continue as treasurer. Carol Dvorak and Sue Kahler will retire as co-presidents, and Sue will be secretary and continue writing newsletter content.

Also on the board, Nancy Sima will continue as Membership Committee chair, and Bern Gordus and Chris Alfred as Spiritual Committee co-chairs. Chris will also continue as communications chair and newsletter editor. Jane Dolezal will continue as Respect Life Committee co-chair, but Linda Johnson will leave her position and continue as coordinator of the Veterans Burial Fund.

Cheryl Albertsen will succeed Barb Gurski as Our Lady's Volunteer in sending encouragement, condolence, and congratulatory cards. Cheryl enjoys making homemade cards as a ministry. Jamie Gash will be our official rosary leader.

One of Theresa and Nicki's shared passions is the Special Religious Development, or SPRED, ministry for children and adults with developmental disabilities. They helped start St. Hugh's program. Theresa chaired the program, and Nicki was activity catechist. They are SPRED catechists at St. Paul VI.

Both Theresa and Nicki held key positions at St. Hugh and its SCW. Nicki is a credit and collections supervisor at Follett, a library and software company. At St. Paul VI, she is an Alpha volunteer, parish Finance Council member, and vice president of our St. Vincent de Paul chapter. She is an avid traveler and eBay seller.

Theresa is the membership relations administrative assistant for the American Property Casualty Insurance Association. An American Cancer Society volunteer, she is the Illinois lead for the Cancer Action Network. She organizes Relay for Life and Lights of Hope fundraisers, crochets cancer caps, and donates most of her crocheting and crafting to charity.

Father Matt will install the officers at a 6:00 p.m. Mass on Wed., June 7, at Mater Christi Church, before our member appreciation dinner. Thanks to all who have lovingly served as servant leaders in our society!

A vicarious visit to the Holy Land

The next best thing to actually being in the Holy Land was the video pilgrimage Nicki Mendez shared with the Women's Society as our May 3 program. Nicki traveled to Israel this spring, and with the creative help of Theresa Mendez, produced a video of the Biblical highlights of her visit. Food from the region accompanied the presentation.



Nicki at the Sea of Galilee

Calendar

- June 7:** Officer installation Mass and appreciation dinner, MC, 6pm
June 11: Society Mass; MC, 11am
June 17: Women, Wine, and the Word; SM, 7pm
July 9: Society Mass; SM, 10am
August 5: Society Mass; MC, 5pm
August 27: Parish Block Party, MC

Burial fund assists three veterans

This year, the Women's Society's Veterans Burial Fund assisted the families of three U.S. veterans with the resources to cremate their deceased loved one. The veterans are Michael White, Deanna Williams, and Arthur Williams. Veterans receive free interment at any national cemetery, but embalming or cremation services are not included. Linda Johnson of our Respect Life Committee said St. Paul VI Parish granted a special collection in May, and donations have been coming in. Please pray for the repose of the souls of these and all our deceased veterans.

Mother's Day May Crowning

On May 14, Carol Davidson crowned a statue of the Blessed Mother in Mater Christi Church, a tradition carried on by the Women's Society. The May crowning took place during 9:30 Mass, as the congregation sang "Immaculate Mary." Susan Storcel made lovely new silk flower crowns for the statue and for the Mother of Mothers Shrine.



Have fun helping at the block party



The St. Paul VI block party is planned for Sunday, Aug. 27. Organizer Matt Radek is looking for help from the Women's Society to staff the front end of the food booth. It's a fun vantage point to enjoy the party!

Volunteers will take tickets and transfer the food from grill to customer. Matt estimates that 2 women will be needed from 2:00-3:00, 3 women from 3:00-4:00, 3 or 4 women from 4:00-6:00, and 3 women from 6:00-7:00. A signup sheet will be available at our June 7 gathering!

Matt said, "The food booth is a busy place. There's a lot more sitting at the dessert table under the tent in front of the school. Take a ticket and give a treat! This is a 1-person job from 2:00-7:00 or until we run out!"

Ann Weber will once again lead the popular Cakewalk with her effervescent personality! We need bakers to sign up for cake and dessert prizes.

Women, Wine, and the Word

If you have never been to WW&W, it is a lot of fun getting to know other women along with praying, reading a Bible story, playing simple word games, and enjoying wine, cheese, and chocolate. Our last one till fall is Sat., June 17, at 7 p.m. in St. Mary's Oak Room. Read Luke 2:36-38 about Anna: How to Live a Life Devoted to God. RSVP by June 12 if possible at www.tinyurl.com/www61723 or call 708-224-9993.

Betty Crocker or Julia Child?

Members who attended our May 3 gathering voted for which portrayal or lecture they want historian-actress Leslie Goddard to present at our Sept. 6 gathering. It was a tie vote between Julia Child and Betty Crocker! The consensus was to have Leslie surprise us!

Keep In Your Prayers

Pray for healing for the sick members of our Society, including Del Burns, Carol Dvorak, Bern Gordus, Linda Johnson, JoAnne Kosey, Dolores Messlein, and Virginia Novak.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June

Ann Baikie Lauri Bukowski
Ida Clary Teresa Hall
Deborah Jensen Sue Kahler
Mary Lou Marchetti
Chris Tomeczko Myra Zak