

# ITEMS

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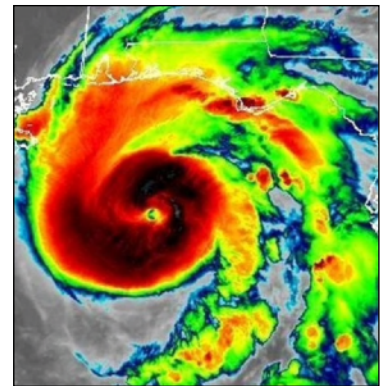


## RGS GETS HISTORIC MARKER

By David Short, Maryhurst

Maryhurst celebrated the installation of an historical marker recognizing Good Shepherd work in North America since 1843. Joining us at the celebration on September 14 were several public officials, foundation

Continued on next page



## Green Corner

A United Nations report issued on October 8, 2018, states that by 2040, if greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise at the present rate, the climate will warm to 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit. While this is only one half a degree more than expected, it will do considerable damage to the environment. The report concludes that to prevent or hold back these changes would require that we make unprecedented changes in the global economy. This would

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# PROVINCE NEWS



## ZEAL

### Marker, *Cont'd from p. 1*

leaders, donors, board members, Maryhurst staff, and Good Shepherd Sisters. It was an honor to have Sisters travel here for the event from St. Louis, Cincinnati, and St. Paul.

The marker sits at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Muhammad Ali Boulevard (originally named Walnut Street) in the heart of Louisville, Kentucky. This is near the site of the original Maryhurst building.

The actual corner where all of Maryhurst's original buildings were doesn't exist anymore because of urban development that took place in the 1960's. The corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Muhammad Ali is as close as we could get to Maryhurst's original site.

Maryhurst's other large building (erected in the 1860's) was built at the corner of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and Bank Street in Louisville's Portland neighborhood. Maryhurst sold that



**Maryhurst CEO Judith Lambeth initiated the campaign to erect an historic marker for Good Shepherd.**

property to Shawnee Baptist Church when we moved to Dorsey Lane in 1976. Shawnee Baptist is still located at 23<sup>rd</sup> and Bank. They've made a number of modifications to

the site, but it still has many of the historical components.

Sr. Brigid Lawlor said of the commemoration to Good Shepherd, "This is a marvelous tribute to the great work of the past and more so today, in the present work at Maryhurst. Maryhurst expresses the values lived through the Congregation and the countless people in Louisville who participate in the holy work."

Sisters of the Good Shepherd came to Louisville at the invitation of Kentucky Archbishop Joseph Flagnet, a native of France. Saint Mary Euphrasia accepted the invitation and sent five young Sisters to the "New World" in 1842.

After a harrowing trip across the Atlantic Ocean, the Sisters landed in New York and slowly made their way

*Continued on next page*



*The mission-filled Maryhurst team with Sisters of the Good Shepherd Province of Mid-North America.*

# PROVINCE NEWS



## ZEAL

### Marker, *Cont'd from p. 2*

to Louisville. As the first Good Shepherd Sisters in North America, these young women had no home of their own and were graciously taken in by the Sisters of Loretto.

After many months of construction and preparation, the Sisters opened their convent. On September 15, 1843, they welcomed their first girl, Mary Fitzpatrick. Word spread quickly about the Sisters and before long they were establishing houses across the United States.

Good Shepherd work has had a significant impact on the Louisville community and on the entire state of Kentucky. As a result, the Commonwealth of Kentucky took little convincing to approve an official historical marker that commemorates Good Shepherd's humble yet courageous beginnings in the New World.

***"This is a marvelous tribute to the great work of the past and more so today, in the present work at Maryhurst."***

**Brigid Lawlor, RGS**

The historic bronze marker reads:

*"On this site in 1843, the Sisters of the Good Shepherd opened their first home in the U.S. Here, the Sisters provided shelter and care to girls who found themselves shunned by society and without resources. By 1867 the Louisville City Court referred homeless and at-risk women to the Sisters, who could care for and find proper homes for them."*

*After opening a second home on Bank Street in the 1860s, the Sisters provided vocational training to women in fields such as sewing and stenography. In the years after*

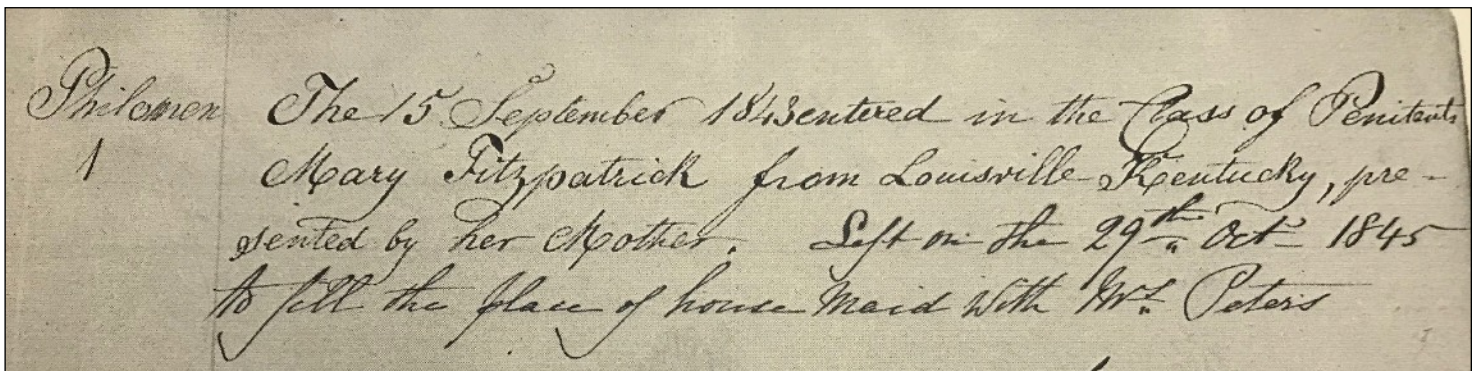


***Sisters and guests mingle at the historic marker in Louisville, which marks the arrival of Sisters of the Good Shepherd to the U.S. and recognizes their impact on Louisville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.***

*the Civil War, the Sisters sheltered African American children at this site. In 1939, the work of the Sisters was renamed Maryhurst. Sponsored by the Sedita family in honor of Maryhurst's 175th Anniversary, 2018. Dedicated September 14, 2018."*

Long-time Maryhurst benefactor, board member and financial consultant Steve Sedita and his family sponsored the historic marker. Their daughter Christine has worked at Maryhurst for nearly 20 years and is vice president of campus programs. Christine was a pilgrim at the Motherhouse in Angers several years ago.

