

## Under Construction: Building a Foundation

By Jessica Mendez

Over the past couple of months, the Mendez household has been under major reconstruction. If you have ever visited our home before, you may be saying, "It is about time!"

I know what you are thinking. This is about the time for me to give you some sad story about why my house has been a mess and why up until now I haven't really dealt with it. If you are thinking that, well you're not wrong. Ha-ha. Every physical reaction that we have and see is caused by an emotional, or traumatic situation which leads to a certain way of thinking. The way that we think, or perceive situations directs our behavior. In my situation, the lack of care that I received as an infant led to a misguided thought process which in turn led me to neglect the appearance of my home. The physical clutter was only a distraction from the pain and anguish inside of my heart and soul.

Some of you may be thinking, "But you have 9 kids, you are full time ministers, it is understandable that your house would be messy." My response to this is that this is the exact kind of thinking that caused me to excuse myself from needing to maintain a clean environment for my family. God has blessed us with 9 beautiful children and the honor of being called Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy, therefore He will provide the graces and resources necessary to fulfill the calling. Many events happened that led to my eyes being opened, but the one that moved me the most was when God spoke to me through Hebrews 12:1-4, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. <sup>4</sup>In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood." One morning at mass, this reading was proclaimed, except instead of "let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles," I heard "let us get rid of all the clutter and dirt in your home." Crazy right? I literally heard those words spoken, even though I knew that those were not the words in the reading, I knew exactly what the Holy Spirit was telling me. God does care if my house is a mess. God does see all my clutter and it does count against me, because I am not caring for the blessings that He has given me. My home is filled with angels and future saints, why wouldn't I want to keep it as clean as possible.

Thanks be to God and all the ministers here on this property who have cared enough to teach me how to make our house a home. With God's grace I have sought out council and am now also teaching my children to be a blessing by keeping their spaces clean. My home is far from perfect, but it is currently under reconstruction, the foundation is being laid and I can truly say that I am finding joy and fulfillment in this journey. What about you my brothers and sisters? What emotional clutter are you carrying and how is it affecting those around you? My clutter was physical and obvious to those outside of the home, but I had become so accustomed to it that my eyes were blinded until the Holy Spirit opened them. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit, shouldn't we also find ways to declutter our souls and our hearts in order to keep a clean

home within ourselves?

Even if you have been here before Mama is calling you to come home and be renewed. The Holy Spirit wants to reveal new and awesome things to you. Will you make room for His revelations? Or will you choose to continue living in the same mess? Will you allow Him to do some reconstructing in you? The Holy Spirit is ready to clean house and Mama is right behind Him ready to make that house a home. Are you ready to leave everything behind for this transformation to come forth? I pray that your answer is, "Yes, I am ready." Thank you for taking time to read this article, I pray that it has been a blessing to you. As always, I continue to pray that the Blessed Mother would cover you in her mantle and help you to prepare your heart for Our Lord Jesus Christ.

### AFM Ministries

#### LOUIS LIFE CENTER RAFFLE

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VALUE APPROX. \$30,000



MAY 5, 2019 DRAWING AT NOON

MACHO MAN RETREAT

SHALLOWATER, TEXAS

**\$100.00 PER TICKET**

Drawing AT RETREAT • Winner Need Not Be Present

**Maximum of 600 tickets will be sold.**

Tickets may be purchased by stopping by the ministry or by calling Kathy Gloria at 806-445-1440, Eleaser Perez @ 817-495-2386, or Howard Huntzinger at 806-831-3176.



### The Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy

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10:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. CDT

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## Resurrection of the Self-Image Retreat

**You are a unique, one-of-a-kind, masterpiece, child of the Most High Living God. Come into the fullness of what God has planned for you!**



I have seen persons come to a retreat broken, hurt, lost or confused. But when it's time to go home at the end of the retreat, you see the transformation in them that you know in some way God touched their hearts to get closer to Him and/or received some kind of healing - physical or spiritual. Highly recommend this place! Nina Torres August 31, 2018 (from Facebook)



**Register Today and Save!  
March 8-10, 2019**

Practical teachings on healing, forgiveness, mercy, family, and understanding the love of God!

