Northwestern Region Newsletter Winter Issue 2018

TEAMS OF OUR LADY

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Upcoming

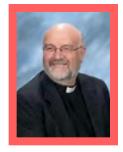
#### **EVENTS**

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

Portland Sector B Retreat Oct 19-21, 2018 Griffin Center

International Gathering July 16-21, 2018 Fatima

National Conference July 16-19, 2019



# WHAT IS THE CHARISM OF YOUR MARRIAGE?

I do not know if you have been asked that question before or not, but for those of us in Teams it is an important question because if we are not sure of the answer then that would mean that we are probably floundering in some way as a married couple.

At the end of every Mass we are commissioned to go forth and be the presence of Jesus in our world. This is the responsibility of every Christian but for those of you living within the Sacrament of Marriage and even more so for you in the Teams movement you have been given the responsibility to do this as a couple. I'm sure that each of you have individual charisms, but how are they combined or are they not connected to the marital charism that best shows forth within your union?

Why is it important to articulate our marital charism? One of the things that drives me crazy is the belief that our actions are speaking loudly to those around us. I believe that if we are unsure of how we are living our married life then how is it possible to give a clear and concise example to our children and to the community around us? But if we do have clear understanding of our Charism it will become much easier for us to communicate that way of loving to those around us and we will find it easier to speak to them about the planned way we are living out our sacrament.

As I look at the small Team I'm on how do I see their charisms? Well, one couple is a magnet for anyone who is sick in any way. They know as many sick folks as any doctor might and immerse sick folks in their marital love. Another couple is in love with those entering the church and spend their time nurturing those in the learning/toe testing process. Another couple is deeply involved in social justice issues and attempt to bring the rest of us up to speed and help us see how this is bringing the kingdom to life.

May your charism flame fully,

Fr Díck Rossman Northwestern Regional Counselor

News from sector A

Please let us first introduce ourselves. This is Martin and Ana Keim from Portland 05,



your new Sector Couple for Portland A. We took over the responsibilities in January from Gerard and Anna DeBlois also from our team. However, our installation is not until April 22nd during mass at the end of the sector retreat. We hope you all have already signed up for the retreat! We would like to thank Gerard and Anna for their dedication to *Teams of Our Lady* and for staying in office for one extra year until their replacement was found.

There are important changes happening in our sector, actually in all sectors of *Teams of Our Lady* all over the United States. Starting this year, the Sector Couple receives help in form of a Sector Team, a group of couples from the teams in the sector. Together they share all responsibilities and tasks that come with running a Sector of *Teams of Our Lady*. Such Sector Teams are common in Teams organizations in most other countries. The United States was an exception to the rule. Sector Teams have proven their value to the Teams organization and are now being re-introduced in the US.

(Read more about Portland Sector A Team on next page.)

Martín & Ana Keím Portland OR Sector A

News from Sector B

HAROLD & GINNY MCNEES Portland Sector B Couple



Harold & Ginny McNees had a marvelous interview on Catholic Radio KVBM 88.3 FM with Dina Marie Hale. Leading up to Marriage Week and Valentine's Day, the topic for the morning featured Marriage Ministries, such as Retrouville, Marriage Encounter, and our Movement, *Teams of Our Lady*. Harold and Ginny's passion for Teams was evident... We are VERY excited to have such a dynamic couple on board as our Portland Sector B Couple! Yea!!!







#### **Portland Sector A Anniversaries**

| <u>January</u><br>Portland 7                              | Bernard & Julie Reksopuro  | Jan 31, 2004                                       |
|---|--|--|
| <u>February</u><br>Portland 03                            | Gene & Sharon Climer   | Feb 10, 1996                                       |
| <u>March</u><br>Portland 01                               | Scott & Janie Selby  | Mar 28, 1981                                       |
| <u>April</u><br>Portland 01<br>Portland 03<br>Portland 02 | Steve & Leslie Rainey<br>John & Sandy Shepherd<br>Phil & Lisa McGuigan | April 21, 1979<br>April 21, 1990<br>April 29, 1989 |

