

ITEMS

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THE BLESSING OF EASTER

Sisters at Immaculate Heart Convent made hand-crafted Easter cards with braided palm leaves, colorful ribbon and repurposed greeting cards in March. Monsignor Schneider blessed the palms on Palm Sunday. People

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Green Corner

Earth Day is celebrated each year on April 22. This year's theme is "End Plastic Pollution." From poisoning and injuring marine life to disrupting human hormones, from littering beaches and landscapes to clogging waste streams and landfills, the exponential growth of plastics is now threatening the survival of our planet. Watch the video to better understand the life cycle of plastic bottles. After watching

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PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Easter, *Cont'd from p. 1*



Sr. Pauline Bilbrough learned to make braided palm Easter cards as a Postulant in 1962. Since then, she has made the cards during every Lenten Season. Sr. Pauline is Local Leader at Immaculate Heart Convent. The photo below shows one of the finished cards.



who attended Mass on Palm Sunday each received a card.

Sr. Pauline Bilbrough has been making the braided palm Easter cards since 1962, when she was a Postulant at the Fox Chase Convent in Philadelphia.

“The palm in the house is a reminder of how God is always with us.”

Over the years she has taught other Sisters to make the cards. Sisters at Immaculate Heart Convent helped Sr. Pauline this year by fastening the braided palms onto the cards and adding the ribbon.

Sr. Pauline braids the palms each year at the onset of Lent. It is her way of preparing for Holy Week and Easter.

“Making the braids connects me to Christ and focuses me for keeping in the true spirit of the season through Holy Week and then the celebration of Easter,” she said.

Hanging palms that a priest has blessed with Holy Water is a time-honored tradition in homes. Sr. Pauline likes that her cards carry on that tradition. Many people bring her their cards from previous years so that she will add a freshly blessed palm to the card.

“Some people like the card they received from a previous year so much that they want to keep it. After I replace the braid on their card with a fresh one, I burn the old palms in a sacred manner and pour the ashes on our courtyard garden. I recycle the cards, when possible, for next year,” Sr. Pauline said.

“The palm in the house is a reminder of how God is always with us, always there for us no matter what,” Sr. Pauline said.

Learning the ropes

Sister Veronica Villarreal, RGS, spent a week at the Province Center in March learning the accounting system that is reported to the Good Shepherd Congregation in Rome. She worked with Sr. Marta Ceballos and the Province finance department to learn the system.

Sr. Veronica is the Treasurer for Central South Province, where they have been using a different accounting system.

“Being with the Mid-North America Sisters was a rich experience. I felt a very special bond and close connection with all of the Sisters. To be in St. Louis with them felt warm, welcoming and very good,” she said.



Central South Treasurer Sr. Veronica Villarreal, RGS, spent a week at the Province Center in March.

PROVINCE NEWS



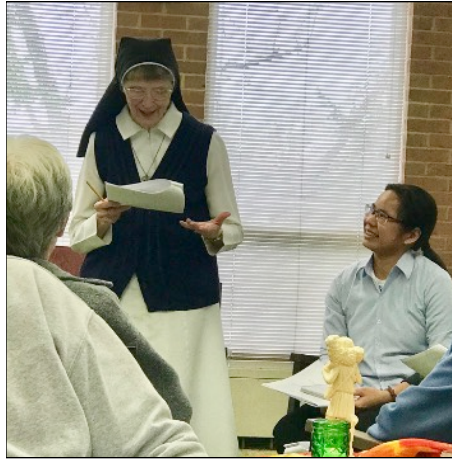
ZEAL

Let the conversations begin!

Good Shepherd Sisters and Lay Mission Partners are coming together around the world to share ideas and talk about how we can live the Good Shepherd charism and mission well into the future. The method used to facilitate the discussions is called Conversation Circles.

The Province Center in St. Louis held a Conversation Circle in March. Mission Effectiveness team member Lizzie Tschida Cody facilitated the process with Sisters and Lay Mission Partners from Maria Droste Contemplative Community, Immaculate Heart Convent, the Province Center, and Good Shepherd Gallery.

Results of the Conversation Circles will be forwarded to the Congregation Leadership Team in preparation for the Congregational Chapter in Rome in 2021.



Sisters and Lay Mission Partners in St. Louis participated in one of many Conversation Circles that are being held around the world where Good Shepherd has a presence. The aim of the circles is to provide feedback for the Congregational Chapter in 2021.

Mystery photo ... what's the scoop?

Sister Virginia Gordon, Sr. Josephine Fritz, and Joanne McClarty (former Good Shepherd Sister) provided information about last month's mystery photo (right). The photo was taken at Girls Town in Cincinnati. Sr. Louise McCoy is pouring coffee into the cups. The Sister standing to the left is Mother Mary Clare Neudecker, who was provincial at the time. We still don't know who the other Sister is in the photo. Girls Town had many benefactors, including a group of women who raised funds to keep the ministry thriving. The photograph was taken on one of the occasions



when the women met with the Sisters to discuss fundraising plans for Girls Town. The photograph is believed to have been taken between 1965- 1967. Sr. Josephine Fritz spent nearly 20 years at Girls Town as an Apostolic Sister. She transferred to a Contemplative lifestyle in 1987. We will print Sr. Josephine's recollections of Girls Town in a future issue of *Items of Interest*. The ministry's history is fascinating.

