

CITI Ministries *NEWS*

CITI Ministries Inc. www.rentapriest.com November, 2012

A time to give thanks -

Thanksgiving is a treasured holiday for me. I give thanks for my parents who provided me with so many wonderful memories of this day and especially for the value of family that they instilled in me and its role in our lives.

This week my four siblings and I will descend on my mom's house in Salisbury, Maryland along with most of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. One couple will be home awaiting the birth of their second child. The crowd of 35ish will gather in the kitchen to pray in a circle before heading into Mom's dining room and living room space where three tables will be strewn together to create a fabulous scene of chaos. After dinner, football, a sing-along by the classically named *Monotones*, and finally enough dessert choices to add pounds before the

first bite, we retreat to our various homes or hotel locations and regroup the following evening for those who have survived the post Thanksgiving day of shopping or golf. Tradition! How thankful I am for tradition.

Of course as I give thanks for my family, my number one gift is my husband, Dave. There is no greater joy than having someone beside you, someone to come home to - or be home for - than a spouse who is your best friend and soul mate. That is why I am so happy to be doing what I am doing in my work for CITI Ministries. This organization - no, this community - is the biggest opportunity we have to shout out to the world the joy of marriage and its place in ministry. I am honored to be a part of that and I give thanks to all of you for your ministry and your dedication to your spouses and the people of God who call on you. May each of you and your families have a blessed and joyful Thanksgiving Day.

Bad news, good news...

On October 29th I went to have a routine mammogram. It turned out to be not so routine, and after several tests and a biopsy, I was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Needless to say Dave & I were very surprised and concerned upon hearing this news and some parts of life have kind of stayed in place as we began the process of appointments, follow-up tests and further opinions. As it stands I will be having surgery on November 29th. All indications at this point are very promising and the treatment plan is yet to be determined.

I tell you this news trusting that you will keep me and my family in prayer at this time. I know that many of you have gone through this yourselves or with your spouse. Not one of

us has been spared having cancer affect a family member or close friend. I would also ask for your understanding if you experience any delays in emails or follow up calls under these circumstances.

CITI Board Meeting

The CITI Ministries Board of Directors met in South Carolina the weekend of October 20-21. With a quorum present and upon consensus with all those present, we appointed Patrick Journet as our new Vice President. Patrick joined the board in 2011. He is a Research Scientist at Testamerica Laboratories in the field of physical and organic chemistry. He always felt called to be both a priest and scientist, and his field of study included science, spirituality, and theology. Patrick is the President of Pittsburgh's local LGBT Dignity Chapter and he is extremely committed to serving others. During this meeting we updated our bylaws, reviewed our website progress, and engaged in lengthy discussions of our mission statement and the vision of CITI Ministries. A survey is being developed which will eventually go

out to each of you to gather your input and that feedback will help us move forward.

Renewal Time!

Congratulations to all members who have sent in their renewal forms and payments! I am always so excited when a renewal form is faxed in or an online payment appears on my computer screen. I know there are many things in day to day life that sidetrack us and keep this process from being a high priority, but I really would appreciate hearing from you. Requests are already coming in for 2013 weddings and events and it is best if we have everyone's certification in place to give people accurate information.

The CITI Ministries Board of Directors thanks you for your prayers and support!

Judy Lorenz, President
Jerry Siegmund, Chairman of the Board
Patrick Journet, Vice-President
Stephen Sabanos, Treasurer
Donald Horrigan, Secretary
Thomas Brooks, Director
David Lorenz, Director
Donna Podobinski, Director
Jean Pelletier, Director
Fran Salone-Pelletier, Director
Frank McGrath, Director
John Mollish, Advisory Member