

Whispers from the Auxiliary



Growing up in a home that blended two rich and vibrant cultures—having a Jewish father from Brooklyn and a Filipino mother who immigrated to California from the Philippines in 1972—I never could have predicted the spiritual journey that awaited me. Little did I know that the friends I made

while living and working at Whispering Winds from 2011 to 2017 would play such a pivotal role in my faith journey, ultimately leading me to my First Communion in 2013 and my Confirmation into the Catholic Church in 2014.

During my time at Whispering Winds, I had the privilege of welcoming countless retreat groups to the camp, sharing in their excitement and anticipation for the transformative experiences that awaited them. One of the most profound moments for me was being able to tell each group that the Whispering Winds Women’s Auxiliary had been praying for them every single day at 3:00 PM. Knowing that these faithful women, who had dedicated themselves to supporting the camp through prayer and service, were also lifting me up in their prayers brought me an immense sense of comfort and belonging. Their steadfast faith and unwavering support became a beacon of light on my spiritual path, gently guiding me closer to God.

Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that I would one day be entrusted with the honor of leading this beloved organization. Founded in 1988 by the visionary and faith-filled women Bernice Mascari and Kathy Brown, the Whispering Winds Women’s Auxiliary has been dedicated to supporting the camp through three fundamental pillars—faith, friendship, and fundraising. Their mission has remained steadfast: to provide a nurturing space where women can grow in their spiritual lives, foster deep and lasting friendships, and contribute to the continued success and expansion of the camp’s ministry.

The guiding scripture of the Women’s Auxiliary, Romans 8:28, beautifully encapsulates the essence of Whispering Winds:

“We know that God makes all things work together for the good of those who love God and are called to His purpose.”

Since the camp was first established in 1978 by the Kojis and Tisi families, along with their close friends who shared their vision, it has grown into a sacred haven where thousands of



“Called to His Purpose”

Romans 8:28

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individuals have encountered the presence of God in profound and life-changing ways. Whether it's through a silent moment of reflection amidst the towering pines, the joyful sounds of worship echoing through the hills, or the heartfelt conversations shared around a campfire, Whispering Winds has remained a place of renewal, healing, and divine connection.

The stories of those who have walked these grounds—stories of personal transformation, deepened faith, and newfound purpose—are a living testimony to the boundless love, faithfulness, and goodness of God. This camp is more than just a physical location; it is a sanctuary, a home away from home for all who seek spiritual nourishment, community, and an encounter with the divine.

As I reflect on my own journey, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the unexpected yet beautiful path that led me here. Whispering Winds has not only been the backdrop of my spiritual awakening but also the place where I discovered a second family—a community rooted in faith, love, and service. And as I continue to serve and walk alongside others on their own journeys, I am reminded, time and time again, that God truly does make

all things work together for good.

My theme for the year is Numbers 6:24-26:

'The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.'

Join me as we walk in God's abundant blessings, experience His grace, and embrace the peace that only He can give. May this year be filled with His presence, His guidance, and His unfailing love in every aspect of our lives.

In the spirit of joining, we have four open positions on the WWA Board of Directors: Vice President, Spiritual Events Co-Chair, Hospitality Chair and Hospitality Co-Chair. Please discern if you would like to step into one of these roles. If you feel called to one of these positions, please know that you will have the full support of the current Board and our community. One of my favorite truths about the WWA is that we are all walking together on our journeys with Jesus. Please call or text me if you would like to learn more about these opportunities. 619-929-4660

Annie Korn

WWA 2025 President

FAITH ♥ HOPE

Belated Happy St. Valentine's Day! It's February 14th as I'm writing this, so although it won't be read until a later date, I just wanted you all to know that I paused and said a special prayer for each and every one of you before I began this. :-)

We're currently 45 days into 2025 as well as 51 days into our Jubilee Year of HOPE. As I'm looking upon a Valentine card I was recently given I am feeling both very

hopeful and loved. The card had a beautiful text which stated:

GOD IS LOVE ♥
Love that delights...
redeems...restores.
Perfect love...
Patient love...
Forever love.

