

St. Joseph Women's Society  
*Mary & Martha News*

March 2016

Columbia, SC

**Spiritual Growth**



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary\\_Untier\\_of\\_Knots](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Untier_of_Knots)

On February 20, women of the parish reflected on mercy with Sr. Gay Rowzie. Sr. Gay introduced Mary Untier of Knots. This Marian devotion is represented by an 18<sup>th</sup> century painting shown above. We are dependent on God's Grace and Mary's aid to recognize and untie the knots in our lives.

**Prayer to Mary, Untier of Knots**

Mary, faithful Mother, cast your eyes of compassion upon me and see the snarl of knots that exists in my life.

You know all the pain and sorrow caused by these tangled knots. I entrust into your hands the entire ribbon of my life.

Most holy Mother, pray for Divine assistance to come to my aid. Take into your maternal hands this day this knot (mention need).

Untangle it, once and for all, so that I might be free to love as Christ loves.

Mary, Untier of Knots, pray for me. Amen

**Columbia Deanery supports Seminarians**

The Columbia Deanery has been asked to support seminarians Will Frei and Patrick Judd through prayer and encouragement. St. Joseph Women's Society sent both seminarians a card and gift at Christmas time. You may want to send personal encouragement to these two seminarians.

Will Frei is in his Graduate Year. He is attending Theological College, 401 Michigan Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20017.

Patrick Judd is in second year of college. He is attending Holy Trinity Seminary, 3131 Vince Hagan Dr., Irving, Tx 75062.



**A Work At Home Project  
Help Needed**

Help is needed to scan past Women's Society records and store on a thumb drive. If you can help with this project contact Gwen Skipper, 345-2250.

*The Saint Joseph Women's Society are friends in faith who share the Gospel; serve the parish, community, and world; and mold strong Catholic women leaders.*

## Message from President

In February, we began a discussion of our working committees and how they support the goals of the National and South Carolina Council of Catholic Women, Spirituality, Service, and Leadership. In March, we will continue with the discussion of the Special Events committee activities. An expanded picture of the Women's Society will be offered in this discussion.

"Special Events" takes care of planning events that are one time or annual events. For 2016, Libit Woodington has agreed to coordinate two annual activities, the Tea Room Lunch fund raiser for Birthright in July, and the Memorial Celebration in November. There are a several events on the calendar for this year where we need members to step into leadership roles, the June summer social, the lunch for the Deanery meeting in September, the Chrismon tree decoration, and the Christmas Luncheon.

At the same time, it is really not too early to think about the scope of the General Meeting in January or Women's Retreat in Spring 2017. Everything we do requires someone to step up and provide the leadership.

Have no fear, the person who develops the plan doesn't complete the task without a team of willing assistants. I hope you will be available to contribute to the discussion at the March meeting. Give some thought to the possibility of your taking leadership for one of these special events or your willingness to step in where you can to assist in making one of these events a success. If you have questions feel free to contact me or one of the other officers.

**Gwen Skipper**

e-mail: [gwenskip@bellsouth.net](mailto:gwenskip@bellsouth.net);  
Phone: 345-2250

## Calendar

### March 19

Feast of St. Joseph

### March 20

SJWS Monthly Meeting after the 12:15 Mass in Ursuline Hall, Ministries and Administration Building. Light lunch served.

### April 5

Hearts Afire retreat "The One Thing is Three" begins, 6:15PM, Corley Room, MAB

### April 10

SJWS hosts Community Sunday

### April 17

SJWS Monthly Meeting after the 12:15 Mass, Light lunch served.

### April 24

Columbia Deanery Meeting, St. Martin de Porres

### April 26

Hearts Afire retreat "33 Days to Morning Glory" begins, 1:30 P M, Gilmore Senior Life Center (MAB)

### April 27

Hearts Afire retreat "33 Days to Morning Glory" begins, 6:30 P M, Donor Hall (MAB)

### May 1

May Procession: Our Catholic Woman of the Year Crowns the Blessed Mother.

