An Interview with Sister Sandra DeGidio

Prayers for Health and Healing

Sister Sandra DeGidio recently published an inspiring little book called “In God’s Embrace: Prayers for Health and Healing” (Twenty-Third Publications, 1998). That book was for pastoral ministers who work with the sick. My new book is for the people themselves who are suffering from various kinds of illnesses.

It's hard to pray when you are sick. I hope my book will help those who are struggling to find the words to talk to God.

What kinds of prayers are in the book?

There are general prayers for health and healing, as well as prayers for particular kinds of circumstances and diseases. There are prayers for someone with cancer, psychological disorders,
When Enough is Too Much

Some years ago I was going through a rather extended series of health-related issues, with no end in sight. One day I got a call from Sister Damian, who said: “Theresa, enough is too much!” Her words have returned to me frequently in recent months, as our little community has reeled from one blow after another.

This spring that same Sister Damian, at age 82, suffered a ruptured cerebral aneurysm. She spent four weeks in intensive care and many more weeks in therapy, working to regain some ability to move and speak.

The “In Memoriam” section of this newsletter is longer than usual. Four of our Sisters went home to God this year in as many months. The death of a loved one is always a cause for sadness. But when that death comes suddenly and tragically, as in the case of Sister Rosemary, who died from injuries suffered in a car crash, the grief is compounded with a sense of shock.

We Servite Sisters are a community of elders, with our median age hovering around 80. Fractured bones, surgeries, cataracts, dementia, heart disease, pneumonia, carcinomas, dental implants, and hormonal abnormalities all seem to come with the territory. There’s many a day when I’m tempted to cry out: “Good Lord, enough is too much!”

But in the midst of such experiences, when it feels as though we’re falling apart, I can be just as suddenly struck by experiences that give me cause for hope and joy.

At our Chapter in June, our facilitator, Sister Cathy Mueller, SL, posed the question: “What kind of community do you want? What can you let go of? What is essential to keep?”

This is one of those profound questions that calls for a profound answer. I was eager to hear how our Sisters would respond.

As a community, we have already shown that we can let go of a great deal that is near and dear to us: sponsored ministries, buildings, property, the parishes, schools, and neighborhoods where we once served. We have put our future in God’s hands, and we are open to welcoming the completion of our mission, if that is what God has in store for us.

In the midst of all of this letting go, what is essential to keep? One Sister put it this way: “I can let go of everything except the love we have for one another.” Another Sister observed that this love is what compels us “to reach out to care for others and creation.” That is about as simple and profound as it gets, and certainly a cause for hope and joy.

Sister Nancy Schreck, OSF, in her keynote address to the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) this summer, echoed this sentiment: “We are learning to walk in the darkness of diminishment and letting go and this has a larger purpose than negotiating our own current reality. It is not just about us. It is about having the inner wisdom to be able to walk with a world, a nation, and a church.”

Sister Theresa Sandok, OSM

Moving?

Send address changes to:
Servants of Mary
1000 College Avenue West
P.O. Box 389
Ladysmith, WI 54848-0389
Servites Gather in Italy to Ponder New Evangelization

Sisters Bonnie Alho and Rita Stoeberl attended the VII International Congress of the Servite Family (UNIFAS) at the Shrine of Merciful Love in Collevalenza, Italy, along with over 150 other religious and lay Servites from five continents, Aug 4–11, 2014. The theme of the Congress was “A Sower Went Out to Sow: Servants of Mary and the New Evangelization.”

Participants heard presentations on “An Analysis of Evangelization in Today’s World,” “Pope Francis’ Proposal for the New Evangelization,” and “The Tradition of the Servants of Mary for the New Evangelization.” Each presentation was followed by discussion by participants, who were divided into language groups.

One evening participants made a pilgrimage to nearby Todi, where Servite Saint Phillip Benizi died in 1285. The group celebrated Eucharist at the church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, where his body rests. They also spent a day at Monte Senario near Florence, where the Servite Order was founded. “Once again we shared Eucharist together, followed by a meal in true Italian style,” the Sisters said. “There were more courses than we can remember.”

At the end of the Congress, participants published a message to the worldwide Servite Family. In it they said: “We welcome [Christ’s] word as the seed in our soil; day after day, we meditate upon it (lectio divina) and, allowing ourselves to be challenged and shaped by it, we commit ourselves to put it into practice, so that the seed of the Gospel might germinate in us and bear fruit in abundance (cf. Mt 13, 8; Jn 12, 24; 10, 10).… Aware that ‘the harvest is abundant, but laborers are few’ (Mt 9, 37), we ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers into his harvest; into the vineyard of Senario, new brothers and sisters, workers for peace and harmony, cantors of God’s glory, messengers of the Gospel.”

“The opportunity to attend the Congress is one that I very much appreciated and valued,” said Sister Bonnie. “Sharing the experience of what it means to be Servite with others from so many parts of the world was enriching in so many ways.”

Jubilee!

