



ISSUE #58 • JANUARY 26, 2021



## Prayers Please app to retire, ministry continues



In 2010, the congregation's communication directors collaborated to plan, develop and

implement a new ministry to accept online prayer requests from anywhere in the world: Prayers Please.

At the time, they created a free prayer request app to take advantage of emerging technology to meet the need for a quick and easy way for people on the go to request prayers from the sisters. Ten years later, the need for prayer remains the same, but technology has evolved. With the ease of accessing mobile-friendly websites, the communicators have concluded that the app is no longer necessary to continue the Prayers Please ministry. We will be retiring

the app as of March 31.

Of course, the ministry continues! **We always accept prayer requests through our website at: [csjcarondelet.org/we-pray-for-you/](https://csjcarondelet.org/we-pray-for-you/).**

We thank the John, Marie and Joseph Whalen Foundation, Inc. for their support of the Prayers Please app, the talented web developers who kept it functioning over the years, our communicators for keeping the ministry active, and all of you for the prayers that are the heart of the ministry.

## Two Updates from St. Paul

This spring, the St. Paul Provincial House will have new tenants. The sisters are welcoming homeless families with young children into the 1870 Randolph building. [read more](#)



Wisdom Ways Center for

Spirituality, a ministry of the St. Paul Province, is seeking a new executive director. [read the position description](#)

## Prayers for the Peruvian sisters' upcoming elections

On January 30-31, the vice province of Peru will hold the election of a new leadership team. This newly elected team will be the leaders who guide the transition to a direct relationship with the Congregational Leadership Team, the decision that the sisters in the vice province reached in October of 2020 as the fruit of their discernment process.

Let us accompany our sisters as they prepare for and carry out this election, that the Spirit will continue to guide them in their deliberations.

## Reflecting on the "God of Surprises"



The St. Louis Associates invite you to the final ACOF convocation presentation, where we will consider the surprises we have encountered in the last year, move toward a sense of resiliency and participate in an imaginative process to vision for the

future. It is open to all who affiliate with the CSJ community: sisters, ACOF, St. Joseph Workers, partners in mission and ministry, Federation members, and more. Spanish interpretation will be available.

### Wednesday, February 24, 2021

7pm EST / 6pm CST / 5pm MST / 4pm PST / 2pm Hawai'i

9pm in Chile / 7pm in Peru / Thu, February 25 at 9am in Japan

Gathering and greetings on Zoom start 30 minutes prior.

[read more and register](#)

## Theological Insights recordings available

In the second half of 2020, the congregation hosted three sessions of "Theological Insights." Each session featured a young woman theologian with strong connections to us and our CSJ charism with time for sharing in small groups and in a question and answer period. Many thanks to all who joined via Zoom! If you were unable to attend live, recordings of all three are now available on YouTube.

[Session One:](#) Allison Connelly on disability theology

[Session Two:](#) Consociate Brianna Lloyd "'In the Beginning...': Exploring a Story of Origin and Its Sacred Land Ethic"

[Session Three:](#) Ceara Curry Kilpatrick "How to Find a Spiritual Horizon: Understanding

and Ministering to Young Adults in Our Stormy World"

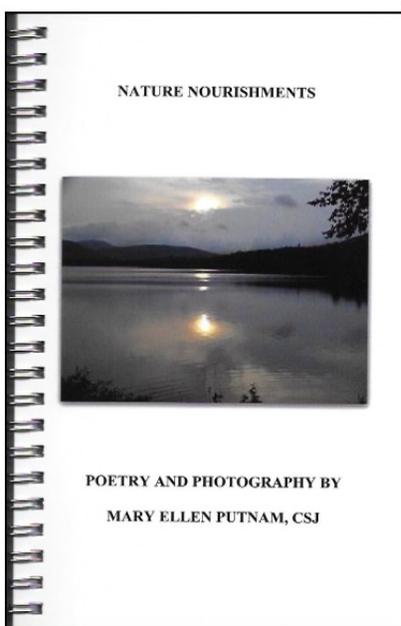
The series will continue with three new sessions in 2021! Watch for more information in future issues of this newsletter.

## ***Nature Nourishments* available now**

Mary Ellen Putnam, CSJ from Albany has published a collection of photographs and "simple meditative reflections based on the pictures" entitled *Nature Nourishments*. "I believe Nature is God's journal, and so often we get busy and miss the story that is told right before our eyes," she says.

To purchase a copy, you can contact her at [mputnam@csjalbany.org](mailto:mputnam@csjalbany.org) or (518) 817-2549.

[read more](#)



## **THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH** **EL AÑO DE SAN JOSÉ** **セントジョセフの年**

"We know that Joseph was a lowly carpenter betrothed to Mary...ever ready to carry out God's will as revealed to him..."

[Patris Corde](#)

How well am I attentive to God's will as it is revealed in sometimes unlikely ways?

Joseph, we ask your blessing on nurses' aides in hospitals and nursing homes.



## **ACOF updates from around the globe**

*by Therese Sherlock, CSJ*

What has been happening in the worlds of Associates, Consociates, 'Ohana, and Familia de San José (ACOF) during these long months of pandemic isolation? At a meeting in early January, the directors of the vice/provinces shared their stories.

"Zoom has been good for us," said Denise Ginty from **Los Angeles**. "We even began a new group of associates and associate candidates who were too distanced from LA to attend face-to-face meetings frequently." Ten of the candidates are ready to make their commitment but will wait until they can gather in real-time with the whole community.