Sisters who attended the event were Renee Scheich, Chris Hock, Mary Carolyn McQuaid, Elise Kramer, Dolores Kalina, Dorothy Doyle, Glynis McManamon, Gayle Lwanga Crumbley, and Bernadette Faulhaber. Monte Abbott, Province Archivist, also attended.



***First entry in the Good Shepherd annals in North America.***

# PROVINCE NEWS



## ZEAL

## The Gathering, be-longing to Good Shepherd

Sisters and Mission Partners in North America gather in Detroit each year to share their wisdom of the Good Shepherd mission and values. This year's Gathering brought 75 people together from the ministries in North America to connect with and inspire one another about the Good Shepherd Mission.

"Our theme this year was Be-Longing," said Melinda Stricklen, Director of the Office of Mission Effectiveness.

"People who came to the Gathering examined how they belong to the Good Shepherd Community and what they are longing for in their work to sustain them in the mission. There was a balance between conversation and sharing wisdom. We set the tone for the theme with an opening ritual that made everyone feel like they belong to the Good Shepherd family," Melinda said.

The Gathering took place at St. Paul's Retreat Center in Detroit, Michigan, from September 25-28, 2018. Each ministry in North America sent at least one person to represent them.

"The Mission Partners who came to the Gathering had amazing conversations on every level. Their willingness to participate in conversations, discussions and activities full-on is what breathes life into our programs. This is a treasure. This kind of time together is when we are at our best in mission," Melinda said.

Melinda summed up the true essence of the Gathering by quoting a portion of a letter that Saint Mary Euphrasia had sent to her Daughters in the New World.

*You have a sacred, precious jewel, confided to you. It is our Mission that you carry in your arms, in your person. Show it to the world, to everyone, in all its beauty. Our mission was founded through love. We have all been drawn to it through love. It is love which keeps us here.*

Sisters Barbara Beasley and Anna Tram Nguyen create ambiance for the Gathering.



Top: Participants use art to share the values and mission of their programs. Bottom: Small table discussions explore the meaning of belonging to Good Shepherd.



## PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL



## St. Louis welcomes Sister Catherine Phan, RGS

Sister Catherine Phan came to the Province Center in late September and will be living in the St. Louis Community for a few months while on sabbatical. No stranger to the city, she made her first vows in St. Louis in 1976.

Sr. Catherine is a member of the Province of East Asia. She said she wanted to have her sabbatical in St. Louis because it feels like home to her. Sr. Catherine is enjoying sabbatical by balancing rest, relaxation and visits with Sisters in the St. Louis Community. One of the community members, Sr. Rosalie Nguyen, was in the same band as Sr. Catherine during their novitiate.

Sr. Catherine will return to the Province of East Asia when her sabbatical ends. She has served in various roles in her Province, including Novice Director, for many years. Sr. Catherine doesn't know where she will be missioned following her sabbatical and remains open to all possibilities.

## Good Shepherd Windows Find A New Home

By Gayle Lwanga Crumbley, RGS

When the Sisters of the Good Shepherd left Pelletier Hall and moved to Cincinnati they didn't want to leave the beautiful stained glass windows that symbolize our commitment to seek the lost.

One window at Pelletier depicted Jesus the Good Shepherd. The other featured Mary the Shepherdess for Christ. The windows now have a new home in The Community of the Good Shepherd, a Catholic parish near Cincinnati, Ohio.

Our Sisters in Cincinnati's Beachwood Community attended the consecration of the church's new chapel, where the windows now reside. Most Rev. Joseph R. Binzer, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of

Cincinnati, presided over the ceremony. Bishop Binzer gave the Sisters a warm welcome and expressed sentiments of appreciation for the work we do.

Church parishioners were encouraged a while back to envision a project they could finance with their share of an archdiocesan fundraising appeal. They decided on a daily mass chapel. Our Good Shepherd windows from Pelletier Hall became the focal point of this beautiful chapel. The windows have been restored and light up from the inside to showcase their beauty.

Bishop Binzer poured generous amounts of anointing oil onto the altar and gently massaged it into the

wood during the Mass of Consecration. Assisting priests anointed all of the walls of the chapel with the same Oil of Chrism. The entire space was blessed by incense that invoked the prayer "May our prayers rise like incense before you."

The chapel was also blessed by the many Sisters, women and girls who have gazed upon the images through the years. The windows are believed to have been crafted in Germany between 1910-1924. An earlier report about these windows is published with photographs on the province website at <https://bit.ly/2CCFkd5>.

## PROVINCE NEWS



ZEAL



## PMNA investment company lifts women to new heights



Sr. Maureen Kunz, center, with Graystone Consulting at the LCWR assembly in St. Louis.

The Province of Mid-North America has hired a new consulting company to guide its investment strategies. This office of Graystone Consulting was created by women and matches our Good Shepherd values for responsible financial investing.

Graystone Consulting has more than 50 offices nationwide and is backed by the world-class financial institution Morgan Stanley. But what really stood out for the Province leadership team when we were choosing an investment firm for the province is the company's approach to investing in opportunities that positively impact our global society, environment, and economy, commonly referred to as "impacting investing."

Graystone furthers its impact by mentoring younger professional women in financial investing. The firm is passionate about building a better tomorrow for the next wave of women with financial expertise. As a result, there is a corporate culture of lifting women at Graystone and Morgan Stanley through coaching, networking, peer mentoring and recruiting.

Graystone Consulting believes that successful influential female leaders are a key in everything that the firm does. We like that their corporate culture fits our core values and charisma. We look forward to having a long-term relationship with them.

*Submitted by Maureen Kunz, RGS*

## Announcements and News Tidbits

Sister Anne Marie Solomon celebrated her 80th Jubilee on October 20. We congratulate and bless her on eight decades of faithful and dedicated service to God and Good Shepherd.

Province of Mid-North America held its annual Assembly at King's House in Belleville, Illinois, from October 22-26. Look for a story about the Assembly in the next issue of *Items of Interest*.