And now, for this month's mystery photo. All we know about the photo on the left is that it was taken on May 29, 1991. Does anyone know who these Sisters are and where they were gardening when the photograph was taken? If so, please contact jmcdermott@gspmna.org.



PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Sisters on display

The library exhibit that we announced in last month's issue of *Items of Interest* is proving to be a blockbuster hit in St. Louis. The exhibit "Catholic Sisters: the Spirit of St. Louis" marks many of the ways Roman Catholic Sisters helped build St. Louis.

Most of the Sisters came to the area in the mid-19th century, starting with Society of the Sacred Heart in 1818. Sisters of the Good Shepherd arrived in St. Louis in 1849.

Artifacts in glass display cases illustrate some of the Orders' histories and modern contributions:

- a smallpox bell used to warn of a contagious patient
- a cloth embroidered for a casket
- cornhusk shoes, made so Sisters' leather pair would last longer
- a 21st century mat, woven with plastic bags, for a homeless person

Large photographs show Sisters engaged in a broad array of activity: prayer, teaching, working in an early hospital pharmacy, boarding a plane for a mission in Japan, demonstrating against hazardous landfills, to name just a few. The exhibit shows how over two centuries Sisters have gone from caring for the poor and sick to addressing the rights of girls at the United Nations. It shows Sisters in full habits, modified habits, and no habits at all.

The exhibit was timed to run simultaneously with National Catholic Sisters Week and National Women's Month in March. It has been drawing large and steady crowds since it opened to the public on March 9. The exhibit is being extended through Saturday, April 28.

Below l-r: A visitor to the exhibit leaves a message to Sisters; Archbishop Robert Carlson and Sr. Glynis McManamon, RGS, discuss Good Shepherd Gallery; photos of Sisters Winifred Doherty, RGS, and Josephine Fritz, CGS, are on the wall "Sisters and Social Justice."



Top: Look closely and you will see large photographs of Sr. Sharon O'Grady, RGS, and Sr. Josephine Fritz, CGS.

Bottom: Sisters Sharon O'Grady and Anita Kristofco point to before and now versions of a religious habit.



PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL

Spring Area Meetings in full swing throughout province

The Spring Area Meetings for Province of Mid-North America began taking place in March. The first meeting was held in Baltimore, followed by the meeting in Danville, Pennsylvania. The third meeting with Sisters was held in Cincinnati. The final two meetings are scheduled this month: April 5-6 in St. Louis and April 12-14 in Los Angeles.

The meetings allow the Province Leadership Team 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 October 2017.

Holding the meetings in various locations throughout the province allows as many Sisters as possible to participate, especially those who can no longer travel. The Spring Area Meetings have been designed for transparency, so that information is heard first hand and nobody is left out of the loop. One or more representatives from the Province Leadership Team are attending each area meeting. Sisters are responding very favorably to the meetings.



Betty Goldbeck prepares badges for the Spring Area Meeting in St. Louis. Below: Sisters engage in meetings in Danville, Pennsylvania.



Announcements and News Tidbits

Please note the correct contact information for Sr. Gilda Fernando in Toronto:

Sisters of Good Shepherd Toronto
490 Rathburn Road

Toronto, Canada M9C3S8

+1-416-621-2021

sistersofgoodshepherd@gmail.com

Sisters in the Province of Mid-North America will renew their vows on Good Shepherd Sunday, April 22. They will celebrate with Mass and a special lunch.

Sr. Dorothy Doyle's email address is doylergs@gmail.com

If you would like to receive an individual copy of the Province Photo Directory, please notify Betty Goldbeck at bgoldbeck@gspmna.org

Deadline for the May issue of Items of Interest is April 20.

MINISTRY NEWS



ZEAL

Maryhurst to raffle exclusive Kentucky Derby packages

The famed thoroughbred horse racetrack Churchill Downs has been a presenting sponsor of many Maryhurst events in Louisville, Kentucky. And now they have gifted Maryhurst with two exclusive VIP packages to raffle as a fundraiser in April. Winners of the two packages will get the royal treatment at the Oaks and Kentucky Derby — everything that normally is reserved for millionaires, movie stars, and other a-List celebrities. Learn more

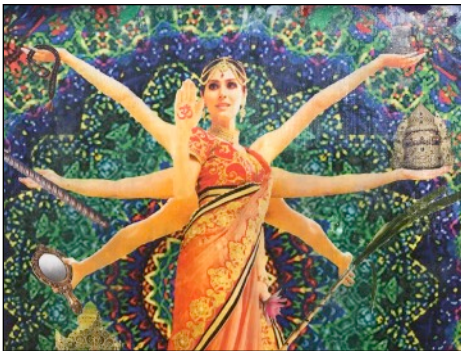
about what's on offer with the Maryhurst raffle in a television news report at <https://bit.ly/2GjXbE5>.

