



PRESENTATION DOORWAYS

offering hospitality to the world



The COMMITTEE

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Sisters of the Presentation
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-2997 USA
Phone: 563-588-2008 Fax: 563-588-4463
Email: doorways@dubuquepresentations.org
Web site: www.dubuquepresentations.org

PUBLISHER
Jennifer Rausch, PBVM

EDITOR/DESIGNER
Jane Buse

DOORWAYS COMMITTEE
Karla Berns, Associate; Joan Lickteig, PBVM;
Francine Quillin, PBVM; Leanne Welch, PBVM

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Your THOUGHTS & COMMENTS

We want your input. Please send or email photos, stories and information about our sisters, associates, former members, family and friends, or any ideas which relate to the aim of this publication. Submit to:

Editor, Presentation Doorways
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-2997
doorways@dubuquepresentations.org

Cover PHOTOS

The doorways represented on the cover are snapshots of significant doors in the Presentation history: (left to right) doorway of the current motherhouse at 2360 Carter Road; doorway of St. Vincent's Academy (now St. Columbkille) in Dubuque in 1879; doorway of Sacred Heart Chapel at the current motherhouse; doorway of the former motherhouse at 1229 Mount Loretta which was built in 1909; and doorway by which Mother Vincent Hennessy left Mooncoin, Ireland, to begin the Dubuque foundation in 1874.

PRESENTATION DOORWAYS

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On Ash Wednesday, Sister Sharon Kelchen visits Richie Kluesner in his home and blesses him with ashes as he prepares for the beginning of Lent. Read about Sister Sharon's ministry on page 4.

A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Openings

by LEANNE WELCH, PBVM

Where were you when...? Were you there when...?

Many of us can clearly remember where we were when a given event happened, e.g., the assassination of JFK, the space shuttle Challenger disaster or the morning of 9/11. Sometimes it is harder for us to remember events just as significant but more personal, e.g., our First Communion, our Confirmation or the continual way that God has acted in our lives each day.

In my own life this leads me to think of the Lenten hymn “Were You There.” In other words, was I truly there, was I truly present at events which had a strong impact on my life but I don’t easily recall. How often am I at an event but not truly present to what is really happening at that moment? It reminds me of the character Moonlight Graham’s line from the “Field of Dreams” movie: “You know, we just don’t recognize the most significant moments of our lives while they are happening.”

Perhaps part of this is human nature, especially for one who is constantly making an attempt to plan the future (and I ask, is that even possible?). Yet I do believe that we see God in our lives when we are aware and when we pause long enough to recognize God’s action. This was reinforced by one of my Loras College students last semester. He shared that he really struggled with the concept of sacramentality and seeing God in all of creation. Then one day walking home from class, he found himself looking at a tree growing on the side of the road and thinking, “Wow, it’s really amazing that the whole tree just grew up from what was once a tiny seed.” He shared that he actually saw the power of God’s creation and from then on was able to see God’s action much more often in other actions and events. He went on to give more examples, including how his girlfriend was helping him see God in his life quite frequently.

As we near the end of Lent and approach the celebration of the Resurrection, we have many opportunities to see God in our lives and in the lives of others. While not always easily recognizable, the Scriptures, the rituals and the lived examples of those around us will help us experience God in numerous ways.

In addition, the articles in this issue of Doorways give us opportunity to see God in the life of many who follow in Nano’s footsteps by “incarnating the hospitality of God” as directed by our mission statement. As we reflect on these examples, we can see our sisters, associates, co-workers and friends allowing themselves to experience God. Their actions inspire me to continually look for the presence of God. As I do so, I’ll continue to query: Where was I? Was I there?



Our PURPOSE

The purpose of Presentation Doorways is to further the Gospel mission of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and our associates by sharing the news and views of the congregation with our benefactors, families and friends. Through this publication, we hope to share the charism of our congregation and invite others to become involved in our mission.

Our MISSION

We, the Sisters of the Presentation, are Catholic women who dedicate our lives to God through evangelization, prayer, service and hospitality. Our way of life is based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We share in the vision of our foundress, Nano Nagle, who dared to dream of a better world for the poor, sick and uneducated of Ireland. We commit ourselves to the empowerment of women and children. We reverence and celebrate all creation as gift. We commit ourselves to confronting injustice and working for peace.

As we continue to keep Nano’s dream alive, we are pleased to share our mission with you.

Sisters of the Presentation LEADERSHIP TEAM

Sister Jennifer Rausch, president

Sister Marge Healy, vice-president

Sister Beth Driscoll, councilor

Sister Leanne Welch, councilor



Sister Sharon Kelchen takes great pleasure in teaching piano to Ethan Kronlage and his brother, Jacob, from Epworth, Iowa. She is their grandfather's first cousin.

