

ITEMS

OF INTEREST

Vows renewed

Sr. Michaella Kim renewed her vows last month in the Cheltenham Community chapel.

Page 6

Earth Day is April 22

More than 1 billion people participate in Earth Day, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

Page 11

Drawing near to Jesus

Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez gives the homeless the blessing of ashes to draw them nearer to Jesus.

Page 12

Trafficked through ads

The film I am Jane Doe shines light on child sex trafficking through classified ads.

Page 13



AREA MEETINGS

The Province of Mid-North America has begun a series of six spring Area Meetings as a way to communicate and consult with Sisters in the province about the progress and plans of the Core Groups for Mission that have been working since the last Assembly. All of the meetings are following the same agenda and process over a two-day period. Sr. Madeleine Lane, SSND, is

Continued on next page



Green Acts

Every green act, however small, has the power to bring sustainability to the earth, according to Pope Francis. These acts raise our consciousness and sense of responsibility and reduce our complicity in degrading the earth as citizens of a developed nation. Turning off lights when they are not in

Continued on p. 10

PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL



Area meetings *Cont'd from p. 1*

facilitating the sessions. The meeting locations allow as many Sisters as possible to participate, especially those who can no longer travel. Representatives from the Province Leadership Team (PLT) and the three Core Groups are attending each Area Meeting: Eco-Zeal for Mission, Administration for Mission and Community for Mission.

According to PLT member Sr. Mary Carolyn McQuaid, the meetings have been designed for transparency, so that information is heard first hand and nobody is left out of the loop. The first Area Meeting took place in Cincinnati on March 15 and 16, followed by the second meeting in St. Louis March 29 and 30. Responses to the meetings have been favorable.

"It's been beautiful. The leaders thought to include those of us who can no longer travel so that we are a part of everything that's happening in the Province. It makes me feel important and not forgotten to be at these meetings," said Sr. Stanislaus dePolonia.

Sr. Gertrude Sen said, "I haven't traveled for a number of years and have missed a lot of Assemblies. But I still have a voice. It's nice to be able to share my opinions and to be included in knowing what's going on."

Sr. Therese Hillary said, "Physically, the room was hot and stuffy, but emotionally and spiritually we were really cool! I think each Sister felt she was heard when she expressed herself. Everyone was empathetic toward the opinions of each other."

Sisters in Cincinnati and St. Louis reported that they liked being together in a relaxed atmosphere where they had sufficient time to share in small groups and ask questions about finances, properties and the province's position on the environment.

Sr. Gayle Lwanga Crumbley went to the Area Meeting in Cincinnati so she could visualize how the Sisters are living there whenever she hears Cincinnati being mentioned. She said the experience was extraordinary.

"I reconnected with Sr. Noreen Sheedy, whom I hadn't seen in 17 years. It was like time had stood still and we started up right where we left off those many years ago. I met Mrs. Marguerite Senesac and Collette Sauers for the first time, and what a blessing that was! They are both dynamos and ministering to those around them at St. Margaret Hall. It was a wonderful Area Meeting and I am so glad I participated," Sr. Gayle said.



Top: Sr. Madeleine Lane, SSND, facilitates the 2-day Area Meeting in St. Louis at Immaculate Heart Convent. Bottom from front to back: Srs. Elizabeth Garciano, Virginia Gordon and Mary Catherine Massei prepare to distribute papers following a report from the Eco-Zeal Core Mission Group.

PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL



Area meetings *Cont'd from p. 2*

Sisters described the Area Meetings using terms such as “spiritual, respectful, open, honest, informational and comfortable.”

Sr. Mary Michael Maguire said, “The process has been good. All of the issues are out in the open for us to discuss.”

Sr. Elizabeth Garciano said, “I grew in my relationship with Sisters and am touched by what we said to one another. I am also grateful for being able to stay close to home for the meeting. I can just walk across the

road to get home and do other things that I need to do when the meetings are over. It’s more comfortable being close to home, and it reduces expenses and conserves energy,” she said.