Don't wait too long to buy your ticket. The live drawing of the raffle will take place on April 18 at 11:00a.m. at Churchill Downs racetrack.

The link to enter the raffle is <https://rafflefortheroses.com>.

Good Shepherd Gallery shows

One fascinating art show continually gives way to the next at the Good Shepherd Gallery in Ferguson. In March the gallery exhibited original works of iconic women that were created by local women. The show ended March 24. The newest exhibit will go on display April 6-28. The show features artwork by clients, community, partners, and staff from Queen of Peace Center & Adolescent Resources Center. The show is titled *The Art of Wellness: Hope, Dignity and Respect*. Below are photos from the Iconic Women exhibit that was held in March.



Parvati, mother goddess and head of the female trinity of the Hindu religion.



St. Elizabeth of Hungary, renowned for her kindness to the poor.



Mother Nature.

Follow Good Shepherd Arts Center on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/good.shepherd.arts)



Working on puzzles is a favorite hobby at Immaculate Heart Convent. Sr. Christopher Mullan says it's a wonderful community activity that everybody loves. The most recent puzzle had 1,000 pieces and kept the community engaged for three months. They are now working on another 1,000-piece puzzle that is equally challenging. "If you can't figure it out by color, you might be able to figure it out by shape," says Marie Moore. Photo above from left: Marie Moore, Lorraine King, and Sr. Therese Hilary.

NAC NEWS



ZEAL

NAC to hold first conference on human trafficking in May

The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd is preparing to host its first conference on human trafficking. The event is on Tuesday, May 15. Don't miss it!

The conference is titled *Shine the Light*. Shine the Light on perpetrators of human trafficking. Shine the Light on survivors and their hopes. Survivors have broken the chains of bondage. Now let's link together to end trafficking.

The conference will bring together the Good Shepherd family, other people of faith, Members of Congress, congressional staffers and policymakers, and survivors of trafficking. Participants will gather for a morning of education and an afternoon of advocacy on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC.

Who should attend

The conference is geared for anyone who wants to better understand human trafficking. The conference is also intended for people who are immersed in the issues of sex and labor trafficking. Additionally, it is aimed for those who want to increase their professional network and meet with legislators.

Sr. Winifred Doherty, the United Nations representative of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd will provide an overview on international human trafficking. Two panels of experts will speak, as well as advocates and survivors of trafficking: one focused on sex trafficking and the other focused on labor trafficking. Speakers also include Angela Aufdemberge, President and CEO of Vista Maria; and Kevin Appleby, Senior Director of International Migration Policy at the Center for

Migration Studies.

Participants will hear from Members of Congress and also learn what they - as people of faith and the general public - can do in their communities and neighborhoods.

Schedule

The conference will run from 10:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. in the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, Room 200. Visits with legislators will take place for the remainder of the afternoon. NAC will arrange the legislative visits on behalf of participants according to their congressional districts.

All conference participants are encouraged to meet with legislators to advocate against trafficking. NAC will dedicate time during the conference to help participants who want tips, or a how-to primer, on meeting with Members of Congress both in Washington, DC, and in their home districts.

House of Representative Ann Wagner (R-MO) and House of Representative Jamie Raskin (D-MD) are bipartisan congressional co-sponsors of the conference.

Further details about the conference, maps, and a list of prohibited items are posted on the NAC website at <http://www.gsadvocacy.org/trafficking.html>.

Please join with other Good Shepherd Sisters and Lay Mission Partners to Shine the Light on human trafficking.



Need to know information

- Deadline to register is May 1.
- Advance registration is required. Please register at <http://www.gsadvocacy.org/human-trafficking-conference.html> or by calling the National Advocacy Center at 301- 622-6838.
- Space is limited; registration will close when capacity is reached.
- NAC is extending priority registration through April 7 for Good Shepherd Sisters, Volunteers and Lay Mission Partners.
- Registration and a government-approved ID are required.
- The conference will take place in U.S. Capitol Visitor Center in Room 200.
- There is no fee for the boxed lunch or the conference.
- NAC will arrange the legislative visits.

Submitted by Kathy Dempsey, NAC

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

Jane Elligen, RGS

February 1, 1922 – March 19, 2018

On the Feast of Saint Joseph, the St. Joseph Residence Community in Baltimore commended our Sr. Jane Elligen into the hands of our patron.

This seemed to be a particularly fitting date for Sr. Jane to complete her earthly journey, inasmuch as she had a long-standing devotion to St. Joseph. An adopted child herself, she appreciated his role as the adoptive father of Our Lord.

Sr. Jane was born in Oklahoma City as Fay Altes. She had a twin brother named Ray, among other siblings. She was placed in a Children's Home at the age of two because of family difficulties. She had become the adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elligen at age three.