75 Years a Servite

Sister Mary Eugenia Tremblay celebrated her 75th jubilee of religious profession this year. Born in Huron, Wis., she is the youngest of seven children. When she was four years old the family moved to Ladysmith, where she was taught by Servite Sisters in grade school and high school. In 1937, at the age of 16, she entered the convent. She became a novice on Aug. 15, 1938, and professed first vows the following year. Sister was an educator for most of her religious life. She received a teaching certificate from Rusk County Normal School, a bachelor’s degree from DePaul University, Chicago, and a master’s degree in English from Marquette University, Milwaukee. She taught at all levels, from kindergarten to university, at schools in Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, and New Jersey. She was a pastoral minister at St. John Vianney Parish in Sherman, Ill. She is the author of two books of poetry and a biographical novel, “Saint Peregrine, Servant of Mary: Healing Saint.” Sister has always enjoyed art, especially painting and ceramics. She had an art exhibit at a bank in Winnetka, Ill., in 1979. She studied sculpture and painting with Italian artist Jole Sensi Croci in 1980. She retired in 2000 and now lives at Addolorata Villa, Wheeling, Ill.
Sister Helen Frances Doremus, OSM  
1927–2014

Sister Helen Frances Doremus, OSM, 86, died unexpectedly on May 2, 2014, at Addolorata Villa, Wheeling, Ill., while recuperating from surgery to repair a broken hip. Sister Helen was born in Lyndhurst, N.J., on July 21, 1927. She joined the Servants of Mary in 1978 and professed first vows in 1980. She earned a bachelor’s in religious education from DePaul University and a master’s in pastoral studies from Loyola University Chicago. In the 1960s she became involved in the Special Religious Education (SPRED) program, which seeks to integrate people with developmental disabilities into the faith and life of the church. Her experience with SPRED led her into full-time ministry with the developmentally disabled at Misericordia Heart of Mercy, a home for developmentally disabled children and adults in Chicago, where she served as Coordinator of Religious Education from 1976 until her retirement in 2002. At the invitation of the Diocese of Westminster, Sister Helen spent the years 1985–1987 in London, England, where she developed a retreat program for adults with disabilities at St. Joseph’s Pastoral Centre, Hendon. While at Misericordia she developed one of the first Jewish religious education programs at a Catholic institution, an accomplishment for which she was awarded the 1993–94 Chicago Region Community Service Award from the Jewish group Women’s American ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training). She was the first Catholic Sister and the first gentile to receive this award.

Sister Rosemary Mayer, OSM  
1928–2014

Sister Rosemary Mayer (Sister Mary Paul), OSM, died Aug. 4, 2014—four days before her 86th birthday—at Orlando Regional Medical Center from injuries she suffered in a July 28 automobile collision in Orlando. She was born in Chicago, Ill., on Aug. 8, 1928. She grew up in the shadow of Wrigley field and was a self-described “die-hard Cub fan.” She joined the Servants of Mary in 1954 and professed first vows in 1956. She received a bachelor’s in elementary education from Mount Senario College, Ladysmith, and taught at St. Rose of Lima School, Roseville, Minn., from 1956 to 1965. She served as secretary for the Servants of Mary from 1965 to 1971 and as treasurer from 1971 to 1983. As treasurer she helped establish the Sisters’ retirement fund and enroll Sisters in Social Security. She was passionate about social justice. In 1971 she helped found WIM/CRI (Wisconsin/Iowa/Minnesota Coalition for Responsible Investment), a coalition of religious communities that fosters socially responsible investing and decision making. She moved to Florida in 1984 and served as an administrative assistant at Orlando’s BETA Center, an organization that assists teen mothers and at-risk families. She retired from BETA in 2003 and remained active in her parish and community. She was on her way from Mass to deliver communion to the sick at a local hospital when the accident that claimed her life occurred.
How did you start writing?

I always had the urge to be a writer. When I was working at St. Joseph Parish in New Hope, Minnesota, in the 1970s, I started a family religious education program. That was something new at the time, and I thought I should write a book about it. My friend Dolores Curran, a pioneer in family religious education, encouraged me to write the book. She mentioned my project to Neil Kluepfel, the founder of Twenty-Third Publications. He got in touch with me and said: “I want that manuscript. It's going to be a great seller.” That's how my first book — “Sharing Faith in the Family” (1980) — came to be.

Tell me a little bit about yourself.

I was born and raised in Cumberland, Wis., and went to a one-room grade school. I joined the convent in Ladysmith in my junior year in high school. I have a bachelor's degree from Mount Senario College and a master's in English from Marquette University. I studied liturgy at the University of Notre Dame, and I have a certificate in spiritual guidance from Siena Center in Racine. Over the years I have taught at all levels, from elementary school to university. I developed and directed religious education programs in two parishes. I also served two terms as president of the Ladysmith Servites Sisters in the 1980s.

What are you currently doing?

I wear a variety of hats — author, speaker, consultant, spiritual guide. I also serve as director of communications and development for my religious community, and I chair our Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund Committee and Board.