Sr. Sharon Rose Authorson described the Area Meeting in St. Louis as energetic, refreshing and spiritual. She said, “We had a lot of faith sharing about what more we can do for the world. We have a simple spirituality: saving souls.”

Four Spring Area Meetings remain:

1. West Coast April 6-8
2. Baltimore May 3-4
3. Philadelphia May 6-7
4. St. Paul May 18-19

The province assembly in October will advance the discussions and include reports from the Core Mission Groups and address outcomes and shared reflections of the Spring Area Meetings. The assembly will be at Kings House in Belleville, Illinois.



Clockwise: Sisters at Immaculate Heart Convent who can no longer travel were able to participate in the Spring Area Meeting in St. Louis. Sr. Gayle Crumbley (right) met some Sisters for the first time at the Area Meeting in Cincinnati. She is seated l-r with Srs. Marguerite Senesac, Mary Carolyn McQuaid and Dorothy Doyle. Sisters Collette Sauer (l) and Elise Kramer swap “dance cards” affirming their gifts to Community. Sisters Mary Carolyn McQuaid (l) and Marilyn Kahl prove that snacks and good conversation during breaks are the icing on the cake when it comes to a gathering of Sisters in the Province of Mid-North America..

MINISTRY NEWS



ZEAL

Bethesda The House of Mercy trains priests, counselors, deacons and pastoral ministers

By Patricia Marie Barnette, RGS

On February 1, 2017, Sr. Patricia Marie Barnette, Elaine (last name withheld upon request) and Rachel Benda, founder of [Bethesda The House of Mercy](#) and Director of the Community of Jesus the Living Mercy, held a training for 22 priests of the Diocese of Youngstown as the new Project Rachel Healing Ministry was introduced into the diocese.

The priests were very receptive and also enjoyed fellowship among one another. The workshop focused on how priests can sensitively minister with mercy to the women who come to them seeking healing and sacramental graces after an abortion.

On February 18, 2017, 40 participants of counselors, deacons and their wives, and pastoral ministers attended a day-long training at Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine in Youngstown, Ohio. Topics on both days included the language of denial, effects of trauma as detrimental to the spiritual and psychological life of a person, how abortion affects men, how to understand the many layered needs a person has when taking this healing journey to the new life that Christ promises and gives in a beautiful way.

Bethesda The House of Mercy is a post abortion healing ministry of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. The ministry was founded in 1990. Project Rachel is a national ministry in many dioceses and is a resource and referral post-abortion healing ministry. It was founded in the mid-1980's.

The training was part of ongoing training that is offered by Bethesda The House of Mercy. This one was significant because the Diocese of Youngstown asked us to train their priests, counselors and deacons and pastoral ministers because of being the neighboring diocese to Cleveland. They could have asked the National Project Rachel Office to send a training team, but chose Bethesda instead.



From left: Sr. Patricia Marie Barnette, Rachel Benda and Elaine (last name withheld upon request.)

Good Shepherd 85 years strong in San Francisco

Sisters of the Good Shepherd are celebrating 85 years of service to San Francisco this year. The Sisters owned and operated University Mound School from 1932 to 1977, which served more than 5,000 teenaged girls, most of whom were placed by the juvenile courts or social service agencies. Today, the Sisters' service to young women continues at Good Shepherd Gracenter, a Licensed Recovery Residence that offers a path to

successful recovery and community reintegration. Some of the Sisters also serve San Francisco by working with a homeless shelter, recreation and rehabilitation center for people with disabilities and other agencies. In these ways, the San Francisco Community continues the Good Shepherd mission. Sisters are making a difference by assisting those in need and helping them to change their lives.

COMMUNITY LIFE



ZEAL



Marin parish honors Sisters as part of National Catholic Sisters

The St. Patrick Parish community in Marin County, California, honored the Good Shepherd San Francisco Community at a Mass commemorating National Catholic Sisters Week on March 12. The Sisters were recognized for their witness and service to the community, along with members of eight other communities of women religious.

The orders represented all three counties of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Parishioners joined the Sisters for an after-Mass hospitality hour so they could meet them personally and hear their stories.

