








# February 1996

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday   |
|--|---|--|--|-----------|---|--|
|   |   |  |  | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b><br>6:30am Mass and Coffee <b>1</b><br>7:30pm Rosary <b>2</b>                               | <b>3</b><br>10:00am, Bike Ride <b>3</b>  |
| <b>4</b><br>  | <b>5</b><br>7:30pm OLQA Relationships— Dating in the '90's                        | <b>6</b><br>Noon, Lunch in Irvine <b>4</b>   | <b>7</b>   | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b><br>7:30pm OLQA Rosary Group <b>2</b>   | <b>10</b><br>7:30 pm, Ladies Night Out , \$25.00, Call Mark 963-4425 or Drew 836-4487. <b>5</b>      |
| <b>11</b><br>   | <b>12</b><br>7:30pm OLQA Late Night with David Carlile—Marriage                   | <b>13</b>  | <b>14</b><br> | <b>15</b> | <b>16</b><br>7:30pm OLQA Rosary Group <b>2</b>  | <b>17</b><br>9:00 am Feed the Poor with Loaves and Fishes Call Sherry 733-3166. Guess Who's <b>9</b> |
| <b>18</b><br><br>10:00am Super Sunday Social <b>6</b><br>7am Prison Ministry <b>8</b>   | <b>19</b><br>No Meeting Washington's Birthday                                     | <b>20</b><br>6:30 pm, National Sports Bar Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday, Call Peg 548-6311 | <b>21</b><br>Ash Wednesday Lent begins   | <b>22</b> | <b>23</b><br>7:30pm OLQA Rosary Group <b>2</b>  | <b>24</b><br>6:30pm, Lord's Day Supper <b>7</b>  |
| <b>25</b><br><br>Roller skating with the Kids of Casita de San José, Call John 557-3671 | <b>26</b><br>7:30pm OLQA A date with Jesus' worship service: Mark Farrell & Ruach | <b>27</b>  | <b>28</b>  | <b>29</b> |  <b>Ski Trip</b> |  |

Come and join fellow CCFers for the annual Ski Trip. We will leave Friday, March 1 and return on Monday, March 4. The bus holds only 46 people, so hurry to sign up. For those who do not ski, there's always a little room for a few couch potatoes. Questions and reservations: Tom 449-8184.

## Calendar Details

- 1** First Friday Monthly Coffee Talk, 6:30am mass, OLQA. Meet at the front of the church on the right. After mass head over to Diedrich's at Jamboree & Bristol.
- 2** Our Lady's Rosary prayer meeting, 7:30pm. Every Friday evening CCF members come together for prayer. We meet in the church at OLQA for rosary, chapel, and special intentions.
- 3** Bike ride to Sunset Beach, 10:00am. Meet behind Jack-in-the-Box at Warner & PCH. Call Drew 836-4487.
- 4** Lunch in Irvine, Noon. For those who work in the area, come join CCF members for a time of fellowship. Meet at the Holiday Inn, 17941 Von Karman Ave. Call Mark 963-4425 (home) or 476-1636 (work) or twkv91a@prodigy.com.
- 5** Ladies' Night Out, OLQA, 7pm. Ladies: make up for all those times you've felt nobody gave you the attention that we all know every woman needs. Come and enjoy an evening filled with fun, food, pampering, and all the positive male attention you can possibly absorb. \$25.00. See you there ladies! Call Mark 963-4425.
- 6** Super Sunday Social, new members' brunch, after 10:00am mass. Call Terry 552-3855 or ThereseN@MAIL012.USIRVINE.allergan.sprint.com.
- 7** Lord's Day Supper. Come join us for a night of worship and fellowship. Social 6:30pm, 7:00pm dinner. Info: call Sharon 640-6474.
- 8** Prison Ministry, 7:00am, Terminal Island, Long Beach. Everyone has to sign up by February 9. Call Audrea 675-5723.
- 9** Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, 7:00pm. Make your reservation by Feb 3. \$15. Call Peg 548-6311.



Our Lady Queen of Angels  
**Corpus Christi Fellowship**  
 2046 Mar Vista Drive  
 Newport Beach, CA 92660

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# THE BODY

Corpus Christi Fellowship

February 1996



Michael Friese

CCFers hike the Anza Borrego desert during the winter camping trip.

## The Lord's day Supper Prayer and Culture Meet

By Rozena Kirby

I paraphrase an old adage that states "Live and Learn." If we are lucky, the learning process is a daily occurrence. This sums up the happening at the Lord's Day Supper last month. Mike Friese, our gracious host, provided his home for the occasion. The intimate setting was warm and inviting. I saw familiar faces and people that I met for the first time. Breaking bread was not the only thing that was done that night. I prayed, sang and laughed with almost sixty other Christians. This was a Christian community in motion. There was life happening under this roof.