Her parents had been actors in Vaudeville prior to her adoption, and she was raised with a love of drama, literature and language. Her father was a traveling salesman and often took his little daughter with him on road trips, fueling her enjoyment of travel and learning.

The Great Depression imposed severe hardship on the family. Betty Jane, as she had come to be named, moved from Oklahoma to live with an aunt in Chicago. She completed high school and subsequently moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. While living in Milwaukee, she worked in a department store to complement a partial scholarship to Milwaukee-Downer College.

The years of 1942-44 saw Betty Jane working as a nursing assistant at the Christian Science Sanatorium in Boston, and in 1944 she joined the United States Marine Corps. She had hoped to become a pilot, but this opportunity was not open to women at the time. She settled for being an aviation mechanic.

After the War, Betty Jane took advantage of the G.I. Bill to finish college. She graduated in 1948 with a B.A. in English. She completed a Master's in English and Bible



Sister Jane Elligen, RGS

history in 1949. She spent several years teaching in high schools before returning to Milwaukee in 1951 when her mother grew ill.

After her mother's death in 1952, Betty Jane and her father moved back to Oklahoma City. She kept house for her father and started working on a doctorate in English at Oklahoma University.

A course on Dante in 1955 captured her theological imagination, and she spent the ensuing months arguing with the Catholic chaplain on campus. She eventually succumbed to God's invitation to accept Baptism in 1957.

Barely a year later, she entered the Good Shepherd Convent in St. Louis, where she was given the name Mary of St. Jane.

Sr. Jane had always known that she was adopted. However, she did not know about her family of origin until she obtained her original birth certificate as part of her application to the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. She enjoyed a reunion with her biological family a few days before she entered the Convent, and subsequently remained attached to both of her families.

Sr. Jane's advanced education was put to good use in her early assignments as a Good Shepherd Sister. She served as Group Mother and Principal of our Heart of Mary High School in Chicago and at Mt. Euphrasia and Marygrove High Schools in St. Louis.

She was missioned to San Francisco in 1971 where, along with Sr. Columba, was a pioneer in moving away from the traditional Good Shepherd girls' residential programs. She initiated a new program for street corner women, accepting anyone between the ages of 18 and 50 who wanted to get out of prostitution.

Sr. Jane spoke frequently and fondly of this apostolate, which she found fascinating and challenging. She served

Continued on next page

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

Sr. Jane, *Cont'd from p. 8*

a term as Religious Superior for the Contemplative Sisters in Slinger, Wisconsin, followed by a term in Chicago.

Among her options for ElderCare, Sr. Jane chose Baltimore because of its proximity to Washington, D.C. She was a lifelong fan of the Smithsonian Institute and buff of government and history, giving her reason to revel in field trips within the metropolitan area.

Sr. Jane returned to St. Louis in 1991 to take up leadership in the Maria Droste residence for women who were recovering from drug and alcohol addiction. When the Provinces merged in 2000, Sr. Jane became the first editor of the *Items of Interest* newsletter.

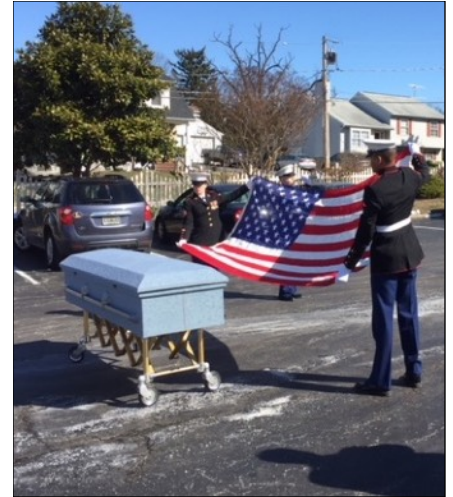
She served as a tutor in the Memphis DeNeuville Learning Center from 2003-2006. She was missioned briefly to Atlanta but was never able to settle in because of poor health. She also participated in the many activities that Andrea Roper organized for the St. Joseph Residence community.

Even at the age of 96, and only weeks before her death, Sr. Jane was still clobbering her opponents in verbal challenges.

Sr. Jane did not believe in retirement and did not accept her diminishing independence gracefully. She experienced several years of agitation in St. Joseph Residence, frustrated that she did not have a "real job" in which to be a "real" Good Shepherd Sister.

A major stroke about 16 months before her death provided a changed orientation as Sr. Jane became more peaceful and expressed gratitude for the loving care she received from our staff. A series of additional strokes in February and March paved the way for a peaceful crossing over into eternal life.

Sr. Jane was attended by her foster daughter Patsy Henriquez, Sisters in the Baltimore communities, Director of Nursing Mary Hoban, and St. Joseph Residence staff. She took her last breath during the singing of the *Salve Regina*.



Sr. Jane Elligen, RGS, was laid to rest on March 19, 2018 with military honors in Baltimore.

Sr. Jane is remembered as a great organizer, fearless pioneer, sharp intellect, challenging debater, and faithful correspondent. She outlived all of her siblings and is survived by numerous nieces and nephews. We are going to miss her greatly.