More than 200 people came to St. Patrick's 10 a.m. Mass to greet the Sisters from Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Sisters of Social Service, Adrian Dominicans; Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary; Dominican Sisters of San Rafael; Sisters of Nazareth; Franciscan Sisters of Peace; Ursuline Sisters; and the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Sisters Liz Schille (front row, third from left) and Jean Marie Fernandez (back row, fourth from right) represented the San Francisco Community at a special Mass honoring orders of women religious in the Bay Area during National Catholic Sisters Week in March.

"These women are but a small sampling of the many great witnesses who live their vocation in service to the Gospel," said Msgr. Padazinski. "Living out their charisms has blessed our archdiocese and I hope other young women will seriously consider a vocation to the religious life."

In the closing remarks of the Mass, Msgr. Padazinski shared his personal gratitude and appreciation for the Sisters who educated him. "I recall fondly those Sisters; they were an inspiration to me and helped me discern my call to the priesthood," he said.

Sr. Erica expresses her gratitude to Sisters in the St. Louis Community

Sr. Erica Patricia Sanchez came to the Province Center last May to study English so that she could learn the language well enough to use and understand at the university level. Sr. Erica leaves the province on April 18 to spend a month in New York City with Sr. Winifred Doherty at the United Nations. There, she will gain a better understanding of human trafficking, migrants and Social Protections before returning to her province in Mexico, which focuses on these issues. To show her gratitude to the St. Louis Community, Sr. Erica prepared a Mexican feast for them on April 2, 2017. She said, "Desde que era niña mi mamá me enseno a ser siempre agradecida porque nadie está obligado a darte nada, si no que es solo generosidad del corazon. Y mis hermanas de San Luis no sólo han sido generosas sino que me han enseñado much cada una y apoyado en este reto. Muchas gracias."

Translation: Ever since I was a child, my mother taught me to always be grateful because nobody is obliged to give you anything, but it is only the generosity of the heart. And my St. Louis Sisters have not only been generous, but they have each taught me much and supported me in this challenge. Thank you very much.



Sr. Erica Patricia Sanchez (l) and her mentor Sr. Virginia Gordon.

COMMUNITY LIFE



ZEAL



Sister Michaela Kim renews her vows

By Sister Sharon Rose

The transformation occurring in the Chapel at Cheltenham, Pennsylvania, on February 23, 2017, gave us a tingle of expectation. It was evident that something wonderful was about to take place here. The banners recently hung offered us a little hint: “Sing to the Lord,” “Shout for Joy” and “Follow Me”. The sanctuary was adorned with candles and beautiful bouquets.

Our temporary Professed Sister from South Korea, Sister Michaela Kim, was going to renew her vows the following day!

February 24th dawned with all the splendor of a lovely spring day. Fr. Anthony Janton was the Celebrant for Mass. He began by reminding Sister Michaela that God was spoiling her with an exceptional show of love through our surprising

weather on a Pennsylvania February day!

Melanie Capoferri, a friend of the community, led the music accompaniment. The choice of songs enhanced our celebration and filled our hearts with gratitude for the gift of our very special vocation.

Sister Madeleine Munday was present and witnessed Sister’s vows as the delegate of Sister Marie Jean Bae, the Province Leader of Northeast Asia. Sister Michaela included in her vow renewal the words: *“I Sister Maria Michaela Kim vow until the day in 2018 when I will pronounce my perpetual vows ...”*

Blessed by our internationality

Our Province has been blessed to welcome Sisters from other provinces. They have gifted us and we have grown in our love and appreciation of the treasure that our internationality is. St. Mary Euphrasia seemed very present during our Eucharistic Liturgy on this day.

After Mass we gathered in the dining room for a festive meal. Fr. Janton joined us, and our joy continued to overflow throughout the day. When we take



part in celebrations like the meaningful one we had just witnessed during Mass, it always grounds us in the reality of how much God has given to each of us.

We have a unique vocation in the Church and Congregation. Our vow of Zeal takes us to all corners of the world and when we “commit to live and pray for the salvation of persons, especially those served by our Congregation,” we feel humbled to have been chosen for this way of life.