Friendly Family Feud. Sister Rosemary Mayer’s sister-in-law Marilyn related the following story: “Our son Jon works for the Byron, Illinois nuclear plant. When he and his wife Pam were visiting Rosemary, they were looking at some old pictures. Jon came across a picture of Rosemary and some other nuns protesting Jon’s plant. He faxed the picture back to his office and they framed it. Everyone had a big laugh over his aunt protesting the building where he worked.” In the photo, taken in the early 1970s, Sister Rosemary is seated in the center wearing green slacks. The other nuns are Sisters Mary John VanderLoop, Mary Pat Hill, and Cecilia Fandel.

Lord Jesus, as you well know, poor health is no picnic. It is tiring, frustrating, and angering. I don’t want to be bitter in this situation, and I need your help to give me a positive outlook. Otherwise, I run the risk of infecting others with my negativity.

Grant me the gift of hope that I might exhibit a positive attitude. Grant me a sense of peace that I might share your peace with others. Grant me the serenity to know what I can’t change and what I can change in my behavior.

And finally, grant me the ability that, even in my infirmity, I might still reach out and serve others. Amen.

— Sister Sandra DeGidio, OSM,
“In God’s Embrace: Prayers for Health & Healing.”
Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund Celebrates 15 Years of Giving

The Ladysmith Servite Sisters established the Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund (MABF) in 1998 with income derived from the transfer of Addolorata Villa in Wheeling, Ill., to the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation. Mother Mary Alphonse, after whom the fund is named, was one of the original six founders of the Ladysmith community and led the group until her death in 1950. Addolorata Villa was a ministry especially dear to her heart.

The purpose of the fund, as described by the Sisters, is to “provide assistance for human and societal needs, continuing the vision and ministry of their founders.” The first 15 grants, totaling $176,000, were distributed in 1999. The year 2013 marked the 15th year of giving, with over 200 charitable projects funded and nearly $3.8 million in grants distributed worldwide (see chart).

Over the years, MABF grants have been awarded to clear mine fields in Afghanistan, purchase pharmaceuticals for uninsured people in northern Wisconsin, train public health nurses in Bolivia, build a sickle cell clinic in Cameroon, provide safe portable cribs for poor infants in Chicago, build a maternity clinic in a remote village in Congo, install solar lighting for a health center in Tanzania, fund a book-share project for children in Haiti, build a prayer chapel in Honduras, purchase a generator for a Native American school in Stone Lake, Wis., provide food and shelter for returning refugees in Sudan, build a center to help people living with albinism in Tanzania, ship medical equipment and supplies to the Philippines, fund a collaborative livestock training program to support Mayan populations in Guatemala, and the list goes on.

Mother Mary Alphonse Bradley led the Ladysmith Servite congregation from its inception in 1912 until her death in 1950. She spent herself tirelessly serving others and was frequently heard to say: “There is so much to do, Sisters, there is so much to do!” Today the Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund carries on her legacy of service.

Continued on next page

### MABF Grants (1999–2013)

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In 2013 the Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund awarded a $30,000 grant for a van to SEWA-AIFW (Self Employed Women’s Association—Asian Indian Family Wellness), an organization that provides services to the vulnerable and underserved South Asian population living in Minnesota. Servite Sister Anita Swansen, who sponsored the project, wrote about some amazing young women from India who used the van while in the United States in July 2014.

They had to return yesterday to their home in Jharkhand, India, 18 girls under the age of 16. I’m guessing that their heads are full of visions of Minnesota, soccer games, roads, crowds, planes, and hopes. These girls, who call themselves the Supergoats, are unwavering athletes, against all odds. It was their idea to start a soccer team with no field, no ball, no shoes, and no future except to be married off as child brides or sold as maids. Determined to succeed at soccer, they practiced on the edge of a rice paddy, which they recently learned was going to be restricted.

Their mentor, U.S. law graduate Franz Gastler, picked up on their enthusiasm and made the dream come true: “We are going to the United States,” he told them, “to Blaine, Minnesota, and enter the soccer tournament there.” (Franz was born in Minnesota and left everything to live and work in what is one of the poorest states in India.)

I heard of the Supergoats from Raj Chaudhary, director of the St. Paul/Minneapolis area SEWA Asian Services. She and I were working on a Mary Alphonse Bradley grant application to obtain a van to transport her clients. She told me about how authorities tried several angles to detain Franz and the girls at the airport. In addition, consider that the girls had to play with a handicap—shoes and uniforms they never wore before, with opponents at least a foot taller and 20 pounds heavier. News of their participation in the tournament was carried by the local and national media, Twitter, and Facebook.

Why the name “Supergoats”? Because back in India all the girls on the team own goats.

The Amazing Supergoats

The Supergoats soccer team with Sister Anita Swansen, far right, and Raj Chaudhary, fourth from right.

Conference Fosters Global Connections Among Servite Schools

Eighteen high school students and 29 adult delegates met at Marian High School in Omaha, Neb., Sept. 28–Oct. 3, for the 2014 International Servite Schools Network conference. This year’s conference, which attracted participants from Australia, England, France, India, Italy, and the United States, focused on “Servite Values in the Classroom.” Sister Theresa Sandok represented the Ladysmith Servite Sisters at the meeting. The Ladysmith community once sponsored two schools, Servite High School for girls and Mount Senario College. Today they support Servite schools through grants from the Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund. The ISSN was founded in Villemomble, France, in 2000 to provide a forum for dialogue, collaboration, and interaction among Servite schools throughout the world.

Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund...

Continued from previous page

A grant from the Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund helped Servite Sisters in India construct the Alexis Hostel for Children in Nungambakkam, Chennai.

A six-member Grants Committee, consisting of three current and three former Servite Sisters, reviews grant applications and makes recommendations to the Mary Bradley Corporation Board of Directors, which administers the Fund. For a brochure describing the funding parameters and application process, write to:

Mary Alphonse Bradley Fund
Servants of Mary
9131 S. Aspen Drive Unit 7
Oak Creek, WI 53154
or mbradleyfund@yahoo.com.
Confraternity of Our Lady of Sorrows

The image of Mary at the Foot of the Cross has long been an inspiration to people who want to come closer to Jesus. In order to increase devotion to Mary, the Servite Order established societies known as confraternities. Pope Innocent X officially designated these societies as the Confraternity of Our Lady of Sorrows in 1645.

A new confraternity group was recently established in Minnesota’s Twin City area, with Servite Sister Clarice Gierzak as its assistant. The Twin City group is a satellite of the Servite Confraternity at the Basilica of Our Lady of Sorrows in Chicago.

The purpose of the Confraternity is to foster devotion to the passion of Christ and the sorrows of Mary. The Confraternity assists lay persons in their Christian life and commitment by helping them draw inspiration from Mary. Confraternity members strive to develop the virtue of compassion so that they might be united with their suffering brothers and sisters through prayer and works of mercy, a mission they share with Servites throughout the world.

Members are enrolled in the Confraternity in a public ceremony and make a formal commitment to follow the precepts of the Confraternity. They celebrate the feasts of Mary, learn about the Servite Order, pray the Seven Dolor Rosary, and are an integral part of the Servite Order.

New Diakonia Family in Illinois

The Bruce & Lillian Almeroth Family was received into the Servite Lay Diakonia on June 8, 2014, following a two-year formation process. Servite Provincial Father John Fontana presided at the reception ceremony, which took place at Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica in Chicago. Sister Margaret Valois is the new Diakonia’s spiritual assistant.

The Diakonia movement began in Italy in 1982 and currently numbers about 40 families, with the majority in Italy, one in France, and now five in the United States. The Almeroths are the first family in Illinois to join the Diakonia movement. There are three Diakonia families in Spooner, Wis., assisted by Sister Mary Dominica Effertz, and one in El Paso, Texas.

According to the movement’s Rule of Life, the vocation of every Servite Lay Diakonia is to become “a true domestic Church, explicitly dedicated to Mary, chosen as a model for life, and to do so through welcoming and following the Incarnate Word.”

Each Diakonia takes a name that reflects some aspect of Mary and emphasizes the family’s special charism. The Almeroths chose the name Diakonia of Kindness.

Servite Lay Groups Grow

Three expressions of lay Servite life are witnessing new growth.

Servite Confraternity

Front row left: Lori Lonetti, Dominic Pagnotta, Betty Lehman
Back row left: Mary Ann Opitz, Elizabeth Earley, Dolores Nedeau, Elaine Marty, Kaddy Puchleitner, Sister Clarice Gierzak, Joyce Guerin

For more information about any of these lay Servite groups, write to: Servants of Mary, PO Box 389, Ladysmith, Wis. 54848, or mhsec@centurytel.net.
Secular Servites Increase in Spooner

Ten candidates joined the Secular Servite family on May 18, 2014, at St. Francis de Sales Church, Spooner, Wis. The Spooner group of Secular Servites, known as the Mother of Compassion Community, began two years ago with seven members.

“It’s common for one or two people to join at a time,” said Sister Mary Dominica Effertz, the group’s spiritual assistant, “so receiving ten new members is a real cause for joy.”

Anytime Sister Dominica meets a service-oriented person who is devoted to Mary, she invites him or her to join the Secular Servites. It would seem that her invitation, coupled with a call by the Spirit, is working in Spooner.

The ten new members spent one year in formation, studying the history and charism of the Servite Order, before professing “to live the commitment of my baptismal consecration more intensely... be faithful to my family and social obligations, and observe the rules and statutes” of the Order.

Other groups of Secular Servites with Servite Sisters as assistants are the St. Juliana Community of Ladysmith, Wis., assisted by Sister Marguerite Samz; the St. Peregrine Community of Rice Lake, Wis., assisted by Sister Bonnie Alho; and the Sts. Alexis & Juliana Community of Hillside, Ill., assisted by Sister Margaret Valois.

A ge knows no limits for Sister Virginia Schwartz, who turned 83 this year. In February she joined 31 other Wisconsin Lions who traveled to Nicaragua for a Lions Club eye mission. Sister Virginia, who is parish director at St. Ann’s Catholic Church in Cable, Wis., has been a member of the Cable Area Lions Club for 17 years. She has participated in nearly a dozen Lions eye missions to Mexico and Nicaragua.

