

California

My week spent in California at the 2009 Triennial was the highlight of my summer. Meeting different girls from all around the nation was really cool.

On the first day we started with breakfast and then went into Morning Prayer with the Holy Spirit. Later we had Eucharist with the Senior Daughters, followed by games with Marge Rogers. Before going to lunch we did the Mendalla t-shirt project. The rest of the night we enjoyed Praise and Worship 1, making Prayer Bears for the Orange County Children's Home, our first guest speaker, Mary MacGregor. We then had free time, dinner and the Junior Mission night.

Friday morning began with breakfast, Morning Prayer, and Praise and Worship 2. Then we left for our San Juan Capistrano trip. The mission was founded by Fr. Junipero Serra on November 1, 1776 and it is the only mission in Orange County. Our well-spent hours touring the mission came to an end. We loaded back on the busses and headed back to the hotel. Dinner soon followed. After the Healing Service we went from prayerful and respect to cheerful and wet at the awesome pool party!

Saturday was our last full day together. It started like every other day with breakfast, Morning Prayer, and Praise and Worship 3. Soon after we had our Juniors meeting, then lunch. Later we enjoyed activities, music and our guest speaker, Esther Miller. Shortly thereafter, we got all dressed up for the Banquet.

As the week came it also went. On the last day before we checked out of the hotel we all had breakfast together for the last time and celebrated with Eucharist with the Seniors.

This was my first Triennial, and I enjoyed every minute of it. It was a memorable experience.

Camerone, Grace Catholic Junior Chapter, TX

Triennial was a very emotional week for me. I felt it brought me closer to God. It helped me understand what believing is really about. It was also very fun and I met a lot of wonderful people.

The healing service we did within the Juniors was also very emotional. It taught me that reaching out to others is a great thing to do and not be scared.

I want to thank Jen for preparing and leading us in this Triennial.

Ashley, Grace Catholic Junior Chapter, TX

This year was my first Triennial, I never really knew what to expect, except for things I heard from the other girls. On our way to the airport, our car broke down on the middle of the highway! Man was that an experience! Thanks to my friend's brother for getting us to the airport:) When we were in California we participated in a Silent Prayer Service, we dimmed the lights and formed circles around people that we were praying for. I had no expectations of how emotional everyone became but to me that was the most powerful part. Prayer Bears with Terry also really warmed my heart, listening to her story was so inspiring and all of us became instant friends with her. Of course you can't forget Disneyland! Lexie and I got offered princess jobs and we

were so excited we couldn't stop smiling that day. Overall my Triennial experience was fabulous and I would definitely go again:)

Eva, Genesis Junior Chapter, MD

Getting off the plane into LAX, I knew that it was JDOK time. There was something in the air, between the connection of the girls from All Saints' and the girls that we were about to meet, that told me this would be a week to relax and form unbreakable bonds with both our sisters in Christ and the Holy Spirit, which was our topic for the week.

The first thing we saw when we got into our room was the large assortment of food left for us by our fabulous leader Jen, which was the most wonderful surprise after traveling cross country to Anaheim. After the pool time (and getting horribly sunburned), the Skip-Bo time, and the Tyra Banks Show time, it came to be time for the convention.

All the JDOKs (Jr. Daughters of the King) gathered in one of the hotel's ballrooms to do a quick meet-and-greet before dinner. The rest of the days were filled with guest speakers, Bible studies about the Holy Spirit, and Service projects such as Prayer Bears. We also went to the San Juan Capistrano mission where we learned about early Californian history and missionaries in the West.

We had just come back from the mission when our Directress informed me that I needed to go to the Senior Daughter business meeting because a bylaw was being discussed that directly affected me. I spent the majority of the rest of the convention watching as minute details were wrestled with so completely that everything was tabled until the next Triennial. Oh well.

Triennial was an uplifting time, a relaxing time, and a Spiritual time, meaning that it was the best possible time for me.

Joanna, Genesis Junior Chapter, MD

Triennial 2009

Triennial was a fun and exciting place for this juniors' bright shining face.

I met many nice people from different places. I even saw some old friends' faces.

Triennial was a place of business for the older ones to decide what would be their strong and worthy guide.

We sang and played. We laughed and prayed.

From flying on planes to driving in lanes, hauling all our bags, Boy what a drag!

Then going to the mission to see what in California we were missing.

Getting gifts from the Holy One and I wasn't the only one.

All my friends got gifts just like mine but it meant something different deep down inside.

Waving goodbye to all my friends but now our friendship will never end.

When the triennial was over at last, Boy did we have a blast!

Stacey, Genesis Junior Chapter, MD