



# Reflections

A silhouette of a person standing on a reflection, positioned over the word "Reflections". The reflection is a mirror image of the person, creating a vertical line of symmetry through the center of the word. The word "Reflections" is written in a large, serif font, with the letters "R", "e", "f", "l", "e", "c", "t", "i", "o", "n", "s" in a light gray color, and the letters "B", "e", "f", "l", "e", "c", "t", "i", "o", "n", "s" in a darker gray color, appearing as if they are reflections of the top row.

## "MOTHER'S DAY"

We are celebrating Mother's day this weekend and dedicate this issue of Reflections to all our mothers, those who are with us and those who are gone.

We ask God's blessing on them and wish a very happy mother's day to each and every mother. Don't forget to let your mother know how much she is loved today and every day of her life.

*"Happy Mother's Day ~ Mom"*

*Today is Mother's Day, a special day just for you.*

*You're a special kind of mother designed specifically by God.*

*When he designed you He added an extra touch of Angel blessing including a special touch of kindness, warmth and yes, He filled you full of love.*

*I pray the Lord will bless you today and everyday.*

*And thank you mom for being you.*

## A SAINT FOR THE SEASON

By Marge Plichta

### MOTHER TERESA



Known as the "Saint of the gutters," Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu on August 26, 1910, in Skopje, Macedonia. At an early age Mother Teresa felt the call to help the poor and developed a special interest in overseas missions, by the age of 12 she realized her vocation in aiding the poor.

She was inspired to work in India by reports from Jesuit missionaries working in Bengal. And at the age of 18, she left home to join a community of Irish nuns with a mission in Calcutta. She took the name of "Sister Teresa" after Saint Teresa of Lisieux, the patroness of missionaries. She taught for 17 years at St. Mary's high school in Calcutta.

In 1946 she fell ill with tuberculosis, and was sent down to Darjeeling to recover. "It was in the train I heard the call to give up all and follow him to the slums to serve him among the poorest of the poor," she remembered. Two years later Pope Pius XII granted permission for her to leave her order. After taking a medical training course, to prepare for her new mission, she went to work in the slums of Calcutta where the children called her "Mother Teresa"

In 1950, she founded the community, the Missionaries of Charity, What began with 12 members has grown to more than 4,000 nuns running orphanages, AIDS hospices and other charity centers worldwide.

In 1952, she established a home for the dying poor---- the Nirmal Hriday ( the "pure Heart") Home for Dying Destitutes.

In 1979, she won the Nobel Peace Prize. She accepted the award in the name of the "unwanted,unloved and uncared for."

## A SAINT FOR THE SEASON (Cont.)

In 1980, homes were established for drug addicts, prostitutes, battered women and more orphanages and schools for poor children. In 1985 she established the first hospice for AIDS victims in New York, and later in San Francisco and Atlanta. Mother Teresa was awarded the Medal of Freedom, the highest U.S. civilian award.

And in 1996, Mother Teresa received the honorary U.S. citizenship.

Mother Teresa died on September 5, 1997 and was Beatified in Rome on October 19th, 2003



### Quotes of Mother Teresa

"Keep the joy of loving God in your heart and share this joy with all you meet especially your family. Be holy-let us pray."

## Assumption Christian Mothers/Women's Guild Celebrates 55 years

In June 1951 "a group of dedicated women decided to associate themselves together under the patronage of the Blessed Mother and affiliate with the Arch Confraternity of Christian Mothers. They pledged themselves to live up to the ideal of the Blessed Mother". And, in doing this, they laid the foundation for an organization that would support and guide hundreds of women through the years to lead meaningful Christian lives.



