

Sisters of Social Service

Rooted in the social teachings of the Church, we are sent to be pioneers



**Celebrating 88 years
of inspiring change and
transforming our world
through social services
and advocacy.**

Social Service Auxiliary of Los Angeles: 2014 Spiritus Award Honoring Celeste and Tom Von Der Ahe

Written by Roseann (Mrs. Bruce) Anderson, Social Service Auxiliary of Los Angeles



Friends, family and colleagues gathered on April 12 to celebrate Celeste and Tom Von Der Ahe, this year's honorees. The Spiritus Award was presented to the Von Der Ahes in recognition of their continuing support of the Sisters of Social Service in their work to improve the lives of the most impoverished of God's people.

The **Spiritus Award Benefit Committee**, championed by **Patricia (Mrs. Thomas) Dowling** and **Mrs. Phyllis Nugent**, designed a beautiful evening at **The California Club**, complete with the much-loved **Jersey Boys Quartet** (with the West Coast Music All Stars). Incredible floral arrangements and scores of tantalizing silent auction items adorned the rooms, and delighted guests danced far into the night.



As the parents of two daughters and four sons and grandparents of eighteen, Celeste and Tom have considered their family a top priority. In addition, they have devoted themselves to many volunteer endeavors especially within the Catholic community. Tom received the Cardinal's Award in 2011. Celeste has been involved with the Ignatius Guild at Loyola High School, the Providence St. Joseph's Guild and the Christ Child Society. Currently, Tom and his son Tom (Jr.) are the project managers for the renovation of their parish, St. Charles Borromeo in North Hollywood.

Celeste and Tom are shining examples of the mission of the Sisters of Social Service - "to be enlivened by the power of the Holy Spirit to carry out the social mission of the Church."

All present had a wonderful time honoring Celeste and Tom, and knowing that the proceeds would go to several of the Sisters' vibrant ministries: **Camp Mariastella, House of Ruth, Holy Spirit Retreat Center** and to support the needs of the **elder Sisters of the Villa Retirement Community**.

Many thanks to the all involved in making the evening such a beautiful one - especially Celeste and Tom, as well as the Spiritus Award Benefit Committee.

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