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California Region

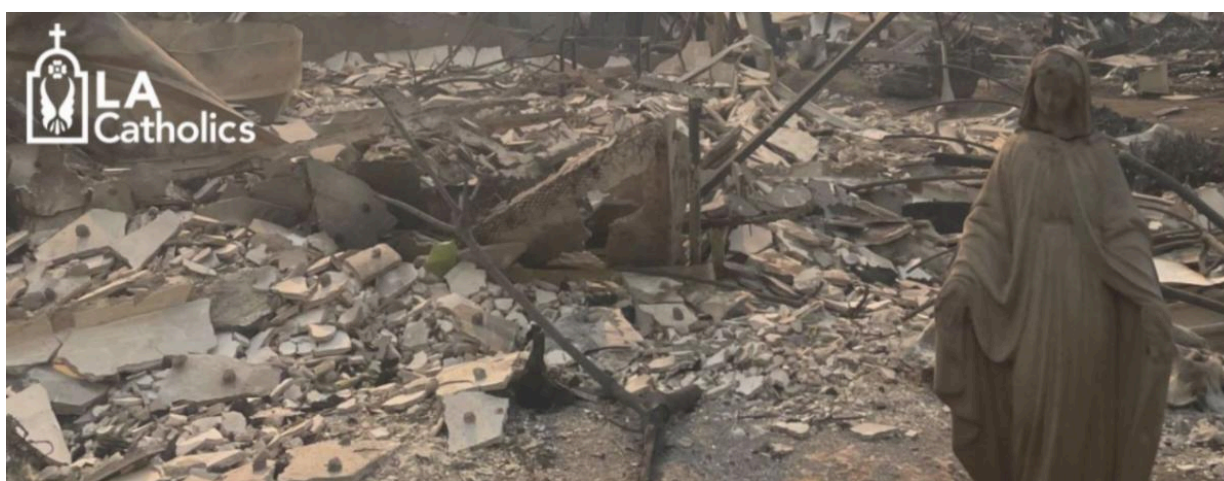
*Mission Advancement Egram*

February 25, 2025

**One Heart. One Hope. One Mission.**

## MESSAGE FROM MISSION ADVANCEMENT

*...it is in giving that we receive...peace*



Dear Friends,

With Ash Wednesday marking the beginning of Lent next week, we are probably beginning to think about our personal practices for this season of renewal and personal transformation.

Traditionally, the Church invites us to growth through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As humans, ***we have an innate need to give***. As an educator, I liked to discuss this need with high school students, but would also tell them that they should not approach their parents with any kind of guilt trip because being a parent is all about giving!

The tragedies of the recent wildfires in Southern California have given us many opportunities to exercise generosity, fulfilling our need to give. As chancellor of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Sr. Ann Carla Costello, S.N.D., has been the coordinator for the Wildfire Victims Emergency Relief Fund. To date, nearly 2,500 grants have been given to individuals and households. She recently shared her gratitude that the archdiocese has been the conduit for bringing some measure of comfort to those affected, Catholic or not. "It has been an amazing outpouring of compassion and a real experience of what it means to 'be church' as we assist our sisters and brothers in need. You don't have to be Catholic, you don't have to be Christian, you don't have to be documented... We've given grants to Hindus and Buddhists and many others...no matter what, they're part of the human family."



The SND connection crossed our regional boundaries. In Toledo, Ohio, Christ the King Parish wanted to reach out to the LA victims, and because Sr. Dolores Gatliff, an SND from the Toledo region has a direct connection, the parishioners sent thousands of dollars in contributions. Sr. Dolores commented "It gave us all a sense of hopefully giving these people a bright future, or at least a sign to them that people even far away care about them and want to help."

2025 has begun as a year of many challenges. Fires, floods, earthquakes, government and corporate layoffs, economic instability, human rights violations, an ailing pontiff. In this prevailing atmosphere of uncertainty and tension, everyone is in need of peace. ***We also have the innate need to give, and it is in giving that we receive...peace.***

May the season of Lent be a time of deep grace...and peace...for each of you, our dear friends. Be assured that we carry you in our hearts and in our prayers.

Gratefully,  
Sr. Lisa Megaffin, S.N.D.  
Director of Mission Advancement Services

**FROM THE CALIFORNIA GRAPEVINE**

## Outreach and spirit at NDA Elementary!

At Notre Dame Academy Elementary in West Los Angeles, each class adopts a service organization. Throughout the year students learn about that group and the needs of those being served. Students also make a difference by raising funds. Beneficiaries vary from senior citizens at Nazareth House to refugees to the homeless.

Recently during Catholic Schools Week, the students showcased their cause with a great deal of spirit...[follow this link to be inspired!](#)



## Reunion for St. Matthias High pioneer class of 1964



On February 1, the SNDs, Associates and friends gathered to commemorate and celebrate the life and legacy of Sr. Paulynne Tubick. Some of her classmates from St. Matthias High are pictured above with Sr. Antonine Manning, one of their teachers. [Follow this link](#) for a live-stream of Sr. Paulynne's Mass of Christian Burial.

## Care for Creation Corner

The calendar and the sunshine (at least in Southern California) tell us that spring is on the horizon. And with that, there are great ways to protect the environment with the change of seasons:

- Pick up litter in your community.
- Grow some critter-friendly plants, especially plants native to your region.
- Ditch your car for a day and enjoy springtime weather by walking or biking.
- Plant a tree.
- Organize a yard sale of reusable items.

More information about these ideas can be found [here](#).



## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

*...living with one heart, one hope, one mission*

**Wednesday, February 26, 10:00 a.m.**

Online

### Catholic Crisis Response - The LA Fires

Crisis comes to every community. Is your parish or diocese prepared to respond? In partnership with their parishes, the Archdiocese of LA has already distributed over one million dollars in resources and financial aid to victims of the recent fires. Learn how their emergency crisis response team jumped into action within hours of the first warning, collected donations and engaged local parishes in distribution of aid and care for people from all walks of life. Speakers include Sr. AnnCarla Costello, S.N.D., and Felipe Sanchez.



[Register here.](#)

Those who register will receive a link to view the webinar later.



**Opening Feb. 28**  
AMC and Regal Theaters

### No Address

This moving film explores the human cost of this growing crisis, offering a raw and intimate look at the lives of individuals struggling to survive on the streets. Be prepared to be moved and inspired to make a difference.

Check a local theater for show times and [follow this link](#) for a trailer.



**Saturday, March 8, 10:00 a.m. - Noon**  
South Central LAMP  
892 E. 48th St., Los Angeles

### South Central LAMP's International Women's Day Open House

- Get a behind-the-scenes look at what we do at South Central LAMP
- Explore our classrooms
- Meet with our teachers and staff
- Q&A with LAMP's Executive Director, Diana Pinto
- [Follow this link for more info](#) And here is LAMP's February newsletter.



**Sunday, Mar. 23 - 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.**  
Notre Dame Center

### Many Mansions Bowl Painting Party

Join SNDs and Associates, painting bowls to benefit [Many Mansions](#) fundraiser, Bowls of Hope. It is a great opportunity for fellowship, creativity and concern for those in need of affordable housing. [Follow this link](#) for complete details and please note that the RSVP deadline is Mar. 19.



[SNDUSA Website](#)

[SND USA Magazine, Fall, 2024](#)  
featuring Sr. Joan Schlotfeldt and the California Centennial!

[SND 2023 Impact Report, California Region](#)

[The Living Legacy of the Sisters of Notre Dame in California](#)

[Archives of the California Mission Advancement Egrams](#)

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