Introducing a new look and a new publication schedule! Starting this month, look for We Are Carondelet TWICE each month: on second and fourth Tuesdays.

A reflection from Miriam D. Ukeritis, CSJ

“From his fullness we have, all of us, received—yes, grace in return for grace” (John 1:16). John used these words to describe Jesus. In these days—beginning with the feasts of All Saints and All Souls, looking forward to our Thanksgiving celebration, and living in the reality in these “in-between” days of concluding our ministry of congregational leadership—these words echo in my heart and mind.

November is a very full month! Celebrating All Saints and All Souls brought to mind the Cloud of Witnesses that circled our chapter meeting room in July and the scores of women and men who have gone before us as Sisters of St. Joseph and ACOF, who have gone deeper, journeyed farther, and responded boldly in serving the dear neighbor. I have great gratitude for their lives and witness, many of whom were dear friends.

In times of transition, Dag Hammarskjold’s words, “For all that has been, ‘thanks!’ For all that will be, ‘yes!’” are often a familiar theme. These days for us as CLT have included time to look back on some of the events to which we spoke our “yes” on January 11, 2014. They are a collection of good times and challenges and times we wish we could have skipped. They are all graced times when we now know the truth of having received grace in return for grace.

May you too experience the fullness of November’s invitations as you consider the gifts and graces of these past many months! May we all know once again, that “From his fullness we have, all of us, received—yes, grace in return for grace.”
Sisters of African American descent meet in LA

Left to right: Sisters Angela Faustina, Mary Clementine Lynch, Gail Trippett, Barbara Moore, and Ingrid Honore-Lallande. Sister Sharon Howell was unable to attend.

by Angela Faustina, CSJ

From October 17-21, CSJ sisters of African-American descent gathered together for the third time at Carondelet Center in Los Angeles. Our meetings—the first in St. Louis in 2014 and then St. Paul the following year—were inspired by the 2013 Congregational Call to Action to Partner with New Eyes and strengthen mutuality.

On Friday after a morning meeting, we toured downtown LA, Mount St. Mary’s University’s Doheny Campus, and the California African American Museum. Saturday, our visitors participated in the workshop on Dismantling Racism and White Privilege, providing a wonderful addition and a chance to get to know them better.

Our group was deeply touched by the welcome and hospitality they received from all at Carondelet Center. This was the first time Sisters Clementine and Gail had been to Los Angeles—a visit too short.

Next stop on the pilgrimage: Peru!

Sisters Ruth, Zaida, Maritza, Sally, and Mary Luz. See more photos from the pilgrimage on the Congregational Facebook page.

by Sisters Carol Brong, Jeanne Marie Gocha, Chizuru Yamada, and Sally Koch

The Congregational Novitiate Community left on Friday on the second leg of our pilgrimage to all of the CSJ provinces. This part of the pilgrimage takes us to Peru to meet the Sisters, visit the ministries, and experience the culture. We’ll be there for three weeks, spending time in Lima and Tacna.

The first part of our pilgrimage was to St. Paul, St. Louis, and Albany. We entered into so many rich experiences with the Sisters, ACOF, and friends, participating in prayer experiences, meeting Sisters around dinner tables, hearing stories of beginnings of ministries and seeing them in action now, great hospitality, and so much more. Thank you for your prayers during those weeks, and we ask you to be in prayer with us as we take this next leg of our journey.

Reminder: Recommendations for Director of Temporary Professed Sisters due Friday, 11/22

The CLT sent you a letter last week regarding the search for a sister to become the new Director of Temporary Professed Sisters. This will be a part-time position as part of the Congregational Formation Team. Recommendation forms are due next Friday, November 22.
Working Group Meetings

October saw three congregational working group meetings, which bring together the staff who perform the same ministries in each of the provinces. These meetings allow them to share their wisdom with one another and collaborate on shared projects across the congregation.

The archivists from all of our provinces gathered in St. Louis October 8-11. Here they are visiting Holy Family Chapel in Cahokia, Illinois, one of the first two ministry sites for our Sisters in 1836! Front row, L to R: Sister Phyllis Mauger, Catherine Lucy, Michelle Hueg, Sister Mary Salvaterra; Back row, L to R: Chrissy Bellizzi, Sister Rita Huebner, Sister Carol Marie Wildt, SSND, and Sister Patricia Rose Shanahan.

The communicators met in Albany on October 14-15. We were glad to have the opportunity to meet with the JPIC group for two hours to discuss how we can share justice messages more widely. L to R: Ann Thompson, Jenna Bendel, Jenny Beatrice, Kim Westerman, Sarah Baker, Cameron Parsons, Sister Barbara Dreher (CLT Liaison), Sister Mary Rose Noonan, and Sister Carol Louise Smith.

Calls for Justice

The congregation signed on to a letter from The Immigration Hub supporting Senator Dick Durbin, who has been attacked for his strong support of immigrants.