Ministry of Presence, Concern

by FRANCINE QUILLIN, PBVM

Sister Sharon Kelchen brings presence, care and compassion through her work in pastoral care as she walks the journey of life and faith with others while “simply relating” to them.

Born in Manchester, Iowa, the oldest of nine children, Sister Sharon Kelchen feels fortunate to have enjoyed the mix of nature because, living on a farm, the family lived off the land, worked and played hard.

Sister Sharon also feels blessed to have had Presentation sisters teaching her in Ryan, Iowa, especially for the opportunity to experience the gift of music with piano lessons. “All through school they provided those wonderful practice rooms where I could learn how to express my inner self, and grow to know those wonderful women of my early years who let me into their somewhat cloistered home but open hearts,” comments Sister Sharon.

It was little wonder, then, that Sister Sharon entered the Presentation community after graduation from high school in 1964, answering a “call” which she could not have explained then, but which she responded to because “I wanted to be like them and help others have a part of my experience.” Most graduates of that day became nurses or secretaries, and Sister Sharon found moving away from the “norm” a bit challenging, but she was sustained by the friendship.

After completing her college, Sister Sharon taught music in Farley, Mason City, Algona, Sheldon and Key West, and subsequently became the principal in Farley and Storm Lake, all in Iowa. As principal, she began the “Rainbow Circle Preschool,” which still exists today, although it has now moved to its new location in Peosta, Iowa. This effort was truly a labor of love for Sister Sharon and the parishioners who helped her take siding down from walls, refurbish the rooms and do all the manual labor required to turn a part of the school into two rooms for the youngest parishioners.

This ministry takes me to hospitals and nursing homes, to those who live alone, and to the sick and dying. As we companion each other, moments are rich with the memories of years, with seeing how their families regard them as the center of their lives, and to take in the incredible acceptance of all the losses that take place as we grow older.

Sister Sharon Kelchen

Sister Sharon recalls, “After those years we were more free to choose how to use our gifts and longings, to bring hope to thirsty people and lands, to trust who we were. So when an opportunity arose to minister at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Chicago, Illinois, I was welcomed among the Hispanics, and I learned of the inner city.” A new world indeed from her years on the farm in Ryan. “I never believed I could work among people of another culture because of the language barrier, but I did, because we simply related to each other.”

And perhaps that speaks volumes about Sister Sharon as a person: she simply relates. She makes everyone feel comfortable, regardless of age, background or any other differences. Thus it was that she could engage in several varied ministries over these years, and could feel comfortable in each of them because she “simply relates.”

“My favorite Scripture quote is from John’s Gospel: ‘I have come to bring you life and to give it abundantly.’ For me, this has meant trying to have as many experiences as possible according to my gifts. Life seems to produce new growth, and I find myself with new energy every so many years. In between the stops I tuck in the teaching of piano now and I hope to do more in the arts for the future. Maybe to be surprised with the pieces of beauty that are still awakening as the connections continue,” muses Sister.

One of those “stops” was working as the house coordinator at Mount Loretto for 10 years. The community had purchased the former Mount St. Bernard Seminary, and after living in it for a while, they found it necessary to undertake a massive remodeling. Sister Sharon found this “a bigger challenge than the language barrier of Guadalupe. People had to live and work in the space where remodeling was actually taking place. I learned other gifts of responsiveness and aliveness to help make a new building a home. The older sisters were accepting and energetic for the new. They were the mainstay of a huge co-operative working situation. Those years also gave me the opportunity to work in Maria House, a home for women and children in Dubuque.”

Now Sister Sharon has been warmly welcomed back into Farley for the third time, this time to be a Minister of Care in St. Joseph Parish there, now part of a cluster. “This ministry takes me to hospitals and nursing homes, to those who live alone, and to the sick and dying. As we companion each other, moments are rich with the memories of years, with seeing how their families regard them as the center of their lives, and to take in the incredible acceptance of all the losses that take place as we grow older. Truly



Sister Sharon congratulates Catherine Pins on her Senior Queen of July Fest 2011 honor. Catherine, who has since passed, was the oldest member of the parish at age 96. Dallas Dolphin donated and drove the convertible.

I can experience the fullness of life; John’s words on how to grow in the abundance of life never cease as life is lived in a newer, quieter way. Life isn’t so much an interruption to my schedule and plans, rather, the present moment is quality, no matter whether we are playing cards, praying, listening to each other or answering the Question of the Day: ‘What’s new in Farley?’ smiles Sister Sharon.

