

# Columbiettes Auxiliary 8104



2024 *Newsletter Winter Edition*

The Columbiettes, an organization of Catholic women dedicated to our Patronesses: Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Therese, the Little Flower, and St. Joan of Arc, are comprised of affiliated Auxiliaries of the Knights of Columbus Councils.



**Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church**  
**2348 Collier Parkway**  
**Land O Lakes, Florida 34639**



## **OFFICERS 2024-2025**

**President:** Clare Kaminski

**Vice President:** Mary Ann Whalen

**Immediate Past President:** Mary Straw

**Secretary:** Kim Malone

**Financial Secretary:** Lorraine Dupignac

**Treasurer:** Pat Gramer

**Sentinel:** Maureen Gregg

**Chaplain:** Rev. Fr. Raju Chebattina

## **DELEGATES 2024-2025**

**STATE:** 1. Clare Kaminski    2. Mary Straw

Alternate: 1. Jo Tambone    2. Pat Gramer

**CHAPTER** 1. Pat Gramer    2. Mary Ann Whalen

3. Cristina Duvall    4. Jackie Loadholtz

Alternate: 1. Sandy Paxton    2. Maureen Gregg



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## Message from Our President

*“Share your time, talent and treasure to help the Columbiettes become a good example for our church members.”*



*“Happiness for all and good health into our New Year 2025.”*

Dear Sisters,

The Holy Day of Christmas has passed but we have more days to enjoy this beautiful feast. The Feast of the Holy Family with the story of Jesus staying behind at the Temple. He worried his parents sick. I'm sure Luke was giving us an example that even Jesus (God) tried his parents' patience.

Just a few days later we have the Solemnity of Mary. Luke again brings Mary to the forefront of our faith as the Mother of God, full of grace. Our 12 days of Christmas brings us to January 6th, the Epiphany! The manifestation of the Christ to the gentiles. Are not all these special days a reason to celebrate?

***I wish all my sisters a beautiful Christmas season, happiness for all and good health into our New Year 2025.*** Let us work to make this year especially fruitful. Share your time, talent and treasure to help the Columbiettes become a good example for our church members, raising funds to benefit our church, community and charities. God bless you all.

*Clare Kaminski*



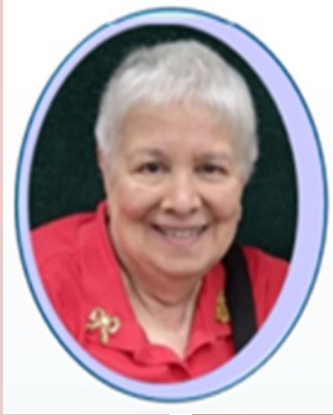


## Message from the Past President

▲ Past President's Message ...

▲ Christians' new year begins with Advent, a time for the review of our spiritual side of life. This is not the world's view of this season, with its emphasis on gift buying, decorations, parties, and Christmas stories that revolve around people, with only a minor mention of the true meaning of the season, the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. When the day finally comes, most are stressed out, and they feel relieved when the day is over. They cannot wait to strip the home and world of any sign of the holiday.

Now, take time to think of the true holiday season which starts on the Eve of Christmas, the Octave of this joyous season, which starts with the celebration of the birth of a Holy Child and extends through January 1st with the Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God; and for many nationalities it is extended through the Epiphany of Our Lord.



Do you rejoice in this special time? Do you wonder about the magnificence of the FATHER who gave us HIS SON, as an INFANT to be loved and cherished, and as a SAVIOR

who would redeem the world? If not, then make it your New Year's resolution to ponder, each day, this loving, merciful and miraculous event, so that next year Christmas will truly be a season of gratitude, hope, faith, and love.

*May the true joy of Christmas be with you every day of the year, and may you want to spend the next true season of the birth of Christ, with HIM for the full Octave celebration.*

On a personal note, and for all those who asked and needed prayers, we thank and bless you for them, they were truly heard and answered by a benevolent God.

*Claire Thompson*



## SAINT of the MONTH of NOVEMBER

Source: The Catholic Company

BLESSED  
MARIA  
FORTUNATA  
VITI  
PRAY FOR US



BLESSED  
MARIA  
FORTUNATA  
VITI

Blessed Maria Fortunata Viti (1827–1922) was born in Italy, the eldest daughter of nine children. Her father had a gambling and alcohol addiction, and her mother died when she was 14 years old.

