

Meet St. Martha, Our Patron Saint

We chose St. Martha because we could see ourselves in her story. Martha got cranky. She invited Jesus into her family's home and, while she was bustling about getting everything perfect, her sister Mary just sat and listened to their guest. Who wouldn't be a little upset? But when she complained to Jesus, the answer was unexpected: "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:41-42 NRSVCE)

Martha had unshakable faith amid crisis. Her brother was dead and she knew, if their friend had been there, Lazarus would still be alive. She told Jesus that. Still, when Jesus said Lazarus would rise again, she did not expect Jesus to bring him back immediately, but rather on the last day. When Jesus probed her statement, she answered, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." (John 11:27 NRSVCE)



October 21-22, 2016

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

Welcome to the first Future With Hope Women's Conference!

What a joy it has been to see this conference come to fruition after all our brainstorming and planning.

Sometimes when you are being called to serve, you get the urge – the prompting – the call – but not too many directions are provided. So we four have spent a lot of time in prayer to learn where God was directing us. And slowly, methodically, we began exploring options, seeking guidance and advice from those in the Arlington Diocese who could help us navigate this process.

We were blessed to have connections with the wonderful speakers who agreed to speak at this first time conference with no track record, at fees much less than would otherwise be expected, because they believed in our call and in our mission and were willing to support that. We are so grateful for their support.

We saw what we thought was a need – women our age are in need of friendship and fellowship – yet we don't all have those natural ways to meet other women as we did when we were younger, in the workforce, or raising children. So we wanted to create that opportunity for women to meet women and to discuss issues facing the various stages in our life.

Our goal is simple – for women to find others in similar situations with whom they can be friends or resources that can give them some comfort and direction. Through this process, of course, the deepest connection anyone can have is through our Lord Jesus Christ and, if He is the rock upon which these friendships are formed, they have to be good. If you are coming here in search of something – look hard to find it. If you find it – cherish it. We have been blessed quality, but we have also been blessed with exhibitors with information on how you can reach outside of yourself and get to know others. Please take good advantage of these opportunities to provide yourself a lifeline to other women.

We pray that our work in organizing this conference has been acceptable to Him from whom all good comes and that you find it makes a difference in providing you a Future With Hope!



Melanie Rigney, Paula Hummel, Monica McBrady, Colleen Duffy Kiko

(continued on inside back cover)

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY

- 5 PM | Registration, Exhibitor Time**
- 7 PM | Evening Reception*
- 8:15 PM | Welcome, Patricia Lorenz, Aging, Love, Loss & Faith*
- 8:30 PM | Evening Prayer*, Followed by Free Time

SATURDAY

- 8 AM | Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 AM | Morning Prayers, Music by Marylee Nicholas**
 - 9 AM | Vicki Thorn, Healing at Midlife**
- 9:45 AM | Break
 - 10 AM | Roundtable Discussions**
- 10:45 AM | Break and Exhibitor Time**
- 11:45 AM | Prayer, Buffet Lunch, Music by Marylee Nicholas**
- 12:30 PM | Lisa Mladinich, Finding True Grace in Midlife**
 - 1 PM | Break and Exhibitor Time**
- 1:45 PM | Roundtable Discussions**
- 2:30 PM | Sweet Treat Break and Exhibitor Time**
- 3:15 PM | Roundtable Discussions**
 - 4 PM | Sending Forth by Patricia Lorenz**
- 5:30 PM | Optional ~Vigil Mass St. Timothy's Chantilly, VA Directions will be provided.
 - 8 PM | Optional ~Cabernet, Corona, and Coloring. Sign-up at the Registration Table

*Events held in the Virginia Suites **Events held in the Commonwealth Ballroom

Meet our Speakers...

Patricia Lorenz



Patricia is the author of fourteen books, including her latest, 57 Steps to Paradise: Finding Love in Midlife and Beyond. She's one of the top contributing writers in the country to the Chicken Soup for the Soul books and has been a con-

tributing writer for twenty-six Daily Guideposts books. She has four children and nine grandchildren and is married to her hunka-hunka-burnin'-love, Jack, who has six children and eleven grandchildren. They live in Largo, Florida. Patricia will speak on Humor, Joy, and Love in Midlife, encouraging us all to be confident in God's plan even when it's not readily apparent. www.patricialorenz.com

We are thankful for...