Sr. Dorothy Doyle represented PMNA at the 65th Anniversary Celebration of Maryhaven on September 20. Maryhaven is a

behavioral health & addiction treatment center in Columbus Ohio, which was started by Good Shepherd Sisters.

Bernadette Bates, Companion of Jesus the Good Shepherd, had a successful cornea eye transplant in October, which has prevented blindness in her left eye. She expresses her gratitude to the organ donor and to everyone in the Good Shepherd family for their prayers before, during and after her surgery.

The Immaculate Heart Community in St. Louis is moving to Lutheran

Senior Services Mason Pointe complex as a part of their latest transformation. Look for a story next month in *Items of Interest*.



Sr. Emilie Mane Ngom, an international student from Senegal, renewed her vows in St. Louis on October 10, 2018.

# MINISTRY NEWS



## ZEAL

## Get ready for takeoff, we're free to fly

by Anne Kelley, RGS

The theme of this year's annual fundraiser for Good Shepherd Gracenter was *Free to Fly*. The theme celebrated and affirmed the women at Gracenter who have broken free of drug and alcohol addiction and are now free to fly to futures filled with possibilities.

The room was filled with everything from kites to flying pigs to depict the theme of flying. Gala "captain" (aka MC/auctioneer and dedicated volunteer Charles Gall) dressed as an airline pilot. His outfit caught the imagination of the audience, and the event did indeed take off!

Upbeat disc jockey music kept energy and enthusiasm peaked. The automated silent auction went live a few days before the event so guests could bid early from any location. Some guests used their cell phones to bid on items during the luncheon itself. For the less tech savvy guests, "super shoppers," identifiable by their blue capes, stood poised to swoop in and rescue any fumbling fingers in distress.

After a delicious meal, it was time for awards. Gracenter Executive Director Sr. Marguerite Bartling acknowledged the gala sponsors and



*A rousing live auction energizes the Gracenter gala.*

then introduced our Outstanding Graduate, Pali Boucher, Founder and Executive Director of [Rocket Dog Rescue](#), an all-volunteer organization which has rescued and re-homed more than 8,500 animals. Pali also received Certificates of Recognition from the cities of San Francisco and Oakland.

Our *Amazing Grace Award* went to Martha Ryan, Founder and Executive Director of [Homeless Prenatal Program](#). Martha also received a Certificate of Recognition from San Francisco.

Our first ever live auction caused bidding wars that sent paddles flying

high! After watching a video with graduates telling their stories of success, someone proposed a "Fund a Need" appeal. Paddles once again went flying as generous guests made donation pledges.

Sr. Madeleine Munday drew names for the raffle prizes as the final part of the program. After the gala, Gracenter hosted an Open House to thank guests for their generous support. The

gala, held on September 16, proved to be Gracenter's most successful fundraiser. We are grateful to everyone involved and pray for blessings on them all!



*Awardee Pali Boucher, center.*



*Blue-caped super shoppers come to the rescue to help auction bidders.*



*Good Shepherd Sisters get ready to fly into action at the Gracenter gala.*



*Audrey, a graduate of Gracenter, sells raffle tickets from her tote.*

# MINISTRY NEWS



ZEAL

## 10th year anniversary, Community of Jesus the Living Mercy

The Community of Jesus the Living Mercy in Cleveland, Ohio, celebrated its 10th Anniversary on September 15, 2018. The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows is the day when community members renew their four private vows. A new member joined on this day, bringing the count to 29 vowed members, including four married couples.



There was a beautiful Mass celebrated by chaplain Fr. Mark Ott, and a meal of celebration with family members. This lay association of the Christian faithful grew out of the Bethesda Ministry.

The Bethesda Healing Retreat weekend was held October 19-21. This summer, two members of the lay community and I gave talks at the National Right to Life Convention in Kansas City, Kansas, on the aspects of healing after an abortion experience.

The Community also had a booth at the Cleveland Diocesan Festival in August. The ministry of helping women and men to find healing after abortion and peace in Jesus continues with one-on-one companion sessions, days and evenings of prayer, weekend retreats, and informal get-togethers for fellowship.

*Submitted by Patricia Marie Barnette, RGS*

## News about CORA Services

CORA hosted an Open House on October 8 for its new school The Bridge Way School, Pennsylvania's first and only recovery high school in Philadelphia for youth struggling with substance abuse.

On October 18 CORA conducted its annual Peer Helper Conference that takes place during Bullying Prevention Month. For more than 20 years this conference has enabled counselors from six local elementary schools to train selected eighth graders to gain leadership skills that they then take back to their schools. CORA school counselors continually promote bullying prevention by providing classroom and school-wide presentations in more than 50 non-public schools in Philadelphia.

The 2018 Champions for Children celebration to benefit CORA Services takes place on November 27 in Philadelphia.

Learn more at [coraservices.org](http://coraservices.org)

## Gratitude expressed

*The following letter was sent to Sr. Dorothy Renckens, former Provincial of House of Good Shepherd in Chicago, Illinois. Today Catholic Charities runs House of Good Shepherd.*

Dear Sr. Dorothy -

How are you? I hope everything is well with you. I just wanted to share with you my visit to House of Good Shepherd last Sunday. I was invited to visit the After Care Program because the residents were asking about me. It was a great experience; all those women came and hugged me. I was very emotional.

The meetings take place inside the convent. While I was

there, memories of all of you Sisters came to my mind. Your legacy and teachings still carry on.

The staff members trained by you were meeting outside in restaurants to discuss quotations and articles from St. Mary Euphrasia, keeping alive the spirit in the institution and outside of it.

Please let us know how Sr. Sharon O'Grady is doing. Give our regards to her, our love and prayer for you and all of the Sisters.

United in Christ!

Alicia Hadad

# MINISTRY NEWS



## ZEAL

## Art unites different faiths at Good Shepherd Gallery

"We are all children of Abraham. It's how we're united specifically, as a human family, and, particularly, as people of faith. Our faiths come from the same source: Abraham," says Sr. Glynis McManamon, Director of Good Shepherd Arts Center.

*Children of Abraham for Peace and Justice*, the title of the exhibit that ran at Good Shepherd Gallery in October, set out to demonstrate how our differences can actually be what unite us as people.