The hard part of this ministry is saying ‘good-bye’ to so many who die suddenly, or of sickness, or from length of years. “I am only beginning to learn from the strength and value of weakness. Like an old tree that was useless to many because it was gnarled, but, allowed to grow in the shade for years and years, it grew tall and beautiful. Being useful would have meant being cut down and made into tables and chairs. Those with whom I have journeyed continue to send their love and spirit to me. I need them to help me live my life, to teach me where I am going and to whom I belong.”

Sister Sharon reflects on the importance of the Presentation charism. “Hospitality is key to being open to the present moment that goes by only too quickly. As one person stated, ‘How do we learn to melt into God and take the ordinary into the fullness of God?’ Maybe it is the abundance of which John speaks. Our connectedness to people, places and the development of ourselves goes full circle. The folks of every day and the shared moments of every day take me into the future that cannot necessarily be planned out, but that allows us to embrace a greater mystery built on the spirit of today,” states Sister Sharon.

In a sense, Sister Sharon has now returned to her roots, living in a rural community, caring for others as the sisters of long ago cared for her, ministering now to the grandparents of children whom she had previously taught in Farley and even teaching piano lessons as she herself had long ago been taught. The years between have been rich ones for Sister Sharon, because she “simply related,” both to God and to the people with whom she journeyed. The Presentation sisters are blessed for their work of years ago in “being hospitable” to this young girl who wanted to model her life after them.



Jane Buse, director of communications for the Sisters of the Presentation, enjoys coming to work each day to experience the many rewards and challenges of her job.

Responsible, Industrious, Professional A Class-Act Employee

by JOAN LICKTEIG, PBVM

Desirable employee qualifications: responsible, check; industrious, check; organized, check; attention to detail, check; pleasant manner, check; professional, check. Jane Buse seems to have it all; one could say she's "Top Notch!"

Her colleagues describe her as a great friend, other-centered, thoughtful, compassionate and generous to a fault; one who is not only fun and fun loving, but hilariously funny – a party personality. Many note her creativity in imagination, in design and in general. And nearly everyone knows that if there is something she can help with, Jane is the always-willing worker and genial volunteer.

With creative energy and an eye for whimsical design, nearly every Presentation sister, at some time or another, has been the recipient of Jane's services and appreciated her contributions, known also as the "Jane touch."

Jane has a drive that matches her efficiency and effectiveness. With a standard of excellence that doesn't quit, she takes joy in completing a plethora of projects and delights in the finished products. As the saying goes, "Sometimes work is more fun than fun."

Always approachable, gracious and pleasant despite the many and varied demands of her job, she offers a quiet, refreshing, steady presence in the midst of a noisy and busy world. It's not surprising that "drop-in sisters" frequent her office, just to say hello – and to make additional requests beyond the day's agenda.

How does she do it all? What is all? Well, it's full-time employment at the Sisters of the Presentation, plus cooking, cleaning, shopping, driving, caring for her home (she's a meticulous housekeeper) and her two children, Stephanie, a student at Clarke University and Will, an eighth-grader at Mazzuchelli Middle School. With another friend, Jane also operates a graphic design business, and when her husband, Brett, was living they managed a catering service, as well. In the midst of her sometimes hectic schedule, Jane often announces, "I'm going to work now – to relax."

Hired in 1999 Jane came to Mount Loretto to work in public relations. During these 13 years, the Presentation family has "grown up" with Jane's family, and her job description has grown, as well. She designs and edits *Doorways* magazine four times a year, serves as web-master for the Presentation website (www.dubuquepresentations.org), coordinates and produces internal and external communications for the Presentation congregation, oversees the operations of the development office to promote the mission, ministry and values of the Presentation sisters, and is a member of two outside committees: the Archdiocesan Communications Task Force and the Marketing Committee of Opening Doors.

A middle child with an older brother and a younger sister, Jane is a lifelong Dubuquer. She attended St. Anthony Elementary School, Wahlert Catholic High School and Clarke College where she majored in communications with an emphasis in public relations and graphic design.

Jane Buse is a strong woman, a woman who loves much and laughs a lot (all the way to her toes) and is regularly mistaken for her daughter! With their dark brown curly hair and slender build, folks are never sure whether they are seeing the daughter or the mother, such look-alikes are Jane and Stephanie. Maybe that's why she was chosen cover-girl for *Telegraph Herald's* new magazine, *HER*, a magazine for women, in February 2007.