#### **Portland Sector B Anniversaries**

| <u>January</u><br>Coeur d'Alene 4<br>Oregon City 02<br>Redmond 01             | Wayne & Michelle Hash<br>Mike & Mamie Dec<br>Rob & Sharla Walsh                        | Jan 3, 1998<br>Jan 23, 1971<br>Jan 11, 1969                 |
|---|--|---|
| <mark>February</mark><br>Oregon City 01<br>Coeur d'Alene 4<br>Coeur d'Alene 4 | Tom & Kathy Call<br>Marc & Susan Andrews<br>Jim & Staci Sanborn                        | Feb 2,1974<br>Feb 18,1990<br>Feb 20,1999                    |
| April<br>Gresham 02<br>West Linn 01<br>West Linn 02<br>Oregon City 04         | Jim & Sylvia Boyce<br>Joe & Jill Mohr<br>Dan & Anne Zieldorf<br>Daniel & Julie Bennett | Apr 1, 1967<br>Apr 16, 1983<br>Apr 18, 1969<br>Apr 25, 2003 |

#### **Boise Pre-Sector Anniversaries**

| <mark>February</mark><br>Boise 02         | Lori & Todd Meyer  | Feb 4,2007                                   |
|---|--|--|
| April<br>Boise 02<br>Boise 03<br>Boise 01 | Josh & Meredith Dickson<br>Katie & Victor Vincent<br>Anna & Nate Gamel | Apr 10, 2010<br>Apr 17, 2009<br>Apr 18, 2009 |

#### Welcome Boise 05!

Greg & Laura Franz Jon & Carlie Lausen David & Stephanie Renk Kevin & Katie Shunta Anna & Tony Swart



## Introducing: New Sector Team for Portland Sector A

MARTIN & ANA KEIM PORTLAND A <u>SECTOR TEAM</u> P-1 Mike & Peggy Flanigan P-2 Robert & Mary Gonzales P-3 Gene & Sharon Climer P-4 Bob & Denise Tomasovic P-5 Gerard & Anna DeBlois P-7 Paul & Christine Roth

In Formation Tigard-1 Joe & Jill Mohr

LIAISON COUPLES \*Mike & Peggy Flanigan \*Robert & Mary Gonzales \*Bob & Denise Tomasovic \*Joe & Jill Mohr

<u>PILOT COUPLES</u> \*Gene & Sharon Climer Dave & Theresa Schierman Paul & Christine Roth

#### **INFORMATIONAL COUPLES**

\*Paul & Christine Roth \* Gerard & Anna DeBlois Lonnie & Jill Lafave Deacon Chuck & Carol Amsberry Mike & Jackie Purcell

\* Sector Team couples All couples will be invited to the first Sector A Meeting Your Sector Team has many responsibilities. Together we strive to improve the communication between the teams of the Sector and to the greater organization of Teams, we plan and run information meetings throughout the sector to gain new couples, pilot new teams, organize training for the Responsible Couples, and assist your team in trying to improve. To cover all these tasks the members of the Sector Team signed up for a particular responsibility. **Gene and Sharon Climer** from Team Portland 03 are coordinating all piloting activities. They receive help through two piloting couples: **Mike and Peggy Flanigan** from Portland 01, and **Dave and Theresa Schierman** also from Portland 01.

All information events are synchronized by **Paul and Christine Roth** from Portland 07. They are supported by **Lonnie and Jill Lafave**, Portland 02, **Deacon Chuck and Carol Amsberry**, Portland 04, **Gerard and Anna DeBlois** from Portland 05, and **Mike and Jackie Purcell**, from our new team Tigard 01. Finally, we have the new role of Liaison Couple. One of the Liaison Couple's responsibilities is to get familiar with your team by visiting your team meeting once or twice a year, and in the process, helping your team to become closer to the organization. Through the Liaison Couple, we communicate all important information between the larger organization of Teams and your particular team. The following couples have agreed to be our Liaison Couples: **Mike and Peggy Flanigan** from Portland 01, **Robert and Mary Gonzales**, Portland 02, **Bob and Denise Tomasovic**, Portland 04, and **Joe and Jill Mohr** from Tigard 01.

The Sector Team's mission during the first year of our three-year-term is to figure out this Sector Team idea and putting it in action. Please pray for us and the Sector Team's members so that our actions will benefit you, your team, and the greater organization of Teams in the US.

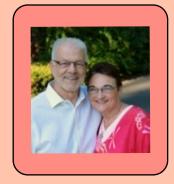
If you have any questions about the new Sector Team or just want to get in touch with us, please drop us an email at <u>martinandanakeim@comcast.net</u>. We are looking forward hearing from you.



