EASTER—It is almost too brilliant for me to contemplate; it is like looking directly into the sun.”

-Madeleine L’Engle
In my musings, I found coming up with a theme for this article difficult. I thought about where we are in time and season. I thought about what feasts and activities were coming our way. I groused because I just missed the two high holy days of Patrick and Joseph. In that musing I also thought about the feast of the Annunciation and how, sadly and shamefully, both Patrick and Joseph seem to overshadow March 25. That led me to ponder Mary’s fiat and, once again, I groused because I missed March. So what to write about . . .

Spring has begun and we are in daylight savings time. The Triduum and Easter are a little less than three weeks away. Our Provincial Chapter convenes at the end of the month. So we are basically in between the festivities of March and the great feast of Easter. That’s the theme: we are “in between.”

Spring has begun so we are in between waiting for the snow to really go away and the trees to start budding and the flowers to start to bloom. Even the weather is in between, sunny days and dreary, damp days. Such is the task of April to prepare the earth for new birth with rain and warmth. As I checked the weather we have a day coming up where snow is predicted but the temperatures will be in the forties. Now there is an in between day!

Life at the Provincial House is certainly in an “in between” mode as we wait patiently for the construction to end and the PACE program to begin. We are also moving into the public phase of the Capital Campaign but even that is “in between” as we continue Phase I, the major donor phase, in Syracuse and finish up Phase I in Albany.

April is also the in between liturgical phase for this year as we complete Lent and prepare to celebrate the great feast of Easter. The last week of April moves us squarely into the Easter season with its celebratory liturgical rites as we, once again, recall the foundation of our faith. Jesus Christ is risen!

So we are “in between.” Many of us have found ourselves in between “a rock and a hard place” or “the devil and the deep blue sea”? It’s a curious phrase. Having shared this many times, I share once again what I remember a speaker once saying about Catholics. We are very good at ritualizing Good Friday and celebrating the victory of Easter Sunday. It is Holy Saturday where we falter, the “in between” time. The time between death and victory.

(continued on the next page)
PLT Perspectives (continued)

We seem to live in a mode where the excitement builds leading to a major event, the adrenaline flows as we celebrate the actual event, and then comes the resting period savoring the afterglow of the event. But in between events, there is a lot of time with little excitement, no adrenaline rush and little afterglow. This in between time is where we are called to live in the present moment. This is our Holy Saturday and, sometimes, it calls us to live in the emptiness. Many times, though, living in the present moment calls us to be attuned to the sacred gifts and wonders that are placed before us. The sacred gifts and wonders that we often miss when we are in the excitement, adrenaline and afterglow of the big events. Holy Saturday, in its emptiness, affords us the gift of waiting and patience. Waiting and patience are great attributes for living in the present moment.

It is April. We are waiting for spring to really take hold and for winter to finally depart. We have many weeks to go before the construction ends and the Capital Campaign concludes. Our Provincial Chapter with its myriad of outcomes and decisions will come and go. Easter will arrive but, before that wonderful feast, there is Holy Saturday. Holy Saturday equals “in between” which reminds us to live in the present moment. Ergo, I am no longer in between meetings; I am trying to grasp the gifts and wonders of the present moment! Happy Holy Saturday!

Summary of Minutes
Province Leadership Team
March 14 and 15, 2019

Opening Prayer
Sister Eileen McCann led us in prayer for women we admire.

Annual Meeting with Susan Baldoni,
PH Administrator
Susan Baldoni met with us and shared her observations about the needs of the house and property. We spoke specifically about the roads that need to be patched and eventually replaced. The team thanked Susan for her work and her concern for our sisters.

Annual Meeting with Carol Rohloff,
Development Director
Carol Rohloff joined us to share information about the assistance that the Development Office is giving to the Capital Campaign effort. This included: the timeline for a mailing related to the public phase of the campaign, pledges and gifts to date, press releases, social media blitzes and the search for grants. The team thanked Carol for her dedication to raising funds, so that we can continue our mission.

Nursing Proposal
Kathy Marcays, Nursing Staff Development Coordinator, was asked to look at our continuing needs for some nursing for our sisters who are not included in PACE. After conferring with several key persons in our nursing employ now, she submitted a proposal which indicates how she sees our nursing care now and what we need moving forward. We will invite Kathy to a future PLT meeting, so that we can pose additional questions.

Use of the Studio
Since Marion Honors has moved to the Provincial House, Clare Pelkey submitted a request to offer The Studio to sisters to use for a day or a retreat time. We decided to allow this only to sisters on a trial basis. The team will revisit this at a future PLT meeting. The understanding is that anyone using The Studio will clean up after themselves and leave it in good shape for the next person. We asked Clare Pelkey to coordinate use of The Studio and put more information in Thursday Updates.

Annunciation House on the Border
in El Paso
The team discussed different ideas about how we can support Annunciation House, including sponsoring a person to work at Annunciation House for three months and making the plight of Annunciation House more visible to people who might be interested in helping. We do not know whether we have sisters who are able to fill this need, so we are looking at other possible options. We decided to send the letter from Annunciation House to the sisters and associates to see if there is interest or ideas.

NRRO Grant
We received a planning grant from NRRO and they have assigned our team. The NRRO team will be coming here early May to assess our needs and hopes.

Province Boards/Committees
The team reported on the activities from the following Boards/Committees: Selections, HomeLand, Emergency Relief, LRP, Government, Finance, Associates, Justice, Jubilee, STEP and Vocations.

Sponsored Ministries
The Vice President for Advancement is leaving The College of Saint Rose. Lauren Van Dermark and Kay Ryan from Shaker Pointe at Carondelet, Inc. met with us and shared information. Shaker Pointe is 98% occupied. Parkland construction is progressing on schedule. The team reviewed the report submitted by Danielle Futia, Director of the Carondelet Hospitality Center.

PACE Update
Kate Arseneau shared several updates regarding the progress of PACE, including construction issues, furniture (continued on the next page)
PLT Meeting Summary (cont’d)

choices, the budget, asbestos and practical questions we have going forward.

Report Review
The team reviewed monthly reports from: CLT, Facility Services, Mission Integration, the Network Administrator, Nursing, PH Administration, Risk Management, Unidine Lifestyles and Vocations.

Process Out
The team reviewed the meeting in general and commented on our attention to all of the agenda.

Summary of Minutes
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 15, 2019

Opening Prayer
Sister Eileen led us in prayer.

CFO Report
For our investments, allocations are just about on target related to our investment policy. The investment fund is up from June 2018 even though we have withdrawn about $2.4 million for expenses since that time. Compared to the end of last year, the Ministry Fund is about even. For the Capital Campaign, donations and pledges are coming in steadily. The public phase is just beginning. Patrimony is up slightly even though some funds have been disbursed. The gain came from income, realized gains and a few additions. In the fiscal year 2019 budget, we have expended only 42% of the total budget when the expected expenditures would be 58% at this time of year. Fixed assets are under budget for the year.

FY 2020 Budgets
We discussed items that we need to remember for the upcoming budget year. We have already included information on the novitiate. Additional items that we discussed included some potential additional education for some positions and funding for the novices and their directors who will be coming to the Albany Province in the fall for three weeks. We will be expected to fund their room and board. We also will need a facilitator for selections. We added a “placeholder” for a facilitator in case we need someone to assist us in the event that the Innovation Committee recommendation is accepted at the Congregational Chapter in July 2019.

Sister Clare Bass Professes Final Vows in St. Louis

Sister Clare Bass (St. Louis), who entered the congregation in 2010, professed final vows in the congregation on March 30 at the motherhouse in St. Louis.

Originally from Biloxi, Mississippi, Clare is a graduate of Mississippi State University with a bachelor’s degree in political science and a master’s degree in public policy and administration and is currently working on a master’s in social work at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. She hopes to be a child and family therapist.