As you would expect, her office reflects Jane-qualities: love for and loyalty to her family seen in the attractive family photos and candid shots; hospitality evident in the well-filled candy dish; humor as seen in signs posted (Out of my mind; be back in ten minutes); her aesthetic appreciation and fine taste observed in the décor of earth tones, slender vases, candles, nature bouquets and Van Gogh art prints; and the "extra" of a lovely fragrance. Her favorite music is Celtic or Latin or anything with a "dancing beat." Jane embodies fine taste wherever she goes, arriving at work each morning wearing a classy combination from her well-coordinated wardrobe. She's got elegance!

A widow in her thirties, Jane's husband, Brett, died in October 2011 from heart damage sustained from treatment he received for Hodgkin's lymphoma as a child. They had been married 15 years. Brett, a professional chef, managed the hot lunch program for the Dubuque Community School District as well as the Buse evening meals, and was the central figure as chief cook for family holiday gatherings.

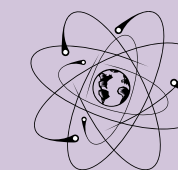
Playful and fun-loving, Jane doesn't cook much; after all, her husband was a chef. She does, however, enjoy good food – and an occasional margarita. Her favorite meal was regularly served on Sundays by her late Grandmother Ressler who "made the best beef roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots and creamed cucumbers." Fortunately for Jane, her mother and her aunt carry on the tradition. Not only that, Jane's a candy-holic who, in her disciplined manner, subsequently compensates via the treadmill.

On weekends Jane frequently travels to Cascade, a great get-away spot, to visit her horses, Wesley and Stuart – and her parents, Ann and Jim Schueller on their "hobby-farm." Her love of nature inspires her to assist with any outdoor activities like mowing

the lawn, helping with the landscaping, transplanting hostas and assisting with her mother's greenery and garden sales. She's a regular weed predator.

When she began work at Mount Loretto, her employment was a job for Jane, but over the years it has become a ministry as she, almost unaware, imbibed the Presentation spirit to the point that one person observed, "It shines forth from her." Jane, on the other hand, credits the Presentation community with "touching her life significantly with friendship, understanding, love, support and encouragement."

Strong, happy, gentle and generous, frugal and practical, Jane fits the description of the valiant woman, most often used to describe someone twice her age. But there she is walking right out of the pages of the Hebrew Scriptures (Proverbs 31:10). "Who shall find a valiant woman?" The Sisters of the Presentation, that's who.



PRESENTATION QUEST

IMMERSION & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

May 5, 2012 - Dubuque, Iowa

Sisters, associates, community members and volunteers clean two miles on Highway 20 between Epworth and Peosta by removing trash and debris. This Adopt-a-Highway program helps increase public awareness of environmental needs along Iowa highways.

June 2-9, 2012 - New Orleans, Louisiana

This is an immersion into the poverty of the South and the continued challenges of rebuilding New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. Ministries include serving lunch to homeless at Lantern Light Rebuild Center, dry walling, painting, carpentry work and insulating houses that have been gutted. (Skilled and unskilled volunteers needed.)

Visit www.dubuquepresentations.org for more information or contact:

Sister Rita Cameron
Presentation Quest Coordinator
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, IA 52001-2997
563-588-2008
service@dubuquepresentations.org



Sister Joy Peterson leads area residents in prayer below one of Dubuque's immigration billboards.

Help Co-create a Just, Sustainable World

Living the Presentation Call to Listen to the Poor

by MARGE HEALY, PBVM and BETH KRESS, PBVM

"Life is short. Stay awake for it." This trade slogan, found on a biodegradable coffee cup by Caribou Coffee Co., Inc., is more than a marketing message. Partnering with the Rainforest Alliance, Caribou Coffee works to ensure sustainability.

What each of us stays awake for could be riveting for the ongoing life and health of Earth and its inhabitants. In December, Presentation sisters and associates had several opportunities to reflect and act on their beliefs for a better world.

Welcoming Immigrants

Ten communities of Catholic sisters based in the Upper Mississippi River Valley are calling on President Obama and Congress to work together to enact comprehensive immigration reform. To make their point, they issued a statement on "Welcoming Communities" and placed billboards in Des Moines, Quad Cities, Dubuque, Cedar Rapids, Sioux City and Clinton, Iowa, during December and January in advance of the Iowa caucuses to make sure delegates, potential candidates and voters remembered this critical issue. Prayer services were held at the billboard sites and at area religious congregations on December 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the day the billboards were posted.

The billboard message: "I was a stranger an immigrant and you welcomed me," is based on the words of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel. "We declare ourselves 'Welcoming Communities' in affirmation of our Catholic tradition that holds sacred the dignity of each person," the sisters said in the official statement, "and we invite other communities and people of faith to join us in becoming 'Immigrant Welcoming Communities.'" Steps for growing into being more welcoming include exploring our faith, sponsoring education events open to the public and working for

comprehensive immigration reform. For more information visit www.dubuquepresentations.org.

