

Northwestern Region Newsletter Fall Issue 2017

# TEAMS OF OUR LADY

# **CONTACTS**

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Upcoming

# **EVENTS**

Boise ID 03 Retreat Sunday, Nov 12 Our Lady of the Rosary

Portland Sector A Retreat
April 20-22, 2018
Mt Angel Abbey

International Conference Fatima July 16-21, 2018

National Conference July 16-19, 2019

# INCOMING LEADERSHIP TEAM





ROGER & LYNN PORZIG NW REGION

HAROLD & GINNY MCNEES PORTLAND SECTOR B

MARTIN & ANA KEIM PORTLAND SECTOR A

2018 will bring several changes to the NW Region....not only within the leadership structure of Teams, as we have talked much about the Sector Team and Liaison Couples over the past two years, now being implemented, but you will see also new faces. Roger & Lynn Porzig as NW Regional Couple, and the incoming Portland Sector A & B Couples, will be installed on April 22 at Mt Angel Abbey. Martin & Ana Keim, Portland OR Sector A, and Harold & Ginny McNees, Portland OR Sector B, attended the Sector Couple Training in Fredericksburg, Texas this past summer and are now in the process of forming Sector Teams for their respective Sectors. Both couples have expressed the desire to have all teams represented on their Sector with couples supporting them in a variety of roles, so that all teams are connected and the Sectors supported in many ways. Critical to teams are Liaison Couples, now being introduced and soon to be connected with each team.

We are praying for you all as we go forward! Please do say YES if called to take a more active role in teams... we need all of you to be the light of Teams shining out into the world...just as the apostles said YES to Jesus and began to spread the word about our Lord!!!

Paul & Monique Harris Northwestern Regional Couple



As we transition our role to Ana and Martin Keim, we ask that you continue to pray for a successful transition and give prayers of thanksgiving for them stepping up for the role. We ask that you prayerfully consider some of the new roles that are being worked on to create a Sector team.

As you are considering your end of the year donations, we ask that you be willing to give money to support our teams movement and participate in the annual contribution. Most importantly, as we go into this season of giving Thanks, we also want to remember to give daily thanks for the joy, blessings and gifts we receive from being part of *Teams of Our Lady!* 

Gerard & Anna DeBlois
Portland OR Sector A

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Calling all couples...

Spread the good news of Teams!

There are 3 couples who are on the wait list to form a **new West Linn 03**... please if you know of a couple who might be interested in joining teams, please do encourage them to join...

Oregon City Couples, take note:

**Saturday, Dec 16, 7 pm -** Come meet and get acquainted with other Team Couples at our SJA Teams Christmas Social hosted by Bob Wendling & Charleen Lang!

RSVP mistilang@aol.com

We are asking for one or two couples from each team to help out at these events:

**Sunday, Dec 17**- couples from each Oregon City team will assist with Coffee & Donuts on Dec 17 after the 8:300 and 10:30 masses.

Wednesday, March, 17- Oregon City Teams are responsible to help with the FUN dinner.

# Celebrate!



# **Portland Sector A Anniversaries**

### <u>October</u>

Portland 1	Deacon Chuck & Carol Amsberry	Oct 1, 1988
Portland 7	Steve & Jen Mahoney	Oct 13, 2007
Portland 8	Jim and Carissa Raleigh	Oct 25, 2003

## November

Portland 2	Robert & Mary Gonzales	Nov 4 1989

## December

Portland 2	Mike & Dede Grosso	Dec 17, 1994
Portland 4	Richard Oulette & Reina Pelaez	Dec 12, 2002
Portland 5	Martin and Ana Keim	Dec 21,2002
Portland 1	Mike & Peggy Flanigan	Dec 21, 1985
Coeur d'Alene 1	Charlie and Peggy Hodge	Dec 30, 2000

## Portland OR Sector B

# October Oregon City 3 Ryan & Kristin Lillie Oct 9, 2004

Tacoma 1 W A	Christopher & Allison Kinyon	Oct 10, 2009
Tacoma 1 W A	Jim & Sarah Lubitz	Oct 23, 2010
Redmond 01	Ron & Donna Jensen	Oct 23, 1999
November		
Tacoma 1 W A	Trevor & Rebekah Hanlin	Nov 19, 2010
Redmond 01	Jim & Connie Busse	Nov 21, 1964
<b>5</b>		

## **December**

Oregon City 3	Tim & Shuana Woodward	Dec 23, 1998
Oregon City 1	Harold & Ginny McNees	Dec 31, 2003

