Diocese of Central Pennsylvania
Daughters of the King
Assembly

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!

Diocese of Central Pennsylvania to host next Province III Retreat 15-17 April 2016! All DOK parishes will have an opportunity to participate! Stay tuned for more exciting information!

We Say Goodbye to Fr. Richard Wall and Welcome Mother Barbara Hutchinson as Diocesan Chaplain

Fr. Richard Wall has left St. Andrew’s, State College, for a call at St. Paul’s, K Street, Washington, DC. We wish him God’s speed in his future endeavors. Along with leaving St. Andrew’s, he is also vacating the position of Diocese Chaplain of the Daughters of the King in Central Pennsylvania. His dedication and service to us has been astounding. Mother Barbara Hutchinson from St. Andrew’s in Shippensburg has agreed to serve as our second Chaplain and is excited to bring new visions and energy to the position. Welcome Mother Barbara!
Dear Daughters,

I hope this newsletter finds all of you well, and looking forward to the coming warm summer months. Me personally, I am happy that there is no chance of snow in the forecast. It seemed like in State College that our weather forecast, and the weather was very redundant in the winter months – SNOW. I do a happy dance at the thought that it probably won’t snow for several more months now.

There has been so much that has happened since I last wrote anything in a newsletter, and even so much since our Spring Diocesan Assembly (less than 3 months ago) that it is hard to know exactly where to start – but I will progress chronologically. Since our assembly several of us attended the Province III DOK Annual Retreat that was held at the Bishop Claggett Center in Buckeystown, MD. Each chapter had at least one member attend, so I would wager that you have heard something about the Retreat. Let me tell you this – it was a resounding success. There were about 170 Daughters in attendance, which is the largest retreat that I have attended. The presence of the Holy Spirit was palpable in everything that we did.

As usual, as Diocesan President, I attended the Board meeting that was held on the Friday afternoon prior to the actual start of the retreat, and there I learned that our Diocese would be acting as hosts for the 2016 Annual Province Retreat. I’m sure you have already read how initially shocked I was. Well, I quickly recovered from the shock, and gladly accepted the challenge of hosting the Retreat, knowing that I have the support of other Daughters in our diocese. What I didn’t know at the time was that Fr Richard Wall, our Diocesan Chaplain, was leaving both State College and our diocese, and that he was moving to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, K Street in Washington, DC. We all wish Fr Richard well on his continuing journey, and I especially will miss his constant and steadfast support of Daughters in our Diocese.

And if you know me at all, from any other previous correspondence I have shared, or from previous diocesan assemblies, you know that besides turning to the Bible for comfort, solace and refreshment, I often pick up some other book to give me some guidance, or sometimes just to hold on to. Well, this month’s book has been Opening Windows – a compilation of stories on spiritual refreshment. You know the saying, when God closes one door, He often opens a window. Well, I was feeling lost and uncertain at the news that Fr Richard was leaving, and I was worried about how we would fulfill all our spiritual duties for this retreat, but then I prayed, and God opened a window in the form of guidance from Fr Richard, and now the light is bright and happy again. No more closed doors for me.

It is with tremendous thanksgiving at God’s abundant grace that I write to tell you that Mother Barbara Hutchinson, rector at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Shippensburg, has agreed to be our diocesan chaplain AND she is enthusiastic about taking on this ministry. I am so very thankful to God and to Mother Barbara that my prayers have been answered. Mother Barbara will guide the spiritual content of what we offer during this retreat, and she will serve as my advisor as we move forward with the Province Retreat. I will wait to announce what the theme for the retreat will be until we have confirmation from the Province Executive Board that the theme we have selected is approved, but I do believe you will be excited about the possibilities.
In the coming months, please keep our diocese in your daily prayers, and please pray for your own discernment in what you may be able to do for the good of the retreat. Our next Diocesan Assembly is Oct 24, at St. Andrew’s in the Valley, Harrisburg, and our business meeting will be focused solely on the retreat. In September I will send out a detailed list of jobs that Daughters can sign up for. I hope you will prayerfully consider what you may do to help make the upcoming retreat one that will refresh and renew Daughters in our Province. I look forward to telling you more about this in the coming months.

In lieu of the change in plans, and our hosting of the coming retreat, we will delay discussing adapting our Diocesan by-laws to the 2016 Fall Assembly. It had been my intention to take care of the by-laws in the coming assemblies, but we will focus our energy on creating a retreat that all will want to attend.

In peace and with love,

For His Sake,

Michele Marini

President, Diocese of Central PA

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Chaplain’s Message . . .