Sustainable, Just Living on Earth

Presentation Sister Joetta Venneman, director of the Office of Global Ministries for the Sisters of Charity, Nazareth, Kentucky, facilitated a mini-symposium at Mount Loretto on December 20. Through video messages, questions and reflection time, Sister Joetta invited participants to stretch their understanding of what is happening in our world – from extremes of wonder and horror to possibilities.

"Awakening the Dreamer" symposiums resulted from the collaboration of the Achuar Indians of the Ecuadorian Rainforest and a few North Americans who entered into a mutual learning experience of combining both the wisdom of the indigenous and scientific expertise. The purpose of the symposium's multimedia learning process is to create a sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, socially just way of living on Earth.

Many misconceptions about our world combined with unbridled consumption have resulted in a race not toward a better world for all but to a travesty of suffering for many persons, species and Earth itself. Symposium participants discover how we can change our mind set and our way of living. Why should the following wrong assumptions drive our way of living on Earth?

- (1) The earth's resources are there for us to use as we see fit.
- (2) Competition alone is the fundamental law of nature.
- (3) Being successful means making money.

Let us wake up and create a dream that aligns itself with God's dream. If attendance at a symposium is not possible, a DVD is available by visiting www.awakeningthedreamer.org.

Economic Recovery

On December 29, Sister Richelle Friedman synthesized for her Mount Loretto audience factors contributing to the Great Recession of 2007, how the federal government responded and what is needed for economic recovery at this time in the United States.

In response to the recession, Congress, early in 2009, passed a \$786 billion economic stimulus package, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. "It aided states, built infrastructure projects and gave tax cuts to workers, eventually adding jobs, lowering unemployment rate and helping the economy grow," explains Sister Richelle.

As the director of public policy for the Coalition on Human Needs, Sister Richelle is part of a team that developed the "SAVE for All" Campaign (Strengthening America's Values and Economy for All). Members of SAVE lobby Congress based on the following four deficit reduction principles: protecting low-income and vulnerable people; increasing revenue from equitable sources; seeking savings from wasteful military spending; and incorporating job creation.

Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, Unemployment Insurance and "food stamps" (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance



Top photo: Sister Joetta Venneman speaks at a conference to advocate for affordable housing. Right photo: In Washington D.C. Sister Richelle Friedman (right) networks with others to lobby for public policy that meets human needs.



Program) have made a big difference in people's lives, yet these programs are being attacked by some in Congress.

Sister Richelle explained the two categories of federal programs – discretionary and mandatory – and how they are funded. Discretionary programs are funded annually through the appropriations process. These programs include foreign aid, the Departments of Homeland Security and State, the FBI and CIA, the Pentagon, Head Start, many elementary and secondary school programs, child welfare services, parks, airport security and more. Funding for mandatory programs are provided for in law and do not need to be annually appropriated. Mandatory programs include Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, crop subsidies to farmers, veterans' benefits and others.

In August, as a debt reduction measure, Congress passed legislation cutting \$1 trillion from discretionary spending over the next 10 years. Next year Congress will be seeking \$1.2 trillion more in spending cuts to address the rising debt. Federal revenues are at a historic low, and yet tax increases have not been enacted to address the debt because some members of Congress refuse to raise taxes.

What are the expectations for 2012? Congress extended the unemployment insurance and payroll tax cut through the end of 2012. In the spirit of SAVE for ALL it is hoped that the Supreme Court will uphold the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act that will expand health care coverage to millions beginning in 2014. At the end of 2012 the Bush-era tax cuts will expire or be renewed.

"It's important for us to call and email elected members of Congress; visit their local offices; use the social and print media

and broadcast news outlets (e.g. letters to the editor and call-in talk radio) to deliver the message,” urges Sister Richelle. “By reaching out and building coalitions with allies – service providers, people of faith, business leaders, environmentalists and educators – and inviting candidates from all parties to speak at forums, by attending events and asking questions and by giving input into party platforms, we can all do our part,” states Sister Richelle. Visit the Coalition on Human Needs website for more information on the SAVE for All Campaign at www.chn.org/save4all

Immigration reform, Earth sustainability and economic recovery – all lie within our call as Christians to build the “king/kindom” of God on Earth. How will you respond?

365 Impact Award Honors Area Catholic Sisters



Presentation Sister Marge Healy (left) and BVM Sister Mira Mosle accept the 365 Impact Award.