Beauty and love

For some of us it spans many years, and as we grow deeper in contemplative prayer we are more and more amazed at the beauty of our lives.

We pray for the “younger” Sisters who will follow us. We have hope for the future.

May we all ever be “Impelled By God’s Love.”



Sr. Michaela Kim renewed her vows before Province Leader Sr. Madeleine Munday and Fr. Anthony Janton on February 24, 2017.

VOCATIONS



ZEAL



Meeting for Vocations Directors held in California region

Vocation Directors of the National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC) in the California region gathered in San Rafael March 23, 2017. Highlights of the meeting included events that had been planned and were participated in during National Catholic Sisters Week March 8-14.

As part of the meeting, NRVC held a retreat for young adults with the theme "Seeking God's Dream." During this retreat I experienced the Spirit as being alive and seen in the openness of these young adults aged 20-35. Here are some of their comments:

- Surrender and trust that I am in God's path - wonderful workshop;
- Listen to my desires. Be at peace with my desires and be honest with myself;
- Discernment is a journey, not something all at once
- God and I are figuring it out together;
- God is reminding me and showing me who I am and as a part of that process I must learn to say YES to Him despite my fears.

Submitted by Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez



Province Apostolic Vocations Director Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez, (back row, far right) attended the NRVC meeting for Vocations Directors on March 24 in San Rafael, California. The meeting was for Vocations Directors in the California region.

Baltimore community welcomes Lydia to Come and See

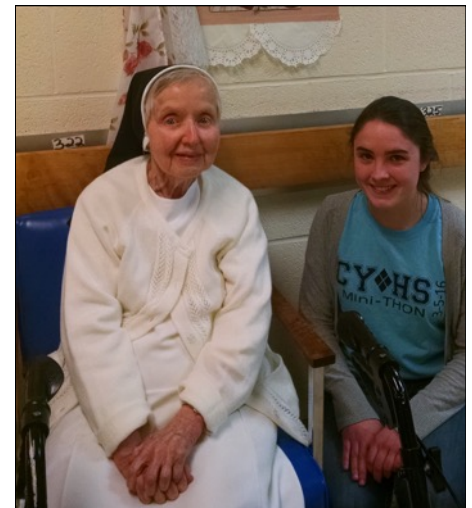
Lydia is a 20-year-old college student who is studying at Elizabeth Town College in Pennsylvania. Her major is Psychology with a minor in Spanish. Lydia requested a "Come and See" retreat during her spring break, and the Sisters in Baltimore were generous in welcoming her from March 8-11.

Lydia participated in the life of the community through prayer, liturgy, recreation and meals. She was able to hear Sisters tell their vocation story of how they received the "Call." She also witnessed our



Lydia and Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez; right: Lydia with Sr. Susanne Hughes, Baltimore.

Sisters working in outreach programs and sponsored ministries. The Sisters expressed gratitude for being with Lydia and found her to be a delightful young woman. It is truly a grace to provide spiritual accompaniment and discernment for young adults



seeking God's dream in their lives. Lydia said, "You have been very helpful on my vocation journey and that to me is a wonderful service."

Submitted by Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

ZEAL

Mariella Houle, RGS

October 19, 1917 – March 19, 2017

Ella Virginia Houle was born on October 19, 1917 to Philip and Mary Houle of Centerville, Minnesota. Her family lived on a farm. Besides farming, her father taught school and later was a banker.

Ella was the youngest of seven children. One of her siblings died at a very young age, and her father died when she was only 16. She remembers her family as a close and loving family. She always said that she was inspired in her life choices by her mother, who had a great love for the poor and did what she could to help them.

Seed of her vocation

Ella attended St. Mary's Grade School and graduated from White Bear High School in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. As a young adult she had a friend who was studying social work and who wanted to see the work and ministry of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. Her friend asked Ella to accompany her on a visit to see the Sisters. This planted the seed of her vocation.