## Gala 2019 to Benefit the Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy

**March 23, 2019 - Houston, Texas  
6:30 PM - 10:30 PM**

Location:  
Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church  
(Parish Hall)  
3600 Brinkman, Houston, Texas 77018

**Tickets: \$25 per Person**  
(Includes Dinner, Dessert, and Drinks)  
Attire: Sunday Best  
Limited seating so purchase tickets soon.

Fun-filled night. Events include a silent auction, music for your enjoyment, and testimonials from the Ambassadors' brothers and sisters.

For additional information or to purchase tickets please contact Kathy Gloria at 806-445-1440 or Nina Torres at 713-483-8977.

**Tickets can be purchased online at  
[www.flameofmercy.com/gala2019](http://www.flameofmercy.com/gala2019)**

# Healing the FAMILY

**Retreat 1: APRIL 4-7, 2019**

**This Retreat is For**

**Married Couples, Single Parent(s) and Guardian(s)**

(A complete list of this series of retreats is on our website.)

## Retreat Topics:

- ◇ Accepting the authority you have from baptism to pray for your family without fear.
- ◇ Is anger, rejection and/or disappointment separating you and your family
- ◇ Is control and manipulation not allowing you to be the child God called you to be for your family?
- ◇ Learning How to Use words of life to bring Christ's light into the family
- ◇ What priorities does Christ want us to have in family relationships & as we discipline our children?
- ◇ Learn how to break the curses of previous generations for you & your family & live in the blessing
- ◇ Accepting the Empowerment of the Holy Spirit to set you & your family free from:
  - ◇ Addictions
  - ◇ Witchcraft
  - ◇ Dangerous videos, music, and games
  - ◇ Pornography
  - ◇ Greed



*The registration for this retreat is \$225.00 per person.*

*More information at [www.flameofmercy.com/family](http://www.flameofmercy.com/family)*

## HEALING THROUGH DIVINE LAUGHTER

### RETREAT

**April 26-28, 2019**

**Come Rediscover Your Joy in the Lord!**



*Then our mouths were filled with laughter;  
our tongues sang for joy.  
Psalm 126:2*

### Possible Topics:

- *Who is Stealing Your Joy?*
- *Laughter is Like Medicine*
- *Mercy in Joy*
- *Thou Shalt Laugh*

## February/March Construction on the Louis Constancio Life Center

Construction continues with workers replacing the original brown structure that was located at the front of the annex with a larger structure. When this facility is completed, the chapel from the main building will be moved to this location temporarily while the main building is being replaced.



God permitting, the whole building is scheduled to be enclosed around the end of March. Interior walls and electricity will soon follow.



Change to the front the of annex.

## A NEW SEASON OF RETREATS FOR 2019

- ◆ **Resurrection of the Self-Image Retreat** March 8-10, 2019 Registration Fee: \$175.00
- ◆ **Houston Gala for the Ambassadors** March 23, 2019 6:30—10:30 PM Tickets: \$25.00/Each (See flyer)
- ◆ **Healing the Family Retreat - Part 1** April 4-7, 2019 (4 days) Registration Fee: \$225.00
- ◆ **Healing Through Divine Laughter Retreat** April 26-28, 2019 Registration Fee: \$175.00
- ◆ **Macho Men of God Retreat** May 3-5, 2019 Registration Fee: \$175.00
- ◆ **Women of Power Retreat** May 17-19, 2019 Registration Fee: \$175.00
- ◆ **Pentecost Retreat** June 7-9, 2019 Registration Fee: \$175.00
- ◆ **Healing the Family Retreat - Part 2** June 21-23, 2019 Children's Registration Fee: \$125.00
- ◆ **Marriage Retreat** July 12-14, 2019 Registration Fee: \$325.00/Couple
- ◆ **Healing the Family Retreat - Part 3** August 2-4, 2019 Registration Fee: \$175.00/Adults  
\$125.00/Children
- ◆ **Macho Men of God Retreat** August 30 - September 1, 2019 Registration Fee: \$175.00
- ◆ **Women of Power Retreat** September 20-22, 2019 Registration Fee: \$175.00
- ◆ **Feast of the Assumption Celebration** August 14-15, 2019 Celebration Free. Dorm Fee: \$35.00/night/bed

Register today online: [www.flameofmercy.com](http://www.flameofmercy.com), Email: [Admin@flameofmercy.com](mailto:Admin@flameofmercy.com),  
or call Carolyn @ 806.773.5147