As the Christian Mothers/Women's Guild celebrates their fifty-fifth anniversary they look back thru the years and reflect on what it means to be a part of this organization. Perhaps we think about what we individually have reaped from our membership. Many of us would talk of the friends we have made, women who prayed with us in times of troubles, shared in our joys, laughed with us at our social functions. Some of us might feel our greatest gift was the spiritual wisdom or peace we received from a day of recollection. Or we might feel proud of the organizations financial support given to our CCD and Assumption school or even the times we reached out in service to the parish by providing refreshments at various receptions. All of these things and more gathered us together and helped us to

## **Assumption Women celebrates 55 years (cont.)**

live up to the ideal of the Blessed Mother.

Perhaps when we reflect on how much this affiliation has helped each of us we will renew our commitment to CM/WG and become a more active member. Please help us to rekindle the fires of the Christian Mothers/ Women's Guild so that we may move forward in the next fifty-five years with as much dedication as the women before us.



The organization is open to all women of the parish, married, widowed and single. We range in age from mid-twenties to into our nineties. Not all of us are Catholic; some of us are married to Catholics. Membership is open throughout the year and we will formally receive new members on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at our anniversary celebration. If you are interested in joining please call 412-766-5048.

## **Mom's & Tots**

**By Lisa Bischoff**

Everyone says "You're life will change when you have a baby". What they should say is "Your life will transform into something you've never known before and you will never be the same!" As a young mother of a new baby girl, I went through many emotions from elation to despair. I was at home for the first time since I was a kid on summer vacation and although I loved being a mom, I felt alone and isolated.

My husband and I have a strong faith and attend church regularly. I love reading the bulletin, so when I read the advertisement for Moms/Dads and Tots, it seemed like an answer to my prayers. The first time I went I was hooked! My daughter and I were greeted with warmth and love from other Christian men and women who all had similar values to my own. I was able to talk to other moms who were experiencing the same joys and disappointments that I was, and somehow through sharing, I was better able to handle the challenges that I faced every day.

Now I have three beautiful, healthy children who keep me so busy that sometimes I'm not sure what day it is! Through it all, I've had the support of all the wonderful people that I've met through Moms/Dads and Tots. I have not only met and kept wonderful friends through this group, but I've also felt more connected to the parish community.

Moms/Dads and Tots meet twice a month on Friday mornings, September through May, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM in the RCIA room of Assumption

## **Mom's & Tots Cont. from Page 6**

School. There is no fee to join (which is a big bonus for families on a budget!) and there is no pressure to attend every event. There is a snack (donations from participants), sometimes we do circle time with songs and finger plays, and while the children play, moms and dads relax and talk. June through August, we meet twice a month in Bayne Park from 10 to 11:30 AM for free play (weather permitting). We also have four outings per year: the zoo and pumpkin patch in the fall and Idlewild Park and a free guided tour of Round Hill Farm in the early summer.

Moms/Dads and Tots is always looking for new participants and currently we are looking for anyone who would be willing to help expand the group. If you are interested in meeting other parents of young children in our parish community, just come to any of our gatherings or call Lisa Bischoff at 412-734-3811.



**Reflections About Our Mothers**

Mothers are very important people. They give us so much. All of what they give is given with love. Some of our Assumption School primary students share their thoughts about their moms, how much they love their moms, and how special their moms are to them.

Justin - Kindergarten: My mom is the best! She lets me do fun things. Mom gives me milk and a cookie. She lets me paint the house. I love my mom!

Olivia - Kindergarten: My mom is the best! I love her when she tucks me into bed. My mommy helps me read. She is special!

Ryan - First Grade: My mom does the best thing of all...she loves me. She cares for me, protects me, and prays for me.

Brianna - First Grade: I love my mommy. She is nice. I love my mommy so much. My mommy loves me too. We love the beach.

Megan - Second Grade: I love my mom because every night we snuggle up and read a story. We also go bike riding together. It's really fun! Sometimes we even go to the Science Center. That's why I love my mom!

Adam - Second Grade: I love my mom because if I would ask her to go to a baseball game, she would say yes. My mom is special because when she tucks me in bed we talk a lot.