



# GREEN LEAF

## RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC PARISH Land Stewardship Committee

The Native American Lois Red Elk speaks of the storytelling moon. "It is the time", she says, speaking of the winter full moon. "during this moon we approach the season of storytelling. Time to quiet our spirits along with Earth and all other beings. I am reminded of my grandmothers who were the greatest story tellers. They told stories anytime they wanted—while cooking, during meals, while sitting at the window or walking in the woods." Words of wisdom from the First People.

### Winter Count

Now the days are dim, flakes drift down in  
place of light. A chill passes over my  
shoulders, sends me to find the knowledge of  
foxes asleep in quiet places where dried  
sweet grass and sage lie hidden in dreams,  
keeping spirit alive throughout the long night.

My solitude is seen as a single stream of  
breath in morning air, the sole sign of my  
existence. Only the morning star has mercy,  
understands this need to reflect from a space  
so distant. Tonight I'll drape my body with  
star quilts in honor of our endurance.

I watch that old fire journey lower across  
earth; listen to their whispers—secrets of  
retreat and renewal, their celestial bond.  
I assign myself to a pace of spirit and mind  
that surpasses the counted risings and settings,  
then put envy to sleep with my longing for flame.

Lois Red Elk  
From Mountain Journal, December 2020

### *JANUS—A ROMAN GOD*

January, the first month of the New Year, is aptly named after Janus, one of the principal Roman gods. Janus was the porter of heaven and the guardian of gates and doors. Since Janus stood in the doorway he was depicted in icons and statuary as having two heads—one that looked inside and one that looked outside.



## POINTS TO PONDER



EVERY PROBLEM BEGETS A SOLUTION AND EVERY SOLUTION BEGETS A PROBLEM

The removal and storage of the recent snow from the parking lot of Resurrection University

Catholic Parish speaks to the truth of this cliché. The back western property area, under planning for a meditation-habitat garden is currently the site for the snow dump which will completely obliterate any small ground cover and seedling trees vital to the overall design. *Hmmmmmm!*



## MAKING OUR OWN ECOSYSTEM

**Anyone can make their own ecosystem.** Even a tiny little parish on a tiny little campus in a tiny little state in a very large universe. It's really simple. You just survive a pandemic, stir up a small amount of enthusiasm, adequately exhibit and prove the wisdom of your ideas, collect a bit of money, and hold a sit-down meeting with two adjacent land owners.

That is pretty much what the Land Stewardship Committee plans on doing in 2021 in the **Meditation-Habitat Garden** in the back west acreage. Just plant some trees and bushes, add a little mulch from native friendly yards, drop a stone or two, add liberal amounts of detritus, tumble a couple of tree trunks, erect some kruumholz and top it off with the appropriate bird feeders. Volia! A low maintenance ecologically friendly parcel of church land that walks the talk of Land Stewardship.

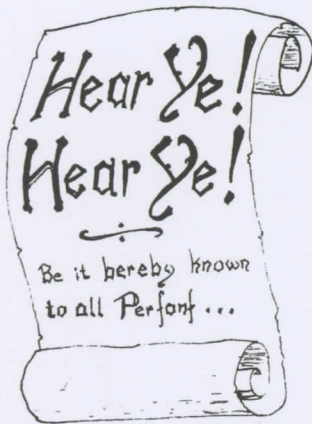
Funny. The money was the easy part. Now comes the hard part. Involvement. How about it parishioners? Let's get together and take a walk on the *"wild side"*. Call Paul Gore at 587-2001, or Ellie Weber at 954-609-5612.



## About the Critters 'n Things...



The inventory of "critters" at Resurrection University Catholic Parish continues to grow. The Christmas Bird Count confirmed sightings of Clark's nutcrackers, magpies, and Canada geese fly-overs in almost biblical numbers.



### LAND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE (LSC) NEEDS YOU.

Needs your time, your talent, and your treasure. The kick-off of the Meditation-Habitat garden begins in the spring of 2021. God willing, the creek don't rise, and the pandemic subsides, there will be need for labor, money for plants, and Green Leaf writing skills to promote the Creation Care and Land Stewardship Committee effort as they advance the Papal call of *LAUDATO SI*. Don't be timid. Remember, Vatican II says we are a teaching church and a learning church. So, if you are tired of learning, try teaching.

Donations to Resurrection University Catholic Parish can be earmarked for the LSC by noting that on your donation.

Volunteers for Creation Care can be accommodated by calling

WILL WRIGHT at **208-739-5836**, and for LSC by calling PAUL GORE OR ELLIE WEBER at 587-2001.



## Making the House Ready for the Lord | Mary Oliver

by Elouise



*Dear Lord, I have swept and I have washed but  
still nothing is as shining as it should be  
for you. Under the sink, for example, is an  
uproar of mice—it is the season of their  
many children. What shall I do? And under the eaves  
and through the walls the squirrels  
have gnawed their ragged entrances—but it is the season  
when they need shelter, so what shall I do? And  
the raccoon limps into the kitchen and opens the cupboard  
while the dog snores, the cat hugs the pillow;  
what shall I do? Beautiful is the new snow falling  
in the yard and the fox who is staring boldly  
up the path, to the door. And still I believe you will  
come, Lord: you will, when I speak to the fox,  
the sparrow, the lost dog, the shivering sea-goose, know  
that really I am speaking to you whenever I say,  
as I do all morning and afternoon: Come in, Come in.*