As she discerned her future, Ella remembered the visit to see the Sisters. She decided to enter the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in St. Paul on October 1, 1939. Upon entering, Ella took the new name Sister Mary of the Holy Family. When we were able to change back to our baptismal name, she changed her name to Sister Mariella, combining her mothers' name with her own.

After she made her first vows on May 6, 1942 Sr. Mariella helped in the sacristy and laundry in several Good Shepherd ministries where



she was missioned: Helena Montana; Denver Colorado; and Dubuque, Iowa.

She returned to St. Paul in 1944 to attend college and prepare for her final vows, which she made on August 19, 1945.

Sr. Mariella eventually received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Studies at St. Thomas College, and a second Bachelor's degree in Education at Holy Name College in Spokane, Washington. She received a Principal's Certificate from Gonzaga College in Spokane.

From 1947 to 1965 Sr. Mariella served as a teacher, bookkeeper and principal several locations: Omaha,

Nebraska; Sioux City, Iowa; Portland, Oregon; Spokane, Washington; and Seattle, Washington. She returned to St. Paul in 1965, where she continued to teach and assist in the Social Services Department.

After she retired in 1989, Sr. Mariella helped tutor students and played the piano and organ for liturgies. She also looking up and sent requested transcripts to former students.

Great love of music

Sr. Mariella's great love was music. She loved to play the piano and gave lessons from time to time in

Continued on next page

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Houle *Cont'd from p. 8*

various places where she served. She also learned the organ and enjoyed many hours listening to variety of music.

She learned from her father to take an interest in politics and continued to keep herself well informed. Most of all, Sr. Mariella was very grateful

to live in Minnesota, as she was able to visit more frequently with her family members and get to know her nieces and nephews. She remained very close to her family.

Returning to St. Paul shortly after Vatican 11 was a significant time in Sr. Mariella's life. She said the freedom of spirit engendered by the Council enabled her to become a more mature person and to take personal responsibility for her own natural and spiritual life.

At the same time she realized the need to remember her total dependence on God and her need for others. This allowed her to reach the goal she had in entering religious life —

namely, to attain close union with God.

Sr. Mariella loved community life. She was always very sensitive regarding her relationships with others. She often worried whether she offended someone and would want to make amends. She also maintained an interest in the poor and kept up with people she knew from different organizations who served the poor. She saved her gift money to send to aid these organizations in their work.

In 2011, when the Sisters moved to Boutwells Landing, Sister Mariella moved with them into the Gables where she endeared herself to the staff and other residents. She was able to continue her life of helping others by her presence to them and her calling staff's attention to other's needs. We will all miss her smile.

Submitted by Sr. Bernadette Faulhaber



Sr. Mariella with her cousins at Boutwells Landing.

Announcements & News Tidbits

April 24 is Saint Mary Euphrasia's Feast Day. We have featured our remarkable founder on the Province website at <http://sistersofthegoodshepherd.com/our-history/our-mother-foundress/>

Sister Jean Marie Fernandez celebrates her 25th anniversary as a Good Shepherd Sister on April 27. We send blessings to her as she celebrates this milestone with her San Francisco Community.

Check out the National Advocacy Center's website to read the 2017 advocacy priorities for Sisters of the Good Shepherd. <http://www.gsadvocacy.org/issues.html>

Sisters Tram Nguyen and Anne Kelly have worked hard to create a new facebook page for Gracenter. It's now finished and looking good. Here's the link: <https://www.facebook.com/Gracenter>

GREEN CORNER



ZEAL



Green Acts *Cont'd from p. 1*

use is a familiar green act for most of us. We conserve energy (*harvest sunlight*) when we use natural sunlight rather than turning on lights during daytime hours.

Sister Monica Duong sees turning off unused lights as a small but important act. Intention is important to her. In flipping a switch she takes an action to reduce fossil fuel consumption while standing in solidarity with those who are less fortunate and suffer from climate change.

Each time she turns off a light or heating unit that's not in use, she says a silent prayer that the money saved through energy conservation will find its way to poor countries where people do not have electricity. For Sr. Monica, going green is prayerful work.