The exhibit features artwork which furthers a message of peace and justice while reflecting diversity, tolerance and inclusion. Works in the ecumenical exhibition were informed by the faith and traditions of Abrahamic religions, including Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths.

Curator of the exhibit, Kathy Ann Duffin, said, "This exhibit was a joy to curate and arrange in the gallery. The artworks presented seemed to sort themselves out into groupings for exhibition, a testament to the notion that we of different faiths have much in common."

For example, a quilt by Berta Goldgaber, depicts the cups of the Jewish Passover—wine vessels through which, and into which, blessing flows. Her fabric piece was shown alongside four ceramic vessels by American Muslim artist Yusra Ali.

Similarly, Christian artist Mary Martin's psalm-inspired landscape painting complemented a pastoral scene by Muslim artist Zeya Obaidi, which was inspired by a verse of the Holy Quran. These and other pieces in the exhibition came together to exude an environment of peace and hope.

Featured artist Alejandra Velasco said, "Judaism, Christianity and Islam all share the belief in a God who inspires love, justice and truth. Together, united in love, we can build a better world, respecting the beliefs and differences of everyone."

Gary Lang, Board President of Good Shepherd Arts Center, believes that art is a form of storytelling. He said, "Stories connect us and make us more aware of how God works."

Gary said the board of directors of Good Shepherd Arts Center and Sr. Glynis are collaborating with a number of organizations and individuals to produce 10 shows in 2019 that affirm human dignity. Among the collaborations is one with Arts and Faith St. Louis, whose mission is to build a harmonious St. Louis by establishing an ongoing, intentional relationship between the arts and the faith communities.

The final 2018 exhibit at Good Shepherd Arts Center will run from November 24 through December 15, and features the works of art teachers in North County St. Louis.

For more information about Good Shepherd Arts Center, visit <https://www.goodshepherdarts.org>

*Zeya Obaidi's depiction of a verse from the Quran: "Have we not made the earth as a wide expanse, and the mountains as pegs?"*



Artist Berta Goldgaber says the Hamsa represents the hand of God in the Jewish tradition and the hand of Fatima, daughter of Mohamed the Prophet, in the Muslim tradition.



Alejandra Velasco's embossed Virgin of Carmel.



## NAC NEWS



ZEAL



# Call to Action!

## Vote Tuesday, November 6

*Pope Francis calls politics "one of the highest forms of love, because it is in the service of the common good."*

As Community, we are called to help one another. We are called to respond to suffering and to support those seeking to improve their lives. As Community, we are called to safeguard our planet and all of creation from harm.

The Good Shepherd Sisters, Mission Partners, friends and allies serve, support, follow and lead. And on Tuesday, November 6, we ask that everyone get out and vote. Your vote supports the shared work and mission of Good Shepherd. We are called to politics – our values impel us to engage and act.

Good Shepherd National Advocacy Center has voting guides on its website to help inform and inspire voting. You can find this information at <http://www.gsadvocacy.org/vote.html>.

**Find your voice. Join us in acting for justice. Vote on November 6.**

*Submitted by National Advocacy Center*



## STOP the immigrant family detention plan

*"If you do not speak out,  
if you do not sound the alarm when it is needed,  
you will be justly convicted by your silence."*

*St. Mary Euphrasia, Conferences, p. 336*

Families belong together. We have until DEADLINE ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 6 to tell the Trump Administration to stop its immigrant family detention plan. The Trump Administration's proposal would curtail minimum standards for how to care for children who are held in federal custody. President Donald Trump wants to detain immigrant children and families indefinitely.

The federal government is accepting written comments until November 6 about its proposed changes to federal regulations that determine how long immigrant children can be held in detention facilities. It is critical that we speak up to oppose this proposal and make our voices heard.

Go to <http://bit.ly/2yoHgSV> and submit your comment. You can modify the template language to share why you oppose the Trump Administration's new regulations to detain children indefinitely. Register your opposition to the Administration's proposal and stand up for the safety of immigrant children. Deadline to comment is November 6, 2018.



The voting guide "A Call to Holiness, a 2018 Guide for Voters" is prepared by the Catholic Coalition of national, social justice minded Catholic organizations, of which NAC is a member. The second guide is prepared by U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking, of which Sisters of the Good Shepherd are members. Neither voting guide addresses all the issues of concern to Catholic voters.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

# Patricia Toussaint, RGS

November 8, 1942 – September 4, 2018



*Patricia Toussaint, RGS*

Sister Patricia Brenda Toussaint, 75, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at Emmanuel Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Danville, Pennsylvania, following a valiant struggle with cancer.

Sr. Patricia was born on November 8, 1942, in Georgetown, Guyana, the daughter of the late Herman and Marie Hutchins Toussaint and the eldest of five girls in a close-knit family.

Following completion of high school, Sr. Patricia entered the Sisters of Our Mother of Sorrows on the small Caribbean island of Barbados. After some years, she decided to come out and see the world. She joined her sister Barbara in Washington, D.C. where she worked as a housekeeping supervisor.

Sr. Patricia became a citizen of the United States in 1989. Still experiencing a call to Contemplative Religious Life, in 1994 she entered Good Shepherd and professed her final vows in 2002 in Philadelphia.

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***Patricia was a  
community person.  
Her kindness was  
apparent in her always  
thinking of others.***

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Patricia was a community person. Her kindness was apparent in her always thinking of others. She asked what we liked and cooked meals that we favored. When someone had to leave the house early for a trip, even at 2:00 am, she would be up preparing breakfast. She had a special gift for each Sister on every Feast Day, birthday and holiday. She never forgot anyone.

Although experiencing various health conditions and suffering from chronic pain, she remained faithful to prayer and carried out her duties as community cook for as long as possible. Her prayers always reflected a global perspective.

Sr. Patricia did not have an easy life. As a young girl, there was the struggle with the lack of resources and opportunities. She struggled with pain from rheumatoid and osteoarthritis most of her life. She coped with the effects of trauma

after being mugged, and she was nearly overcome with grief after her mother's death. Sr. Patricia struggled with loneliness, anxiety, and, above all, her own exacting high standards.

Fiercely independent and wanting everything to be perfectly arranged, she found it difficult to relax when she transferred to the St. Joseph Residence in Baltimore. During the last years of her life, she gradually grew into the grace of dependence on God and graciousness with staff and Sisters who assisted her.