# **Boise ID Pre-Sector Sector**

# October

Boise 01	Sam & Allen Graffe	Oct 8, 2016
Boise 04	Dave & Deb Cereghino	Oct 12, 1991
Boise 04	Dave & Peggy Jones	Oct 19, 1985
Boise 03	Kayla and Derek Hudson	Oct 19, 2013
Boise 04	Jan & Ed Camp	Oct 30 1987

# Welcome to our new Boise 04 Team!!!

Deacon Bob Barros-Bailey
Jan & Ed Camp
Dave & Deb Cereghino
Dave & Peggy Jones
Victor & Nicole Sanchez
Eric & Erica Stadler



This was our first time attending the Rosary Bowl. The highlights for us were the Mass, the traveling Our Lady of Fatima statue, and of course sharing the event with Team couples. Roger found the Eucharistic Miracles of the World Display intriguing and I was particularly moved when the veil of Our Lady of Fatima was placed on my head as I bowed before her. Many blessings for Teams were prayed for and received!



Finally, draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power. Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens.

Eph 6: 10-1



# FIDELITY & FRIENDSHP & FUN = OREGON CITY 01 TEAM!

After 9-1/2 years as a Team, the seven couples who comprise Oregon City 01 Team (OC-1) are no strangers to long distance travel when it comes to attending monthly meetings or the annual Marriage Retreat. In a somewhat unusual scenario, it's not every couple who would travel 3- hours from Central Oregon to attend monthly Teams meetings in Western Oregon. But shortly after the OC#1 Team formed, one couple, Barry & Penny Greig, decided to retire and relocate to Redmond. Remarkably, the Greigs have exemplified fidelity to the Team by traveling long distance to attend each monthly meeting.

And, the rest of the Team thoroughly enjoys the reverse: driving over to visit the Greigs, the host couple, for their annual marriage retreat. These six couples are: Bill & Doris Allen, Dave & Sherry Brost, Tom & Kathy Call, Don & Kathy LeBlanc, Ryan & Jocelyn Mainard, and Harold & Ginny McNees. What makes this Team special is that they have one couple with 6 young children and another couple has high school aged kids. Some of the other couples are retired, and there are those who work. So the ability to arrange all work/family schedules for seven couples is nothing short of a miracle!

During the weekend of October 20-23, all the members of the Team travelled 3 hours to meet up in Redmond for their annual retreat. One might think all seven couples gather together to relax, renew and unwind from busy schedules. However, OC#1 is different: they organize a 'structured' but flexible retreat that includes eating good food, prayer, reflection, singing, presentation of chapters of the current study book, and plenty of downtime, too. The surrounding Eagle Crest area has many walking /biking trails.

This year two new elements were added: a retreat song/theme and live music via guitar playing. The retreat song was 'Refiner's Fire" which touched on the theme of the study book: growing in holiness.

Each morning began with group prayer and singing.

The OC#1 Team is very organized and on top of things.

For retreat purposes, each year the Team decides which month to meet in Redmond typically in October. To assist the six couples traveling, the Greigs prearrange finding a house to rent in the Eagle Crest Community, and make arrangements with the owners, etc. The location of the house is always in close proximity to the host couple's home. All the couples lodge together.

Months prior to the retreat, each couple decides which chapter(s) of the most current study book to present to the group as both a refresher and reminder of the salient points of the study topic. Couples decide which meal they want to fix for the group. As the time draws nearer to the retreat, each couple will inform the group what they intend to serve. This helps prevent duplication in meals.





# HOW TO BE HOLY: First Steps In Becoming A Saint by Peter Kreeft

A Festooning of Abandonment To
Divine Providence

Abandonment To Divine Providence by Jean-Pierre de Caussade was written more than 250 yrs ago



# Team Oregon City 01 <u>Retreat Topic</u>

# How to Be Holy: First Steps in Becoming a Saint

This year the Team read, *How to Be Holy: First Steps in Becoming a Saint,* by Peter Kreeft. Each couple signed up to give a presentation lasting no more than 45 minutes. The presentations are held upstairs in our host's home in an upstairs room (which has a gorgeous view outdoors!)—which can accommodate 14 people comfortably. The Team is free to be creative or not with their presentations. Presentations can be high-tech using PowerPoint, or low-key. It doesn't matter. Reflection questions are sometimes used to allow each couple to go off by themselves to discuss, and then return to share their insights with the group.

All meals are organized much as a monthly team meeting. The Greigs greeted the Team with a delicious dinner on Friday evening. Then each couple will take turns throughout the weekend preparing breakfasts, lunches, and dinner over the course of 2 days.