Ten communities of Catholic sisters based in the Upper Mississippi River Valley received the 365 Impact Award for 2012 in the category of “Inclusion” on March 6 at the annual awards ceremony sponsored by the media agency Dubuque 365.com. The award honors the sisters for their media campaign urging comprehensive immigration reform and inviting communities across the state of Iowa and Upper Mississippi River Valley to be “Welcoming Communities.”

The 365 Impact Award is given to those who “choose to make an everyday effort to ‘impact’ the world around them 365 days a year – for those who believe in their community and are willing to do something to make it better for everyone,” states the sponsor of the award, Dubuque 365.com, an agency in Dubuque, Iowa, known for its bi-weekly paper of entertainment and community news.

PRESENTATION LANTERN Honors Board Members

It was a time to say thank you to Frank Reinert and Sister Carla Popes and to acknowledge their service on the Presentation Lantern board of trustees. On December 5, 2011, at the annual Appreciation Dinner for the board, volunteer tutors and the leadership team of the Sisters of the Presentation, these two long-serving trustees received the Presentation Lantern Service Award for their dedication to the mission of providing hospitality, educational opportunities and advocacy to those who come to the center. Both Frank and Sister Carla served three consecutive three-year terms. From the very beginning in 2002, they have been a part of the center and worked to advance the mission.

Frank was a member of St. Mary Parish and the parish St. Vincent De Paul Society. His extensive knowledge of the neighborhood was so helpful to the board. With his ever-present smile he was a phone call away to move air conditioners and furniture or any other special task. His ability to use his connections in the community to anticipate needs at the center proved immensely helpful. When the center moved to its current location in December 2010, Frank was there with helpers and his truck.

Frank shares, “Membership on the Lantern board was a great learning experience. I am very happy and proud to see how the center helped people learn English and participate in the civic life of the community.” Frank and his wife Bev will remain life-long friends and supporters of the center.

Sister Carla Popes always focuses on hospitality, the charism of the Presentation sisters. As she visited with family, friends and benefactors, she linked the story of Nano Nagle, Presentation foundress, with the mission of the center. As board president for six years she gave leadership to the vision that has made Presentation Lantern Center a place of welcome with services that offer positive experiences for visitors and volunteers. The benefits that the center experienced because of her enthusiastic support cannot be overstated. She has a great interest in the stories of the people who come for services and a deep appreciation of the struggles that they face each day.

“My involvement with the Lantern Center changed my world,” reflects Sister Carla. “It is my hope that the vision of Jesus and the legacy of Nano Nagle will continue to direct all future board decisions.”

Left to right: Celebrating the award recognitions are Sister Corine Murray, executive director; Sister Carla Popes; Frank Reinert; and Mary Jean Gregory, board member.



Our Mission is the World

Reflection by MAURA McCARTHY, PBVM

Sister Maura McCarthy reflects on her experiences of serving as a short term representative at the Presentation UN Office at the United Nations in New York. Her previous ministry in Bolivia serves as a good foundation for her current focus on indigenous peoples of the world from her UN perspective.

Once again I opened the headquarter doors of the International Presentation Association (IPA)/Non-governmental Organization (NGO) on the 12th floor of the New York office building on 43rd Street and felt enveloped by the whole world. I was delighted to come upon, yet again, Presentation Sister Fatima Rodrigo from India, our very proficient and dynamic coordinator; Sister Mary Ivers, the warm and witty APLA (Association of Presentations in Latin America) Irish friend from Ecuador; Sister Elsa Muttathu, a gracious and competent Indian member of the team; my very own amazing Dubuque Presentation Sister Joetta Venneman, visiting the UN for the Charity Sisters of Kentucky; Sister Marcella Cruz of Chile, the sparkling Presentation anthropologist visiting the UN from Quito, Ecuador; and Sister Mary McFadden, the smiling, freshly arrived Presentation from Australia, a great friend and associate of Raphael Consedine of such timeless memory. In addition, sharing adjoining office space is Canadian Notre Dame, Sister Mary Corbett, and the new coordinator of UNANIMA, Sister Michelle Morek with her short term team member from Colombia, Sister Carmenza Zoque.

Not all are part of the usual morning crowd. Sisters Joetta and Marcella were present for the two-week “Commission for Social Development” conference from February 1-10. The week began with the Civil Society Forum for which a task force tirelessly prepared for at least three months. Sisters Fatima, Mary Ivers and I were members of the task force and attended the meetings faithfully. Presentations played a major role especially in naming the theme for the day, by making contact with the major speakers and promoting the “Million Signature Campaign” for the Social Protection Floor. This on-going campaign calls for all countries to prioritize social protection: sustainable livelihood and decent work, right to education and health care, right to a safe and secure environment, right to safe water and sanitation and to economic, political and social participation. During the course of the two weeks a vast number of member states expressed their support for universal social protection, which some countries have already begun to implement and which is considered affordable by even poorer nations willing to invest a percentage of their countries’ resources.