Clare is passionate about social justice and is a member of the St. Louis Province’s Cultural and Racial Justice Committee.

“I am humbled by the great love and support of God, my family, the Sisters of St. Joseph and friends along the way who have all helped me reach this momentous life occasion of professing final vows,” Clare said. “My heart is filled with gratitude for all of life as I take this next step. I am beyond elated and full of joy as I make this commitment and become a Sister of St. Joseph for life.”

Congratulations, Clare!

Sister Lois Mary Paciello Receives YWCA Award

The YWCA Mohawk Valley held a Salute Reveal at Valentino’s Restaurant in Washington Mills on Thursday night, March 7.

The winners of this year’s Salute to Outstanding Women were announced.

Winners were honored in nine categories, and Sister Lois Mary Paciello received the Unsung Heroine Award.

Sister Lois and the other honorees will be celebrated at the Salute to Outstanding Women luncheon and awards ceremony on Thursday, May 9 at Harts Hill Inn in Whitesboro.

Congratulations, Sister Lois!
## CALENDAR: PROVINCE LEADERSHIP TEAM

### April

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Risk Management Meeting</td>
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<td>Chapter Agenda Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>Joseph House Meeting</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>PACE Meeting</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Shaker Pointe Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>Campaign Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>PEC</td>
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<td>Joseph House Meeting</td>
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<td>PACE Meeting</td>
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<td>The College of Saint Rose Meeting</td>
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<td>PACE Meeting</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Hospital Board Meeting</td>
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<td>The College of Saint Rose Finance Meeting</td>
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<td>Vacation Day</td>
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<td>Joseph House Meeting</td>
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<td>Albany Province Chapter Meeting</td>
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<td>Investment Managers Meeting</td>
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<td>29-30</td>
<td>PLT Meeting</td>
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<td>BOT Meeting</td>
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<td>Memorial Mass for Bishop Costello</td>
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### May

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>PACE Meeting</td>
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<td>2-3</td>
<td>NRRO (National Religious Retirement Office) Meeting at the PH</td>
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<td>3-5</td>
<td>Cultural Diversity-Conflict Management Workshop, Federation Novitiate, Rochester</td>
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<td>PH Jubilees</td>
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<td>Federation Lakes Region Meeting, Rochester</td>
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<td>Joseph House Meeting</td>
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<td>9-12</td>
<td>Federation Formation/Vocation Gathering, Canandaigua</td>
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<td>The College of Saint Rose Board Meeting</td>
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<td>The College of Saint Rose Commencement</td>
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<td>12-27</td>
<td>Mission Trip to Guatemala</td>
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### Abbreviations

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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<td>BOT</td>
<td>Province Board of Trustees</td>
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<td>EM</td>
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<td>JMG</td>
<td>Jeanne Marie Gocha</td>
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<td>Kate Arseneau</td>
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<td>Katie Eiffe</td>
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<td>Mary Anne Heenan</td>
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<td>Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly</td>
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<td>Province Executive Committee</td>
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<td>SP</td>
<td>Sean Peters</td>
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(continued)

(Katie Eiffe, Mary Anne Heenan, Eileen McCann)

by Sister Mary Rose Noonan

On Saturday, March 16, 2019, over 300 Sisters of St. Joseph and CSJ Associates gathered at the Provincial House to celebrate the gift of vocation with the 29 jubilarians of the Albany Province who commemorated 75, 70, 60, 50, 40 and 25 years in the congregation and who shared 1,775 years of service as Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

Enthusiastic applause began the moment our six 75-year Jubilarians—Sisters Elizabeth Jean Allard, Anne Lawrence Clark, Catherine Crispo, Theresa Fournier, Mary Lois Goldner and Anne Michael Mirabito—entered the chapel to begin the procession and continued until our 25-year Jubilarian, Sister Joan Mary Hartigan, made her entrance! PH Chaplain Rev. Geoffrey Burke was celebrant of the Eucharistic Liturgy. Jubilarian Sister Kay Ryan (50) welcomed the congregation, and Sisters Renée Adamany (40 years), Grace Bacon (60 years), Ellen Judith Lindsley (60 years) and Mary Anne Bookman (60 years) lighted the candles, representing the deceased members of each jubilee group. Silver Jubilarian Sister Joan Mary Hartigan, gave the homily which focused on the chosen Scripture readings and their meaning in light of this very special day. Sister Jackie Johnas served as cantor and Sister Kate Arseneau sang the litany of the deceased sisters; they were joined by Sister Patricia St. John, pianist; Christina Shaughnessy, violinist; and Norman Thibodeau, flutist. Sister Anna Mae Collins (50) led the Sisters in the vow renewal while CSJ Associate Mary Craven led Associates in a renewal of their promises. The Sister Sacristans created the lovely chapel ambience.

The day was a joy-filled one in which sisters and associates celebrated, through the Word, the Eucharist and a festive meal, the joy of being together.

Throughout the day, jubilarians, sisters and associates expressed thanks to the Jubilee Committee, Unidine Senior Dining and all others who had helped to plan the beautiful day of celebration. Most of all, sisters and associates alike offered thanks to God for the gifts of faithfulness, friendship, service and love with which they have been blessed.

The 75-year Jubilarians include (l. to r.) Sisters Catherine Crispo, Theresa Fournier, Anne Michael Mirabito, Elizabeth Jean Allard, Mary Lois Goldner and Anne Lawrence Clark

You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you to go and to bear fruit.

John 15
The 70-year Jubilarians include (l. to r.) Sisters Joan Geannelis, Martha Anna Wachtel, Mary Alice O’Connor, Marilyn Donnelly and Patrick Lauretta Guiltinan (Missing from the photo is Sister Maria Joseph Cokely.)

The 60-year Jubilarians include (seated, l. to r.) Sisters Ellen Judith Lindsley, Margaret Patrick McPeak, Grace Bacon; (standing, l. to r.) Sisters Mary Anne Bookman, Kathleen Heffron, Maureen D’Onofrio, Mary Lou Delaney and Maureen Murphy. (Missing from the photo are Sisters Nancy Schmidt and Barbara Sefcik.)

The 40-year Jubilarians: Sister Carolyn Chmielewski and Sister Renée Adamany

The 25-year Jubilarian: Sister Joan Mary Hartigan
**Welcome by Sister Kay Ryan**

*It doesn’t have to be the blue iris, it could be weeds in a vacant lot, or a few small stones; just pay attention, then patch*

*a few words together and don’t try to make them elaborate, this isn’t a contest but the doorway*

*into thanks, and a silence in which another voice may speak*

Mary Oliver invites us to put together the iris or weeds or stones of our life as we look what we bring to this day and this doorway of thanks.

We bring generosity, patience, reconciliation (as well as their opposite values). We bring our personalities, fashioned within our families, our community and our friendships.

We bring the grace of our ministries as educators, social workers, administrators, parish life and religious education directors, pastoral care providers, healthcare workers, greeters, visitors and so much more.

Our ministry in and for the world is strengthened by our lives together. As Sisters of St. Joseph and Associates, we have been gifted with the charism to be women (and men) of hospitality and healing. We are called to an all-inclusive love of God, and neighbor and self.

Today our prayer is so much more than these few reflections. We bring to this space the very being and soul of our lives.

As we enter into this Liturgy of Thanksgiving and this day of festivities and joy, may we stop to hear the other voice, the silence of God’s grace and goodness for each of us.

Happy Jubilee!

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**Sister Kathleen Heffron (60) and Sister Theresa Fournier (75)**

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**Sister Anne Lawrence Clark (75) and Sister Joanne St. Hilaire**
Jubilee 2019: Since Love Is Lord of Heaven and Earth, How Can I Keep from Singing?