Maria then cared for her younger siblings and worked as a housekeeper to earn money for the family as her father sunk deeper into his addiction. Maria rejected an offer for marriage, deciding instead to become a Benedictine nun at the age of 24.

*Sr. Maria Fortunata, illiterate her entire life, spent more than seventy years in the monastery as a housekeeper attending to the washing,*

*sewing, and other simple tasks, which was her path to holiness.*

She was admired for her great simplicity of heart, and her confessor testified that she was often accosted by the devil with threats, physical attacks, and vile insults in attempts to break her virtue. She had great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and made frequent visits to the chapel tabernacle as she carried out her daily tasks.

She died at the age of 95, and after her death miracles were reported at her grave.

*She is a patron saint against poverty, temptations, loss of parents, and mental illness.*

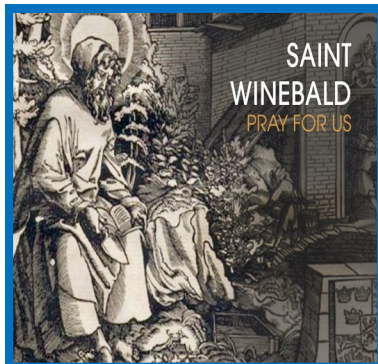
HER FEAST DAY IS  
NOVEMBER 20TH.



# SAINTS of the MONTH of DECEMBER

Source: The Catholic Company

## St. Winebald (701-761 A.D.) Feast Day December 18



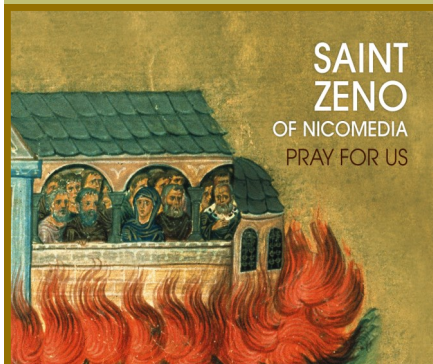
Also known as Winibald or Wynbald - a Sax-

on prince born into a holy and royal family in England. **His father, St. Richard the King, and his mother, St. Wunna of Wessex, are both saints, as well as his brother, St. Willibald, his sister, St. Walburga, and his uncle, St. Boniface.**

After making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with his father and brother, and then spending many years in Rome, Winebald was recruited by his uncle, Boniface, to join him in evangelizing Germany.

Winebald was ordained a priest and worked as a missionary across Germany, Holland, France, Austria, Belgium, and Luxembourg, leaving behind many flourishing churches and monasteries under the Rule of St. Benedict. St. Winebald was an important figure in laying the foundations of Christianity across much of Europe.

**After his death, his tomb became a pilgrimage shrine.**



## St. Zeno of Nicomedia

(d. 303

A.D.) was a Roman soldier and commander

In Nicomedia alone, as many as 20,000 Christians were burned alive as they gathered inside a cathedral on Christmas Day.

living in Nicomedia (modern-day Turkey) during the reign of Roman Emperors Diocletian and Maximian.

During their fierce persecution of the Church they were condemning many Christians to death, including any soldiers who professed faith in Jesus Christ. In Nicomedia alone, as many as 20,000 Christians were burned alive as they gathered inside a cathedral on Christmas Day.

Standing nearby when the Emperor was offering a sacrifice to a Roman deity, St. Zeno, a Christian, mocked his devotion to a soulless god. St. Zeno was immediately seized and put to death, giving him a martyr's crown. **St. Zeno's feast day is December 22nd.**



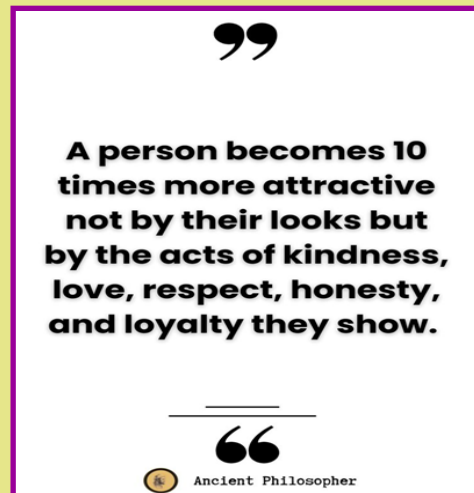
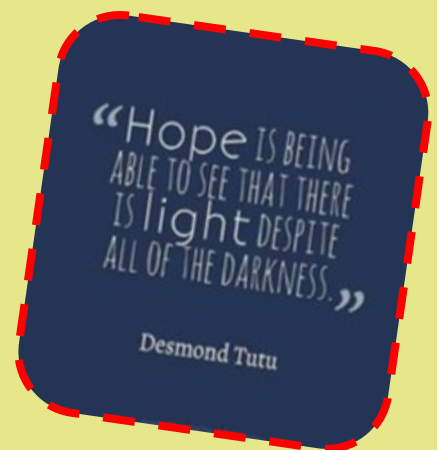
## POSITIVITY

People with beautiful personalities exude Positivity. They see the glass as half full, find the silver lining in every Cloud, and spread joy wherever they go.

