

Come and join us at our **CWIA Breakfast Meeting**
Saturday, November 21, 2009, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
at the Holiday Inn, Alexandria, VA.
GUEST SPEAKER: Father Thomas Weinandy, O.F.M., Cap.

You won't want to miss our next speaker, Father Weinandy! Father, a Capuchin/Franciscan ordained in 1972, has a doctorate in historical theology, and is very well-known for his powerful spirit-filled teachings. He has taught theology at number of Colleges and Universities in the United States including Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, MD and The Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH, and lectured at the University of Oxford. He has written or edited sixteen books, including "The Sacrament of Mercy: A Practical Guide to Confession". He is the Executive Director for the Secretariat for Doctrine at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Bring your friends for a great spirit-filled morning. Father's topic will be Eucharistic Adoration, and he will also bear witness to the work of the Spirit in his life. Father was baptized in the Holy Spirit on May 19, 1975. Come hear the rest of his story, and bring a friend! Men are welcome.

Holiday Inn, 2460 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 960-3400. Near the Metro Yellow Line – Eisenhower. **Cost: \$12, full breakfast included. For tickets call:** Kathleen Murray (703) 451-5737, Cathy Czaja (703) 354-8331, Patti Davis (703) 971-3633, Edelmira Cruz (703) 266-4850, and Gail Coates (301) 247-2442.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN IN ACTION
5917 BOND COURT
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22315

† *Our Meetings are Moving!*
See inside.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
ALEXANDRIA, VA
PERMIT NO. 5705



Christian Women In Action

A Ministry to Catholic Women

From the desk of Stella Davis, President
"Seeing life from God's view."

My sisters in Christ, the peace of the Lord be with you! As I write to you, the Lord reminded me that life on earth is a test. Have you ever paused to consider that we may be basing our lives on a faulty metaphor or idea? We may have picked it up from a parent, friends, movies we watch, magazines we read, or from some other mistaken source. But to fulfill the purpose God made for us, we will have to challenge conventional wisdom and replace it with God's idea of life. The bible says, "Do not conform yourself to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God." The bible offers three ideas that teaches us God's view of life: 1) Life is a *test*. 2) Life is a *trust*. 3) Life is a *temporary assignment*.

God continuously tests people's character, faith, obedience, love, integrity, and loyalty. Words like trials, temptations, refining, and testing occur more than 200 times in God's Word. God tested Abraham by asking him to offer his son Isaac. God tested Jacob when he had to work extra years to earn Rachael as his wife. Adam and Eve failed their test in the garden of Eden, and King David failed tests from God on several occasions. But the bible also gives us many examples of people who passed personal tests of their characters, such as Joseph, Ruth, Esther, and Daniel. Character is both developed and revealed by tests. All of life is a test. We are always being tested!

God constantly watches our responses to people's problems, success, conflicts, illness, disappointments, and even the weather. He even watches the simplest action, such as when we open a door for others, when we pick up a piece of trash, or when we are polite towards a clerk or a waitress. We don't know all the tests God will give us, but, we can predict some of them based on the bible.

We will be tested by major changes, by delayed promises, by impossible problems, by undeserved criticism, etc., etc. In my own life, I have noticed that God tests my faith through problems, tests my hope by how I handle possessions, and tests my love through people. A very important test is how we act when we cannot feel God's presence in our life.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

Sometimes, God intentionally draws back, and we don't sense His closeness. King Hezekiah experienced this test. God withdrew from him in order to test him to see what was really in his heart. Another saint of our time was Mother Theresa. If you read her books, you see she too experienced this test.

When we understand that life is a test, we realize that nothing is insignificant in life. Even the smallest incident is significant for our character development. Every day is an important day for spiritual growth and opportunities. Don't miss that opportunity.

In His love, my prayers!

Stella ✨

CWIA BYLAWS

1. To worship, praise and glorify God in all areas of the members' lives.
2. To win souls for Jesus Christ, especially those not reached by commonly used methods of evangelism.
3. To share with believers and non-believers the full gospel of Jesus Christ, including Jesus as Lord and Savior, Baptizer in the Holy Spirit, Deliverer and Healer.
4. To work for spiritual unity among Christian believers.
5. To foster fellowship among women, especially the elderly, widowed, separated, single mothers, and the incarcerated.
6. To encourage women to participate in the activities of their local church.
7. To help women recognize their proper role and relationship according to the scripture.
8. To provide outreach meetings, bible studies, workshops, and weekend retreats for spiritual growth.