Submitted by Sr. Mary Carol McClenon

Clare Marie Doyle, RGS

April 22, 1938 – March 11, 2018

Sr. Clare Marie was a pioneer. She volunteered to be the first Sister to move from Halethorpe, Maryland, to Emmanuel Nursing Center in Danville, Pennsylvania, which she did on October 12, 2017, along with Sr. Marita Aumiller.

Only five months later, she became the first Good Shepherd Sister to die in Danville and the first to be buried at our Lourdesmont Cemetery after inactivity there for nearly 25 years.

These were only the most recent examples of Sr. Clare's courageous spirit. Maybe she got it from her upbringing. As a youngest child with three older brothers, she had to adopt a powerful style, laced with wry wit and humor, in order to hold her own.

Born in Philadelphia to a close-knit family, Clare received a traditional Catholic education, graduating from St. Hubert's High School with a

distinct sense of call to the consecrated life. Her road to her religious vocation, however, did not run smoothly.

She entered Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary but didn't persevere. After returning home and working for a while, she again pursued her call, this time as a Dominican Sister. Again, this was not the correct fit.

Continued on next page

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

Sr. Clare Marie, *Cont'd from p. 9*

Who would consider trying to enter a third Congregation? And what Congregation would consider an applicant who already had two strikes against her, besides trying to enter at the advanced age of 30?

It appears that it was a (courageous!) match made by St. Mary Euphrasia herself. Clare was led to the Good Shepherd through her volunteering as a "Big Sister" at the Peter Claver program in Germantown, a Good Shepherd program. Her connection with the other Big Sisters was not interrupted when Clare entered as a postulant in Washington, DC, in 1968. Instead, it matured into a life-long friendship of spiritual and social sharing. This facility for making and keeping friends was one which Sr. Clare Marie nurtured throughout the years.

Sr. Clare Marie made her first profession in 1971 and earned a Secretarial Certificate from Immaculata Junior College in 1972. She made final vows in 1976. Like many Good Shepherd Sisters, she served in numerous roles and locations, including child care and teaching in Germantown, Fox Chase and Lourdesmont, while simultaneously pursuing higher education. She eventually received her B.A. from LaSalle College in 1982.

Sr. Clare was one of the pioneering Sisters who started the first "small community" (Royal Street, Philadelphia) for the Washington Province in the early 1980's. She finished a Master's in Counseling Psychology at Chestnut Hill College in 1989. Shortly thereafter, she took off on her next big adventure.

While at the Motherhouse in Angers for a few weeks, Sr. Clare heard an inner call to serve as a missionary. The years 1989-1992 saw her in South Africa using her counseling and teaching abilities in the new field of AIDS ministry. She established the "Shepherd's Dwelling" program in Silver Spring, Maryland, upon her return to the United States. Shepherd's Dwelling provided residential services for women with AIDS. The ministry promoted individual worth, spiritual healing and



Sister Clare Marie Doyle, RGS

reconciliation. Sr. Clare's program also provided a safe haven in which a woman could die with dignity while surrounded by loving care.

After Shepherd's Dwelling closed because of a change in the funding from Montgomery County, Sr. Clare served a term as Local Leader in Memphis, Tennessee.

Sr. Clare had contracted malaria while serving in Africa and was also plagued much of her adult life by broken bones, severe arthritis and various chronic ailments. She was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2008. She struggled to remain as independent as possible as the disease progressed, reluctantly accepting her mission to St. Joseph Residence because she did not wish to be a burden on her local community. Sr. Clare Marie developed strong and distinct relationships with staff and they, in return, were inspired and exasperated by Sr. Clare's fierce self-

determination.

Sister appeared to be making a smooth transition to Danville, but she had only been there a few months when she was hospitalized with severe jaundice. She was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and declined any treatment except for palliative care. Her death occurred more suddenly than anticipated.

On Sunday morning, she was chatting with the nurses as usual. Before lunch, she had been in pain, and had received additional medication and noted that it was working. Staff left her alone to rest, and when they checked back in a short time, discovered that she had quietly passed on. She was 79.

During her oncology multi-disciplinary care planning conference, Sr. Clare was interviewed by the psychologist who asked her what her anxiety level was on a scale of 1 to 10. Sister replied, "Zero."

Years before, she had mentioned that she wished to become "A woman for whom God is enough." Surely she has now attained her desire. May she intercede for the flock remaining on earth.

Submitted by Sr. Mary Carol McClenon, RGS

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

Marguerite Senesac, RGS

February 23, 1916 – March 18, 2018

Sr. Marguerite Senesac, RGS, was the youngest member of nine children: seven girls and two boys. She received loving care from her parents Alfred and Nelda Bernier Senesac in Bourbonnais, Illinois.

In her own words

One soon learns how to share everything in a large family and there was much give and take as I grew up. My father was a licensed mortician and funeral director. He was a dedicated father and husband, a Christian who lived his religion, and a very civic-minded citizen who taught his children how to serve and share their talents in the Church, as well as in the neighborhood and village affairs. He was very kind.

