

NEWSLETTER

WALNUT GROVE CULTURAL CENTER ● NEWSLETTER NO. 19 ● SPRING 2017

Calendar Summary

Visit: www.walnutgrovecenter.org

Seminar Faith & Reason (Meets every first Saturday of the month)

~The Ten Commandments

10:00 am to 12:30 pm

~Theology Seminar - The Apostles Creed

12:30 to 1:30 pm

Evenings of Recollection for Women at Walnut Grove Meets every 4th Monday from 6:15 to 9:00 pm

Days of Recollection for Women at Walnut Grove Meets every 4th Tuesday from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

2017 Women's Retreats

Holiday Inn, La Mirada

November 10-12, 2017

Thomas Aquinas College, Ojai, CA

May 27-29, 2017 & June 9-11, 2017

To reserve, email Marta Torres

sagtoma@gmail.com

WG Annual Yard Sale

Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 8 am to 2 pm

WG Annual Yard Sale

Spring cleaning? Don't throw out those treasures! Save them to donate to Walnut Grove!

We are planning our annual yard sale for Saturday, May 6th from 8am-2pm.

All proceeds will go towards the maintenance needs of Walnut Grove. *In kind or cash donations over \$100 are tax deductible.*

We will begin collecting donations the first week of April. Items can be dropped off at WG every Monday (6-7pm), and Tuesday (11am-12pm). Or contact Lydia Lam (626-390-2228), Rica Yan (626-643-9352) or Erin Talbot (626-688-9891) for other arrangements.

We gladly accept:

Gently used Clothing/Shoes/Handbags, Accessories, Jewelry, Watches, Furniture, Beddings, Baby things, Toys, Children's

Letter from the President

Greetings! 2017 brings some big news for Walnut Grove!

Foremost, as the new President of Walnut Grove, and on behalf of the new Board, I recognize and thank Lauren Ellis, who stepped down to focus on taking care of her growing family, and Isabel Jones who has helped us to stay focused on our mission. WG would not be where it is today without Lauren's great leadership. Lauren's shoes are too big to fill and Isabel's guiding hands will be sorely missed. I also would like to welcome the new members of the Board, Molly Rose, and Rosemary Kite. They bring to the table a wealth of talent and experience that will help move WG to new heights. We thank Molly for maintaining our website.

This year, with the passing of Don Javier, we saw the election of Don Fernando Ocariz as the new Prelate. We express our gratitude to Don Javier for being such a wonderful Father and we look forward to the love and guiding spirit of our new Father, as he leads us in following Pope Francis' call of bringing the Christian message and spreading joy to every type of person.

We also received news that *Montse Graces*, a 16 year-old girl, and *Isidoro Zorzano*, a civil

engineer, (both lay members of Opus Dei who knew St. Josemaria personally) have been declared Venerable. Now we have two more allies who can intercede for us in our needs. You can read more about their virtuous lives, love for God, acceptance of God's will and total abandonment in divine providence at www.opusdei.org.

The year 2016 was filled with exciting activities and workshops. Now we want to focus on reaching YOU, our most important cooperators and friends, especially those from whom we haven't heard from much. We would love to know how we can better serve you and meet your needs.

Won't you mark your calendars now with our traditional upcoming events? Our Annual **Yard Sale** on May 6, our **Grandmothers' Tea** on October 21, and our **Christmas Party** on December 9, have all been scheduled. We encourage you to check our website <http://www.walnutgrovecenter.org> for more news and activity updates too. Thank you for your unwavering support. Please introduce Walnut Grove to your family and friends. We like being a big family – the more the merrier! Let us know how we can better service your spiritual, cultural and professional needs. After all, it's Walnut Grove's *raison d'etre*. ~Cynthia

Books, Household items, Tools, Small appliances, Cameras, Flat screen TV's, Bicycles, Sports equipment etc.. that are in good working conditions please.

Sorry, we CANNOT accept:

Text books, Magazines, Old style TV's, VCR's, Desktop computers or broken items.

There will be a table selling baked goods and coffee during the sale. We need **donations for baked goods** individually wrapped!

Supplies that we need: Canopies, folding tables, clothes racks, tarps, crates, bins, baskets and table cloths to display our merchandise.

Volunteer and get early shopping opportunities:

It takes many people to make our yard sale run smoothly, and we couldn't do it without the help of our volunteers. So, this year, to show our appreciation, we will host a **Pre-Sale Bazaar** on **Friday, May 5th** the day before the yard

sale, from 2:00 to 8:00 pm, serving Sangria and cheese. Admission is free, all you need is to sign up and volunteer 2-3 hours of your time, then you can get to shop for the best bargains before the sale opens to the public. Once you find what you're looking for, you can opt to **Buy it Now or Place a Bid**. Feel free to invite your friends to come help and shop.

A sign-up sheet is available at WG and the e invitation will be emailed, just select the job(s) and time slot(s) that best fit your schedule and talents.

We look forward to getting to know you better and to make this yard sale a fun and successful event!