After more than 25 years in remission, her breast cancer metastasized around 2015. Radiation and medication helped for a few years, but her suffering worsened after our move to Danville.

Sr. Patricia's decline was surprisingly quick once she acknowledged that chemotherapy was not working and had accepted hospice services. She enjoyed a visit with her family and the Contemplative Sisters from her home Community in Cheltenham on Saturday. On Sunday she slipped into unconsciousness.

Sr. Patricia's last hours were very peaceful. Sr. Mary Becker, who was with her at the moment of her death on Tuesday morning, said that she experienced the strong presence of Our Lady and the angels in the room. No need to struggle anymore – only a joyful homecoming.

*Submitted by Mary Carol  
McClenon, RGS*

# CELEBRATION OF LIFE **ZEAL**

## Mary Jude Uy, RGS

June 16, 1938 – September 22, 2018

Dominadora Uy was the third of four children: three girls and one boy. She was born in San Miguel, Leyte, in the Philippine Islands.

Sister grew up in a very happy home. Religion was important to her parents, and the family was very active in the local church. Her mother was always good to the poor and reached out to help them whenever she could, often bringing one or more of the children along with her. The local and visiting clergy were very “at home” with the Uy family.

The children all received a good Catholic education on the primary, secondary and college levels. It came as little surprise when Dominadora “Tita” and her brother, Antonin, responded to a call to the Religious life.

Rev. Antonin Uy, a Divine Word father serving the Church in the Philippines, took Tita to the airport in 1958. She flew to France to begin

her training at the Good Shepherd Motherhouse in Angers.

Upon entering the Good Shepherd convent, Dominadora was given the name Sister Mary Jude. She began her ministry as a Group Mother for troubled adolescent girls in a Good Shepherd Residential Home in Rangoon, Burma, in 1961.

Through the years, from then until 2011, Sister ministered to women in transition, abused women and children and adolescent girls and families in Singapore and Malaysia, and in the United States in Las Vegas, Memphis, Chicago and St. Louis.

As Sr. Jude’s health began to fail she was missioned to the Immaculate Heart Convent where she spent much time in prayer, reading, visiting with the Sisters and taking care of her needs. Sr. Jude maintained a close relationship with her family, especially her two nieces and their



*Jude Uy, RGS*

families on the East Coast and her brother and family in the Philippines.

Sister Jude died peacefully and will be missed by Sisters and staff. May she rest in peace.

*Submitted by Pauline Bilbrough, RGS*

## Baltimore Community donates furniture to Catholic school in Maryland

When the Baltimore Community moved to Danville, Pennsylvania, the Sisters donated more than four truckloads of their furniture and equipment to St. Francis International School in Hyattsville, Maryland.

School officials said, “The items, worth tens of thousands of dollars, would not normally be in the school’s budget. But the Sisters were happy to see these items continue to serve the children of Maryland, as the Sisters had done for more than 150 years.”

Sr. Mercy DeLeon closed the Baltimore convent and arranged for the furniture to be donated to the school. She said she was glad that Good Shepherd could contribute to St. Francis International School, which celebrated 65 years of Catholic education in the building this year.



*Sister Mercy DeLeon (far right) meets with students and their teacher at St. Francis International School.*

## COMPANIONS

ZEAL

## Companions make final commitment to a vow of zeal

Encarna Tumanguil, Companions of Jesus the Good Shepherd, travelled from her home in Canada to spend the month of September in the Philippines with fellow Companions from that region.

The Companions met in the home of one of the Companions, Guadalupe, in Tuguegarao City. Their purpose in meeting was to draw closer to one another and discuss how they will carry the charism of Good Shepherd forward into the future.

### Final vow of zeal

Companions spent their time praying together, participating in Gospel and Bible sharing, entering into deep reflection, browsing through Good Shepherd books that the Province of Mid-North America had gifted them with, and reviewing articles and letters on faith.

The Companions made a final commitment to a vow of zeal on September 10 at Mass with Eucharist celebrant Fr. Bernie

Corpus, pastor of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Tuguegarao City.

Two Good Shepherd Sisters joined the Companions as representatives of the Province. They were Sr. Carmelita, a member of the provincial Council who is in charge of Mission Partners, and Sr. Rosario, who was born and raised in Tuguegarao City and spoke to the group in their native language of Ibanag.

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**“The event was historic for Companions in the Philippines. Good Shepherd Sisters participated in our meetings for the first time.**

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“The event went beyond my expectations and was historic for the Companions in the Philippines. Good Shepherd Sisters participated in our meetings for the first time. The Sisters’ presence made the

books about the life of St. Mary Euphrasia come to life for the Companions,” said Encarna.

Following the gathering of Companions, Encarna and Sr. Rosario traveled to Manila to attend the funeral mass of Sr. John Dumaug, RGS. Sr. John was well loved in the southern region of the Philippines and had a reputation for helping the indigenous people there.

“I’m very grateful for the Sisters, Mission Partners and Companions who accompanied me on this trip through their prayers,” said Encarna.

“I am also deeply thankful to my nephew Mikey and his manager RJ who sponsored my trip and travelled with me to the Philippines,” she said.

“I wish to thank again the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in the Province of Mid-North America who donated books on spirituality. These materials helped very much in the formation of the Companions in the Philippines,” Encarna said.



*Left: Encarna Tumanguil stands with one of the many Good Shepherd Sisters she visited while in the Philippines. Right: Companions make a final commitment to a vow of zeal during Mass.*

## GREEN CORNER



ZEAL

Climate, *Cont'd from p. 1*

mean reducing the amount of fossil fuel that developed countries now burn to as close to zero as possible.

Increased warming of the planet will expose millions of people to life-threatening heat waves, water shortages and coastal flooding. It will bring on more forest fires and extreme weather events such as the intense hurricane activity we have had this season.

The precipitation patterns on earth are changing. Places that are hot will get hotter. Places that receive rain will receive more rain. And many people alive today will experience the destructive climate changes that will be taking place by 2040.

**Pope Francis gives thanks**

In his Day of Prayer for Care of Creation message, Pope Francis gave thanks to all those who are committed to protecting climate. However, he gives prophetic voice to the new climate change study saying, "It must be acknowledged that we have not succeeded in responsibly protecting creation ... the need for a renewed and sound relationship between humanity and creation and the conviction that only an authentic and integral vision of humanity will permit us to take better care of our planet."