Dear Daughters,

It is an incredible gift you have given me by asking me to be your chaplain. It’s always a joy to walk closely with my sisters in Christ who are striving to witness to the love of Christ in their lives and who, in turn, change the world. It is my hope that we will grow in relationship with one another and in Christ and deepen each other’s journey along the way.

A passion of mine is, in community with others, to draw the world ever nearer to the healing Jesus always pointed to. Jesus found the pain in the world, touched it, sanctified it by his presence and immersion into it, and spoke about the healing as the coming near of the Kingdom. I have been given the grace to work toward this bringing in of the Kingdom through my ordination to the priesthood. I am blessed to serve the good people of St. Andrew’s in Shippensburg, PA as their rector. Our ministry focus is on formation as mature Christians, the development of leaders who attach our particular mission and ministry to the mission of Christ, the offering of outreach into the community, and the raising up of the presence of healing to those within our parish and beyond. Serving St. Andrew’s is
in essence “coming home” for me as I was raised up by this diocese from St. James Episcopal Church in Lancaster for the ordination to the priesthood. I attended The General Theological Seminary in NYC and then served St. Stephen’s in Port Washington, NY (Long Island) as an assistant and then interim rector.

I am very excited about planning with you the Daughters of the King Provincial Conference in 2016 and trust that together we will design something which has the room for the Holy Spirit to shape and transform the lives of those who attend.

Thank you again for this privilege of serving among you.

In Christ’s love, Barbara+

Recap of Spring Assembly at All Saints, Hanover

In spite of the wintry weather, twenty-five women made it to Hanover on March 21st for the DOK Spring Assembly. Even though it was foggy and cold outside, the atmosphere inside was warm and welcoming.

We started the morning with Morning Prayer followed by the business meeting in which out delegates to Triennial were selected (Dorothy Kapnic and Betsy Howell) and the slate of officers for Diocesan Board was presented.

Fr. Doug Smith then presented a slide program from his two recent trips to Israel; showing important sites connected with the life of Jesus and giving us his impressions and observations when he was there.

The Eucharist followed where a new member, Dorothy Gelhard, was installed into the DOK.

After lunch, served by our husbands, Fr. Doug showed more of his slides. This time he showed slides of places connected to Jewish history and giving their historical significance as well as a look at modern day Israel and sections of Palestine and it’s people.

Olive wood cross pins which Fr. Doug had brought back from Jerusalem were given to all who attended. After closing prayers, we all went our separate ways having enjoyed the day.

- Sarah Terhune

Province III Retreat In Spring at Buckeystown

The Province Retreat was an inspirational and joyous event. The weather was perfect and we were given time during the day to walk and enjoy the beautiful setting and to reflect on the talks we had heard. I think that everyone left there feeling uplifted and renewed by the weekend.

Friday evening after checking in and getting settled and before dinner, Michele hosted a meeting in her room with the Central Pa. officers along with other DOK members in our Diocese She had been informed at the Province III Board Meeting, which took place just before ours and much to her surprise, that our Diocese of Central Pa. would be hosting the Province III Retreat next year 2016! This year’s retreat leaders were excellent. They were upbeat and witty, often filling the room with laughter. But they were also very inspirational giving us hope that through our prayers giving us hope that through our prayers and with God’s help that we can be all that we strive to be. Through our various speakers, we were given ways to help us not only in our prayer lives but also with our day-to-day living with all of its problems as well as leaving
time to enjoy all of the joys that we encounter. Their suggestions included using prayer beads (which we were given along with different ways to pray with them), assorted scented oils (which we could try to relieve various aches and pains when applied to different parts of our bodies), and several different yoga positions to relieve stress etc. (which we all tried--some more successfully than others!).

The Rev. Dr. Kathie Price gave several very inspirational talks throughout the weekend and her self-deprecating humor had us all laughing with her. Her life’s path was not an easy one with heartache and roadblocks but her deep faith even when challenged gave her the hope to go on because she knew that things would get better with God’s help and they did.

Hymns were sung throughout our talks, which also lifted our spirits and let us all participate in voicing our joy through the words that we all shared with all of those around us.

About 170 Daughters attended and everyone enjoyed themselves.

- Sarah Terhune

**Motto**

*For His Sake I am but one, but I am one.*

*I cannot do everything, but I can do something.*

*What I can do, I ought to do.*

*What I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do.*

*Lord, what will you have me to do?*

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Items or stories for the Newsletter can be submitted to Barbara House at bgghouse@aol.com or call 314-334-8553