



Walnut Grove Cultural Center

Striving for personal excellence in the service of others



“With my personal ecumenism, because I can’t do anything else without compromising my faith, I will tell you that I have the truth. However, I want you to know that I respect your faith and your beliefs. And with God’s help I’d lay down my life to defend the freedom of your conscience.” ~ *St. Josemaría Escrivá*



CALENDAR SUMMARY:

- Summer Camp for Girls, grades 5–9, on **July 8–14**. www.southernhillsinc.org
mariaodonnell@cox.net
- Evenings of Recollection for women – **3rd Tuesday** of each month at 6:15 pm
- Day of Recollection for High School girls, **Aug. 26 9:30 am – 1:00 pm**
Holy Mass at **10:00 am**
- Lecture Series and Theology Seminar meet the 1st Saturday of each month. Next one is **Sept 1st at 10 a.m.**
- Girls Club Grandparents’ Day, **September 8, 2012**
- Cooperator’s Workshop on Civic Responsibility, **October 6, 2012**
- Women’s Retreat this Fall: **Oct. 12–14; and Nov. 9–11**
Holiday Inn, La Mirada.
To reserve, email Naida: ramzen@aol.com
- Christmas Concert **December, 2012**

Letter from the President

It’s four in the afternoon. I open the pantry. The possibilities are endless. I can cook chicken, beef, pork, or fish. I can cook American, Italian, or Tex-Mex. I can grab a recipe from online or pull out my grandmother’s cookbook. I am free to cook anything that I want. But the one thing I cannot do is cook nothing. I cannot starve my family. And no one can **force** me to starve my family (no exceptions). Neither should

anyone **prohibit** me from feeding my family (one exception), unless the public order requires it. As a human being, I have a duty by my nature to seek the truth and once found, adhere to it. **I should not be forced to act against the truth or prohibited from living the truth.** These are the foundational principles of freedom of conscience. Just some food for thought... Wishing you a happy Independence Day!

Lauren Ellis

Family Enrichment of Los Angeles (FELA)

Last May, an excellent opportunity was opened for parents to participate in the Leaders Training Conference organized by *Family Enrichment of Los Angeles (FELA)* whose goal is to strengthen families here and through out the world.

FELA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting families by helping parents develop their abilities to raise their children through a positive approach to the demands of their non-deferrable mission, the rearing of their children.

At the conference participants learn about the case study method and the content of the courses that are offered through Family Enrichment. The courses aim at helping parents acquire the tools to foster objective thinking about family life. All the courses give importance to the communication between spouses, helping them differentiate important issues from secondary matters.

For information about Family Enrichment courses near you, please contact Nandy and Lou Umali at (213) 625-0641 or visit

<http://familyenrichmentla.com>

FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM

It’s important! It means two weeks of prayer and becoming informed about our cherished freedom.

Visit: <http://www.usccb.org> and get informed!!

Opus Dei News

Alvaro Del Portillo

On June 28, Pope Benedict XVI signed a decree that recognizes the "heroic virtues" of Alvaro del Portillo, the first successor of St. Josemaría Escrivá. For more information, please visit: <http://www.opusdei.us/art.php?p=49550>

Dora del Hoyo

On June 18th, 2012, eight years after her death, Bishop Javier Echevarría presided at the opening of the canonical process on the life and virtues of Dora del Hoyo, the first numerary assistant in Opus Dei. During the ceremony, the Prelate said: "I am more and more convinced of the fundamental role this woman has had and will have in the life of the Church and society. God called Dora del Hoyo to work in tasks similar to those carried out by our Lady in the home at Nazareth." "The Christian example and fidelity of this woman," he continued, "will help strengthen the ideal of a spirit of service and spread in our society the importance of the family, a true domestic church, which she incarnated in her daily generous and cheerful work." For more information, please visit: <http://doradelhoyo.org/>



Feast of St. Josemaría Escrivá

We were very happy to meet many of you and your families at the Mass for the feast of Saint Josemaría Saturday, June 23, at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral. The main celebrant was Archbishop Jose Gomez who encouraged all of us to experience the care of our Father God through ordinary occurrences. He also recalled other aspects of the message entrusted to St Josemaría such as love for freedom and the call to work in union with the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross and with a desire to serve others and help them meet God through our personal friendship.

TOOLS FOR BUILDING CULTURE

Catholic Voices, a UK organization, and author/journalist, Austen Ivereigh have released a new book: **How to Defend the Faith Without Raising Your Voice: Civil Responses to Catholic Hot Button Issues** Please check it out!!

High School Activities

Walnut Grove has been bustling with high school activities for the past few months! Starting out with a Valentine's Day *Seminar on Dating* given by the dynamic duo *Lauren and Ashton Ellis* and college student, *Carolina McNicoll*. They each gave their perspective and advice on how to navigate the dating world in a climate that seems to have lost the true meaning and purpose of dating.

We also completed two Pathfinder Camp training days: one in February, and the other in April for the high school counselors. They learned how to become leaders and role models for their future campers and how to prepare catechism classes and role play difficult situations they may encounter when on the job this summer! We hope to see some of you on the last day of camp this July for the family Mass and show.

Last but not had our Junior 8th and 9th which was Holy week. did a great cleaning Grove! We monthly day of recollection held on the fourth Sunday of each month and service days where we had the pleasure of visiting the elderly in the near-by nursing home. Stay tuned for next year's calendar of high school activities.



least, we annual Retreat for graders held during The girls job spring Walnut also had our

Yard Sale Fundraiser

Our yard sale held May 19th was a big success, and a lot of fun!

Thank you to those who donated, came to help out and to shop on Saturday. We could not have done it without



the support of each person! A big THANK YOU to all!! Proceeds will be used for the maintenance and upkeep of Walnut Grove.