I often wondered how my mother managed to keep us well fed and well clothed. Our house was a sort of haven for people who had no place to live and somehow or other we always managed to have enough food and beds to satisfy all in the family constellation and the others who just “drifted” in.

Since we lived across the street from a Catholic Church, my mother found her daily source of strength in almost daily assistance at Mass. We had a well-balanced life of study, play, and work. We seldom knew a dull moment. Reading was a cultivated pastime and at table we were all expected to share our ideas as a result of reading good books, the daily newspaper, and thought provoking magazines.



Sister Marguerite Senesac, RGS

All seven girls attended a private academy conducted by the Notre Dame Sisters of Montreal, Canada. The principal of my four last years of high school made a lasting impression on me. I have seldom met a more understanding person and have always valued her counseling in my life.

My first two years of college were spent in a small private college where men outnumbered women twenty-five to one, quite a change from attendance at a girls' academy for 12 years. Needless to say, I enjoyed the change!

Due to the depression, I was unable to finish my education at that time and began teaching in rural public schools for the next seven years. I then became Postmistress of our

small village and earned a good salary to help support my aged parents and myself. After the death of my father, I followed the call to religious life and to serve as a Sister of the Good Shepherd. (Sr. Marguerite Senesac entered religious life in 1947. She made first vows on August 22, 1949, and final vows on August 22, 1952, in Carthage, Ohio)

In addition to teaching in the Good Shepherd Order at elementary and secondary levels, my experience also included service as a nurse aide, child care worker, and social worker with girls from challenging backgrounds. In 1954, I graduated from Mt. St. Joseph College in Cincinnati. I graduated a few years later from Xavier University, also in Cincinnati, with a major in Education. It was not long afterward that I was appointed Principal of the high school at Girls town in Carthage.

One of my richest experiences was an assignment to be an after care worker for girls who successfully left the program at our school in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The mission was enriching and required much travel throughout the State of Michigan to meet with girls and their families.

Life changing mission experience

I had the privilege of teaching in the impoverished country of Ethiopia in northeast Africa. It had long been a

Continued on next page

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

Sr. Marguerite, *Cont'd from p. 11*

hidden desire of mine to work as a Good Shepherd Sister in Africa. The Lord granted that desire.

In 1970 Sr. Rose Virginie Warnig, Assistant General in Rome, wrote to me and gave me permission to minister in Ethiopia. I was working as a social worker at Catholic Charities in Cincinnati at the time. I accepted the offer after much prayer and departed for Ethiopia, alone, in February 1971.

For six months I lived with the Daughters of Charity in Addis Ababa, in a hostel close to the University. I learned about the culture during this time and taught classes in typing and religion at the Girls School in Addis Ababa.

In September of 1971, the Archbishop asked me to teach at the Diocesan Seminary for Priests at Holeta, and so I began teaching 35 miles from Addis Ababa. The seminary had an enrollment of 60 students and taught secular subjects. Students came from all over the empire. They were highly intelligent and eager to learn. However, two years later socialism infiltrated the seminary and the students returned to their homes.

Four weeks later I was asked to teach at the only Catholic University in all of Africa. The Comboni Missionary Sisters from Italy ran the school. I taught English and Education. Unfortunately, socialism infiltrated the university. In two years the rebels had taken over and closed the university.

Upon my return to the States I was able to minister to my brother, who was slowly dying of lung cancer. He died a very beautiful death, and I learned much from that experience. My brother is the one

who asked me to go into pastoral ministry. This led me to enter a program in a hospital that was operated by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in East Chicago, Indiana. After a nine-month training program I was asked to become the director of the Pastoral Care Program — another wonderful faith-filled experience!

Loving and hospitable

In addition to the missions Sr. Marguerite noted in her biography, she also served as the Administrator of the Good Shepherd School in Louisville, Kentucky. She served as an after care worker in Grand Rapids Michigan. She served in the Development Office in Columbus Ohio, and served as the Director of the Associates Program of the Good Shepherd.

Her experience in Ethiopia helped Sr. Marguerite minister throughout her elder years, just by her very presence with others. She never lost her missionary spirit. Ethiopia remained in her heart. As a side to all of her ministries, Sr. Marguerite supported missionary orders as best she could, sending gift money, writing letters, and encouraging missionaries.

Her early life and rich experiences molded her into a very loving, and hospitable person. She loved God and her neighbor. She loved her family, friends, co-workers, those who served her in her elder years, and many strangers. She was generous and kind.

We will miss her.

Submitted by Sr. Dolores Kalina, RGS

Youth speak out about Church and society



Tendai Karombo spoke at the Pre-Synodal Meeting of Young People about challenges youth are facing in Zimbabwe, and how these challenges affect their daily lives, attitudes and behavior.

More than 300 youth leaders from various religious and cultural backgrounds from around the world convened in Rome March 19-24 for the inaugural Pre-Synodal Meeting of Young People.