The Maria Droste Contemplative Community had a conversation recently about the food they eat and the food that is available to the poor. The Sisters are diligent in their prayers for the poor of our world and for those who are suffering from drought and famine. This has led them to be more conscientious in their care of food.

Joint decisions for green acts

The Sisters make joint decisions about what foods they will eat, and how much they will prepare to minimize leftovers. They also hold themselves responsible for eating the leftovers. This has become an important way for them to enter into solidarity with those who have little or no food.

Sr. Beth Garciano,, Local Leader of the Maria Droste Contemplative Community, returned from a retreat recently with the Wolcott Community in Connecticut, where she witnessed their efforts at preventing food waste. Beth was impressed with their efforts. Both communities are striving for zero-waste of food. This is a significant act of green when you consider that nearly 40 percent of food in the United States never gets eaten. Organic waste is the second highest component of landfills in the U.S. Methane emissions from decomposing food is a key contributor to climate change.

Inspired by others to go green

My own simple green act of using cloth bags stems from my time living with Sisters Chris Hock and Joan Spiering. They both began using cloth bags decades ago, when they learned that plastic bags were wreaking havoc in our oceans and landfills.

Chris keeps three nylon bags in her purse at all times to ensure she never has to choose between paper or plastic when shopping. The bags compact neatly and take up very little space in her purse. Her other green acts include keeping the heat turned low and eating locally-grown organic food. Eating local reduces the fossil fuels required to transport food across great distances.



Because organic crops are not sprayed with synthetic chemicals, they are healthier for people and the environment.

Joan says Oregon passed the Bottle Bill way back, focusing on a deposit for glass bottles in order to keep them out of roads, ditches and landfills. That simple piece of legislation, plus the inherent connection to the land that she grew up with in farm living, are factors that led her to care for the earth since childhood. Joan says the concept of earth as "home" is in her genes.

The more we become aware of how our behavior impacts Earth, animals and those who are poor, the sooner we might change our own attitudes and actions.

I give thanks for the simple acts of merciful solidarity with the Earth and its peoples. They are examples that make a difference and ripple out into the world.

Submitted by Sharon O'Grady, RGS

Get involved

As the 50th anniversary of Earth Day approaches, the Earth Day Network is encouraging people across the globe to take personal action to reach three billion acts of green by 2020. They offer some suggestions:

- plant a tree
- eat less meat
- stop using disposable plastic
- march for science

Learn more. Take action.

<http://www.earthday.org/take-action/>

GREEN CORNER



ZEAL



April 22 is Earth Day!

The first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, activated 20 million Americans from all walks of life and is widely credited with launching the modern environmental movement. The passage of the landmark [Clean Air Act](#), [Clean Water Act](#), [Endangered Species Act](#) and many other groundbreaking environmental

laws soon followed. Twenty years later, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. More than 1 billion people now participate in Earth Day activities each year, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

Earth Day 2017 campaign is environmental and climate literacy

This Earth Day, earthday.org is launching an ambitious goal of achieving global climate and environmental literacy by Earth Day 2020.

Environmental and climate literacy is the engine not only for creating green voters and advancing environmental and climate laws and policies but also for accelerating green technologies and jobs. Public demand has surged for “green” innovations that make cities more environmentally friendly and more pleasant places to live.

Jobs linked to the growth of green infrastructure are expected to expand in coming years, according to a study released on March 27, 2017, titled [Exploring the Green Infrastructure Workforce](#).

The province website includes an Earth Day Evening Prayer to guide us in prayer for the renewal and restoration of creation. You can use the prayer on Earth Day, April 22, or in parts during Earth Day Week.

<http://sistersofthegoodshepherd.com/earth-day-evening-prayer/>



Maria Droste Contemplative Community campus

“The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.” Chinese Proverb

Earth Day science march

Scientists are taking to the streets in Washington, DC, on Earth Day, April 22. The march comes amid a flurry of other unrelated efforts by researchers to rally around science. That includes a pledge signed by more than 14,000 women scientists declaring the need for reason in politics. This is in response to President Trump and his anti-science, anti-women comments. It also includes a letter sent to President Trump by 151 scientific institutions arguing that he should rescind the immigration ban, and efforts by researchers around the world to safeguard from political interference crucial federal climate data that they fear could vanish under the Trump administration.