In his message he also gives a beautiful reflection on the purpose

and meaning of water. He gives thanks for those who care for water and expresses concern regarding its misuse. He mentions the plastic pollution of water saying, "Here too, our active commitment is needed to confront this emergency. We need to pray as if everything depends on God's providence, and work as if everything depends on us."

It is affirming to see that the Province is working on some of these issues. We would like to report on what you are doing to help protect the climate. Please submit your green practices to [jmcdermott@gspmna.org](mailto:jmcdermott@gspmna.org).

*Submitted by Sharon O'Grady, RGS*

## Clear cutting in Oregon prompts Sr. Joan to write Letter to Editor

*As November elections near, Sister Joan Spiering wrote a Letter to the Editor about poor environmental practices taking place where she lives. Her letter appeared in the local paper. Sr. Joan said writing the letter is one way she can do her "little bit" to make a difference.*

I live on the Oregon Coast in the small town of Rockaway Beach. One of my favorite places is Oswald West State Park (aka Short Sands). When I walk through its forest with nurse trees, ferns, moss, smells of cedar and fir and sounds of water running over rocks, I enter into a space out of ordinary time.

Recently I viewed aerial photos of the mountain above Short Sands, revealing an ugly clear cut. You can't see the devastation from the park: A creek declared non-fishbearing, erosion of steep hills, and an ugly blotch on the landscape. These effects remind me of the outrageous results of mountain top removal

elsewhere-- water pollution, damage to people's health, environmental devastation.

I am not against logging, or making a living from one's investments, but not at the expense of the long range good of our common home. As a

native Oregonian whose dad was once a logger and some of whose family members currently own forested land, I support sustainable ways to log that support a healthy ecosystem, not destroy it.

I want citizens who, like myself, treasure this place called Oregon to take action in caring for the places we love.



*A view of Oswald West State Park from Rockaway Beach, where Sr. Joan Spiering lives.*

Do something to care for a place that is special to you. Talk to friends and neighbors about what needs to be conserved. Speak up. Link up.

When you get your ballot in November, choose candidates who have demonstrated that they care about the beauty and resources of Oregon as much as you do.

## COMMUNITY LIFE



ZEAL

## Q&amp;A

*Sister Michaella Kim is a Contemplative Sister of the Good Shepherd and member of the Province of Northeast Asia. Sr. Michaella took her first vows on February 24, 2011. She spent four years as a temporary professed Sister in the Province of Mid-North America (PMNA), and returned to her province last September. Sr. Brigid Lawlor, RGS, caught up with Sr. Michaella in Angers, France, while they were both at the Motherhouse for a nine week session that prepared temporary professed Sisters for making their perpetual vows. Sr. Brigid asked Sr. Michaella to reflect on her experiences in PMNA and Angers.*

***How did your international experience in the Province of Mid-North America contribute to your experience in Angers?***

I'm deeply grateful to God for having an international experience in Mid-North America. It was a turning point in my life. My first time in a foreign country! The new culture and language were very challenging. At first I felt alone – in the desert.

These feelings were strong because my mother died only a few months before I travelled to the United States. Gradually, although I didn't really know the Sisters in the community, I felt their love. They taught me that God is love. While it was an international experience, it was also one of internationality. I felt a sense of solidarity. Although the Sisters in the Contemplative Community in St Louis were American, Filipino, Japanese, Maltese and Sri Lankan, we were all Good Shepherd Sisters. There was diversity in Cheltenham too.

Studying English was hard, but here in Angers, it has been very helpful to me because the sessions are in English, French and Spanish. Most of the Sisters speak English as a second or third language.

***How did your experience in PMNA change you?***

I used to think that the vows were meant to say what I could or could not do. My experiences in PMNA and at Angers taught me something more. For example, I find that with the vow of chastity I am capable of loving so much more, to have loving relationships, to support and be supported. I learned this through the actions of the Sisters in the United States. They loved me for who I am. It is really hard for me to be away from the Province of Mid-North America.

For the vow of obedience, I found that by learning English, I use gentler words when I communicate what I am thinking. I have learned to think in English and to be patient with what to say. Now I can do the same in Korean. I search for a meeting of the minds when I communicate and don't stereotype.

The Sisters in the U.S. also showed me how to live in poverty. How not to desire the latest things, but to only consider what I really need when I budget for the next year. Go by what you need, not what you want! This was what I witnessed. The Sisters didn't buy new clothes, they mended what they had.

***Can you address the theme "Love, the Heart of the Universe" and discuss how it relates to the vowed life?***

I was deeply moved by God's presence in Angers. St. Mary Euphrasia had a vision and found God's presence existed even in the tiniest creatures. I am moved by what Saint Mary Euphrasia wrote and did. She put God's love in everything. It is a good guideline for



***Sisters Michaela and Brigid at a cultural night in Angers. Sr. Michaela wears Korea's traditional dress and Sr. Brigid wears a gift from Indonesia.***

me. I am finding her footprint within me.

By consecration, I cooperate with God's mercy for the salvation of other people. As a Contemplative Sister I try to witness to God's kingdom with a hidden faithfulness. The vowed life enables me to be able to meet these things, to be a witness of God's kingdom. The older Sisters have witnessed this to me and now we will follow in the same way. I'm so grateful and proud to be a Good Shepherd Sister.

***What was your favorite experience in Angers?***

I loved the visit to Noirmoutier. In the motherhouse I feel St. Mary

*Continued on next page*

## COMMUNITY LIFE



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Q&A *Cont'd from p. 15*

Euphrasia's focus on mission, her suffering and prayer life, but I got to know her better in Noirmoutier. I could imagine her as a child playing and experiencing God in nature, the sea and the wind, and in her home as well as in her parish church, with her neighbors. She grew up in nature and saw beauty in all God's creatures. I felt close to her, her mind and heart. I liked the emotions and feelings that I had in Noirmoutier.

St. Mary Euphrasia lost her mother at a much younger age than I lost mine. I connected with her suffering because of my personal experience. I have had time to reflect on this and I see how the suffering of St. Mary Euphrasia led her to God and to establish the Congregation.