(continued on page 3)

FAITH HOPE (continued)

Although these are amazing and wonderful notions, they can also be challenging and hard for our human minds to fully comprehend. In theory my mind accepts and understands the fact that God is love. The fallen nature that causes us to be sinners, makes it hard to truly grasp and accept God's perfect, patient, forever love as well as His ability to redeem and restore us. Amazingly, He specifically did this for us through His unconditional, sacrificial love by suffering and dying on the cross for us!

In 1 John 4:19 we're also reminded that, *"We love him, because He first loved us."* This makes far more sense and seems so much easier to grasp because we know that God is the creator of both life and love. His love changes our hearts and makes us able to love others in the same way that He loves us.

With Lent nearly upon us, it's again time to determine our course of action for this penitential season. In the Joel 2:12 scripture reading for Ash Wednesday 2025, we'll encounter the Lord speaking to us in love by beckoning us to return to Him, "Even now," says the Lord, "return to me with your all your heart." He's not asking only Holy people to return to Him. He's asking each of us to seek Him with our whole hearts. God won't force His way into our hearts. He'll patiently wait to be invited by our invitation.

In the time when St. Matthew preached the Sermon on the Mount, he explained three ways in which we can turn our hearts to God. These three paths are known as the Three Pillars of Lent. They are almsgiving (Matthew 6:1-4), prayer (Matthew 6:5-15) and fasting (Matthew 6:16-18). A particular list of ways that Pope Francis himself suggests to fast are as follows:

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with

gratitude.

- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

When the above mentioned three pillars of Lent are incorporated into a person's life they should be drawn closer to the Crucified Lord. During Lent there will be many opportunities to take part in countless spiritual events and programs such as WWVA's own Lenten Morning of Reflection on March 8th. (See page 4). These will also assist in one's personal preparation for Easter, and will surely enrich you so please be sure to take advantage of as many of these as possible.

During this Jubilee Year of 2025 may your personal life and your Lenten journey be filled with MUCH HOPE and GREAT LOVE!

Your Servant Spiritual Director
Linda Crabtree



BEST LENT EVER

This Lent, join Matthew Kelly and nearly one million Catholics for a brand new consecration journey. Are you ready to experience God's mercy like never before?

BEST LENT EVER is a short, inspiring daily email program presented by Dynamic Catholic. This year, the program is truly unprecedented. It will take you and your family on a one-of-a-kind spiritual pilgrimage through 33 Days to Divine Mercy—a brand new consecration experience. The journey will inspire you to encounter God's mercy like never before. When you sign up, each day of Lent you will receive a short video right to your inbox with spiritual coaching from Matthew Kelly, **It's completely free.** All you need to do is click the button below or at BestLentEver.com to sign up. Just imagine what would happen if every single person at [name of parish] consecrated themselves to Divine Mercy. We hope you join us. Sign up today and prepare for an explosion of grace in your life!



Sign Up for Free

A Lenten Reflection: Merciful Love Makes Unity Possible!



*Presented by
Whispering Winds Women's Auxiliary
&
Claire Frazier-Yzaguirre, M.Div., MFT
Therapist, Speaker & Author*

Saturday, March 8, 2025
9:00am
St Pius X Church Hall
1120 Cuyamaca Ave
Chula Vista, CA 91911
Questions? kesa1@cox.net
or 619-504-7620

8am Mass if you'd like to join in
Event is free, adults only please

A free will offering will be available



WAY AND MEANS

We hope you have had a peaceful beginning to 2025! For those who haven't you are in our prayers. We are looking forward to our Lenten Reflection on March 8 th at St. Pius X in Chula Vista. We're hoping changing to a morning event will make this more accessible. Our Lenten Reflection will give us a great start to Lent.



Our WWVA Women's Retreat in May is in the planning stages. Our committee is again asking for your generous support by donating gift cards for our retreat raffle.

Your donations can be given to any of our committee members or dropped off at the

**Whispering Winds office:
4636 Mission Gorge Place, Suite 203
San Diego CA 92120**

Again, we appreciate your support.

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

MEMBERSHIP



We are having our annual membership drive. We wanted to welcome you to join this wonderful group of amazing faith filled women!