Fr. Caffarel History:

Born: Baptized : Ordained: Died:

7/30/1903 8/03/1903 4/30/1903 9/18/1996



Rob & Sharla Walsh are the new Correspondent Couple for the USA Super Region for the coordination or liaison of information between the ERI and the USA Super Region regarding Fr. Henri Caffarel and the canonization process he is undergoing.

Fr. Caffarel has written many books and Jean Allemand has written one about the life of Henri Caffarel, as well, called: A Man Gripped by God. We are trying to make these available so that the USA Teams members can get to know and understand Fr. Caffarel as a person and as a "prophet of marriage". The 97 Letters on Prayer are on the US website, www.teamsofourlady.org, under the link for Fr. Caffarel. We are working on other writings of his. He, actually, preferred interviews to writing, but felt compelled to write his thoughts and teachings down as he became unable to meet with all of the Teams members who approached him individually. Thank goodness for that, or we would have hardly any information on him, in remote places and throughout the world where his concepts have spread, even since his death.

"Your love without demands diminishes me. Your demands without love discourage me. Your demanding love makes me grow." *Fr Heni Caffarel* 

## Fr. Henri Caffarel

Fr. Caffarel was a master of

prayer and a prophet of marriage. He wanted to be understood by everyone so that the grace of God's love might be alive in everyone. He wanted everyone to understand the grandeur of marriage, which is still a great concern today, in Teams and in the Church. His whole aim in life was to be a "servant of love", and in doing so, to bring everyone into God's presence....to know, love, and serve Him. His desire was, "to bring every person before the Lord, who is the source of all vocations". Because of his great love for and relationship with Christ, he felt totally comfortable in communion with those first couples, who approached him about pursuing Christ in and through their sacrament of matrimony. He saw that their sacrament was totally complimentary to his because of their great love for each other and for Christ. All of them wanted to journey toward, and seek, holiness in their lives.

The great charism and mystique of Teams was an overpowering enthusiasm and passion for "love". They would stay up and share this enthusiasm into the wee hours of the morning; just as the early Turlock couples expressed that they had done in their first meetings. Love is infectious and grows and radiates out of us to those around us. It's all about God who is "Love". Fr. Caffarel said, "The demands of holiness concern you. In order to respond to them you have your very own sacrament, marriage. It is a source of grace".

His writings are part of his legacy and will become more wellknown in and through his canonization. He was very humble about his life and accomplishments. He said, "There is no need for more discussion, one obeys, one works, one doesn't become bigheaded because one has rendered service, and when it's finished, one leaves...."

His whole life was offered to God in the service of "Love". Teams of Our Lady is all about God. Therefore, when we are called by God to serve love, we must say "yes", and follow Him! He and the Blessed Mother will guide us and give us anything we lack in order to get the job done and get us to the Son.

> Rob & Sharla Walsh NW Provincial Couple

The New Team Celebration will be coming soon to the NW Region with all our newest teams in Boise & Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Redmond & Oregon City, Oregon

#### New Team Celebration

Fargo, North Dakota

We had a beautiful fall weekend to travel north to Fargo with Jorge and Noelia joining us on the trip. (Holy Spirit moment-the next weekend turned bitterly cold with snow and travel advisories.)

The best parts of the weekend were many. Jorge and Noelia were the celebrities and the connection to the rest of the movement in the United States. They flew into the Minneapolis airport where they were hosted overnight by the Sector couple which was another touchstone for the newest sector in the North Central region. The Fargo gathering was the first time anyone there except the Sector couple had met them and they were very honored to host them. So great connections. Fr Ermer's talk on Who Guide's us was excellent as a Teams chaplain and promoter of Teams. The organization of the weekend by the Sector couple and most of their Teams was awesome. The host families, babysitting, the food crew, and parish help were evidence of a unified sector that works together. The overall welcoming of the NTC Team was warm which we felt was an openness to the larger movement. There were many indications of good piloting from responses from the couples during the weekend. Several of the activities we did were very effective including a rope braiding exercise for team building and a Jeopardy game based on Team organization on all levels. Saturday was a full day with Mass ending followed by a potluck with other Teams invited.

The New Team Celebration is not a retreat but a time to celebrate the completion of piloting with other couples who have also recently completed piloting. This allows all on a smaller scale to experience the greater movement of Teams. It not only a time of celebration but all allows all to have a review of the charter, endeavors, format and structure. Friday evening was one presentation and activity followed by a social and music. Saturday was a full day with Mass ending followed by a potluck with other Teams invited. We learn and grow by doing and we continue by asking the Spirit to guide us. Blessings to you as you move forward in this pursuit.