Other Contributors and Supporters

Arlington Catholic Herald	Laura Dow
Arlington Diocese for Family Life	Praying College Moms
,	San Damiano Spiritual Life
Lift High the Cross	Center
Living Advent	St. Anthony's Bridal
Laura Dow	The Printed Page
Praying College Moms	Virtue Connection

We are thankful for our musician...

Marylee Nicholas

Marylee's gifts are well known in our diocese and beyond. She has a story that will resonate with conference attendees... and a voice that touches souls. You may know her from Cursillo and other ministries. She is a parishioner of St. John Neumann in Reston, Va.

Meet our Speakers...

Lisa Mladinich



Lisa is a wife and mother, and the host of Shalom World TV's new WOMAN: Strong Faith, True Beauty. She is the founder of AmazingCatechists.com and a regular on Relevant Radio's *Morning Air*

with John Harper and On Call with Wendy Wiese. Lisa writes for Catechist magazine and is the author of the best-selling book True Radiance: Finding Grace in the Second Half of Life. Her latest book--Heads Bowed: Prayers for Catholic School Days--is due out soon. Lisa will speak on Finding Hope and True Radiance in Midlife. www.amazingcatechists.com/lisa-mladinich/ Ignatian Volunteer Corps, which provides mature men and women the opportunity to serve the needs of the poor and disadvantaged offering hope and human dignity. www.ivcusa.org/ivc-offices/welcome-to-ivc-northernvirginia/

Landings, a Paulist program that helps parishes welcome inactive Catholics who want to take another look at our Church. www.landingsintl.org

Leaving a Legacy, which helps people pass on to future generations the stories of their personal faith journeys. www.legacylife.photo

Peach Company, which helps women find the right-sized foundation garments, and NYR Organic US, which takes a health-based approach to beauty products. www.discoverpeach.com www.nyrorganic.com/shop/corp/

Project Rachel in the Diocese of Arlington, an international post-abortion healing ministry founded by conference speaker Vicki Thorn. www.arlingtondiocese.org/familylife/rachel_retreat.aspx

Suffering Servant Scriptorium, a publisher of Catholic prayer books, recordings and more, based in the Diocese of Arlington. www.haapala.com/sufferingservant/index.cfm

Tepeyac Family Center, LLC, a pro-life OB-GYN office www.tepeyacfamilycenter.com, and Divine Mercy Care, its fundraising and educational entity. www.divinemercycare.org

WMET (1160-AM), Washington, DC), a part of the Guadalupe radio network. www.wmet1160.com

We are thankful for...

Our Partners

Joyful Spirit Gifts in Arlington, VA, has the most comprehensive selection of family-oriented conservative Catholic materials in the DC area. www.joyfulspiritgifts.com

Arlington Diocese Council of Catholic Women's task, with the support of Bishop Paul S. Loverde, is to bring the Gospel of Jesus to the women of the Arlington Diocese. www.adccw.org

Our Exhibitors

Amor Divino (Divine Love), a ministry that supports construction of a chapel in Ecuador and offers unique cards and gifts for unique people. florgraves0803@comcast.net

Arlington Cursillo, a lay movement within the Church that seeks to help people grow closer to Christ through piety, study, and action. www.arlingtoncursillo.org

Blessings Extraordinaire, a Virginia-based tithing ministry that offers a unique collection of Christian gifts and services. www.blessings-extraordinaire.com

Sacred Artwork of Brother Mickey McGrath, through which this oblate's works deliver the good news about deep and often whimsical connections between art and faith. www.bromickeymcgrath.com

Meet our Speakers...

Vicki Thorn



Vicki is the founder of Project Rachel and the executive director of the National Office of Post-Abortion Reconciliation & Healing. She has written and spoken about society's sociological changes since 1960, and continues to present her research on the Biochemistry of Sex or the Biology of the Theology of the Body. Vicki will speak on Healing, Hope

and Happiness in Midlife, focusing on the demands and changes--physical, emotional, and spiritual-women face after 40... and how we can find joy and healing in our faith and community as we come to terms with those wounds and burdens. www.noparh.org/projectrachels