The annual renewal is \$30 or life membership is \$200.

Ask a friend, ask a neighbor, ask any faith filled woman you know to join .

Let them know of all the benefits of being a member:

- * Discounts on our May Retreat and Fall Brunch
- * Free Advent and Lenten evenings of reflection
- * PLUS you get to be part of a great group of faith-filled women who share a love for the Whispering Winds Camp!

Now is the perfect time to join, renew and/or invite a new member!

[Join or Renew Here](#)

Susan Galichon & Kelly Sinclair

ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION, DEC 2024

(submitted by Kesa Hopkins)

The Advent evening of reflection took place at a new location - Nativity Prep Catholic School in the college area. Our speaker was Alyssa Vasquez, who teaches religion and is the director of school ministry. We enjoyed about 100 people in attendance. We had a good will offering and gave Nativity Prep \$600!

Her presentation focused on "Waiting with Mary." Alyssa's talk started with reviewing that Advent is a time of waiting for our Savior to be born and waiting for the second coming of our Lord. She related this waiting to our personal lives with questions, such as: What you are waiting for? What are you longing for? We are all longing and waiting for something. Examples she shared were waiting for cashiers, Amazon packages, and slow drivers.

Alyssa incorporated what the church teaches us about waiting as in the sacred scripture, Mary, St. Augustine, and the catechism. She shared practical steps in managing "waiting" with prayer, community, gratitude and most importantly, surrender. With questions such as: What are you hoping for from God; what do you need to let go of and give to him; what steps can you take to start the process? She guided us through a meditation. A time to reflect on her questions and with one another in attendance.

It was beautifully decorated by Gloria and Marla, our hospitality committee chairs, and volunteers, with candles at the entrance and a beautiful nativity scene in front of the altar. Letty and the *Sisters in Song* provided the music to a magical evening in Waiting for Christ. There was an opportunity to take cookies home and a Christmas ornament from WFWA.

Everyone left filled with the spirit and the hopefulness of Christmas!



COOKIES BY PAULA

Baby! I'm the Lucky One!

At the 2024 October WWA's brunch I used 'BUY NOW' at the Silent Auction for the delightful cookie package offered by Board Member Paula Crowley! They were fabulous— they put the finishing touches on my Christmas party, I had my Second Annual 'Pizza, Prosecco and Nativity Party' for the group I traveled to the Holyland with 2 years ago. This time I offered Paula's adorable cookies for dessert: Jesus, Mary, Baby Jesus, shepherds, sheep, 3 Wise Men complete with golden crowns and gifts! They exceeded my expectations a hundred times! I can't even put it into words!



I believe Paula has a heart of gold and her 'Labor of Love' a ministry will touch your heart in a very special way! Not only does she support the Auxiliary, but she also donates to the Gala as well. I want to give my personal accolades to her and recommend that you too offer these exceptional—themed decorated sugar cookies. Your guests will be in awe:



Paula Crowley
Recording Secretary
AKA "The Cookie Lady"

Cookies by Paula
Paula Crowley
Phone: (619) 889-5282

Paula is a giver! Please support her artistry! I was overwhelmed. Bless you Paula.
You really out did yourself!

Love you special,
Vicki Youngers



SAVE THE DATE



*Whispering Winds
Women's Auxiliary
Presents:
Jenene Francis*

Encountering the Risen Christ

Experience familiar & new ways of praying as we ask for the grace to recognize encounters with the Risen Christ. There will be time for individual prayer and small group conversation, as well as opportunities for rest, refreshment, and sharing Easter joy.

SAVE THE DATE
May 16-18, 2025
Whispering Winds
Conference Center
Questions?
Contact Kesa
kesa1@cox.net or
619-504-7620



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2023 WWA GOVERENING BOARD

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Newsletter/ Graphic Designer	Tammy Knapp	knapptnt49@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Bradel	bradeldebbie9@gmail.com
**Membership Chair	Susan Galichon	susan@galichonlaw.com
Membership Co-Chair	Kelly Sinclair	ksincl505@cox.net
**Historian/Photographer Chair	Chris Villalobos	chrsvillalobos5@gmail.com

WWWA 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!