On these missions, the Lions provide eye exams and distribute eyeglasses to thousands of needy people. In the four-and-a-half days of the mission, the group improved the eyesight of nearly 3,000 people and screened more than 1,000 people for diabetes.

“These mission experiences always give me a surge of energy,” says Sister Virginia. “It is always gratifying to see how happy the people are to be able to see so they can read, thread a needle, or drive.”

Does she plan to join the mission group again next year? Absolutely!
We are deeply grateful to you, our donors, and hold you in our prayer. If your name has been inadvertently omitted or misspelled, please notify us.

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Sept. 1, 2013 - Aug. 31, 2014

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Anderson, Ruth Ann
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*Berg, Rose Mary
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Bonceyck, John & Debra
*Bornarth, Dorothy
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Borsik, Philip D. & Joan
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Boyer, Margaret
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In honor of all retired Sisters, Servants of Mary
Callis, Rev. Elbert R.
Carroll, James
Castellvi, Sylvia
Cave, Diane
In memory of S. Frances Wanbaugh, OSM
Charipar, Dr. Ronald & Marjorie
Checkalski, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald
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Clarke, Thomas & Joan
In memory of Frank & Margaret Benzschawel, Diane & Dennis Clotfelter, Beryl & Mary Lou
In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM
Coler, Susan M.
In honor of S. Mary Rita Thompson, OSM
*Connell, Paul
Connolly, Marianne Kennedy
In honor/memory of Servite Sisters who served at St. Joseph’s, Carteret, NJ.
Corso, Charles & Patricia Cremers, Elisabeth
Cronick, James & Kathleen Csaki, Ronald J.
Curley, Robert E. & Isabel D’Ercole, Lillian
In memory of S. Helen Doremus, OSM, D’Ercole & Giannoni families

D’Jock, Dennis
In memory of Carolyn M. D’Jock

Dabruzzi, Rev. James

Daley, Kathleen

Dallas, Jack & Marge
In honor of S. Lois Reichert, OSM
In memory of Peg Tuma, Jack & Esther Dallas, Joe & Mildred Reichert

Daniels, Richard & Yllana De Ocampo, Victoria

* Deenihan, Sally
In memory of S. M. Eileen McGing, OSM

* Dekan, Karl

Deming, Scott & Jane
In honor of Mrs. Bobbie Amerongen

Dennehy, Daniel T.

* Denning, Abigail E.
In honor of S. Bonnie Albo, OSM

* Dernovsek, Mildred
In memory of Tony Pospisil, Henry Pospisil

Des Chatelets, Rita & Ron
In honor of S. Doris Ann Samens, OSM

* Diehn, Geraldine A.
In memory of Lloyd & Gertrude Nelson

Diers, Cecilia

Diffell, Mary Ellen

* DiMartino, Josephine
In memory of Giuseppantonio DiMartino

Doyle, Rev. Michael, OSM
In memory of Servite Sisters I have known

Draus, Harry J.
In memory of S. M. Celine Draus, OSM

Duchnowski, Ted & Mary Jane
In memory of Tom Duchnowski

Dunne, Art & Elsie
In memory of Servite Fathers and Sisters who served at St. Joseph’s, Carteret, NJ

Dyke, Kathleen & William Early, Elizabeth
In honor of retired Servite Sisters

Effertz, John & Jane, OSSM
In memory of S. Helen Frances Doremus, OSM, S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM, S. M. Veronica Davison, OSM

* Eggert, Robin
Eller, John & Betty

Elliot, Anjenette
In honor of S. Anita Swansen, OSM
In memory of the Naser family of Almena

Enright, Margaret
In memory of S. Mary Rita Thompson, OSM

* Espinosa, Frank L.
In memory of Carol A. Espinosa

Esser, Marcella & Frederick

Fameree, Jacqueline & Robert
In honor of Servite Sisters who ran St. Mary's Hospital, Kewaunee, Wis.
In memory of Minerva & Clif Fameree, Myrtle and Gary Swoboda

Fandel, Albert & Janet
In memory of Agnes T. & Albert M. Fandel, Sr., Kathryn M. & Leo W. Endres, Eric P. Fandel, Mary Haas

* Fandel, Erma

* Fandel, Sylvia A.
In memory of S. Cecilia Fandel, OSM
In memory of Mildred & Richard Fandel

Farrell, Patricia
In honor of OSM Centennial

* Felz, Rev. Thomas F.

* Ferguson, Robert L. & Elaine Ferrer, Dr. Modesto M. & Name
In honor of OSM Leadership Team

* Ferry, Wilbert & Margaret
In honor of the Wilbert Ferry family
In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM, S. Rosemary Mayer, OSM, S. M. Veronica Davison, OSM

Ferwerda, Dr. James

* Finn, Mary L.

* Finnegan, Gene & Margaret

Fitzpatrick, Bernadette
In memory of S. M. DeSales Fitzpatrick, OSM

Floberg, Rose
In memory of Dewey Floberg, Tony, Carmen, Nathan & Carol Vacho family

Flood, Thomas E.