A few people shared their life experiences. Mary, Earla, Agnes, and René gave us insight on their personal situa-

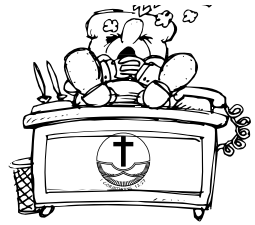
tions and triumphs. As I listened, I realized that I was learning lessons in history, geography, and world culture. These people told us about their lives in the Philippines as well as the cultural adjustments they faced in the United States. Each story witnessed hardship but it

taught a parable that God is always with us. He lifts us up and He is our safety net. We may have different cultural backgrounds but we all have one aspect in life that we all share. We all share a common bond with God, as our Father.

We shared some of the Filipino customs, culture and food! Yes, delicious food was served that night. My compliments to the collective chefs—Earla, Jan, and Mary. I also would like to thank Mike for his hospitality and the tour. I came for the food but left with a movable feast.



# From the Co-Leaders...



To All of the Valentines of CCF:

May you seek God's perfect love in your relationship with Him and allow His perfect plan to guide you on the right path to relationships. This Valentine's day may you experience his unconditional love. This month we would like to share a thought on love from an unknown author:

Everyone longs to give themselves completely to someone—to have a deep, soul relationship with another, to be loved thoroughly, and exclusively. But God, to a Christian says, "No, not until you are satisfied and fulfilled and content with living loved by Me alone, with giving yourself, totally, unreservedly to Me—to have an intensely personal and unique relationship with Me alone; I love you, my child. And until you discover that only in Me is your satisfaction to be found, you will not be capable of the perfect human relationship that I have planned for you. You will never be united with another until you are united with Me—exclusive of anyone or anything else, exclusive of any other desires or longings. I want you to stop planning, stop wishing, and allow Me to give you the most thrilling plan existing—one that you can't imagine. I want you to have the best. Please allow Me to bring it to you. Just keep watching Me, expecting the greatest things. Keep learning and listening to the things I tell you...you must wait.

Don't be anxious. Don't worry. Don't look around at the things others have gotten or that I've given them. Don't look at the things you think you want. You just keep looking off and away up to Me, or you'll miss what I want to show you.

And then, when you're ready, I'll surprise you with a love far more wonderful than any of you would ever dream. You see, until you are ready and until the one I have for you is ready...I am working even this minute to have both of you ready at the same time...until you are both satisfied exclusively with Me and the life I prepared for you, you won't be able to experience the love that exemplifies your relationship with Me...and is thus perfect love.

And dear one, I want you to have this most wonderful love. I want you to see in the flesh a picture of your relationship with Me, and to enjoy materially and concretely the everlasting union of beauty and perfection and love that I offer you with Myself. Know I love you utterly. I am God Almighty. Believe and be satisfied."

Yours in Christ,

John & Teresa

## ☒ Toasts & ☒ Notes

☒ If you have internet e-mail, don't forget to subscribe to ccf:mail. It is the e-mail reminder service of Corpus Christi Fellowship. To subscribe, send your request to: CCF@LGARDE.COM And of course, it's free!

☒ Congratulations to Stefani Hedgpeth for her recent graduation with a business degree!

☒ Many thanks to Sebastian Lopez who made over 200 changes to the mailing list this month.

☒ Happy Birthday to the following CCFers born in February: • 1 Agnes Facunla • 2 Rev. George Blais, Kathy Wilmes • 3 Liz Schroepel • 4 Katie Evleth • 5 René Funcion, Paul Ratkovich • 7 Rosanne Oddo • 9 Tom Knoll, Teresa Mishodek • 11 Rafael Beltran Jr., Josie Lorenzo • 12 Peg McNamara • 13 Randy DeVargas, Greg Haskell, Kathy Thompoon • 14 Richard Horak • 17 David Grothus • 20 Amy King, Lisa Wenzel • 21 John Joanning, John Smart • 22 Danette Ek-johnson • 24 Kimla Kouri, Nancy Raney, Paul Work • 25 Rose Gramme • 27 Theresa Nault • 28 Roni Caudillo, Thomas Norris, Mary Strauss



## Corpus Christi Fellowship

Our Lady Queen of Angels  
2046 Mar Vista Drive  
Newport Beach, CA 92660  
email: ccf@lgarde.com

### Co-leaders

John Lester 582-7728  
Teresa Mishodek 760-3104

### Spirituality

John Robison 630-5188  
Maria Trozzi 635-4334  
Sharon Durkin 640-6474  
Mike Babineau 771-1701