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*We make a living by what we get, we make life by what we give.*

*\*\*\* Winston Churchill\*\*\**







# COLUMBIETTES IN ACTION

By Nancy McGee and Claire Thompson



Sister Columbiette Nancy McGee and Brother Knight Bob McGee won an Award at Travelers Aid which is part of Tampa Bay Crisis Center.

Parishioners, Knights, and Columbiettes participated in a service by candlelight on October 10th held during the blackout caused by one of the hurricanes that hit Florida.

We celebrated our Anniversary Mass on October 13th, accompanied by many of our Brother



Knights. *A highlight of the morning was viewing the traveling Icon of St. Joseph that had been brought to our parish by the Knights.*



# COLUMBIETTES IN ACTION

By Claire Thompson and Cristina Duvall



The traveling statue of Our Lady of Fatima, relics of St. Francisco and St. Jacinta, a historical presentation, and a day of prayer brought us another opportunity for spiritual reflection.



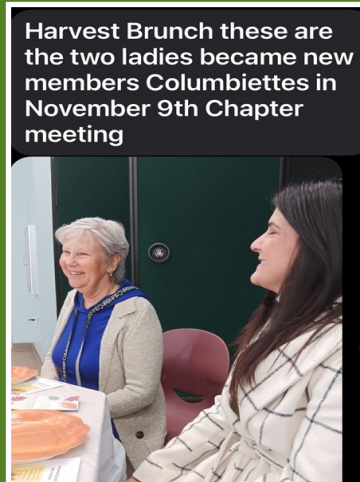
*Our Advent Brunch and Presentation was held on October 23rd and was well attended. It featured a talk on the Florida Martyrs by Fr. Ron, lively conversations, and tasty food. It is hoped this will become an annual event.*





# COLUMBIETTES IN ACTION

2024 ADVENT BRUNCH by Claire Thompson, Jackie Hussey and Cristina Duvall





# COLUMBIETTES IN ACTION

By Nida Liwanag

The St. Jude Medal Award was started by Bishop Emeritus Robert Lynch in 1999 to individuals and couples from each parishes and missions in the Diocese of St. Petersburg for their outstanding contributions to courageously living the Gospel. This year's Award Ceremony was done on October 27, 2024 at St. Jude the Apostle Cathedral.

Rev. Fr. Justin Paskert, Pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary Church, nominated Mac and Nida Liwanag as this year's recipients for sharing their time and talents for many years with many ministries in the parish. The Award was bestowed by His Excellency Bishop Gregory Parkes at a special Prayer Service.



Photo by Betty Montgomery



2024 St. Jude Medals Presentation

Pictured on the right with Mac and Nida were Fr. Justin Paskert, Filipino Community, Sister Columbiettes Helen Strakos, Betty Montgomery, Jackie Hussey, Mary Ann Whalen, Hazel Tamburo, Brother Knights Ben Strakos and Hal Montgomery.





# COLUMBIETTES IN ACTION

BREAKFAST with SANTA By Cristina Duvall





# COLUMBIETTES IN ACTION





# COLUMBIETTES IN ACTION





# COLUMBIETTES IN ACTION

Columbiettes Christmas Party by Jackie Hussey





**Quarterly Newsletter**  
Managing Editor and Publisher  
Nida Liwanag  
This Newsletter is published end of each  
Quarter:  
**January-March**  
**April-June**  
**July- September**  
**October- December**

**Announcements**  
West Florida Chapter Meeting  
on January 11, 2025  
Planning stages: Valentine  
Dance, Lenten Dessert Table,  
Lenten Fish Fry Hosting,  
Fashion Show



”  
**A person becomes 10 times more attractive not by their looks but by the acts of kindness, love, respect, honesty, and loyalty they show.**  
“  
Ancient Philosopher

”  
**There are four very important words in life: love, honesty, truth, respect. Without these in your life, you have nothing.**  
“  
Ancient Philosopher

