

# Did You Know?

Dear Incarnation Friends,

During the short time that I've been in my position, I've come to realize that I'm not as knowledgeable as I thought I was about the various groups and ministries we have here at Incarnation Parish. Despite the fact that I've been an active parishioner here for over 28 years, I find myself humbled that there is so much we have here at Incarnation and yet most of us aren't aware of our blessings. We are so fortunate to have such a vibrant parish community with over 50 organizations who share so much of their time and talent to help fellow parishioners, the homeless, the elderly and sick, the youth, and do much more. For example, did you know that the money collected in the poor box and the donut sales once a month are the sole means of support for our St. Vincent de Paul ministry and that they use the money to help fellow parishioners with paying their rent or utility bills? Did you know that one of our parishioners is a prison chaplain and that the Heart of Jesus ministry not only has a music ministry but a prison outreach group as well? If you are like me and want to learn more about your fellow parishioners and church groups, I invite you to read on...

Beginning this month, I will start sharing information about our various organizations and ministries to help us get to know our parish and the activities of these groups. I've decided to begin with our beloved Hospitality Committee, who time after time has served many of us in various capacities.

The Hospitality Committee, currently led by longtime parishioners Lee Henry and Betty Oswill, has long been an important ministry here at Incarnation. The committee's contributions to our community go far beyond hosting social events, such as Las Posadas, the Catechist reception and the Stewardship Fair, organizing bake sales and donut sales, distributing flowers on Mother's Day or giving away See's lollipops for Father's Day. For as long as I can remember, the organization has also been involved with outreach programs including feeding the homeless either at Project Achieve or serving barbecue lunches on Sundays during the month of August. Beginning last year, Hospitality decided to also feed the homeless every Sunday during the month of February. In addition, the group is responsible for organizing the Wednesday night soup suppers during Lent and donates the proceeds for these suppers to help several charities in our city, such as Loaves and Fishes.

To help the Building Fund, the group is planning various fundraising activities, including several creative workshops and special events. At their first workshop, soon to be scheduled, Marie Urrutia will teach attendees how to crochet. On March 14th, the Hospitality Committee is looking forward to "christening" our new community center kitchen by bringing back "St. Joseph's Table". In the Italian spirit, they will be featuring tasty baked goods, Pontrelli and Larrichia Italian sausage sandwiches for lunch, and religious articles for sale. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Hospitality Committee Scholarship fund for Incarnation School and the Incarnation Building Fund.

You'll be surprised to find out that the group is small in numbers with only about a dozen regular members, so they could really use some help! If you would like to join the Hospitality Committee or can help with a specific event they are planning, please call Lee at (818) 246-5400 or send her an email at leehenry711@hotmail.com. Any help you can give is very much welcomed and appreciated by all!

I hope you enjoyed learning more about our parish! Until the next issue of Did You Know...

*Marguerite Lincoln*

# “Encore Boutique”

**Needs Volunteer Help and Items to Sell!**

To help raise funds for the Community Center, we're planning special themed rummage sales throughout the year called “Encore Boutique”, featuring new and slightly used items. Please consider donating Christmas gifts that you received, but are unable to use, and any items you have that will fall under our various themes. Our first sale will include: women's and men's accessories, beauty products, toiletries, colognes and perfumes, designer items, jewelry, bags, electronics, entertainment items such as movies, DVDs, games, books, etc.

You can drop off your donations, after the morning Masses, at the Parish Center. Donations can also be brought to the Community Center, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Room G101. If you would like to help us with the rummage sales, please call Marguerite at (818) 281-5956 or email me at [mcolin@golddbullet.com](mailto:mcolin@golddbullet.com). Thanks so much in advance for all your help!