OPUS DEI NEWS

The two new Venerables

Montse Garses

Montse was born in Barcelona in 1941. She had a lively personality and loved music, sports and folk dancing. She was always cheerful and could easily make friends. At 16, she joined Opus Dei, seeing that God was calling her to this path. She learned to live in peace, the peace that comes from living close to God. In December, 1957, she began to feel pain in her left leg. Six months later, before she turned 17, she was diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma in the femur. She accepted the cancer with serenity and joy and throughout her illness, she manifested a contagious joy. Many of her friends and schoolmates became closer to God when they came to visit her. In her pain, she encountered Jesus and Mary. Those close to her witnessed her progressive union with God. She died on Holy Thursday, March 26, 1959. She found God in the loving fulfillment of her work and studies, in the small things of each day.

Isidoro Zorzano

Isidoro was born in Buenos Aires in 1902. When he was three years old, his family moved to Spain thinking they would eventually return to Argentina. In Spain, he met Josemaría Escrivá in Barbastro and the two became friends. Isidoro studied Industrial Engineering and after graduating, he sensed a deeper spiritual restlessness. He decided to meet up with Josemaría, who by then had already been a priest for five years. Soon after, he decided to join Opus Dei. When the Civil War broke out, many went into hiding including Josemaría. Because of his Argentinian passport, he was free to move around Spain during the war. In those years, he helped many people and kept the members of Opus Dei united to Josemaría and to one another by obtaining provisions and food, giving up much of what was needed for himself. In 1943, he was diagnosed with malignant lymphoma. He accepted this illness with courage and abandonment to God's will. A nurse recalled: "He never needed anything for himself, everything was good and he never complained."

Isidoro continues to help from heaven those in severe economic hardships with such favors as receipt of unexpected groceries, provision to pay for electricity that was cut-off, getting a job, or paying for an operation. "...and he does not let us down."

WG BOOKSTORE

WHERE YOU'LL FIND EXCITING NEW BOOKS AND CDS. CHECK OUT THE USED BOOKS SECTION, MANY CLASSICS FOR A BARGAIN PRICE!

NEW ARRIVALS:

THE HIDDEN POWER OF KINDNESS \$10.00

THE MAP OF LIFE \$10.00

MY SISTERS THE SAINTS \$10.00

REMINDER : to shop on Smile.amazon. It's a nice way to support Walnut Grove!

<http://smile.amazon.com>

1. Select your charity: WGCC
2. Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchase to our organization.
3. Ask your friends and family members to do the same

8617 E. Broadway, San Gabriel, CA 91776

THE COOPERATORS OF WALNUT GROVE

In the summer of 2005, seeing the need to serve the East side of Los Angeles, Walnut Grove Cultural Center came into being. Immediately, professional women and students residing in the San Gabriel Valley, Pasadena, Claremont, Pomona and as far as Beaumont, began to attend the professional, cultural and spiritual formation programs at Walnut Grove. Not only the doctrine and theology seminars, but also classes and workshops like Peruvian Cooking, The Art of Living, Art Appreciation, Cyberwise, and Financial Planning for women. More recently, women like you have joined us for the very successful "Instamommy", a workshop on modern mothering.

Walnut Grove strongly relies on the generosity of its many cooperators and friends for the spiritual and financial support it needs to grow. We are forever grateful to each of you. For more information about what it means to be a cooperator, you can visit <http://www.opusdei.org/en-us/article/cooperators-a-lighted-lamp/>. You can also be inspired by what our existing cooperators are saying about being one.

As a Cooperator, when I reflect on the impact of St. Josemaría Escrivá and Opus Dei on my life, I feel deep gratitude. Looking back, I left the church in my teen years. However the Lord in his great mercy left the ninety nine sheep to find me. After a profound conversion experience as an adult, I entered into a personal relationship with Jesus, an ability to truly pray for the first time, and a deep desire for Sacred Scripture, the Sacraments and catechesis. However I recognized something was askew. I lacked a unity of life between my work, family life, friendship circles and faith life. This is when the Lord introduced me to Opus Dei. After reading about Opus Dei from afar, I wandered into Walnut Grove for a recollection. Someone noticed the dazed and confused stranger and warmly greeted and showed me around. From that start Opus Dei entered my life.

The formation I have received from Opus Dei and the writings of St. Josemaría Escrivá have resonated with what I find in my heart and have deeply formed who I am today in too numerous ways to list here. I now feel a unity in my life. The initial thirsts for catechesis and knowledge of Sacred Scripture have been encouraged and greatly helped along as I continue to learn in my quest to have the sure doctrine of a theologian. Opus Dei has shown me how to support a life of prayer through daily norms as I continue to pursue having the piety of a child. St. Josemaría not only teaches me through his writings but has become a spiritual father to me. After the Virgin Mary, he is my favorite friend in heaven. In addition to the formation I am quite grateful for the people. Many heroes who support me by the witness of their faith and friends who have supported me through prayer and listening ears. For me, being a cooperator of Opus Dei means entering into a family of love and action. A family where the Good Shepherd forms his sheep into the saints He desires who go out and do the work of God. ~Christine

I am thankful for my Opus Dei family who listened, visited and supported me especially during the time of my illness. These friendships are a source of inspiration to me. I'm reminded that God in His Mercy surrounds me with good people and little blessings everyday. Ever since, my appreciation for little things intensified. God made me see how little and weak I really am. But instead of getting discouraged, I have learned to work with my weaknesses rather than against them. Through my experience with Opus Dei, I continue to see the value of my frailty and this helps me to depend on Him more. ~Myrna