Flynn, Rita

Foley, Cammy

* Fosboender, Christine
In memory of Agnes A. & Albert M. Fandel, Sr., Kathryn M. & Leo W. Endres, Eric P. Fandel, Mary Haas

Franceschini, Rev. Eugene Mark, OSM

Frenette, Eileen
In memory of Bogamill & Frenette families

Frontczak, Esther

Fuchs, Donna Mae
In memory of Paul Fuchs

* Fucik, Bill & Lolly
In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM, Edwin J. Marie T. & Edwin S. Kraft

Gahlinger, David

Gallagher, Mary

Gantley, Rev. Donald, OSM
In honor of OSM Centennial

Garm, Dolores

Gasker, Mary M.
In memory of S. Martha Kormendi, OSM, S. M. Sophia Jaskot, OSM

* Gaydos, Emory & Sylvia Mason
In honor of Fr. Anthony M. Gaydos, OSM
In memory of S. Cecilia (Dolorita) Gaydos, OSM, Martha Merrymore

Geib, Donnell H.

* Geier, Shirley
In memory of S. Rosemary Mayer, OSM, S. M. Veronica Davison, OSM

Gelting, William & Carol
In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM

Giannini, Dorothy & Art
In honor of OSM Centennial

Gibbons, Mary J.

Giebel, Barbara J.
In memory of S. Rosemary Mayer, OSM

Gins, Rev. Paul M.
In honor of OSM Centennial

Gisch, Mary

* Glass, Robert & Dortha Golat, Henry

Gonnella, Robert & Joan
In memory of S. M. Roberta Prince, OSM

Matching Gifts
Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. If your company has such a program, request a matching gift form from your employer and send it to us completed and signed with your gift. We will do the rest.
Following those items of business, Chapter facilitator Sister Cathy Mueller, SL, a member of the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross from Denver, gave four presentations and led the group in personal reflection and small and large group discussion.

Sister Cathy’s first two presentations were on grief and loss as companions on our journey to the future, and God’s love as revealed in a new way through the person of Jesus Christ. Her two final presentations invited the Sisters to explore life within and among them, and to embrace the future as an unfolding work of art.

In her closing remarks, Sister Cathy said that life in God is an unfolding work of art. We have only so much life; we are finite. The challenge is to live as fully as we can. That is our occupation: to live life to the fullest. We are surrounded by the crucified, with the Mother of Sorrows as our model.

Sisters listen attentively to Chapter presentations
You’re in Our Prayers

When you send a donation and request prayer, every Servite Sister becomes aware of your request. Each week Mary Heintz, our administrative secretary, and Sister Sharon McCarthy send emails to all our sisters with lists of your intentions. We thought you’d like to know that we are all praying for your intentions and giving thanks for your generosity.

Janis, Bertha J.
In honor of retired Sisters, S. Rita Stoeberl, OSM, Anna Malone, Zak Kawetsyckan

Janis, Laura
In honor of S. Rita Stoeberl, OSM

Jansen, Warren J.

Jez, James
In memory Madalene Teneen

Joanis, Ruth
In honor of S. Loretta Lonsdorf, OSM, S. Roseanne Fogarty, OSM

Johnson, Roy & Elizabeth

Joswiak Trust, Ruth A. & John F.
In memory of S. Casimira Benbenek, OSM

Kainz, Sue
In honor Fr. Tim Wozniak

Kairis, Ed & Sherry
In memory of S. Casimira Benbenek, OSM

Kania, Dolores
In memory of S. Casimira Benbenek, OSM

Katona, Tom & Clara
In memory of S. Lucille McLaughlin, OSM, Phoebe Talamini

Kazek, Joseph A. & Joan

Keating, Patricia

Keith, Alice
In memory of Regina Tomasovich, S. Martha Kormendy, OSM

Keith, Vernon
In memory of Genevieve “Sis” Keith

Kellner, Robert & Nancy

Kelly, Joseph & Caroline
In honor of Rocco Di Antonio

Kelly, William & Alice
In memory of S. M. DeSales Fitzpatrick, OSM

Kenney, Robert & Patricia

Kester, Donald E.

Keup, Luella

Kilkus, Florence

Kimball, Lillian

Kish, Julius L.
In memory of S. M. Eugenia Tremblay, OSM

Klausmeyer, David M.

Klemko, Joan & James
In memory of Richard & Mildred Fandel

Kline, Jeff & Kathy
In memory of Louis & Helen Sandak

Kline, Richard & Bernadine
In memory of Louis & Helen Sandak

Klobuchar, John & Marian, Jr.
In memory of S. Mary John VanderLoop, OSM

Knudsen, Don & Audrey

Kobrigger, Kirk

Kobus, Rev. Damian M., OSM
In memory of S. Mary John VanderLoop, OSM

Knights of Columbus Council No. 2481, Ladysmith

Kohn, Marlene

Kopil, Rose B.
In memory of Brady-Kopil families

Kosciulek, Gary J.