HOMILY BY SISTER JOAN MARY HARTIGAN

Sister Joan Mary Hartigan preached the following homily during the Jubilee Liturgy on March 16, 2019.

Last fall, I was a matchmaker. I set up our neighbor, who, we call “our dear neighbor Dan,” with one of my best friends from high school. Her name is Ann. Both Ann and Dan know that I am sharing their story with you.

Now, matchmaking has evolved since the movie, Fiddler on the Roof. You have to get each person’s permission to share his/her name with the other person. Each person in the potential match then undertakes their own sleuthing – Google, Facebook, LinkedIn. Once you then get each person’s permission, you give him/her the other’s number and they decide to text or call. Anyway, this matchmaking took off like wildfire and they are in love. As an aside and my only attempt at a joke: match.com might have competition if we start a new CSJ ministry: UnifyingLove.com. My friend from high school, unbeknown by my neighbor, will call me and say over and over again, “I don’t know what it is Joan Mary. There is something about him…there is something about him.”

Like Jesus today who is in his hometown’s synagogue observing Sabbath, we are in our home, the Provincial House, celebrating Jubilee. As Jesus was brought up in Nazareth, here is where many of us have memories of our being brought up in our vocations. This morning, we are the Letter to the Colossians in living color! We, truly God’s holy and beloved, shout aloud and sing for joy; we sing psalms and spiritual songs; we remember and we thank; we hug; we cry; we reconcile; we party. We become giddy as if we celebrated St. Patrick’s Day too early or as if we are head-over-heels in love. And this is because “there is something about God.” As the Prophet proclaimed, “God has done gloriously, so we make it known in all the earth.”

Here is a question for all of us and particularly my Sister Jubilarians. Do you feel anointed today? Last night I was with Kay, Cathy, Anna Mae, Mary Joe, Cookie and Renée and we were feeling something!

Yes, we smell like fresh flowers. Some of us bought a new jacket or shoes. We might have spritzed our hair or pinned on a fleur-de-lis. We are Anointed because of our Anointed One. Like him, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon us. Or as our Consensus Statement says, “Stimulated by the Holy Spirit of Love, we are receptive to God’s inspirations.”

Over the past five years, I have driven about 30 miles each way to ministry. In the beginning it took me 43 minutes and now it takes me just 37 minutes. So I was startled a few weeks ago, when a TOPS truck passed me on the right. I read on the side of the truck, it said “Goodness on the go.” I thought that could be a CSJ slogan. Doesn’t goodness on the go sound similar to our vocation: “moving always towards the profound love of God and love of neighbor without distinction.”

Like the crowd in the Gospel, on this day we fix our eyes on Jesus, and we are amazed at our Jubilarians’ gracious years of goodness on the go. We contemplate with awe how many times and ways the poor have heard good news, the fearful have been set free, and the blind have seen, manifested in mission after mission and ministry after ministry—in classrooms, archives, inner cities, building projects, parishes, neighborhoods, community rooms and hallways. The list goes on and on.

And we know deep down that there is absolutely no way that there would be Jubilee if were not for Jesus. There is no way any of us in could even get out of bed every morning and attempt, with graces and shadows, to once again pull on the clothes of the charism; here it is in Colossians – compassion, kindness, meekness, humility, patience, forgiveness – if we did not trust that God is our salvation and surely we are not afraid. Because of Jesus, on this day in the words of Isaiah, we give thanks and draw our joy from the well of our salvation: community, prayer and ministry.

Thirty years ago, I sat in a kitchen in Crescent, NY, with Sister Linda Vendetti. Linda, you had just returned from your annual retreat and you said, “I go on retreat to fall in love again.”

So paying it forward, may this Jubilee Saturday be a day for all of us to be seized once again by God’s love; perhaps it will be our very own UnifyingLove.com! And when we return to our ordinary time, may we love a little more freely, live a little more simply and love a little more attentively. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal people, for great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel!
Jubilee 2019: Since Love Is Lord of Heaven and Earth, How Can I Keep from Singing?

REMARKS FROM SISTER MARY ANNE HEENAN

Sister Mary Anne Heenan, on behalf of the Province Leadership Team, gave the following remarks during the Jubilee Liturgy.

A more modern translation of Maxim 13 says: “Go out there and make the Creator of the Universe look amazing.”

Today we celebrate the lives of 29 sisters who have done just that for 25, 40, 50, 60, 70 and 75 years as they ministered and continue to minister in hospitals, schools, social service agencies, parishes and among us. They responded to the call to vowed religious life those many years ago and have continued to say, “yes.” Through all those years, they have been the voice of the living God to others.

Our CSJ Constitution calls us to minister in a way that:

• heals and reconciles
• serves all persons without distinction
• makes known through our lives the Gospel we proclaim and
• promotes justice with a particular concern for the poor.

Our Jubilarians have answered the call to ministry wherever it has taken them and walked generously with a faithful God in whatever circumstances they found themselves. (I am sure that many times they were pretty surprised by some of those places and circumstances!) Because of their faithful witness and service, God has worked wonders through them.

Just as our patron, Joseph, could never have imagined the influence his life would have, I am sure our Jubilarians were too busy living in the moment to consider the full impact of their lives on others.

Sisters, today we take time to look back with gratitude on the ways you have made a difference. You have been a blessing to many, and we say thank you for all the times you have made the Creator of the Universe look amazing!

We live in a complex world where, unfortunately, division, disrespect and distrust are widespread. Your witness and faithfulness are a powerful reminder to each of us—sisters and associates—of our own call to live our charism of unifying love in all the circumstances of our lives. Thank you for reminding us of this and encouraging us to live it consciously.

May your example inspire each of us to respond generously and faithfully because to borrow the words of Pope Francis, “We have a great history still to be accomplished.” So, with joy and gratitude, let us celebrate and “keep the music ringing and the goodness going”!

Sisters Mary Anne Bookman (60), Ellen Judith Lindsley (60) and Grace Bacon (60)

Sisters Maureen D’Onofrio (60) and Renée Adamany (40)
Jubilee 2019: Since Love Is Lord of Heaven and Earth, How Can I Keep from Singing?

Sisters Carolyn Chmielewski (40), Renée Adamany (40), Susan Jasko and Joan Mary Hartigan (25)

Sister Mary Lou Delaney (60)

Sister Anne Michael Mirabito (75)

Sisters Mary Jo Tallman (50) and Anna Mae Collins (50)

Sisters Cathy Kruegler (50) and Kay Ryan (50)

Sister Maureen Murphy (60)
**Jubilee 2019: A Musical with Words**
by Sister Joan Sauro

The provincial house is packed on jubilee day, and I sit over to the side with a fine view of the piano. The keyboard has eighty-eight keys, white and black, sharps and flats, and the left hand knows perfectly well what the right hand is doing, and what they are doing is playing chords, six notes at once, like six emotions at once, and both feet pedaling.

Leading a procession are elderly Sisters, beautifully dressed and wheeled up the aisle to seats of honor by faithful companions. They show us a journey into our past and, yes, into our future. We cheer them on to the finish line, the sharps and flats and every emotion on the keyboard of our hearts played at once.

Three jubilarians lift lighted candles high, slow walk to the altar and place the candles there, while the choir sings the names of those celebrating their jubilees “on the other side,” so close that you catch sight of them through the thin veil between us.

A seventy-five year jubilarian in a mumu flowering to her ankles reads from Isaiah. Close your eyes and her voice is thirty-five. The next reader tosses her cane aside and walks unassisted to proclaim Colossians. “Holy and beloved ones, put on love.”

We are putting on love, and more love. Soon the homilist arrives in self-effacement. “I really didn’t want to do this, you know.” Then she proceeds to become the words she is speaking. Here, before our very eyes, in the chapel on this jubilee day, we witness a transfiguration. Woman and word are one staggering beauty. We sit stunned. Then slowly rise to applaud.