***Did you have the opportunity to discussed the vowed life with other Contemplatives in Angers at the sessions?***

Unfortunately, I didn't have many opportunities to talk with them because of language barriers. They spoke Spanish and very little English; I speak Korean and English. However, we spoke with our hearts. When we prepared a drama about zeal, we found a way to communicate about our prayer for the people we serve and for the needs of our world.

Language didn't matter. Maybe it is because we were praying with one heart and mind. We found something in common in our life. We talked about the plant representing nature and life. We held it together as we came from different directions and met saying one prayer, and holding one plant which bound us in solidarity. We carried it together and placed it by the candle representing the heart of the Sisters.

One Apostolic Sister said, "It touched my heart and I cried." I saw

many Sisters crying during our presentation.

***How did your experience with Mid-North America prepare you for the sessions in Angers?***

I think God prepared me for Angers through the Sisters in Mid-North America. I needed time to understand and live in a different culture and language. God's love for me, shown through the kindness of the Sisters in Mid-North America, gave me the ability to adjust to another country and to overcome my shyness. It takes time to make friends and form relationships. God gave me that time before coming to Angers. Because of my time in Mid-North America, I adjusted in France much faster than I thought I would.

***Would you like to say anything to the Sisters in Mid-North America?***

I received a good international experience during my years in Mid-North America. You Sisters showed me the heritage of our Congregation and taught me how to live our motto: *one person is of more value than a world*. This will last my lifetime. Living with you in St. Louis and Cheltenham taught me that languages and culture don't matter. I have found that we are one. Yes, we are one! We have different skin color and different ways of thinking, but when we talk about our Good Shepherd life, we are one. When we talk about our mission our eyes get shiny and I feel full of zeal.

During the sessions in Angers we talked about mission a lot. We reflected on how to live the spirit of St. Mary Euphrasia in modern times. Sisters in Mid-North America held me and encouraged me to grow, to look towards God within me and to feel God's love all around.

This is a good life for me. The United States is my second home. Physically I was born in Korea.



***While living with the Maria Droste Contemplative Community in St. Louis, Sr. Michaela crocheted baby blankets as part of a ministry to save babies from abortion, created rosaries for the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and renewed her vows.***

Spiritually I was born in the United States, and my spirituality deepened in Angers. I appreciate our internationality!

## ACROSS BORDERS



ZEAL



## Achieving Agenda 2030

In her work as Good Shepherd's representative at the United Nations (UN), Sr. Winifred Doherty frequently blogs about issues at the United Nations that are aligned with Good Shepherd's charism. The most pressing issues affecting the poor and marginalized are outlined

in the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Report.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a global blueprint for dignity, peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and in the future. Three years into implementing the Agenda, countries are translating this shared vision into national development plans and strategies.

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018 highlights progress being made in many areas of the 2030 Agenda. The report shows important progress that is being made in some countries to reduce maternal mortality and childhood marriage for girls and what is being done to increase access to electricity.

The report also shows that in some areas progress is insufficient to meet the Agenda's goals and targets by 2030. This is especially true for the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups.

### Sense of urgency

With just 12 years left to the 2030 deadline, the UN is seeking to inject a sense of urgency into the 2030 Agenda. This will require countries to take accelerated actions immediately. It will also require collaborative partnerships among governments and stakeholders at every level.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Report for 2018 is 40 pages and includes graphics and information concerning each of the 17 sustainable development goals.

You can learn more about the Sustainable Development Goals and other UN initiatives on Sr. Winifred's blog at <https://gsijpoffice.com>.

You can download the SDG report for 2018 as a PDF at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2018/TheSustainableDevelopmentGoalsReport2018-EN.pdf>

## Her story, International Day of the Girl



You can see the events that unfolded for International Day of the Girl on Sr. Winifred Doherty's blog at <https://gsijpoffice.com>.

The United Nations (UN) sets aside October 11 each year to support more opportunities for girls and increase awareness of gender inequality faced by girls worldwide. The celebration of the day also reflects the successful emergence of girls and young women as a distinct cohort in development policy, programming, campaigning and research.

Eleven days of global action led up to the October 11 celebration. Actions were varied and included art projects, storytelling and twitter chats. The actions culminated in an event that was webcast live around the world from UN headquarters in New York City. Sr. Winifred Doherty, UN representative for Good Shepherd, has posted on her blog photographs, videos, stories and poems from girls around the world who wrote about their lives and dreams for their future.

## ACROSS BORDERS



ZEAL



Sisters who attended the nine-week sessions at the Motherhouse in preparation for taking perpetual vows.

## Love, the heart of the universe – the journey ends

By Brigid Lawlor, RGS

*“God has great plans for each one of you, ask God to give you God’s own love, and you will see what marvels this love will work in you.” Saint Mary Euphrasia*

During the final phase of preparing for perpetual vows, participants were well into the challenging work of integrating all of the themes that had been previously presented.

### Community and Communion

The topics for Week 7 were *Community and Communion for Mission*. The presenter, Sr. Mary Sujita, SND, offered focus areas that included practical skills in addressing both the gifts of community life and leadership, as well as the challenges. She noted that cultural dynamics and reciprocity are key for the future. Sr. Mary spoke of community as communion. She talked about the

richness of the Eucharist as a source and impetus for support in community for mission. This motivated the group to address serious issues of individualism, the need for peace in our troubled societies and forgiveness. One of the Contemplative Sisters from Korea helped prepare a Cosmic Walk, which took place in the garden. Taking the walk reminded participants of the earlier weeks at the Motherhouse, which helped them integrate what they were hearing about communion.

During Week 8, Sr. Clare Nolan, RGS, energized the group by asking them to consider the *Development*

*of Mission in a Global Context*. She pointed out global trends and asked the group to share examples of the way these trends impact their lives.

Sr. Clare emphasized “inclusion” as a synonym for “justice.” She encouraged participants to consider inclusion in all aspects of their ministry, community and congregational lives. There was time to study the Congregational Position Papers and to outline a response.

Three Congregational Leadership Team Members — Sisters Josita, Lily and Susanna — along with Elaine Basinger, formed a panel and

*Continued on next page*

## ACROSS BORDERS



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**Angers, Cont'd from p. 18**

shared a personal time in their congregational lives when they took initiative in responding to a need. They each described all that this entailed emotionally and professionally.