Mass attendance is included at St Thomas Catholic Church in Redmond.

During the annual retreat, the Team also prepares to select the next study topic. Typically at the July Social, a reminder is given by the RC about selecting a new study topic in the fall. After taking the month of August off, in September at the monthly meeting, couples will bring books for consideration and they are placed in a book bag which 'travel's' to each couple for review. Each couple is encouraged to notate on a pad of paper their opinions about the books in question and indicate which book they would prefer to use.

And as if that isn't enough, the Team has its own online 'closed' website to refer to for all important information: Team roster of members home addresses, contact information, email addresses, anniversary dates, etc. The Hosting & Food Assignment schedule is listed for the entire year. Teams of Our Lady national and international websites are listed as well—excellent resources of information! A Prayer Wall is also included, too. Lastly, the Team strive to through practicing the 'Endeavors' but sometimes a little help is needed. So, at monthly Team meeting, sometimes a Team Challenge is issued. A specified date is agreed upon for each couple to hold a 'Sit-down' — AND to email the group when they have done this. It certainly helps spur one another on. Also listed on the website will be pertinent information regarding the entire Retreat schedule.

# Joining Teams of Our Lady ... One Year Later

One year ago, my husband and I had been talking about craving more support for Catholic couples during various stages of life (particularly the married-with-young-children phase we were in that often felt fairly isolating!) Shortly after offering up prayers about this void, we got an answer in the form of a Facebook invitation from Jake Ineck, a youth ministry friend I hadn't seen in over a decade. The invitation was for a nopressure meeting to talk about joining a monthly small faith community for Catholic couples. Although we felt like we'd be the awkward newbies who hardly knew anyone, and definitely knew we didn't have room for one more thing in our schedule — we were unquestionably moved to attend.

At our first formal Teams of Our Lady meeting, we were welcomed wholeheartedly for dinner at the Ineck's home. Our Team of six couples was a random blend of strangers and old friends, but we blended together from the very first night like a tribe that was meant to connect. We laughed about the roller coaster of raising young children and prayed for the special intentions that filled each other's lives. There's something special about praying as a group that interlaces your hearts — and that's exactly what we've found. Over the past year, we've been continually reminded of how blessed we are to have found this community, and our faith has been renewed and challenged in all the ways we prayed that it would. We've welcomed and showered three new babies within our Team with plenty of love, helped each other move, offered prayer during challenging events, and continued to meet and build our faith over a simple meal each month. For our annual retreat endeavor, we enjoyed a weekend in the mountains this summer where we were able to dive deeper into our relationships with each other, and with God. Our prayer for Catholic marital support was answered in the form of this incredibly unique group, The Teams of Our Lady, and we plan to continue our journey for years to come.

Anna & Nate Gamel,

Teams of Our Lady, Boise ID Team 01



# CHARTER of the TEAMS OF OUR LADY

We live in an age of contrasts. On the one hand, divorce, adultery and selfishness in marriage are increasing; yet on the other, the number of married couples who aspire to a thoroughly Christian life is growing...

December 8th, 2017
will mark the 70th
anniversary of the
Teams Charter.
Will you be celebrating
this event?





page 6

# Excerpts from Chantilly Conference talk by Fr. Henri Caffarel Sunday May 3, 1987

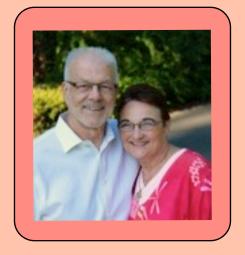
(This is a very short excerpt given by Fr Caffarel on that day).

"The idea from the very beginning (was) to discover God's thinking on the couple, and on everything concerning the couple. And I think we hit on one of the fundamental elements of the founding charisms, so much so, that we made a list of all the elements which go to make up the life of the couple and the life of the family, and we said that we would seek to discover God's will on each of these elements in turn".

The second orientation and all of them (the original four couples) without exception, had no difficulty with the thought that their vocation was holiness and holiness seemed to them to be the flowering of love, the completion of their conjugal love and of their love of Christ. And then, this thought immediately led them to discover in a wholly new way the sacrament of marriage, not just a formality, but a source of prodigious grace; Christ coming to save love, ailing since original sin, and bringing to it much needed help and huge graces.