LENTEN SEASON



ZEAL

Drawing near to Jesus during Lent

In a Vatican Radio address on March 21, Pope Francis said Lent is a good opportunity for us “to draw near” to Jesus, “to encounter him in prayer in a heart-to-heart dialogue ... to see His face in the face of a brother or a sister who is suffering.”

In this way, Pope Francis said, “we can renew within ourselves the grace of baptism, quenching our thirst at the font of the word of God and of the Holy Spirit; and thereby discovering, too, the joy of becoming artisans of reconciliation and instruments of peace in our daily lives.”

Message of Jesus the Good Shepherd

Following the example of Pope Francis, Sister Jean Marie Fernandez honors the blessing of ashes during the Lenten Season as a way to draw herself and others near to Jesus. In her role at St. Vincent De Paul Homeless Shelter and



Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez blessed a woman on Ash Wednesday at St. Vincent de Paul Homeless Shelter and Drop-in Center.

Drop-in Center she makes this blessing available to all.

“For me it is truly the message of Jesus the Good Shepherd who came so that ALL may have life. I am amazed at the number of persons who find great spiritual meaning and purpose through this ritual of blessing and receiving of ashes. It is truly a joy,” she said.

The inspirational words of others also cause Sr. Jean Marie to go deeper during Lent. She is particularly moved by Saint Mary Euphrasia’s belief that “One person is of more value than the world.”

She also finds inspiration from Rabindranath Tagore, who reshaped Bengali literature and music, as well as Indian art with Contextual Modernism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Tagore wrote:

“I slept and dreamt,
that life was all joy.

I awoke and saw,
that life was but service.
I served and understood,
that service was joy.”



Pope Francis uses incense during a Lenten penance service in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican March 17.



Easter flowers

The brightly colored spring tulip, which Sr. Mary Michael Maguire cultivates in the Immaculate Heart convent, is a favorite flower for arranging in Easter bouquets across the globe. In the United States the most popular Easter flower is the white lily, the bulb of which represents Jesus Christ's resurrection and which some consider symbolic of the divinity and purity of Jesus. The daffodil is a special favorite in parts of Europe. Daffodils are called Easter bells in Germany, and are the favored flower for Easter decorations in England, where they are nicknamed Lent lilies. According to legend, the daffodil first appeared in the Garden of Gethsemane and it bloomed during the time of Christ's resurrection.

ACROSS BORDERS

ZEAL

The Walmart of human trafficking

It's after midnight and your daughter hasn't come home. You don't know where she is. Her friends don't know where she is. You wait until 5 a.m. and then call the police. This heartbreak happens every night in America, in every city, and every town. Children go missing. What happens to them?

Estimates vary, but thousands of children who go missing are bought and sold for sex online. Officials call this "sex trafficking," which is a sanitized description of a child who is shuttled from motel room to motel room and repeatedly raped.

The U.S. Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations has investigated the problem of online sex trafficking for more than 20 months. The investigation led the subcommittee to focus on [backpage.com](http:// backpage.com), the leading online marketplace for commercial sex.

Backpage is the world's second largest classified advertising website. The internet site is involved in 73% of all child trafficking reports that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) receives from the general public. The National Association of Attorneys General has aptly described Backpage as a "hub" of "human trafficking, especially the trafficking of minors."

I Am Jane Doe is a [newly released film](http:// newly released film) that shines a light on [backpage.com](http:// backpage.com), the Walmart of human trafficking. The film chronicles the epic battle that several American mothers are waging on behalf of their underage daughters who were bought and sold for sex on [backpage.com](http:// backpage.com).

The lawsuits have set these girls and their mothers on a collision course not only with the wealthy owners of Backpage, but with judges, powerful companies, special interest groups, and Section 230 of the U.S. Communications Decency Act, an internet freedom law that has been interpreted by federal judges to provide a safe haven for website publishers to advertise children for sex.