Sr. Clare then asked participants to remember great women in their own lives who have impacted them. After making creative presentations about the women, Clare asked participants to put themselves in the middle of the group of these great women whom they had selected. This came across as a very humbling but growth producing moment.

Clare ended Week 8 by offering a mission development framework that participants could apply to all areas of ministry. They found the process helpful for their work in the future, particularly how to be realistic, accountable and transparent. The closing ritual included a reflective walk through the tunnel at the Motherhouse. This was part of the entrance procession to the Eucharistic liturgy which Fr. Jim Conlon celebrated.

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***Each one of you has that one wild and precious life.***

Sr. Ellen Kelly, RGS

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**Looking Back, Looking Ahead**

*Looking Back and Looking Ahead* marked the final week. Mr. Marco Casavaccia, Good Shepherd International Foundation (Mission Development Office), assisted the participants in creating a self-directed learning plan. This helped them understand what they might do when they return to their home provinces and begin to live out the experience they had in Angers.

The exercise was very practical and relieved many of the participants' anxieties. It helped them realize that their responsibility was not to give a talk to the province about their experience, but to live it and share it as they can with their Formators, province leaders, mentors and spiritual directors. Having the plan also helped them realize that this type of formation is ongoing throughout their entire lifetime.

Participants had a day of reflection in the final week and were invited to go deeply into their contemplative hearts by privately walking the labyrinth. The last two days were devoted to integration and celebration. Participants had time to say goodbye to their mentors and mentoring groups. They had time to share in their table groups. They also had time to open any topic of interest or concern to



them in a forum that engaged the committee members and Congregation Leader Sr. Ellen Kelly.

**Hopes, Dreams and Concerns**

During the open forum, participants expressed their hopes, dreams and concerns, to which Sr. Ellen and the team members lovingly responded and shared other ways of looking at the topic. It was mutually enriching. The closing ritual began with a dance that had been taught during Week 2. It was a beautiful and sacred opening. Sister Ellen gave words of encouragement. Here are excerpts from her talk:

"Each of you has that one wild and precious life, along with your unique personality, that you bring on your journey to understand the Mystery of God and God's call to you. I hope that these past months have helped you to know more deeply who you are and who God is. Of course, the Mystery of God by definition will never be fully understood in this world and yet central to our humanity is this seeking of the Other, the Divine, Love as mutuality and connection.

Some call it a search for meaning, some call it faith. The more we can comprehend this seeking, this human desire for connection, for relationships, the more we come to know ourselves and this Holy Mystery, this Divine Love.

"And we know love will always have a cost, be it human or divine love. We see and pray with Mary as she weeps holding her crucified Son. The symbol of the Cross, so central to our belief, points beyond a love that suffers to

*Continued on next page*

## ACROSS BORDERS



ZEAL

**Angers, Cont'd from p. 19**

the transformation of death into new life.

"Recently, at a meeting of Leaders of Congregations, a religious brother gave a presentation on Consecrated Life. One of his remarks stays with me. *"God is ONLY LOVE." There is nothing more or nothing less, in the God of the Gospels, than LOVE.*

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***And yes, each day may we fall in love  
and stay in love, knowing that it will  
determine everything.***

---

Sr. Ellen Kelly, RGS

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"The transformation to which we are invited as members of the Congregation is worth the surrender that this love demands as we imperfectly live the gospel values and begin again each day to strive to do better. Yes, it is worth your one wild and precious life! And yes, each day may we fall in love and stay in love knowing that it will determine everything," said Sr. Ellen.

There was time for personal reflection and group sharing. On the first day of the nine week sessions, each participant had received a heart. She wrote the blessing she desired on one half of the heart. On the last day of the

sessions, at the time of Offertory, the Sisters were invited to write on the other half of their heart the blessing they desired as they leave. Each participant offered her heart.

**Great plans for each one of you**

The Eucharist Liturgy ended with Sr. Ellen leading the group down four flights of stairs through the garden to the green door vestibule. A meditative reading ended with the words of St. Mary Euphrasia – *"God has great plans for each one of you, ask God to give you God's own love, and you will see what marvels this love will work in you."*

Each Sister was presented with a packet of salt from Noirmoutier, the birthplace of St. Mary Euphrasia, and a clump of earth from Ri, the birthplace of St. John Eudes. The committee team sang the Blessing Song with their hands extended.

The green doors were opened and the participants left, having been sent forth with memories in their heart to sustain them for the rest of their lives.

The Sisters walked up Rue Brault, turned the corner and came into the renovated reception area, where they again met the committee team in the garden. Everyone sang "God Delights in You" and shared a greeting of peace as a final good bye. There were very few dry eyes in the group!

The Motherhouse Community prepared an aperitif, which we enjoyed prior to a final and festive meal together.



## LEADERSHIP TRAVEL

ZEAL

NAME	DATES	LOCATION
Sr. Sharon Rose Authorson	No travel	No travel
Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez	Nov 1-5 Nov 19 Nov 20	NRVC Conference, Buffalo, NY Meeting Council of Women Religious, San Francisco 14th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, San Francisco
Sr. Beverly Hedgecoth	No travel	No travel
Sr. Maureen Johnson	No travel	No travel
Sr. Dolores Kalina	Nov 1-6 Nov 7-30	St. Louis Cincinnati
Sr. Maureen Kunz	Nov 5	Province Financial Advisory Board meeting, St. Louis
Sr. Mary Carolyn McQuaid	Nov 1-2 Nov 5 Nov 6-8	Resource Center for Religious Institutes Conf., Orlando Province Financial Advisory Board meeting, St. Louis Congregational Investment Advisory Committee meeting, Minnesota
Sr. Madeleine Munday	Nov 1 Nov 5 Nov 17 Nov 23-Dec 1	LCWR Region X fall meeting, St. Louis Province Financial Advisory Board meeting, St. Louis DeNeuville Learning Center fundraiser, Memphis Vacation

Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez wrote a reflective article for Global Sisters Report about the transformative power of contemplation and stillness. You can read her story online. It is titled *The heart of love, a shepherd*.

<https://bit.ly/2DcQfL6>



## PROVINCE CONTACT

ZEAL

*"Respect for people is recognizing them as children of God."*

Saint Mary Euphrasia

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**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

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