## Save the Date

**The Women's Society SUMMER SOCIAL will be on June 4. Location to be determined.**

**A Note from Janet**

A Meditation on Psalm One

*Blessed is the one who does not walk in the  
counsel of the wicked,  
Nor stand in the way of sinners—  
Rather the law of the LORD,  
is his joy and on this law he meditates day  
and night.*

*That person is like a tree planted near  
streams of water,  
that yields its fruit in season;  
Its leaves never wither;  
whatever he does prospers.*

I have always been puzzled by the comparison of a man and a tree. But I came to the notion that a tree is nourished by roots, deep in fertile soil, causing blooms of evergreen leaves.

When I look out my window I see a loblolly tree near a creek, its long trunk topped in a broad span of greenery. Thus the comparison of a man and a tree becomes clear. A man who is nourished by the law of the Lord finds the meaning of joy and, *whatever he does prospers.*

Janet O' Keeffe



**2015 Dues Reminder**

Dues (\$20) should be sent to Treasurer, Beverly Stricklin at 5516 Lakeshore Dr, Apt. 601, Columbia, 29206. Or drop the check in the Sunday collection or at the church office in an envelope labeled "Women's Society". Please make checks payable to Saint Joseph Women's Society and include a message telling your e-mail address or if you prefer that information be sent to you by US Mail. A form on the last page of this newsletter can be used if you wish



**Hearts Afire  
Retreats**

Hearts Afire consists of two stages of retreats.

**Stage one** focuses on the Two Hearts. We begin with the Immaculate Heart, because Mary leads us to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The journey to the Immaculate Heart begins with the 33 Days to Morning Glory group-retreat program.

Two sequences of 33 Days to Morning Glory will be offered. The daytime sequence will begin on Tuesday afternoon, April 26 at 1:30PM in the Gilmore Senior Center of the Ministries Building. An evening sequence begins on April 27 at 6:15PM in Donor Hall of the Ministries Building. This six week retreat includes independent reading, video talks by Fr. Gaitley, and group discussion.

The **stage two** retreats focus on wisdom and works of mercy. We begin Stage Two with The 'One Thing' Is Three and its accompanying group-study program. The purpose of Stage Two is to give group members a kind of crash-course in Catholic theology and to offer various opportunities, ideas, and support for works of mercy.

The "One Thing" is Three retreat begins April 5 at 6:15PM in the Ministries Building. This retreat discovers how the Most Holy Trinity explains everything. With humor and ease, Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, deftly unlocks the "one thing," the key to the Church's wisdom, and the greatest mystery of the Catholic faith: the Most Holy Trinity. The 'One Thing' is Three makes deep theology accessible to everyday Catholics. An ideal resource for all who want to learn, love and live their faith. This ten week retreat includes independent reading, video talks by Fr. Gaitley, and group discussion.

A Registration form for the The 'One Thing' is Three retreat is on the next page.

Registration for the "33 Days to Morning Glory" retreats will begin after April 10.

**Sign up for a Hearts Afire Retreat  
The 'One Thing' is Three**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate materials needed:

Retreat Guide - Cost \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Retreat Companion - Cost \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total included \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made to St. Joseph Women's Society.  
Put check and Sign up form in an envelope Labeled Women's Society and drop in the  
Sunday Collection or at the Parish Office

If you have questions contact Gwen Skipper at 803-345-2250 or [gwenskip@bellsouth.net](mailto:gwenskip@bellsouth.net).

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**2015 Membership Registration Form**

Saint Joseph Catholic Church-Women's Society  
Membership Registration Form

Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address : \_\_\_\_\_

**Check if you do not use e-mail and want M& M to be mailed to you.**

Dues \$20.00 for year \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks to Saint Joseph Women's Society and mail to Treasurer  
Beverly Stricklin  
5516 Lakeshore Dr. Apt. 601,  
Columbia, 29206.