At the Communion I crawl over pews to reach the aisle where a jubilarian I have known for the forty years of her consecration is holding a chalice. Tears stream down my face as she places the Body of Christ in my hand and we kiss the air between us.

Such cheering, weeping, trembling chord after emotional chord and yes the right hand does indeed know what the left hand and both feet are doing. What everyone in the chapel is doing this jubilee day. We are doing holy.

And the holy spills over into the dining room. Few of us will remember the meal, or that we even sat still long enough to enjoy it, only that we stumbled from one end of the room to the other and embraced every last person in the place.

**Encore**

Mid afternoon we head to a nearby split level home where three jubilarians are hosting a party. A hundred of us come and go in a steady stream to jam the living room, kitchen, and cozy basement where arm to arm we watch the tearing open of gift, the unconfined joy, the gratitude, and one person observing, “Take a look. Who says our community is dying!”

Which is the clue, of course. Why give ponderous speeches that few understand. Better to celebrate. Ponder less. Party more.

**Lullaby**

The musical continues back at the provincial house where I run the equivalent of three blocks to reach an elderly friend tottering on the edge of eternity. Her faithful companion has wheeled her out into a common space where she nods and rises, nods and rises. She was my English professor, and maybe in some dim way she remembers. She mutters Words Words Words.

I kneel down before her and quietly sing every song I can think of, from hymns to Barbra Streisand, Renée Fleming, Joan Baez. May God bless and keep you always. May you stay forever young. When I sing the Ave Maria, the faithful companion and two aides weep and my friend looks me straight in the face and says, Musical before the words. Musical before the words. Then she lowers her face and closes her eyes.

There on my knees, I believe that somehow I have sung my friend to “the other side” for a little, and then back to this side.

It took me one week to recover from Jubilee. Sometimes, I wonder why I would want to.
At New Ministries Hospitality Center, Social Gatherings Give Direction For Programs
by Sister Kathleen Heffron and Friends

The New Ministries Hospitality Center in Cincinnati, under the direction of Sister Kathleen Heffron, provides a gathering place for Cincinnati neighbors and often offers both information and direct services to people living in nearby small towns and hamlets in Cortland County. New Ministries is located in rental space in a church hall where Sister Kathleen and her associate staff are able to assist and support a largely elderly and often isolated population. Office duties are shared by Dot Hathway, CSJA, who assists in preparing reports and proposals for funding.

In rural areas, the best and most reliable resource are people — and people feel at home at our Center. Few people who attend our gatherings have a computer for e-mail or messaging, and many share a newspaper. Our gatherings provide them the most caring sort of socialization and support — neighbor to neighbor.

Resources are scarce in rural areas. There are few sources of education and often no way to travel 25 miles to a city to attend programs. Many of our elders are also caring for their grandchildren and lack reliable transportation. As a result, we bring various agencies to our Center in an effort to educate, support and enable our dear neighbors to improve their quality of life.

Our participating agencies include: Access to Independence: This county agency is a valuable resource that provides equipment to assist people who have had an accident, returned home from a hospital stay or are challenged to adjust to their home environment as they age.

NY Connects often continues our conversations about long-term services and supports through their coordinator Todd Simmons who attends our gatherings once a month and has come to know our people.

As people became comfortable sharing their needs and their concerns for the community, they requested information on dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. We were referred by Sister Harriet Hamilton, OSF, to Bill Hopkins, Ph.D., who leads support groups in Cortland. Bill joined us as we shared our concerns and he has now spent six sessions with us. We ended up helping each other as Bill, a well-respected retired SUNY Cortland professor, was writing a book about dementia and was interested in our largely elderly rural population.

Bill’s book is now published and twenty free copies of the easy-to-read, practical book, with our contribution listed on the acknowledgement page, were given to us to use and distribute. The books have been readily accepted and well received, for example:

Sharon dropped one off to a daughter of a woman suffering with Alzheimer’s disease. No one was at home. Not knowing who left the book, the daughter gave a big thank you to “whomever” on Facebook. Sister Kathleen met them in Walmart and explained the drop-off book.

As Sister Kathleen was getting her hair cut, the hairdresser said that her mother was suffering with Alzheimer’s disease and she needed help with understanding how to help. A woman from Cincinnatus was getting her hair cut the next day, so a copy of the book was sent in with her.

In order to obtain more books, our volunteer staff developed a proposal for a grant through the Cortland County Foundation. We are awaiting their decision in April. At present we only have a small grant to obtain 30 more copies, and the Foundations grant would be a great blessing.

Bill continues to meet with us. Although we ask more questions on dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease, we have now named the program “Facing Challenges in the Rural Area.”

We, of course, continue to listen to the needs of our community families and the agencies that serve them. On April 9, we will be meeting with county and private agencies, representatives from local schools, nutrition sites, medical clinics and church pastors, all of whom are striving to improve the quality of life in our community, especially for our aging friends and dear neighbors who have few accessible resources. We will make every effort to respond to their needs. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers.
**See I am Making Something New:**
A Canonical and Pastoral Guide to Founding Religious Institutes, Diocesan Hermits, Consecrated Virgins and New Forms of Consecrated Life

by Sister Marilyn Vassallo

Recently, I had the opportunity to visit with Sister Amy Hereford from the St. Louis Province. During her last semester studying canon law in Louvain, Belgium, Amy joined me in Louisiana to assist a religious community in Louisiana. This community was down to nine members and in need of both legal and canonical assistance. We both learned much from the experience.

After graduating from Louvain, Amy developed her own online canonical service which provides service to religious communities throughout the United States and parts of the Universal Church. One of Amy’s most recent books on her website is entitled “See I am Making Something New.” For obvious reasons, the title caught my eye. This 127-page book is a canonical and pastoral guide affecting recent development in traditional religious lifestyles, as well as the emergence of new types of consecrated life in today’s Church. It seemed like a good book to read in preparation of our Provincial Assembly and the upcoming Congregational Chapter.

One of the most interesting parts of this book deals with how the life cycle of religious life parallels the life cycle of an individual. Also, the author’s ability to weave the Rule of Law with the Spirit of the Gospel allows the reader to see the importance of an informed understanding needed for those involved in the transformation of religious life, as well as for those seeking new ways of living the Gospel in the 21st century.

Those involved in canonical studies, leadership in religious life, formation and spiritual direction will find this a helpful resource in their efforts to provide mature guidelines for those who are interested in exploring the choices of many aspects of religious life available in today’s world.

Sister Amy Hereford is a member of the Canon Law Society of America. She is an attorney/canonist, as well as a consultant, writer and speaker on various aspects of consecrated life. “See I am Making Something New” is published by Religious Life Project, St. Louis Missouri, USA.

### Words to One Another

**From the Jubilarians of 2019**
We who are celebrating 75, 70, 60, 50, 40 and 25 years of service as Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet thank each one of you for the beautiful jubilee celebration on March 16 at the Provincial House.

To those who planned and participated in the inspiring Liturgy, those who prepared the delicious dinner, those who decorated the PH and chapel, those who extended such wonderful hospitality and those who traveled to be with us, we are truly grateful and deeply touched.

Thanks also to all who sent jubilee greetings, Mass enrollments, donations to the community, to the CSJ missions and to other charities, as well as gifts and promises of prayer. The day and year so far have been filled with love and support that will provide memories for years to come.

May God bless each of you with the same love, presence and prayerful support you have given us!

**From Sister Maria Boulieris**
I have made a donation to the KNOM Radio Mission, requesting a Mass be offered for our 2019 Jubilarians. Congratulations to all of you!

**From Sister Giovanna Marie Marcocci**
Congratulations to all our 2019 Jubilarians! A Mass will be offered at the PH for your intentions on Saturday, May 25. Much Aloha from Gio!