### Monday Nights

David Carlile 454-8968  
Eric Huff 839-2325  
Vivian Barraza 964-2676

### Social

Mark Artesani 963-4425  
Peg Mcnamara 548-6311  
Andrew Zertuche 836-4487

### Finance

Carmen Westberg

### Music

Patricia Stancato 841-8768

### Service

John Joanning 557-3671  
Audrea Jaskowiak 675-5723  
Sherry Khatab 733-3166

### Hospitality

Terry Nelson 552-3855  
Jan Vanderlinden 310-498-0960

### Prayer

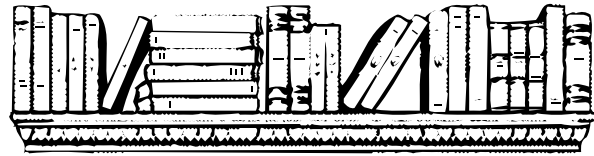
Lynne Purkey 549-0612

### Communications

Mike Friese 532-4041  
Lisa Morton

### Cursillo Reps

Tom Kaczmarek 288-1442  
Sue Mc Comb 859-9892



# Spiritual Friendships

## A book review

By Mary Davern

With the recent introduction of the CCF relationship series, I thought this perhaps a most opportune time to introduce *Spiritual Friendships* by Dr. Ronda Chervin. The book covers four stages of spiritual friendship: attraction, mutuality, enchantment, and unions. Dr. Chervin focuses on the divine dimension. When two friends root their love in God we are told, “that spiritual friendship comes in many forms: brother and sister, parent and child, husband and wife, male and female companions. Both may be single, married, consecrated, or any combination of these.”

I thought the subject matter of the book was excellent but felt the author could have built on some of the topics a little further. The author makes some very interesting points and at times you have the sense that you are identifying so wholly and so strongly you want to see her continue further. In other words,

there’s no beating around the bush with this author, she makes her point and moves on. Unfortunately, she leaves you with the sense of wanting more. But, like so many things in life, I notice that for every negative there is a positive, especially when we realize that the author has the great capability of making very difficult subject matter seem very simple. This aspect also helps us focus on the subject at hand, “our relationship with God.”

The author illustrates to us that the way to be successful in our relationships with others would be to make God our “first and foremost focus” instead of another person or anything else that would monopolize our attention and our focus in life. If we can accomplish this feat, then everything else will fall into place. This theme is beautifully illustrated to us throughout the book. It utilizes many colorful stories from the lives of the Fathers of the Church, such as St.

Augustine and the writings of great saints, especially Francis de Sales, Teresa of Avila, and John of the Cross.

In closing, I will say that there is something in this book for everyone. I would like to leave you with a “conglomeration” of quotes taken from *Spiritual Friendships*. I believe it is OK to extract them sporadically from their context because they will stand strongly on their own. They are as follows: A celtic proverb proclaims that anyone without a soul friend is a body without a head. Aristotle thought that real friends were one soul in two bodies. St. Ambrose spoke of a friend as a second self from whom there is nothing to fear. And, saving the best for last, “For I am a jealous God, I want your heart to be wholly given unto me so that I may fill it with my peace. Life should not be a tightrope on which you walk and fall and leap frantically through the moments of your time.”

## God Loves Me (Sure, But Do I Love God?)

By Raymond Pellegrini

John Wayne, after a bullet went through the top of his hat, remarked, “It’s a good thing I don’t have the brains to fill my hat.”

It is rare that I hear someone mention love as an act of sacrifice. I don’t know why that is, since the greatest love story of all time required a great deal of sacrifice (Christ dying for us). So often I hear of love as something warm and fuzzy (which has its attributes) or something that makes you feel good. But what about sacrifice?

It is common sense (or is it?) that a successful marriage requires sacrifice on each spouse. If only one spouse is willing to make sacrifices while the other is selfish, then too often the marriage will break up.

Christ, in his love for me, sacrificed himself through humiliation and suffering on the cross. He is God. He did not have to do that! But He loves me, and therefore gave his life for the forgiveness of my many sins.

I do believe them when they say,

“God loves you.” I just have to look at the crucifix to see it. But do I love God? What sacrifices have I done for God? If I am content that God loves me, will that alone get me to heaven? If I have faith alone will that be sufficient for eternal life?

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.” (Mt 7:21)

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test Jesus and said, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?” He said in reply, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” He replied to him, “You have answered correctly; do this and you will live.” (Lk 10:25–28)

What happens if I do not do all of this? If I only love God with part of my heart? Will I still “live?”

Or maybe I am assured of my salva-

tion. All I need is faith. Saint Paul writes to the Romans (3:28), “For we consider that a person is justified by faith apart from works of the law.” Okay, so if I believe, I am justified. Does this mean I am guaranteed salvation? Not according to Saint Paul, “No, I drive my body and train it, for fear that, after having preached to others, I myself should be disqualified.”

The letter of James affirms Saint Paul’s teaching by making it clear that faith alone is not sufficient: “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,’ but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” (Jas 2:14–17)

So, a loving relationship with Jesus is a two way street. I am aware of His sacrifices. To share fully in his love, I need to sacrifice, too!