Sister Marilyn Vassalo and Patricia Pilon work with the associates in the **Albany** province. Pat lives in Syracuse and belongs to one of the five associate communities spread out across the state. Sister Marilyn lives in Albany. Pat and Marilyn had planned a convocation of sisters and associates for last June. They hope to hold it this summer.

Joan Pauly Schneider and Andrea Pearson Tande are co-directors of the consociate program in **St. Paul**. Joan fields inquiries from interested women and men. Those groups have migrated to Zoom. Andrea walks with the to-be consociates through their two-year candidacy. This year there are seven first-year candidates from Kenya, the fruit of Sister Rosita Aranita's ministry there and two ministries begun and furthered by St. Paul consociates. The Kenyan candidates check in with St. Paul on WhatsApp.

Anne Harpham has directed the 'ohana program in **Hawai'i** for nine years. The 'ohana have 18 members living on the island of Oahu and 18 on Maui. Zoom brings 'ohana and sisters together more frequently than in the days of inter-island travel. They enjoy getting to know one another better.

The men and women in **Chile** who belong to the Familia de San José live in two cities—Talca and Curepto. The 20 members in each city support each other in prayer and in caring for the dear neighbor. The familia are celebrating the Year of St. Joseph with the associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Brazil, adding an international dimension to their commitment.

**St. Louis** associates had long-distance relationships even before the pandemic.

Their new director of associates, Mary Armbrust, will work from Green Bay, Wisconsin. At last count, there are 42 associate communities in six states and one multi-state group. Most groups include sisters from the area.

Keep your eyes open for ACOF in the news. [Global Sisters Report](#) is doing a feature on associate programs during the pandemic and has asked some from our congregation to share their experiences. The Theological Insights series hosted by the St. Paul consociates office will have three new presentations this spring. There are hopes that our national ACOF convocation, which was canceled last year, will be a reality in 2021.



- **Albany:** [In this darkness is there also light?](#) by Fran Dempsey, CSJ
- **St. Paul:** [St. Joseph's Hospital transitions to new focus](#)
- **St. Louis:** [Our divided church has to grapple with being pro-life](#) by Donna Gunn, CSJ

#### Recent Publications

- See all recent newsletters on the [Publications page](#) in the Members Only Section of the congregational website.



## Rest in Peace

[Associate Shirley O'Neil](#)  
July 6, 1935 - January 10,  
2021

[Joan C. Casey, CSJ](#)  
December 5, 1930 -  
January 12, 2021

[St. Luke Copeland, CSJ](#)  
February 8, 1930 -  
January 13, 2021

[Ann O'Neill, CSJ](#)  
February 18, 1936 -  
January 15, 2021

[Consociate Margaret  
Conant](#)  
August 3, 1924 - January  
16, 2021

## Happy Birthday!

**January 26**  
Associate Barbara Beads  
Consociate Lois Berns  
Sister Madalene Pallotta  
Associate Lucy Sigmun  
Associate Joan Waeckerle

**January 27**  
Associate Kathleen Barry  
Associate Kristen Franke  
Sister Joan Mary O'Dwyer

**January 28**  
Sister Mary Lillian  
Baumann  
Associate Frank LaGatta  
Sister Mary Ann Leininger  
Sister Dorothy Ann Leshar  
Sister Mary Ann Martin

**January 29**  
Sister Lynn Abdelnour  
Sister Alice Roberta  
Benzing  
Sister Rosemarie Freitag  
Associate Martha  
McGowan  
Familia Esmeralda Mejías  
Associate Jim Self  
Sister Sandra Straub  
Sister Irma Tye

**January 30**  
Sister Maria Charles  
Norton  
Sister Mary Shryock

**January 31**  
Sister Mary Clementine  
Lynch  
Sister Phyllis Ann Mauger

**February 1**  
Associate Eileen Stanley  
Consociate Jean Strehlow

**February 2**  
Sister Paul Kathryn Barno  
Associate Donna Corno  
Consociate Barbara  
Larson  
Consociate Kathleen  
Olsen  
Sister Justina Overhultz  
Associate Kristi Philip  
Sister Ruth Anne  
Saunders  
Sister Mary Nicholas  
Vincelli

**February 3**  
Sister Judith Anne Markert  
Associate Ann McCauley  
Sister Rose Mary Rooney

**February 4**  
Sister Roseann  
Klosterman

Sister Loraine Polacci  
Associate Carmen Smith  
Associate Betty Sullivan  
Associate Lou Wheat

**February 5**  
Sister Irma Araneta  
Sister Anne Kelly  
Associate Jean Kertz  
Associate Michelle Koski  
Associate Isabelle Wiske

**February 6**  
Associate Betty Jean  
Atkinson  
Sister Kathleen Eggleston  
Associate Lori Fick  
Associate Jody Hueschen  
Consociate Fran Rusciano  
Murnane  
Sister Linda Mary Vendetti

**February 7**  
Consociate Sue Allison  
Associate Carrie Arnold  
Associate Kathleen Busam  
Associate Mary  
McNamara

**February 8**  
'Ohana Fely Atay  
Associate Rose Marie  
Kotansky  
Associate Mary Lewis  
Consociate Karen Olson  
Johnson  
Sister Patricia Overlock  
Sister Virginia Ross  
Consociate Robert Ward

*Download the full necrology  
and birthday lists on  
the Celebrations page of the  
congregational website.  
Please report any mistakes  
to  
[communications@csjcaronde  
let.org](mailto:communications@csjcaronde<br/>let.org)*