Formally, in the Church, one only saw the **individual**; one reacted as if the whole point of creation, of God's great enterprise in creating the universe, the point, the supreme point, the perfection of God's work was the individual: one forgot completely these lines in Genesis "God created man in His image, in the image of God he created him, man and woman He created them, and they shall be one flesh." The summit of the pyramid, is not the individual, it is the **couple**. This is something new, and the Movement should oblige the Church to revise somewhat its anthropology and its conception of things".

"The founding and development of the Teams of Our Lady in the Church is a great Church event. Before 1939 there was not in the Church any group of couples; there were innumerable groups of individuals, but groups of couples, there were none. It was something altogether unusual, there could not have been any such groups precisely because couples had not had the experiences of which we have been speaking".



Rob and Sharla Walsh. Western Provincial Couple emmettwalsh@me.com



Many of the writings of Father
Henri CAFFAREL, Founder of
Teams of Our Lady, are now on
www.teamsofourlady.org. Click
HERE to view his letters.



# Let Us Remember in Our Prayers...



- -Agnieska is a homeschooling mom of seven who has lung cancer;
- -Nephew Jeff who has had a mini stroke;
- -Nephew Logan, who broke his femur a few weeks with complications following surgery;
- -Gary's recovery from an infection;
- -15 year old Cora in critical condition, as a 4-wheeler rolled over her;
- -10 year old Reese who got a gun shot to the face in an accident;
- -Couples with serious marital problems;
- -Friend with 3 small children and a serious medical condition;
- -Tom recovering from mental illness;.
- -Family members facing a difficult time ahead;
- -Bibi, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer;
- -Landon's father who is in rapidly declining health;
- -Alysia, a young mother, diagnosed with an untreatable form of dementia;
- -Jeff, for recovery from blood clots, amputation, and accompanying pain;
- -Judy, Prayer Line Coordinator, for healing with her crushed and fractured wrist bones;
- -in thanksgiving for Yarisa & Eric, now home together after dealing with many trials traveling to/from Puerto Rico. For the repose of the soul of Yarisa's father and prayers for all the family. Please continue to pray for all who are dealing with the effects of the severe weather this year.

Please pray that God's love is ever present for family members facing a difficult time ahead, and that He gives all patience and wisdom and strength. We never face challenges and struggles alone!

According to Sr. Lucia, the visionary of Fatima, Our Lady foretold that "final battle between the Lord and the kingdom of Satan will be about marriage and the family. Do not be afraid, ... because anyone who works for the sanctity of marriage and the family will always be fought and opposed in every way, because this is the decisive issue."

# Post from:

# Catholic Priests on fire for the Faith

Fr. John Zuhlsdorf, Fr. Z's Blog

# Married Couples. Listen up:

We could all avoid a lot of sins and a lot of conflict by keeping our mouths shut more often. Weigh your words.

Be cheerful. Joy is a Fruit of the Holy Spirit. When you cannot detect or show joy, that's probably a sign that you have spiritual maintenance to do. This joy is not the blithering gaiety of the foolish: *risus abundant in ore stultorum*.

Speak well of and kindly to each other.

Read Scripture. Read especially Ephesians about spouses. Pay close attention to Paul's wise admonition, "Let not the sun go down upon your anger."

Ask your Guardian angels to help you in every conflict.

In charity, you must strive always make the sacrifice needed for the other's *true* good.

Thank God – on your knees – for the gift of the vocation of marriage. Really. *Get down on your knees* and say, "Thank you, God, for giving me my vocation and my spouse." Never forget that you two are one flesh now. You are you and you are also "we".

Be who you are, and never think again about being anything else until the day you draw your last breath.

Eat meals together, at a table. Talk. And then let there be silences.

When you look at your spouse and at your children, consciously remind yourself that each one is a gift. And if you do not, in sorrow, have children, remind yourself that God knows you better than you know yourselves and that He doesn't allow burdens without giving the strength to bear them. You may have another path when it comes to children.

Anything worth doing well in life requires suffering, patience and practice. You have to *practice* being married, by living marriage. You will be under attack, so you must plan your tactics for when you being to suffer, and you will suffer. Embrace your crosses.

Listen to the good advice of older people.

When real trials come or sudden frustrations strike, say what Job said and say it with a smile: "Blessed be the name of the Lord!"

# Heavenly Father,

You have created me to know, love, and serve you. Help me to desire what you desire for me. I pray that you send the Holy Spirit into my mind, my heart, and my soul, so that I will have the courage to follow you in all things. Mary, my Mother, help me to say 'Yes' to God's will as you did. Jesus, my Lord and Savior, help me to love as you love.

Amen

Excerpt from the Vocation Prayer from the Archdiocese of Portland