Film producer Mary Mazzio

Award-winning documentary filmmaker Mary Mazzio said she produced her film after learning about the lawsuits.

"When I read about the three middle-school girls from Boston who had filed suit against Backpage, three things struck me. First, I was stunned to learn about the breadth and scope of child sex trafficking, and that it happened in such alarming numbers in the United States.

"Second, I remember thinking how brave these young girls were, putting a face to the pain and a voice to the trauma they experienced. They were standing up



Photo from the film "I Am Jane Doe," taken on location in Boston, Massachusetts.



Photo taken on location in New York City during the filming of "I Am Jane Doe."

and fighting back on behalf of thousands of other children who had been sold online.

"Third, it was clear from reading various court documents that many federal judges didn't understand the actual crime of child sex trafficking. How could hosting child sex ads be legal in the United States?

Bearing responsibility

"My goal with this project was to ask that very question. And to create awareness about the institutions that are enabling this crime against children to proliferate online. My only concern is the purchase and sale of children for rape and sexual abuse and examining who should bear responsibility for that harm," Mary Mazzio said.

You can watch the film trailer at <http:// www.iamjanedofilm.com>.

To host a screening of *I am Jane Doe*, contact the film production company through email at office@50eggs.com.

Photos courtesy of R. Schultz, 50 Eggs film company. (c) 2016.

LEADERSHIP TRAVEL

ZEAL

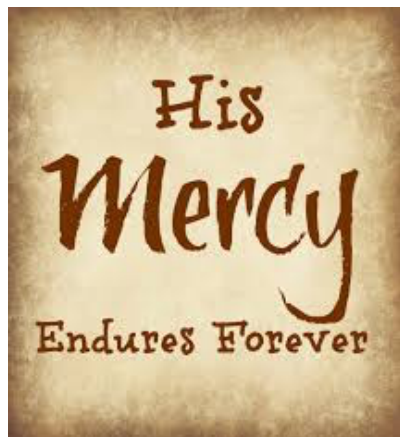
NAME	DATES	LOCATION
Sr. Sharon Rose Authorson	No travel	No travel
Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez	April 5-8 April 19 April 22-29	Spring Area Meeting, Los Angeles Board Meeting, Rose Court Corporation, San Francisco Central South Assembly, Carrollton, Ohio
Sr. Beverly Hedgecoth	No travel	No travel
Sr. Maureen Johnson	April 17-30	Retreat, France
Sr. Dolores Kalina	April 1-30	Baltimore transition
Sr. Maureen Kunz	April 2-5 April 23-30	LWWR Region 15, Portland Portland
Sr. Mary Carolyn McQuaid	April 6-8 April 18-20 April 25-27	Spring Area Meeting, Los Angeles GSS Baltimore Board of Directors meeting LCWR Region 8 meeting, Springfield, IL
Sr. Madeleine Munday	April 6-8 April 15-20 April 25-27 April 28-30	Spring Area Meeting, Los Angeles Visit Sisters in Baltimore; GSS Baltimore Board of Directors meeting LCWR Region 8 meeting, Springfield, IL New Ways Ministry Symposium, Chicago

Easter blessing from Pope Francis

“The message which Christians bring to the world is this: Jesus, Love incarnate, died on the cross for our sins, but God the Father raised him and made him the Lord of life and death. In Jesus, love has triumphed over hatred, mercy over sinfulness, goodness over evil, truth over falsehood, life over death. That is why we tell everyone: “Come and see!” In every human situation, marked by frailty, sin and death, the Good News is no mere matter of words, but a testimony to unconditional and faithful love: it is about leaving ourselves behind and encountering others, being close to those crushed by life’s troubles, sharing with the needy, standing at the side of the sick, elderly and the outcast ... “Come and see!” Love is more powerful, love gives life, love makes hope blossom in the wilderness. With this joyful certainty in our hearts, today we turn to you, risen Lord!

Happy Easter!”

PROVINCE CONTACT

ZEAL


"God's mercy is boundless." Saint Mary Euphrasia

Contact us

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

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