Kotten, Mary M.
In memory Lois Jean Williamson, Nee Bibeau, Donald J. Lee, Jerome Kotten

Kowalski, Evelyn A.
In memory of Steve Kowalski, John Jessica, Agnes Kropa

Krajewski, David & Annette

Krajewski, Dorothy A.
In memory of Robert Osweiler

Krajewski, Richard & Kathleen
In memory of S. Mary John VanderLoop, OSM

Krajewski, Thomas & Juna
In memory of S. M. Bernice VanderLoop, OSM

Kren, Joseph
In memory of Hildegard Kren

Kromrey, Dolores
In memory of S. Helen Doremus, OSM

Kronhelm, Gar D.

Kruczewski, Mary & Joe
In memory of S. Margaret Valois, OSM

Krzyzaniak, Clara M.

* Kucan, George

* Kunkel, John (Jack) & Karen
In memory of S. M. Joan LeBlanc, OSM

Kurth, Noreen

* Kurzeka, Rich & Kathie
In memory of Marven & Margaret Kurzeka

Kvist, Don & Audrey
In memory of S. Mary John VanderLoop, OSM

* Kwan, John
In memory of S. M. Bernice VanderLoop, OSM, Marie Haast, Eunice Rybicki, Eileen Rotta, Mildred Vanderloop, S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM, S. M. Veronica Davison, OSM

Kwist, Donna & Audrey

Kwist, John E.

Kwist, John & Judy

Kwist, John & Joan

Kwist, John & Kathy

Kwist, John & Mary

Kwist, John & Susan

Lakawitch, Steve & Eileen
In memory of S. M. DeSales Fitzpatrick, OSM

* Langenfeld, Gerald M.

* Larchey, Richard, Dr.

* Lemire, Joseph & Maureen
In memory of Mary Frawley

* Leniewski, Leonard W.
In memory of Bernard & Helen Leniewski

Leshko, Carol
In memory of S. Rosemary Mayer, OSM

Lippeth, Dawn L.
In memory of S. Anne Patrice McIntegart, OSM

LoBuono, Joseph J.
In memory of S. Mary Agnes LoBuono

Lodermeier, Clarice
In memory of Rocco Di Antonio

Longo, Joe

* Luplow, Maryann H.
In memory of Alexa & Rocco Malife, Constantine Malife, S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM

* Lynch, Marie
In memory of Norman Lynch

Lynch, Miles W.
In memory of S. Patricia Ferguson, OSM

Lyon, Lorraine
In memory of S. M. Roberta Prince, OSM

MacCutcheon, Mark

* Machac, Rita A.
In memory of Deolores Thompson

Magnone, Eudora

* Maher, Steven
In memory of S. Rosemary Mayer, McWatters, Dorothy M. McNamara, Rev. John P. McNamara, Jim & Margaret McEntegart, OSM

In memory of S. M. Veronica

In honor of S. M. Damian Powers

In honor of S. Anne Patrice McEntegart, OSM

In memory of S. M. Immaculata LaRocca, OSM, David & Angelina Moore

In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM

In memory of Dale Rogers

In memory of S. Helen Doremus, OSM, S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM

In memory of S. Casimira Neumann, Ken & Jeanette Nelson, Gerald & Arlene Neumann, Ken & Jeanette in memory of Magdalene Tennesen, Rozana Peterson Neumayer, John J.

In memory of S. M. Veronica Davison, OSM, S. M. Frances Winbaugh, OSM

In memory of S. M. Michaelen McNamara, OSM

In memory of S. Rosemary Mayer, OSM

In memory of Mary V. Cicha In memory of Mary Helstein

* Meyer, Charles F. In honor of Lawrence Golepol

* Mianecki, Alice

Mischke, Herbert

Moore, Carol

Moore, Patrick

In honor of S. Anne Patrice McEntegart, OSM

In memory of S. M. Bernice Vanderloop, OSM

In memory of S. M. Bernardine Vanderloop, OSM, Marie Haasi, Eunice Rybiicki, Eileen Rotta

O’Connell, Arline & Dan

In memory of S. Casimira Benenek, OSM

Obey, Hon. David & Joan Odmark, Edward T.

Ogan, Mark

Oglesbee, Catherine R.

In honor of St. Domitilla School, Hillside, Ill.

Olsen, Jimmy & Camile Olson, Gerald A.

Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Opalsensky, Aldona

In memory of John Opalsensky Oppelt, John

Ornborg, Bob & Mary

In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM

Ortz, Geraldina

* Parmerin, Steven J. & Sue Parodo, Jerry

In honor of St. Anne, Mr. & Mrs. C. Parodo

* Pasko, LaVerne In honor of S. Doris Ann Samens, OSM

Passe, John

Pavlik, Florent

In honor of Tyler Pavlik

In memory of Ed Pavlik

Pazhukkathara, Rev. Shaji Joseph

PCCW Assumption BVM Church, Strickland, Wis.

PCCW Holy Cross Church, Cornell, Wis.

Peichel, Frank

In memory of S. M. Veronica Davison, OSM

Pempek, John M. & Evelyn

In memory of Jeneane Pempek Penaloza, Arnie & Tess Percy, James & Lenore Perrizo, Bruce & Pat Petschauer, Richard J.