Left to right: Sisters Mary Ivers, Mary McFadden, Fatima Rodrigo, Elsa Muttathu, Marcella Cruz and Maura McCarthy.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon authored a special document on poverty eradication in which, among other measures of prime importance, he strongly supported the Social Protection Floor. He recommended, “In strengthening social protection systems and reducing intergenerational transmission of poverty, governments should actively pursue family-focused social transfer programs, paying particular attention to women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities and indigenous groups.”

This year is policy year on the priority theme “Poverty Eradication” for the two-week session of the Commission for Social Development at the United Nations. Next year will be devoted to review. The work of the NGO representatives, especially this year, is advocacy among the member countries for policies which represent the needs “of those made poor.” We are hopeful for a successful outcome of the meetings.

As an IPA/NGO team, we have been especially present and attentive to the committees on social development, the Status of Women, the Working Group on Girls, the subcommittee on poverty eradication, sustainable development, climate change, financing for development, indigenous peoples and migration. Most of these issues are interrelated and will all likely be a part of the policy negotiations of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, popularly known as RIO+20 in June of this year.

The work of these committees is also directly related to the IPA and Dubuque Presentation mission statement: “Conscious of our identity as Presentation women, we listen deeply to the cry of Earth heard most loudly in the cry of those made poor, and we are moved to attend with urgency to the woundedness of our global community.” I feel very proud to represent Nano’s band of international women as we work on issues so close to her heart.



Top photo: Sister Barbara Rastatter rejoices with the recipients of the socks. Bottom photo: left to right: Bernie McCormick of St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women and Sister Michaeline Healy thank Greg Hoscheit of Lifestyle Medical Group for his generous donation.

The Sock Project No Time for Bare Feet

by KARLA BERNS, ASSOCIATE CO-DIRECTOR

Considering this need of providing socks for the poor and homeless, Sisters Annette Skyles and Lynn Mary Wagner orchestrated what became known as “The Sock Project.” Its primary purpose was to collect socks and/or money to purchase socks for St. James Food Pantry in Chicago where Sister Barbara Rastatter ministers. The “Project” message was sent to sisters and associates inviting their involvement and suggesting expansion beyond their groups into parishes, schools and work sites.

The project took off with participation across Iowa, into Minnesota and Illinois. A number of Catholic parishes, the Dubuque Archdiocesan Center staff, Sisters of the Presentation employees, grade school students, former students of the Presentation sisters, church groups and others joined in with the many associate/sister groups. Some collection projects are still in progress. To this date, the total number of socks collected is 1,829 pairs along with \$470 in cash for sock purchases. It appears the mantra “It is better to give than to receive” is being used in the daily lives of the following groups as they collect socks:

Have you ever had cold feet? Not the kind you get when you don't want to do something but rather the kind you get when you don't have socks to keep your feet warm. Most people take socks for granted and do not know what it is like not to own some – especially during the winter months. Socks are one of the most needed items among the poor and homeless. Socks are a necessity of life. Imagine having to shove your cold, stiff feet into socks you've worn for two weeks, or never changing your socks because you simply don't have another pair or worse – no socks at all.

The “Branches of the Word” associate group is normally a Scripture-sharing group that put Scripture into action by becoming involved in this project. Associates Phil and Mary Lockhart had a display in their place of business and generous donations came in. Phil and Mary states, “This reminds us of what Our Lord said, ‘Whatever you do for the least of my brethren, you do for Me.’”

When Associate Marilyn Jacobs first heard about the collection, she thanked God for her own warm house, warm coat and warm boots. Like the Lockhart's, Marilyn felt this type of project is what Scripture is telling us to do – to turn Jesus' words into action. Sister Dolores Moes meets regularly with some of her high school classmates who all know Sister Barbara. She told them of the project and they too were most generous in their donations.

The Dubuque area Presentation sisters, associates and employees participated in a “Sweet Treats” event at Mount Loretto in December. If you brought in socks or donated cash, you could enjoy a dessert and take home a variety box of donated homemade cookies and candies. In one Saturday afternoon, 264 pairs of socks and \$232 in cash were collected.

St. Benedict School in Decorah, Iowa, with the guidance of Associate Becky Searcy, collected socks, along with blankets, for the poor at St. James Food Pantry in Chicago.