**From Sister Mary Lois Goldner**
Congratulations, Jubilarians! You will be remembered at Mass on June 19. God bless each of you.

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**Sister Mary Ann McCafferty**
March 9, 2019

**Sister Elizabeth Mary Gregware**
March 21, 2019

**Sister Marie C. Bowe**
March 31, 2019

**Sister Catherine Cote (SP)**
March 1, 2019

**Sister Marianne Dwyer (SL)**
March 3, 2019

**Bette Jasko**, stepmother of Sister Susan Jasko

**Florence Golden**, sister of Sister Rosemary Endres

**Marie Mascaro**, sister of Sister Lois Mary Paciello

**Doris Duffina**, sister of Sister Theresa Fournier
Reflections on the Equality of the Laity

by Sister Fran Dempsey

Vatican II in *Lumen Gentium* states, “Laity, by their very vocation, seek the kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God. They live in the world that is, in each and all of the secular professions and occupations. They live in the ordinary circumstances of family and social life, from which the very web of existence is woven. They are called there by God that by exercising their proper function and led by the spirit of the Gospel they may work for the sanctification of the world from within as a leaven.”

In “Commonweal,” 2/19, Michael Sweeney, OP, argues that Vatican II recognized that laymen and laywomen are called by their Baptism to something more than “personal piety.” The laity’s fundamental duty is “to incarnate the redemptive mission of Jesus Christ for the sake of the kingdom.”

The laity, in Sweeney’s analysis of *Lumen Genesis*, sit not on a lower rung of a hierarchical ladder, below the ordained, but are equally “co-responsible with the clergy in the church’s mission.” Baptism makes all part of the “Royal Priesthood,” a term which is not a metaphor but describes “the fundamental priesthood of the Catholic Church” which incorporates both ordained and lay members.

It follows that the ordained are not “more responsible for the mission of the church” than the laity. Given this, laymen and laywomen must have not only “equal dignity,” “equal voice,” and “mutual accountability,” but also an equal role in church governance. All laity, single and married and vowed, yes, must minister for the kingdom on earth. They also must bring the church to recognize their equal standing in governance.

For this article, four members of the laity offered reflections on Sweeney’s view.

One laywoman, Connie, long-involved in the church’s ministry as a parish leader, stated, “Current leadership needs to set ego aside and allow, encourage and recognize the gifts of all of its members.” Citing Chris Lowney, *Everyone Leads* Connie believes that “Jesus calls us all,” and the church “must foster a culture where everyone leads,” that is, a culture of equality.

Some laity who know in their bones their proper role lament the church’s persistent blindness to the fundamental equality of the Holy Priesthood -- that Baptism grants to women as well as men. Barbara, a long time catechetical leader on both the parish and diocesan level, for example, feels “like a second-class citizen, being denied access to all seven sacraments, in particular, Holy Orders.”

Another interviewee, the Pastoral Council chair in his parish, said what guides him is the Vatican II definition of the church as the “people of God.” Bill writes, “Yes, the Church is more about the people than the building or clergy or religious.” He adds, “The clergy exist to serve the people and is essential.” Bill says his first ministerial commitment is “to spend time and be present to my wife and family and to make them happy.” Also, all laity “are called to offer our daily work ... in whatever occupation/profession we are in as service” because “You bring your faith to everything in your life the best you can.”

In this reflection Bill echoes “*Lumen Gentium,*” which says the laity, who “live in the world that is, in each and all of the secular professions and occupations ... in the ordinary circumstances and family and social life, from which the very web of existence is wove.” They are “called by God ... for the sanctification of the world from within as a leaven.”

Finally, Mary, a retired hospital chaplain, declares, “The role of the laity is to be the church; the role of the clergy is to fulfill our spiritual and sacramental needs.” She sees the laity’s role as daily living the Sermon on the Mount: “in food banks, shelters, hospitals, comforting the grieving, parish pastoral services, institutions of learning, the Gospel is fully lived!” Mary agrees with Sweeney, writing “The laity and clergy are equal partners in this continuing chapter of Salvation history.”

Please, if you wish, send your reflections on the role of the single, the married, and the vowed laity in the church to the Justice Committee and we will continue to ponder this topic with you.
WE’RE GOING TO A WEDDING!

by Sister Anne Stephen Wysocki

Those of us who entered prior to the early 1960s brought a place setting of silverware on Entrance Day. Did you ever wonder what happened to that place setting? Well, I know! For all those years, the silverware sat in boxes, stored in the food-service cupboard at the PH. And now the silverware, all 1,384 pieces, is involved in my latest “selling” project. The original Syracuse China Apple Blossom dishes, used every day for all of our meals for several years, were also included in the sale.

A woman from Hudson contacted me to purchase all 70 apple blossom platters. Her daughter is marrying a member of the Fix Brothers Fruit Farm family (Now that’s a mouthful!) and she thought it would be appropriate to have two apple blossom platters on each of the 25 tables at the reception. When she came to pick up the platters, she asked about other things I wanted to sell. I mentioned the silverware, and she literally sat on the floor and looked through the boxes of silverware. She came in mid-February to pick up all 1,300+ pieces and is having a silverware polishing party in the next couple of weeks. Some of the names on the silverware included Sisters Celestine Joseph, Matthew Joseph, Benigna, Dymphna, M. Adrian and Anne T. Kelly (Mauretia). Do these names sound familiar? One of the forks was dated 1865-1890, probably a gift for someone’s silver jubilee. Perhaps that sister entered in South Troy in our original house.

So, you see, we are going to a wedding in June, under the big white tent at the Fix Brothers Fruit Farm in Hudson. After the wedding, the bride is opening up a catering business which will include our dishes and silverware. The CSJs will surely live on for years to come, literally serving the dear neighbor!

St. Augustine’s Presents 20th Annual S. Pat Geary Award

On Saturday, March 21 St. Augustine’s Parish in Baldwinsville presented the 2019 Sister Pat Geary Award. As you might remember, the award is presented to a parishioner who embodies the spirit of Pat. The Mass was attended by Sisters Ruth Dowd, Natalie Slake, Rosemarie Freitag, Diane Zigo, Mary Ann Fetcho, Helen Hart and Ellen Lindsley. Ellen presented the award on behalf of the Sisters of Saint Joseph and the nominating committee. We were invited to the parish’s St. Joseph’s Day dinner which is held after the Mass.

The award was presented to Paul De Felice. Paul was chosen by the nominating committee because of his commitment to the social action ministry of the parish. He embodies all the values and beliefs of Pat. As the recipient, he received $1,000 to be used for charitable purposes. He donated some of the money to A Tiny Home for Good which provides small houses for the homeless, and the remainder of the money went to two other charities.

The Sister Pat Geary Award has been presented annually since 2000.

A Syracuse China Apple Blossom platter and some of the silverware!

Sister Ellen Lindsley and Paul De Felice, recipient of this year’s S. Pat Geary Award

Happy Easter!
Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda
to Speak in the Capital District

by Sister Lin Neil

The renowned Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda will be coming to the Capital District to speak on the topic of the Earth’s crisis of climate change.

This increasingly pressing situation of Planet Earth poses urgent ethical questions. The earth crisis cannot be understood apart from the larger human crisis; economic equity, racial justice, social values and human purpose are bound up with the planet’s survival.

With climate change, humankind hovers on a precipice. A “great work” is before us: to forge ways of living together that allow Earth’s life-systems to flourish and that diminish the soul-shattering gap between those who have too much and those who have too little. For this, the testing point of human history, all forms of human knowledge have a role to play.

Dr. Lobeda has lectured or consulted in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin American and many parts of North America in theology and matters of climate justice, economic justice, environmental racism, economic globalization, moral agency, public church and eco-feminist theology. She is author of *Healing a Broken World: Globalization and God* (Fortress, 2002), *Public Church: For the Life of the World* (Fortress, 2004), and many other books and magazines.