The Federation echoed a statement from LCWR regarding the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement.

Upcoming events & meetings

November 15-17: Albany Province Assembly

The Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Working Group gathered in Albany October 11-14. L to R: Sisters Doreen Glynn, Fran Dempsey, Mary Flick, Marty Roers (no, he's not a sister), Diane Smith, and Danielle Bonetti.

As we prepare for our congregational leadership transition, we will spotlight the five women recently elected to our incoming Congregational Leadership Team.

Sean Peters, CSJ
Albany, New York

What is your current ministry? Director of Mission Experience at The College of Saint Rose

What is your favorite book or movie? One of my favorite books is *Cry the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton. Though published in 1948, it expresses some of the challenges of “inclusive community” that we still face today. It’s a “rip your heart out” kind of book, but the story and beautiful writing make it well worth persevering. My favorite movie is at the other end of the scale – a comedy called *Harold and Maude*. Not everyone thinks it’s as funny as I do. Perhaps you have to have a weird sense of humor like mine to really enjoy it.

Tell us an interesting fact about yourself. Though, if you have spent any time with me, you know I enjoy a good conversation or story, I also appreciate deep silence. I once spent three months in silence in my own little hermitage and loved every minute of it.

Life would not be as fun without...hot air balloons. I’m a big fan. When I lived in St. Louis in the 90s, the hot air balloons took off from a festival only about four blocks from my house. Was that fun or what? I’m hoping they still have the festival now that I am returning to St. Louis. [Editor’s note: they do!]

What do you love about the Carondelet community? I love the way people spend themselves for the dear neighbor, both inside and outside the congregation. People do great things in ministry, but they also generously and with delight serve one another in the congregation. I think the only time I’ve ever seen one sister refuse to help another with some project or on a committee is when she genuinely did not have either the time or the talent to contribute. We take it as ordinary that people will say “yes,” but if you look around the world a little, you’ll find it is exceptional.

Rest In Peace

Ida DeCastro, CSJ
July 18, 1928 - October 17, 2019

James Patrick Corbett, CSJ
October 18, 1926 - November 4, 2019

Ann Michele Jadlowski, CSJ
May 5, 1925 - November 6, 2019

Teresa Shea, CSJ
September 6, 1917 - November 12, 2019

Happy Birthday!

As you can see, ACOF are now on the We Are Carondelet birthday list! If you see any errors, please let us know at csjcommunications@csjcarondlet.org.

November 12
Associate Diann Heflin
Consociate Susan Reaney
Sister Clara Vincent Slatinsky

November 13
Sister Constance Fitzgerald
Sister Catherine T. McNamee

November 14
Familia Liliana Díaz
Associate Alma Gutierrez
Associate Michelle Piranio
Sister Ann Smith
Sister Claudia Wong

November 15
Sister Elizabeth Jean Allard
Sister Mary Jo Ritter
Sister Patricia Supple
Associate Maureen Wessels

November 16
Associate Bonnie Lee Boswell
Associate Carol Frevert
Sister Carol Quinlivan
November 17
Associate Beth Barbieri
Sister Elizabeth Mary Ganss
Sister Mary Fran Johnson
Associate Maggie Lambi
Sister Barbara Joseph Wilson
Sister Serena Zilka

November 18
Sister Carol Gerondale
Associate Allen Grieve
Consociate Ruby Hanson
Sister Catherine Anne Kruegler
Consociate Maria Tranel
Associate Eleanor Jane Turowski

November 19
Consociate Maren Bjork
Associate Carol Cambell
Associate Joseph L. Cassella
Associate Sharon E. Clubb
Consociate John Gries
Sister Geraldine Marie Kennah
Sister Jane Schaper
Sister Linda Taylor
Associate Marion Waite

November 20
Sister Marie Theresa Belanger
Sister Helen Thomas Bronk
Sister Timothy Anne Daly
Sister Frances Michele Francese
Associate Kathleen Hawkins
Sister Joan Mitchell
Associate Alicia Murillo
Consociate Kay S. Welsch

November 21
Associate Mary Ellen Albers
Familia María Hernández
Associate Nicole A. Holtzer
Sister Anne Bernadette Stead

November 22
Associate Vivian Burgess
Consociate Ginger Hedstrom
Sister Rose Philippine Hoormann
Sister Mary Schneider
Associate Michele Towne

November 23
Consociate Linda Andreozzi
Sister Grace Bacon
Associate Joan Bellinger

Consociate Mary Helen Montgomery
Sister Ramona Rademacher
Associate Mary Lou Schneider

November 24
Sister Rita McGovern
Associate Mary Sullivan

November 25
Sister Kathleen Holmberg
Associate Judy Russell
Associate Janne Shirley
Associate Carol Vizzier
Sister Charla Whimple