The final PreSynodal Statement from the young adults who gathered is available online. The report contains reflections from youth who attended the meeting in Rome, as well as the participation of 15,000 young people who engaged online through Facebook groups.

Youth leaders presented their views in Rome and on Facebook about the many challenges their generation is facing, and how these issues affect their views on their role in the Catholic Church and society as a whole.

The gathering of youth was a part of the Synod of Bishops Ordinary General Assembly.

You can read the full document at <https://bit.ly/2GyROEi>

GREEN CORNER



ZEAL

Earth Day, *cont'd from p. 1*

the video (see sidebar), imagine a world without plastic pollution. Really imagine it. And then do your part to create that world you imagine.

Our Province Center cook Sonia Trogler began to imagine a world free of plastic a few years ago and has since brought a recycling ethic into her home and the convent kitchen. Her first action step is to just "say no" to plastic bags in the first place. When that doesn't work, she takes a practical approach to dealing with them.

For example, she made a plastic bag holder from an empty coffee can to neatly store the bags. She pulls bags from her hand-crafted recycled container to line trash cans, food scrap bins and anything else she can think of before tossing the plastic bag into the dumpster. Nearly all plastics can be recycled now, even bread wrappers. Learn which types of plastic you can recycle and where to recycle them at <https://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org/>

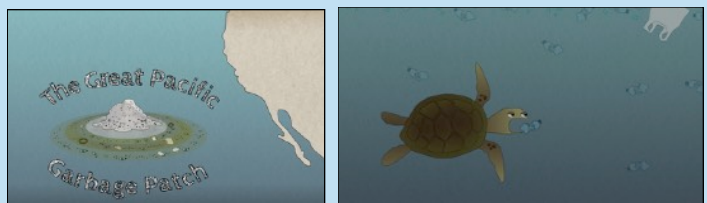
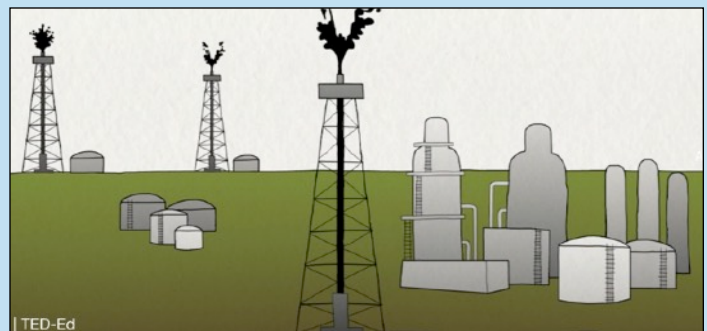
Sonia's ingenious invention



We can all recycle. How will YOU make a difference this Earth Day and every day?



We all know that we should recycle plastic bottles and containers. But what actually happens to the plastic if we just throw it away? Emma Bryce traces the life cycles of three different plastic bottles, shedding light on the dangers these disposables present to our world. Watch and see. <https://bit.ly/2DX11Ri>



There can be a happy ending to this story, if we Rethink, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle ... in that order.

ACROSS BORDERS

ZEAL

Good Shepherd presence at Winter Olympics

Good Shepherd Sister Droste Kim describes her ministry within the context of the Me Too Movement that is thundering throughout the world. #MeToo spread virally in October 2017 when the hashtag was used on social media to help demonstrate the widespread prevalence of sexual assault and harassment, especially in the workplace. The movement has since brought down celebrities, politicians and the entire board of U.S.A Gymnastics.

The 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, arrived in February amid #MeToo. For the first time in Olympic history, there was an organized and advertised contingent of offices and clinics that were in place to help sexual assault victims. Professional volunteer counselors staffed the centers in collaboration with medical teams and law enforcement.

Among the counselors was Sr. Droste. Her Gender Equality Support Center was tucked between a bathroom and a police post under the ski lift at the Phoenix Snow Park. She formed part of a team of 14,000 local volunteers whose goal was to offer support to anyone who experienced abuse or misconduct at the Winter Olympics.

Prince Feisal of Jordan, a board member on the International Olympic Committee, announced during the Olympics that the Olympics body should pursue the fight against sexual assault and harassment as seriously as it does doping.

Susan Greinig, the safeguarding officer for the International Olympic Committee said she hopes the efforts at Pyeongchang send a



Sister Droste Kim at the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

signal to victims that they will be believed and protected, and to abusers that the sporting world is developing zero tolerance.

Outside the Olympics, Sr. Droste confronts gender inequities every day. She works at the Good Shepherd 24 hour counseling and referral service for women who are in situations of domestic violence, sexual harassment, prostitution and similar hardships. She is encouraged by knowing the



Sr. Droste sits with an Olympic volunteer in the Gender Equality Support Center in Pyeongchang.

Me Too Movement has landed in South Korea.

“Having equal rights makes it possible for us to accomplish freedom,” said Sr. Droste.