Dr. Lobeda will be speaking at Messiah Lutheran Church (2850 Guilderland Avenue in Rotterdam) on Wednesday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m. and at Siena College on Thursday, April 11, at 4:15 p.m. in the Roger Bacon Hall.

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Another Zero Waste Box Is
Coming to the Provincial House

by Sister Lin Neil

From poisoning and injuring marine life to disrupting human hormones, from littering our beaches and landscapes to clogging our waste streams and landfills, the exponential growth of plastics is now threatening the survival of our planet. (https://www.earthday.org)

How can we reduce our use of plastic? Each person uses a different amount of plastic daily or weekly. First, think about plastics you use every day—one-use plastics like straws, cups, plastic ware and plastic bags. Can we make a change? Can we choose other products or find ways to recycle this waste?

Many times it is hard to avoid plastics, but there are alternative methods of disposal.

The HomeLand Committee would like to “be the change we want to see in the world” as Gandhi said. So we have invested in another Zero Waste Box from the TerraCycle Company. The Zero Waste Box was developed by TerraCycle to provide the first ever comprehensive recycling solution for everyday consumer waste. We could choose from over 100 different accepted waste streams, ranging from cigarette butts to coffee capsules.

HomeLand is focusing on recycling any brand of used pens, pen caps, mechanical pencils, markers, marker caps, permanent markers, and permanent marker caps. (No wooden or colored pencils!)

We have mailed one TerraCycle box on March 29. It was filled to the brim! So all that plastic will not go into the landfill! Please continue to bring the above items with you and put them in the mail holder on Sister Kate’s office door. She is filling the new box for us.

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Celebrate Earth Day
and “Protect Our Species”

by Sister Lin Neil

Happy Earth Day, April 22, 2019!

The theme of Earth Day this year is “Protect Our Species.” The day focuses on awareness and action in saving endangered species. Scientists explain that we are in the sixth mass extinction our Earth has experienced. The difference with this extinction is that it is caused by human activity. We have caused a dramatic reduction in population sizes and in the total number of species; thousands have already disappeared and many more are threatened with extinction. This is a hard reality.

Pope Francis has said, “Our insistence that each human being is an image of God should not make us overlook the fact that each creature has its own purpose. None is superfluous. The entire material universe speaks of God’s love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God.” (Laudato Si # 84)

On this Earth Day, let us pray that hearts will be moved to care for every “caress of God.” Visit the Center for Biological Diversity to learn more and take action!

Going, Going
by Marion C. Honors, CSJ
A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words

During Heritage Week at The College of Saint Rose (March 18-22), the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet’s Albany Province Justice Committee participated in the College’s Heritage Week during the Mac and Cheese Cookoff! We invited the students and staff to write letters to Congress urging our representatives to make improving global nutrition a priority. These measures will save the lives of hundreds of children and help meet the international goal of ending hunger by 2030.
In the Utica-Rome area, the Sisters celebrated St. Joseph’s Day at Symeon’s Restaurant, once again through the generosity of Fr. Richard V. O’Neil. Pictured are (front row, l. to r.) Sisters Rosaire Anne DeMare, Lois Mary Paciello, Jeanne Lippincott, Lisa Cirillo, Mary Catherine Rayo, Martha Larkin; (back row, l. to r.) Sisters Sharon Whellahan, Mary Ellen Schopfer, Anna Mae Collins, Mary Jo Tallman, Jackie Johnas, Rosalie Kelley and Maureen Denn. During dinner, the Sisters also presented flowers to Golden Jubiliarians Anna Mae Collins and Mary Jo Tallman.

In Binghamton this year, St. James Church, together with Holy Trinity Church, offered a Triduum that culminated on the Feast of St. Joseph. The first night began with the Sacrament of Healing. The second night centered on a Holy Hour, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, followed by night prayer. The last night ended the Triduum with a Mass, celebrated with beautiful music and the Litany of St. Joseph. During this Feast Day Liturgy, the Sisters renewed their vows and the CSJ Associates renewed their promises as shown in the photo..
A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words: St. Joseph’s Day Around the Province

Some Sisters of St. Joseph and CSJ Associates (pictured on left) from the Albany area gathered at St. Vincent’s Church, Albany, to celebrate St. Joseph at a Eucharistic Liturgy that included vow renewal and a homily given by twins Kayla and Sarah Franzken (pictured on right). Kayla and Sarah were participants in the first student pilgrimage to Le Puy, sponsored by the Association of Colleges of the Sisters of St. Joseph and led by Sisters Kitty Hanley and Joan Lescinski.

Rome CSJ Associates gathered at St. Peter’s Church on St. Joseph’s Day for Mass and breakfast together.

Thirty Sisters of St. Joseph gathered on March 18 at the Italian-American Club in Albany to celebrate St. Joseph’s Eve. From left to right are Sisters Charla Whimple, Libby Costanzo, Nancy Gregg, Kathleen Connor and Pat Conron.
A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words: St. Joseph’s Day Around the Province

On St. Joseph’s Day, the staff at St. Mary’s Healthcare, Amsterdam, invited Sisters from the Provincial House and Sisters at St. Mary’s to a St. Joseph’s Day Liturgy and Vow Renewal, followed by a luncheon. It was a wonderful afternoon for Sisters and staff to visit and enjoy the company of one another.

(Sisters Joan Mary Hartigan, Lucille Theroux and Catherine Sean Croghan)

(Sisters Ellen Alicia Noonan, Margaret Vincent and Geraldine Kennah)

(left to right) Sisters Dolores Stevens, Pat Woolheater, Rita Jean DuBrey, Geraldine Kennah, Ellen Alicia Noonan (seated), Catherine Sean Croghan, Margaret Vincent, Lucille Theroux and Joan Mary Hartigan

(photos thanks to Mark Perfetti)
Baton Rouge Students Travel to St. Louis to “Bridge the Divide”

by Mindy Averitt and Sister Chris Pologa

Kakehashi means “bridging the divide”—reaching across boundaries, whether physical or cultural, to embrace our oneness.

Founded 150 years ago by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Médaillé (now the Congregation of St. Joseph), St. Joseph’s Academy in Baton Rouge remains true to its mission of serving the dear neighbor.

During this jubilee year, SJA has partnered with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet to broaden our service. Through Sister Chris Pologa, SJA’s service coordinator, the school donated computers to Peru to assist young Sisters like Sister Mary Luz Salazar in their studies and ministry with persons with disabilities.

Connecting with our St. Louis Province, a service trip was organized to Marian Middle School. This middle school was founded in 1999 by seven communities of Catholic Sisters, including the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, and several laywomen to serve girls in grades 5-8 primarily from low-income families. Marian is the only all-girls private middle school in the St. Louis community which serves urban adolescent youth in a faith-based environment.

Senior Eden Landry said she was highly impressed with the philosophy of Marian Middle School, which is centered on teaching valuable life skills and breaking the cycle of poverty. “Another awesome thing that the school does is having guidance counselors who follow the girls throughout middle school, high school and college,” she said. “The girls have the opportunity to earn a scholarship that will allow them to attend any private high school in the area with half of their tuition paid by Marian and the other half covered by the high school. The school also has many clubs dedicated to teaching valuable skills. They have a group that refurbishes furniture, a group that refurbished a motorcycle, a greenhouse and a beehive and so much more.”

Rachael Coates, another senior traveling to St. Louis, said she especially enjoyed working with the students who were hungry to learn in spite of their challenging circumstances. “All of these kids came in willing to learn about the computers with a smile,” she said. “Eden and I taught kids how to use and, with some, how to fix the computers the technology department donated to them. The students also helped Senior Sisters who live at the Motherhouse with their computer/phone problems and questions.