Steve & Glynis Sturm Central Regional Couple





Jorge & Noélia Sousa, Super-Regional Couple





Ed & April Mitchell, Team 9 Fargo, North Dakota



## A Look back to 2017

Looking over the past year we realize how blest we are by the many team couples that we have grown to know and love. Last March we were excited about the upcoming events, the Portland Sector A Retreat with Fr Loya, the Archdiocese Ministry Forum on Theology of the Body, and the Vocation Rally for 6th graders, at which *Teams of Our Lady* represented the vocation of marriage. With the sudden death of my mother, several team couples came to our support in our absence at these events.

We have grown to know and love many couples in the Boise area. We traveled to Boise, Idaho a year ago in February to speak at Holy Apostle Parish about the beauty of *Teams of Our Lady* to potential team couples. Several couples came together to form a 4th team in November. Then in January of this year we gave a mock team meeting to several couples at the home of Jake & Yesenia Ineck. We now have 5 teams, 2 of which we are currently piloting! Jake & Yesenia have been instrumental in the growth of teams in the "Treasure Valley" community and we are forever indebted to them for their support and love.

In July of 2017 *Teams of Our Lady* sponsored 3 new couples for Sector Couple training in Fredericksburg, Texas, Andrew & Natasha Furphy, Martin & Ana Keim, and Harold & Ginny McNees. Since then we have held Liaison & Informational Couple Training Meetings for both Portland Sectors A & B and now are blest with the many couples who are now helping to support Teams in their Sectors, at their parishes, and in their communities.

Paul & Monique Harrís NW Regional Couple



Roger & Lynn Porzig NW Region

## Words from our Incoming Regional Couple

We have been shadowing Paul & Monique for the past year in preparation of becoming the NW Regional Couple. Our region has seen much growth. The formation of Sector Teams makes so much sense. Sector Teams will enrich individual teams and facilitate the formation of new teams. We are also pleased with the efficiency of the national Teams website (teamsofourlady.org) and have already updated our information by simply logging in. If you haven't done so, please do!

Roger & Lynn Porzíg

## **Building Community with Teams**

# A path: to evangelize the good news within parishes and communities

There are many ways to evangelize the good news of Teams, within parishes and the community you live in. We've listed a few Evangelize Soup & Stations Coffee & Donuts Christmas Socials Sector Picnics and more...

examples to the right so to increase the visibility and awareness of *Teams of Our Lady* within your parish. There are also opportunities within your communities by participating in events supporting marriage events in your diocese. In the Portland Archdiocese, check out the Marriage & Family Office <u>website</u>, for opportunities to connect and support marriages & families. Make *Teams of Our Lady* 

# A Teams Christmas Party—Building Community

Why would we want to invite people (couples) we didn't know to our home during the Christmas Season? At first, it was a daunting thought, but a little voice inside me kept telling me this was a good idea to reach out to others. So, who are these people?

As you may know, we belong to *Teams of our Lady*. We have 5 couples in our group, but there are 5 teams in our church parish. Who are they? Are they younger couples with little ones? Are they retired seniors? Who are these couples that feel as we do that God has a covenant with us in our marriage?

So, we decided to have a holiday social party & invited all the Team couples in our church parish to our home.

Fifteen couples & our parish priest, Fr Maxi, came to socialize with other team members & enjoy a relaxing evening of hors d' & beverages. It was an evening to remember—meeting other couples who are all journeying together towards holiness in living and celebrating the Sacrament of marriage.

A fun, happy time for all. Thank you God for inspiring us to do this event.

Char Lang & Bob Wendling

Oregon Cíty 02



## Baptism Celebration

Brings together Team couples at st John the Apostle Parish in Oregon City...