Pfalzgraf, William

In memory of Doris Pfalzgraf

Pflugi, John & Yvonne

In honor of S. M. Eugenia Tremblay, OSM, all the Servite Sisters who taught at St. Thomas Apostle School, St. Paul, Minn.

Phillips, Patricia

Phillips, Susan

In memory of S. Casimira Benenek, OSM

* Pias Lawrence & Donna In memory of Pia & Fergus families

Pinheiro, Manuel & Amparo

In honor of S. M. Josita, OSM

Platteter, Janet & Jim

Plocharczyk, Zdzislaw & Jadwiga

Ploeger, Claudia

* Ploog, Thomas

In honor of OSM Centennial

Pondell, Stanely & Marie

* Porwoll, Mary Ellen

In honor of all the Sisters who were such a gift to St. Rose of Lima, Roseville, Minn.

In memory of Kenneth Porwoll, S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM

Prince, Carolyn

In memory of S. M. Roberta Prince

Prince, Frances

Prince, Rosella Ann

Process, Jo Ann

* Racanelli, Margaret E.

In memory of Julian & Erma Bragg

Raffesberger, Anita & A. Becker

In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM

Rakowski, Jude

Ramassini, Kathleen H.

In memory of S. Casimira Benenek, OSM

* Rambosek, Mary M.

Rami, David

In honor of Tyler Wade

Rau, James & Judith

In memory of S. Casimira Benenek, OSM

Raupp, Clara

In memory of Sam Bingham, Cyril Bagner

Reever, Leslie

In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM

* Reeves, Gerry H., CLU

In memory of Edith Reeves
Many people decide to include charitable gifts in their estate planning. We would deeply appreciate being remembered in your will. Including us in your estate planning is a way of partnering with us into the future.

Other forms of planned giving include:

- Gift annuities, which provide you with a yearly guaranteed life income (partially tax-free) while reducing your estate taxes.
- Gifts of appreciated stocks, mutual funds, or IRA plans, which allow you to avoid capital gains.
- Gifts of life insurance, which you can make by changing existing policies or acquiring a new policy to benefit the Servants of Mary.

Our legal title and address is:

Servants of Mary
1000 College Avenue West
P.O. Box 389
Ladysmith, Wisconsin
54848–0389
Towers, Lee W. & Charlotte
* Trauscht, Mary Agnes
  In honor of S. Doris Ann Samens, OSM
Trujillo, John, Ret
Tucker, Leona G.
  In memory of Joseph Tucker
Turek, Dennis & Veronica
  In honor of S. M. Lucy Daniels, OSM
Turon, Joseph W.
* Valois, Bro. Ken
* Vandervest, Patrick
  In honor of S. Anne Patrice McEntegart, OSM
Vavra, Paul P.
* Vellante, Delia C.
  Vera, Eloise
Verkuilen, Robert & Helen
  In memory of Servants of Mary who served at
  St. Bernard in Thorp, Wis.
Villafana, David
Volk, Phyllis L.
  In honor of S. Doris Ann Samens, OSM
Wald, John R.
Waldeck, Dennis
  In honor of OSM Centennial
Walters, Ernest J.
Walters, Winnifred H.
Wambold, Pamela
Warren, Louise F.
Waterhouse, Janet
* Watt, Judith & Cary
Webb, Donald V.
* Weisbrod, Robert & Marie
Wenzel, Mandrow & Gretchen
* Westom, Don
  In memory of James Westom, Joe Westom
Wiemer, Dennis
  In memory of Josephine Wiemer
Wildenberg, Bill & Pat
  In memory of S. Casimira Benbenek, OSM
Will, Jim & Mary
  In honor of all those with cancer
Wiltrout, Bob & Karen
  In memory of S. M. Christina Gelting, OSM
Witkauskas, John
  In memory of Agnes Stubler
Wittlin, Gerald & Winnifred
Wizer, Elizabeth
  In memory of Henrietta Karp, Ann Metke
* Wochner, Leonard M.
  Wolniak, Donna
Wolter Endowment, Rev. Richard-
  Catholic Community Foundation
* Wooden, Robert P. & Carol
  In honor of S. Sharon McCartney, OSM, S. M.
  Eugene Baiardo, OSM
Woodward, Michael J.
Woodzick, Thomas
  In memory of S. Casimira Benbenek, OSM
* Wozniak, Rev. Timothy J.
  In honor of my 40th anniversary of ordination,
  Margaret Wozniak
  In memory of Chester Wozniak
Xcel Energy Foundation Matching
  Program
Young, Glenda M.
  In memory of S. M. Joan LeBlanc, OSM
Younger, Jim

Zahringer, Mr. & Mrs. J.W.
  In memory of S. Casimira Benbenek, OSM
Zimmerman, Gary
Zoromski, Carrie

Servite Sisters Today –
a good read for anyone
anywhere. This little
reader enjoying the
newsletter is Kelly Baker
of Suwanee, Ga., age two
and a half.