“I had a lot of fun on the trip and would definitely be interested in going back. I didn’t really view this as giving up my Mari Gras break because it was a chance to help other people, and that’s something that I live for. I would rather do that over anything else I could have done over the break. I loved everything about Marian and its mission!”

St. Joseph’s Academy students visit with some of our Senior Sisters in St. Louis.

“I didn’t really view this as giving up my Mari Gras break because it was a chance to help other people, and that’s something that I live for. I would rather do that over anything else I could have done over the break.”

-Rachael Coates, SJA student

The SJA service group enjoyed the stories of theologian Sister Mary McGlone about the ways in which the Congregation of St. Joseph and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet share the same roots and charisma. Teacher Sharon Cashio loved the Senior Sisters at Carondelet Center and their spirit of joyful hospitality. The girls assisted our Senior Sisters with their technology issues concerning laptops, smart phones and computers.

The group also visited St. Joseph’s Academy in St. Louis and were intrigued by the student-run coffee bar in which the girls learn business entrepreneurship, according to SJA Help Desk employee Heather Bennett. Visiting the Arch, the Old Cathedral along with a treat from the iconic Ted Dru’s ice cream stand, gave the group a taste of the local culture, said Help Desk employee Krysta Sherburne Duplessis.

As we move into the future, we find our oneness across the global community as one family of Joseph dedicated to serving the dear neighbor as bridgebuilders.

St. Joseph’s Academy students learned more about the Sisters of St. Joseph from Sister Mary McGlone.
LCWR Part of 75 Faith Leaders on “Reverse Caravan” to Honduras
from an LCWR press release

A delegation of nearly 75 faith leaders and immigrant justice advocates, mostly from the United States, with several joining from South America, traveled to Honduras March 18-25 to meet with grassroots and religious partners in order to understand more deeply the root causes of migration that have spurred thousands to flee Honduras.

The international, interfaith delegation, which included members from LCWR, met with organizations working and advocating for the rights of migrants and explore factors that are forcing migrants to flee, including violence; environmental degradation; and the ongoing effects of the 2009 coup, which opened the door for drug cartels, organized crime, corrupt security forces, and near total impunity for human rights violations. The delegation met with victims of the government-sponsored repression following the unconstitutional, fraudulent election of November 2017 (supported by the United States) and meet with communities fighting against displacement caused by extractive industries and those impacted by human rights violations.

“The migrant caravan from Central America is a modern-day Exodus. As people of faith, we cannot close the borders of our hearts to God’s people, rather we must walk with them, learn from them, and together address the root causes that force so many to take unimaginable risks for the sake of their families.” said Sister Ann Scholz, SSND, associate director for social mission of the Leadership Conference of Religious Women (LCWR), an association of leaders of congregations of Catholic sisters in the United States representing nearly 39,000 women religious.

“We envision a world where migration is not forced, nor criminalized, but rather understood as a choice for self-determination and survival,” said Rev. Deborah Lee, executive director of Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, one of the national leaders in the Sanctuary Movement of over 1000 Sanctuary congregations. “It is for us to come face to face with our own country’s complicity in the root causes driving forced migration, such as our US foreign policy in Honduras, combined with environmental devastation by national and multinational corporations.”

The date of the delegation visit coincided with the 39th anniversary of the martyrdom of Saint Oscar Romero who was assassinated for his defense of the poor and speaking out on the repression by government forces in El Salvador on March 24, 1980. The delegation commemorated the anniversary with a theological forum on how the teachings of the slain Archbishop of San Salvador are being applied in Honduras today.

“We go to Honduras carrying the spirit of Saint Oscar Romero and Berta Cáceres on the anniversary of their martyrdoms. They both called for an end to the repression,” said José Artiga, director of the SHARE Foundation which has a 40-year history of accompaniment and advocacy in El Salvador. “Saint Romero is with the people of Honduras today who are struggling for a dignified life and an environmentally sustainable future for their country.”

“It is a privilege to participate in a delegation that observes, listens and comes to a deeper understanding of root causes of immigration,” said Sister Kathleen Erickson, RSM, a member of the Sisters of Mercy of the US, another co-sponsor of the delegation. “We go to gain more awareness of the connection between U.S. policies and their effects on the lives of people in impoverished countries.”

The interfaith delegation included Jewish, Buddhist and Christian leaders from the Interfaith Movement For Human Integrity, representatives of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and a number of other Catholic congregations of sisters and others.
Sister Mary Ann McCafferty, CSJ
(Sister Elizabeth Damian)
1931 - 2019

Born in Schenectady, NY, August 31, 1931

Entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, NY, on September 15, 1952

Received into the Novitiate on March 19, 1953

Professed Final Vows on August 15, 1960

Died at St. Joseph’s Provincial House, Latham, NY, March 9, 2019

by Sister Lucille Theroux

Sister Mary Ann, the daughter of James and Ann Sullivan McCafferty had two sisters, Susan and Claire, and a brother, Donald. Her parents, her sister, Claire and her brother, Donald predeceased her.

At her Mass of Christian Burial, Father Burke stated that to look at the cover of the funeral booklet was to see the whole story of Sister Mary Ann. On the cover were the Irish blessing, two pictures of Mary Ann, one holding a tiny infant and the other with a young participant in the program at the School for the Disabled in Newtonville, NY (later to be known as the Center for Disability Services/ Kevin Langan School in Albany, NY).

After graduating from Mont Pleasant High School in Schenectady, Mary Ann completed the program in child care at St. Catherine’s Infant Home in Albany and became a certified child care technician. She entered the novitiate in Troy and, after professing her first vows, began her ministry as a Sister of St. Joseph as a childcare technician at St. Joseph’s Infant Home in Troy. Mary Ann’s care for the young charges went beyond meeting their physical-care needs. Gifted with significant sewing and crafting skills, she shared those talents by creating beautiful clothing for the babies at the Infant Home. When she later joined the staff at the School for the Disabled in Newtonville, she continued her loving care — physical, emotional and spiritual.

In 1970, Sister Mary Ann began her 40-year career at St. Mary’s Hospital (St. Mary’s Healthcare) in Amsterdam where she served 31 years as a child care technician. Her compassionate presence in the nursery touched the lives of many families and staff members. Following her ministry in the nursery, Mary Ann continued her presence at St. Mary’s as a registration scanner and receptionist. Mary Ann often recalled the experience she shared with many of the “hospital sisters” who moved from the large institutional convent into small hospital-owned homes nearby. Leaving the institutional setting meant developing new skills associated with small local communities – budgeting, cooking and living with a smaller local community. Her local community often hosted gatherings of the sisters for holidays and other celebrations.

In 2011, Sister Mary Ann moved to the Provincial House to begin her retirement years. As long as was possible she kept up her many crafts. After a few years, Sister spoke freely about the changes she recognized in herself. During this time, she began to sort the craft and sewing supplies which she so loved and she gave them away, realizing she could not continue these activities. As she so graciously ended that part of her life, she patiently waited to be called to her heavenly home.

Letters of condolence may be sent to:
Mrs. Susan Rudzinski, 471 Arthur Street, Schenectady, NY 12306.
Sister Elizabeth Mary Gregware, CSJ
(Sister Mary Francina)
1921 - 2019

Born in Green Island, NY, November 29, 1921

Entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, NY, on September 15, 1944

Received into the Novitiate on March 19, 1945

Professed Final Vows on August 15, 1950

Died at St. Joseph’s Provincial House, Latham, NY, March 21, 2019

by Sister Mary Rose Noonan

Sister Elizabeth Mary Gregware, CSJ (Sister Mary Francina), 97, died Thursday, March 21, 2019, at St. Joseph’s Provincial House, Latham, NY. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 74 years.