CWIA STAFF

Board Members:

President - Stella Davis
Honorary President – The Honorable Margaret Heckler (Ambassador)
1st Vice President - Rosalie Mainey
2nd Vice President - Connie Williamson
Recording Secretary - Diane Hill
Corresponding Secretary - Fran Raven
Treasurer – Maggie Merkle
Spiritual Director: Monsignor John B. Brady
Board of Directors: Cathy Czaja, Grace Bryan, Ester Pena, Edelmira Cruz
Spiritual Advisors: Jack Davis, Jesse Williamson, Joe Mainey
Music Ministry: Castor Salazar - Director, Ellen Salazar – Director

Ministries:

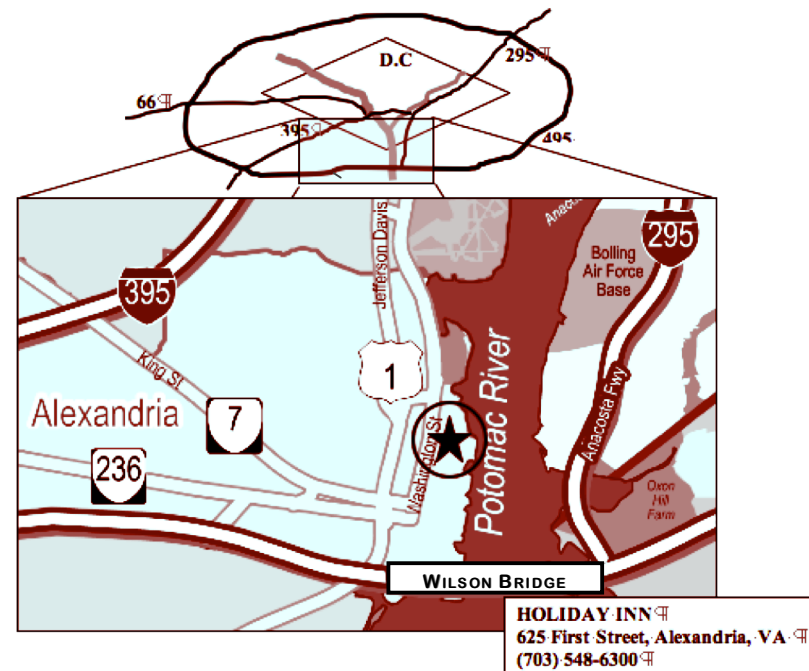
Historian: Constance Mensah
Sgt. Of Arms: Maria Guadalupe
Prayer Chain: Clara D'Silva – Chair
Hostesses: Lou Horner - Chair, Grace Bryan, Ester Pena, Edelmira Cruz, Pat Diliberto, Stephanie D'Silva, Cathy Czaja, Elizabeth Wick
Prophecy Team: Cathy Czaja, Ester Pena, Clare Merkle
Greeters: Marney Hale, Patti Davis
Promoter: Grace Sims
Ticket Sellers: Cathy Czaja, Grace Bryan, Edelmira Cruz, Patti Davis, Grace Sims
Name Tags: Gail Duncan - Chair
Webmaster: Maggie Merkle
Graphics: Gail Coates

UPCOMING EVENTS:

(Please refer to our website for updates: www.cwiaholyspirit.org)

- ❖ Our breakfast meeting will be **Saturday, November 21, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.** at the **Holiday Inn in Alexandria Virginia**, near the Metro Yellow Line – Eisenhower. Address: 2460 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: (703) 960-3400, Cost: \$12. **Please make a note of the change in date! The meeting will NOT be on the last Saturday of the month due to the Thanksgiving holiday.**
- ❖ **BIG changes are coming our way!** The Lord has answered our prayers. Starting in January, we will have a new home for CWIA. God always gives us the very best. Please make a note that **beginning in 2010**, our breakfasts and conferences will be held at the **Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites in Old Town Alexandria**. They have welcomed us with open arms. It's a beautiful place, and you'll love it. **Don't forget the change!**

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Alexandria-Historic District



- Directions: I-95 (North or South) to exit 177-B (Rte 1) north to Old Town Alexandria, stay on Rte 1 for 13 blocks, right on Madison Street, 4 blocks to St. Asaph Street, make left and 2 blocks to hotel.
- Complimentary Airport Shuttle
- Nearest subway -- Braddock Road, one mile away from the hotel. Hotel shuttle runs every 30 minutes. Or you can call the hotel and they'll pick you up.
- Valet parking is available, or park your car in the garage underneath the hotel.
- Mention the CWIA breakfast for discounted Friday night room rate.

- ❖ A flyer regarding our upcoming CWIA Annual Conference on May 21-23, 2010 will be mailed soon.
- ❖ Call RonArt Associates Recordings at (703) 362-5373 or e-mail ronart.assoc@cox.net. Please honor this professional ministry!
- ❖ Bible Study: Thursday mornings, Annandale area. Aleu: (703) 642-8378
- ❖ Intercessory Prayer Meetings, Mondays, 10:30am-1:30pm. Lunch is served. If you're staying, bring something to share. Stella: (703) 971-3633
- ❖ For prayer, call our Prayer Chain: Clara - (202) 244-7532