



Young Ladies' Grand Institute

A Catholic Women's Organization

Debra Ramirez-Cruz, Grand President

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Dear Sisters:

WELCOME REVEREND FR. BRIAN ATIENZA, GRAND CHAPLAIN:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome and introduce Fr. Brian Atienza, our new Grand Chaplain.

Reverend Father Brian Joseph Cabrera Atienza is a priest of the Diocese of Sacramento, California. He was ordained at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on the 27th of May 2002. Father Brian was born in Manila Philippines. He is the oldest of four children. He did his elementary and high school at the University of the Philippines Integrated School. He studied at the University of the Philippines College of Social Science and Philosophy for two years majoring in Philosophy. During his sophomore year at the university, he entered San Carlos Seminary, Makati City, Philippines where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree in 1997. That same year, he was accepted as a seminarian for the Diocese of Sacramento. Father Brian entered Saint Patrick's Seminary for his theological studies where he received his Master of Divinity degree in Theology (MDiv), Bachelor in Sacred Theology (STB), and Master of Arts in Theology (MA). After ordination, he was appointed as parochial vicar at Saint Joseph Parish in Elk Grove (2002-2004). Father Brian was subsequently appointed as parochial vicar at Saint Philomene Parish in Sacramento (2004-2005). Bishop William Keith Weigand appointed Father Brian to be the Director of Vocation for the diocese. He held this position from 2005-2009. In 2009, Bishop Jaime Soto appointed Father Brian as parochial administrator and later as pastor in 2011. Father Brian was appointed pastor of Saint Joseph Parish (Elk Grove) in 2012. Bishop Jaime Soto sent Father Brian to the Catholic University of America in 2016 where he studied for his Licentiate in Canon Law (JCL). Father Brian has been ministering in the Tribunal of diocese since 2018 and Parochial Vicar of Sacred Heart Church in Sacramento since 2023.

Father Brian's history with the Young Ladies Institute goes all the way back to his time in seminary formation. He received financial support from the YLI of Saint Isidore Church in Yuba City. This helped supplement his academic and personal needs while in formation. However, the most important support he received from YLI were the prayers that sustained him to reach ordination. The same prayers continue affect Father Brian's ministry and life as priest to this day.

CONVENTION IN RENO, NEVADA was very busy, interesting and informative with the proposed constitutional amendments, committee reports, interesting program speakers and eulogies for our dear Past Grand Presidents. All amendments adopted become effective sixty (60) days (or September 16, 2024) after the close of Grand Institute.

As we look back, we had lots of fun as we spent time renewing friendships. Convention has become a wonderful memory for all who attended. I am grateful that many were able to attend in person, via Zoom or Live Stream.

Our sincere appreciation and congratulations to Convention Co-Chairmen Crystal Conner and Allyson Pervoe and their convention committees. Congratulations to Convention Program Chairman Joanne Muniz for her efforts. The theme of the convention "**Blast from the Past**" set the pace and everyone left renewed and enthusiastic about the year ahead. What wonderful memories we have to share with our members back at our own Institutes!

CONGRATULATIONS to Past Grand President Esther Vasquez and her Grand Officers for a wonderful year, and their tireless efforts on our behalf.

CONGRATULATIONS to Grand President Debra Ramirez-Cruz and her corps of Grand Officers. We are looking forward to a year full of enthusiasm and know that they are ready to be of service to us.

GRAND PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN PATRICIA MCGUIRE:
Our Grand President has chosen "The Power and Glory of Music" as her program this year. Information regarding this year's Grand President's program was distributed to all delegates during convention.

GRAND SECRETARY'S MESSAGE: Please note that my goal is to email the Grand President's letter to all Institute Recording Secretaries, Grand Officers, Past Grand Presidents, District Deputies, Institute Deputies and Committee Chairmen, depending on their email availability. It will take a couple of weeks to refine the email process as I review the Institutes' Officers' lists. Please send your lists if you have not done so already. To date, I have received 27 out of 68 officers' lists. If you did not receive this letter via email, and would like to, please send me an email letting me know your preference. Those without email will continue to receive correspondence by mail.

REMINDER TO FILE IRS 990N AND CA FTB 199N: To continue operating as a legitimate tax-exempt charitable organization, all Institutes are required to file the 990N for the IRS and the CA FTB 199N for California institutes. Both of these forms can only be filed online. Your Federal and State filing year is from April 1 through March 31. Confirmation "ACCEPTED" copies must be sent to the Grand Secretary as soon as possible. To date, I have received 50 "ACCEPTED" copies. Please call June McJunkin or Pat McGuire if you have questions. Thank you.

IGNATIUS #85 cordially invites you to a Mass and luncheon reception for Grand President Debra Ramirez-Cruz on August 10, 2024 beginning with Mass at 11:00am at Madonna del Sasso Church, 320 East Laurel Drive, Salinas, CA. Cost is \$20.00. Please RSVP by August 3 to Evangeline Plaskett

HOLY ANGELS #247 invites you to a reception for Grand First Vice President Julie Kersting on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 11:00am to 2:00pm at The Irvine Meadows Clubhouse in Irvine, CA. Cost is \$25.00. Please contact Rhonda Kersting for reservations.

OFFICIAL VISITS OF GRAND PRESIDENT DEBRA RAMIREZ-CRUZ:

AUGUST	8	95 Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA
	10	Reception for Grand First Vice President Debra Ramirez-Cruz ~ Salinas, CA
	14	150 St. Bernard's, Tracy, CA

- 17 **District Deputy Orientation Day** – YLI Clubhouse, Sacramento, CA
- 19 70 Laurentian, Oakland, CA
- 22 141 Sacred Heart, Dixon, CA

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| SEPTEMBER | 9 | 254 Queen of Faith, Turlock, CA | 10th Anniversary |
| | 12 | 86 Camerman, Bremerton, WA | |
| | 17 | 122 Holy Rosary, Woodland, CA | |

With Sisterly Love,

Debra Ramirez-Cruz
Grand President

Patricia McGuire
Grand Secretary