ACROSS BORDERS



ZEAL



Good Shepherd international projects featured in media

Good Shepherd Economic Justice Project, India

A movement is growing in India, with marginalized women from rural Dalit and tribal communities rising up from oppression and discrimination based on gender, caste and economic class.

At the forefront of the movement are Good Shepherd Sisters and their Economic Justice Project. Begun in 2014, the project helps women achieve economic, social and political empowerment through income-generating programs, skills-training and education of basic human rights. A new film, *Mahila*, tells the story.

Cristina Duranti (Good Shepherd International Foundation ONLUS) is the Executive Producer of *Mahila*. The film features three women and tells how they have found a rare voice and important standing in their communities and wider world of India through the Good Shepherd Economic Justice Project.

You can watch the film and learn more about the Economic Justice Project at <http://www.mahilafilm.com>.

The Economic Justice Project is funded by Oak Foundation and Misan Cara, Mission Support from Ireland.



The Good Shepherd Economic Justice Project empowers rural women in India.

Good Shepherd Project, Democratic Republic of Congo

Items of interest reported on the film *Maisha* in its [February 2016 issue](#). The short documentary shows the transformative work of the Good Shepherd Project and the three Good Shepherd Sisters who run it in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Sisters started the Good Shepherd Project in 2012. Since then, Sisters have rescued more than 1,100 children from untenable lives in the DRC cobalt mines. They have provided a school for the children, and have tended to their physical, mental and spiritual needs to build their resiliency.

DRC's mining industry is worth a whopping \$24 billion. The raw materials that fuel our digital age, our computers and smartphones, are extracted from these mines: cobalt, copper, tantalum. But the conditions of the people living and working in the largest copper and cobalt mining area in the country are among the worst in the world.



CBS This Morning film crew interviews a former child miner in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Last month CBS This Morning ran an investigative news report about the child miners in the Congo. They featured the Good Shepherd Sisters who have become a lifeline for the kids growing up in the mines. In an interview, Sister Catherine Mutindi, RGS, said, "We have over 100 orphans, total orphans in this school, and they have lost their parents in the mines ... they know the dangers."

The Good Shepherd safe haven is funded by international charities; most recently by a global cobalt supplier whose last reported annual earnings were over \$100 million. After child-mined cobalt was exposed in their supply chain, the company donated \$71,000 to the Good Shepherd Project and said it had implemented responsible sourcing guidelines.

You can watch the CBS news report at <https://cbsn.ws/2oMOuve>. Learn more about the Good Shepherd Project at <http://www.fondazionebuonpastore.org/congo/>.

LEADERSHIP TRAVEL

ZEAL

NAME	DATES	LOCATION
Sr. Sharon Rose Authorson	Apr 3-6	Contemplative Council meeting/Spring Area meeting, St. Louis
Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez	Apr 4-7 Apr 12-14 Apr 30	Spring Area Meeting, St. Louis Spring Area Meeting, Los Angeles Enroute to St. Louis
Sr. Beverly Hedgecoth	No travel	No travel
Sr. Maureen Johnson	Apr 2-15	Contemplative Council meeting/Spring Area Meeting/ Retreat, St. Louis
Sr. Dolores Kalina	No travel	No travel
Sr. Maureen Kunz	April 11 April 12-15 April 15-18 April 22 April 30	Portland Spring Area Meeting, Los Angeles Region 15 LCWR Meeting, Portland Archdiocesan Meeting of Religious, Seattle Apostolic Council/Integration Team, St. Louis
Sr. Mary Carolyn McQuaid	Apr 5-6 Apr 12-19	Spring Area Meeting, St. Louis Spring Area Meeting & Good Shepherd Shelter Board Meeting, Los Angeles
Sr. Madeleine Munday	Mar 29-Apr 2 Apr 5-6 Apr 10 Apr 12-19 Apr 21	Visit Sisters in Portland Spring Area Meeting, St. Louis DeNeuille Learning Center Board Meeting, Memphis Spring Area Meeting & Good Shepherd Shelter Board Meeting, Los Angeles DeNeuille Learning Center graduation, Memphis



Our Good Shepherd Family will celebrate the special feast day of St. Mary Euphrasia Pelletier on April 24. One hundred fifty years after her death, and entrance to heaven, St. Mary Euphrasia continues to touch the lives of women and children through Good Shepherd Sisters and Lay Mission Partners in 74 countries. As we remember this great woman, let us be renewed in our zeal.

PROVINCE CONTACT

ZEAL



"Let our words be like drops of clear water."

Saint Mary Euphrasia

Contact us

Sisters of the Good Shepherd
Province of Mid-North America
7654 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO 63121
314-381-3400; 314-381-7102 fax
www.sistersofthegoodshepherd.com

Jeanette McDermott, communications coordinator
314-381-3400, ext. 28
jmcdermott@gspmna.org

Follow us on facebook & Twitter

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@GoodShepherdRGS (twitter)

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Sisters of the Good Shepherd
Province of Mid-North America
7654 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO 63121



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