Sister Elizabeth was born on November 29, 1921 in Green Island, NY, daughter of the late Louis and Laura Sheppard Gregware. After attending Catholic Central High School in Troy, Sister Elizabeth worked at Frontier Machine Company and Ford Motor Company, both in Green Island, and in two family grocery stores—Benac’s and Gregware’s.

On March 19, 1945, Sister Elizabeth entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, and professed final vows in August 15, 1950. She received a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from The College of Saint Rose and, for 20 years, taught elementary grades and catechetics in schools and parishes in the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses.

In 1967, Sister Elizabeth began a 25-year career at The College of Saint Rose as assistant supervisor of personnel, staff member in the printing and mail rooms and advisor for “domestics,” the latter a term given to workers who were part of the depopulation of state care facilities and movement into community-centered treatment and supervised job training. As such an advisor, Sister Elizabeth supervised Mary, Arlene, Lucy and Mae while the four lived and worked at The College of Saint Rose and later cared for their needs as the women retired and until their deaths.

Sister Elizabeth was a woman of deep faith, determined, dedicated and disciplined. She could build or repair just about anything and did so unobtrusively, with a beautiful smile and with remarkable generosity of time and talent. Devoted to the Blessed Mother, Sister Elizabeth was active in the pro-life movement, especially as it relates to unborn children, participated in many public demonstrations and spent hours in private prayer. For 50 years, Sister Elizabeth focused her life on the loving care of Mary, Arlene, Lucy and Mae all of whom predeceased her. Like St. Joseph, our patron, Sister Elizabeth was humble, practical, hardworking and faithful, and we will miss her gentle presence among us.

Sister Elizabeth is survived by her cousins, Anne Marie Benac Wright, Anne Rule and Leanne Roberts; and her friends, Ralph Randio and Fr. John Kostek. In addition to her parents, Sister Elizabeth was predeceased by her cousin, Robert Benac, and her dear friends: Mary, Mae, Lucy and Arlene.

Sister Elizabeth’s wake was held at the Provincial House on Tuesday, March 26. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at the Provincial House on March 27.

Messages of sympathy may be sent to Sister Elizabeth’s cousin: Anne Benac Wright, 5450 W. Harbor Village Drive, Vero Beach, FL 32967.
Provincial House News

by Sister Fran Gilchrist

Perhaps it’s the same each year that I think “Wasn’t that the best Jubilee we’ve ever had?” There was such a sense of community, friendship and congratulations! Even the flowers on each table in the dining room lasted longer than many of us recall.

I’ve had much enjoyment creating a puzzle about the Provincial House. The idea to do this puzzle came one evening when I was thinking of Mother Athanasia Gurry and how kind she was. I wondered if I could do this kind of project and thought I would give it a try. I sat with Sister Mary Salvaterra, one morning and she helped me with several points. She also gave me a piece from the Colonie Historical Oracle. I’ve enjoyed putting the puzzle together. Let me know if you want a copy.

Sister Anne Gratton won the “Rummikub Olympics.” Sister John Joseph Gilligan enjoyed watching the two out of three games which constituted the final round. I was Anne’s opponent and it was good that Sister John Joseph was there because at least three times. I tried to draw a tile even after I had just already played!

The Activities Department is wonderful about reminding us to wear special colors on certain days to show our support of a designated cause or to pray for those suffering from a particular disease.

There are 13 young women coming Wednesday from Bishop Maginn High School in Albany to work on an art project with some of our seniors. This type of activity is always a treat since it reminds many of us of our teaching days, and being with young people gives us a shot of energy!

As it is every year, Lent has been very full and inspiring. The chapel always mirrors the creativity and hard work of Gen Ciszek and the other sacristans. Among the programs this Lent have been “Sacred Seasonings,” reflections by a different Sister each week, stations of the cross every Friday and Fr. Pat Butler presenting on the theme of “Genuine Trust.”

Save the date!

CSJ Associate Commitment Weekend 2019 to Focus on “Pentecost: Empowering for Mission”

by Sister Marilyn Vassallo

Preparations are well underway for our annual Associate Commitment Weekend when new members make their first commitment and all current CSJ Associates renew their commitment.

Friday night we will gather in the Provincial House Chapel for Vespers. A social will be held in the Hospitality Center later that evening. Saturday morning, there will be a keynote address given by Sister Christine Pologa. The title of her address is, Pentecost: Empowering for Mission. This address will be followed by a morning of prayer/reflection and sharing of the heart. We hope that many Associates and Sisters from near and far will be able to join us for Friday evening prayer and the social, as well as Saturday morning prayer.

After lunch, all Associates will gather in the Hospitality Center for the Associate Assembly. At this time, the Associates will review processes and procedures relative to Associate administration and governance. More information will be provided in the weeks ahead. Everyone’s voice is important and we hope as many Associates as possible will participate in this opportunity to improve upon how we go about being who we are.

To assist us in planning for hospitality and meals, we ask that all Associates and Sisters residing outside the Provincial House fill out a registration form for the weekend. A registration form will be available through your area coordinator as well in the upcoming April and May issues of Carondelet East.

All registration forms can be returned to area coordinators or mailed no later than May 1, 2019 to: St. Joseph’s Provincial House, CSJA Associate Office, 385 Watervliet Shaker Road, Latham, NY 12110.

For further information and/or if you have questions, contact the associate directors or area coordinators. Their phone numbers and email addresses are in the Province Directory.

Sister Chris Pologa preparing for the address to be given at the CSJ Associate Commitment Weekend in June
CSJ ASSOCIATE COMMITMENT WEEKEND
Pentecost: Empowering for Mission
June 7, 8, 9, 2019

REGISTRATION FORM

Please print and return by May 1, 2019!

Name: ________________________________ Check One

Email: ________________________________ __ Associate

Phone: ________________________________ __ Candidate

Area: _____ Albany/North Country _____ Binghamton _____ Rome

_____ Utica _____ Amsterdam _____ Syracuse

Emergency Contact

Name: ________________________________

Relationship: __________________________ Phone: __________________________

Overnight Accommodations

_____ Friday Night _____ Saturday Night _____ Not Needed

Special Needs: ________________________________

Meal Requests

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Note: Please understand that, after you make these requests, should you not come for any part of the weekend, the meals and accommodations must still be paid for by the Associate budget. Please notify the team immediately if your plans change prior to the weekend.
There will be a Memorial Mass for

**Bishop Thomas J. Costello**

in the Provincial House Chapel
on
Tuesday, April 30 at 4:00 p.m.

Bishop Howard Hubbard will preside, and Fr. Geoff Burke will be the celebrant. Sister Katie Eiffe will be the homilist.

All are welcome to come and celebrate the life of Bishop Costello who was such a good friend to the Sisters of St. Joseph!

*If you wish to stay for supper in the dining room, please let Sister Katie know by April 25.*

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**Save the date!**

**Sunday, May 5, 2019, 1:30 p.m.**

Carondelet Hospitality Center

The HomeLand Committee will host its annual education event with reflection on the film **EARTHRISE**

The film focuses on “the story of the photo that changed the world”: the story of the Apollo 8 astronauts who captured the iconic image of Earth from space. That photo of Earth is often credited with helping to launch the environmental movement, and it has inspired 50 years worth of images of our Earth home, taken from space. These pictures pack an emotional punch and delight us in different ways!

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**PROVINCIAL HOUSE RETREAT 2019**

The Week of May 19, 2019

**Theme**

“A Heart on Fire and the Third Act”

Fr. Louis Sogliuzzo, SJ, presenter

Fr. Louis presently serves as a staff member of the Spiritual Renewal Center and is also associated with Christ the King Retreat Center in Syracuse. The cost of this retreat is $550 for those who do not live at the PH. Please call (518-389-2475) or e-mail (cwhimple@csjalbany.org) if you would like a registration form.