Celebrating Marriage with Archbishop Alexander Sample February 3 St Mary's Cathedral

> Charlene Lang & Bob Wendling Oregon City 02 Team

Lynn Porzig West Linn 02 Team

Jason Kidd, Portland Archdiocesan Director of Marriage & Family Life, speaking with Roger & Lynn Porzig, Shadowing Regional Couple Mamie Dec Oregon City 02 Team

> Leslie & Steve Rainey, Theresa Schierman, Portland 01 Team

Lynn & Roger Porzig, West Linn 02, Mamie & Mike Dec, Oregon City 02



-Dan, that his treatment is a success, he finds peace in soul and mind, and that he is once again able to resume his university studies;

- -Bertha, for a successful surgery;
- -Russ, for recovery from colon surgery;
- -Cleo, for accurate diagnosis and recovery; -Barbara, who fell two weeks ago, and still remains in a coma:
- -Mia who is having a major surgery;
- -fathers of Cindy & Sandy;
- -Jacob with meningitis following brain surgery;
- -Marcella suffering from pneumonia;
- -Couples facing challenges in their marriages;
- -Teresa whose lungs have collapsed;
- -Mary Jane's brother with stage 4 prostate cancer;
- -Thomas for healing from abdominal surgery;
- -Jim battling lung cancer and pneumonia; -Jeff, hospitalized with leg and toe
- amputations;

-son Andy for healing of his Cushing Disease and a complete recovery from his upcoming lung surgery;

-Karen with MS for 22 years, works works fulltime and now in a wheelchair;

May their souls rest in peace and love: -Irene who passed away of pneumonia; -Jim who passed away in February- he and his wife Joanne had been in Teams for 40 years.

-Monsignor François Fleischmann, who passed away at the age of 83. He was on the International Leading Team for 6 years and Spiritual Counselor to 2 teams in Paris. He spoke at the Colloquium on December 8th, the 70th Anniversary of the Team Charter, devoted to the support of Teams of Our Lady and contributed greatly to the cause for canonization of Fr. Caffarel. Rob & Sharla Walsh were blessed to have made his acquaintance in Paris this past December.

### Book Review:

## Returning to Radiance by Fr. Chun

A spark of the divine resides in everyone at the still point in the center of one's spirit. But this spark has been enshelled with layers of residue from mistakes, wounds, scars, and faulty methods. This book can help a person to remove these layers, so that one's inner radiance will brighten one's life and the life of others by helping to heal, deal with challenges, preserve inner peace, and improve relationships. Then one can more readily access the inner radiance of this divine spark.

> Books will be available at the Marriage Retreat, Mt Angel, April.20-22



Returning o*Radiance* 

Tapping into the dancing light of your inner grace, beauty, and compassion

Fr. Francis Chun, S.T.L.

#### Fasting and prayer during this Lenten Journey

The liturgy of Ash Wednesday invites us to add fasting to prayer, a penitential practice that calls for a more profound spiritual effort, the conversion of the heart, with the firm

decision to turn away from evil and sin, to be better disposed to fulfill the will of God. With physical fasting, and, even more so with interior fasting, the Christian prepares himself to follow Christ and to be his faithful witness in every circumstance. Moreover, fasting helps us to understand better the difficulties and sufferings of so many of our brothers and sisters who are oppressed by hunger. severe poverty and war. In addition, it prompts us to a concrete solidarity and sharing with those who are in need.

> John Paul II Angelus -Sunday, 2 March 2003







Return to Kadiance A spark of the Divine resides in everyone at the still point in the center of one's spirit. But this divine spark has been enshelled with layers of residue from mistakes, wounds, scars, harmful goals, and faulty methods. This book can help you to remove these layers, so that your inner radiance will brighten your life and the life of others by helping you to: **Heal Obeal with challenges • Preserve inner pace and** • **Hear Obeal with challenges • Preserve inner pace and** • **Improve relationships.** You can then more readily access the inner radiance of this divine spark within you.

Return to your Radiance Become God's Blessing to everyone: family members, friends, acquaintances, fellow workers, everyone you meet. You can be a source of God's acceptance, a source of course acceptance, affirmation, comfort, compassion, forgiveness, love, and peace to everyone. As God's Blessing, you empower, energize, enrich the heart and spirit of others.

Fr. Francis Chun, S.T.L.

Born and raised as a Buddhist in Honolulu Hawaii, th form and raised as a Buddhist in Honolulu Hawaii, the author became a Catholic at age 14. After receiving his B.A. in Philosophy and Theology, he taught Religious Studies in high school in San Francisco for 3 years before earning his Licentiate in Sacred Theology after 4 years of study under the Dominicans at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland. As a Catholic priest for 54 years, he has taught Theology in high school and in college, and gives retreats and workshops to Religious and parishes.



U.S. \$25 Paschal Peace Press epress@gmail.com long to Maronite Monks of Jesus, Mary, Joseph