St. Mary Catholic Church and the Council of Catholic Women in Caledonia, Brownsville, Mable and Canton, all in Minnesota, have partnered with Lifestyle Medical Group, LLC, in providing the needy with socks in the tri-state area of Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin as well as the inner city of Chicago. When Sister Michaeline Healy contacted the local Lifestyle Company for a possible donation of any “irregulars” of their medical compression socks, she was nearly floored with the response.

Greg Hoscheit, CEO of the company, states, “We decided to get behind the ‘Socks for the Needy’ project as best we could by taking a ‘presenting sponsor’ position. By donating 500 pairs (\$5,000 value) of our best selling Smooth Toe Energizing Socks we felt we could encourage other local companies to follow suit.”

The company will provide socks at a greatly reduced price with any of the monies donated. According to Sister Michaeline, 50 percent of the socks and money raised will remain to assist local needs. The local recipients are the “Care and Share” program for Houston County in Minnesota; St. Clara Mission in LaCrosse, Wisconsin; and individual families in the area. The balance will be sent to the Chicago parish.

Because the number of homeless persons who come to St. James Food Pantry has grown significantly during the past year, Sister Barbara is most appreciative of the sock donations. As she states, “Socks seem like such an insignificant gift until you're the one without any. They mean so much to people who are cold, people who have no money to buy new socks and people who trudge around nearly all day in ill-fitting shoes.” As socks were given out to clients, Sister Barbara noted the huge smiles on their faces.



Left to right: Top photo: The “Branches of the Word” associate group with some of their “Sock Project” collections and posters. Back row: Mary Lockhart, Sister Agnes Marie and Phil Lockhart; Front row: Marilyn Jacobs, Jim and Judy Kluesner and Sister Dolores Moes. Bottom photo: Sisters Barbara Rastatter, Sheila Ann Dougherty and Benjamin Duschner marvel at the amount of socks donated.

“Their hopelessness was transformed into hope because of the knowledge that someone cares. I witnessed how the simplest of gifts offered the greatest love, the greatest dignity,” she adds.

Some of the comments from the sock recipients at St. James were:

“When I have clean socks, I feel good all over.”

“The socks give me a warm feeling just like Catholic Charities does! When I wear them, I always try to remember that there are people who care about me and that thought keeps me going.”

“I really appreciate getting the socks. Thanks to St. James Parish for being so kind and to the people who donated the socks.”

“The socks are soft and warm and make me feel loved.”

This is “being church” in its most authentic role. For it is in giving that we receive. And, surely, we have received so much more than we have given. Mother Teresa once said, “Do small things with great love.” In “The Sock Project,” “small things” brought “great love” to the poor and homeless in a variety of communities.

Interested in Being an Associate?

We invite you to become a partner in the Presentation mission.

For more information, please visit:

WWW.DUBUQUEPRESENTATIONS.ORG

Under Membership

Office of Associate Partnership
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa, 52001
563-588-2008

associates@dubuquepresentations.org

ASSOCIATE PARTNERSHIP

In Memory of Carol Rausch

February 17, 1942 - January 9, 2012



Carol Rausch's theory of life can be summed up in her frequent admonition to "be true to yourself." And, indeed, she was. Carol was a person who rarely accepted anything as beyond her control and desired to become all that she had been created to be. She lived her life with her husband raising five children and reveling in her 11 grandchildren. One of her proudest accomplishments later in life was being certified in spiritual direction from the Center for Spiritual Guidance in Minneapolis at age 58.

Carol valued community and working together with committed people knowing that a greater impact could be made than with one working alone. She became a Presentation associate on November 2, 2003. In her writings she stated, "I am grateful for the sharing, support and association with the Sisters of the Presentation and my many friends who are "church" to me. I am committed to the goals and ideals of the Presentation sisters – care of the poor, healing of the broken, the empowerment of women and the love of God." We remember Carol with love and gratitude.

Annual Benefit Garage/Gym Sale

Spring is here and the Presentation Garage/Gym Sale is right around the corner. For the past seven years, many of you have helped support the Sisters of the Presentation ministries. The 2011 sale raised \$16,000. Can we count on you again this year?

WHEN:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
April 26, 27, 28, 2012

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
May 3, 4, 5, 2012

(Thursdays, Fridays 8 a.m.-dusk; Saturdays 8 a.m.-1 p.m.)

WHERE:

Garage and gym behind the Sisters of the Presentation Motherhouse
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa

WHAT:

Please bring gently-used items: clean adult, children and baby clothing; household items; books; CDs; furniture; games, toys, etc. Plants such as hostas, ferns, schefflera, crotons, etc. sell very well too. (Please no shoes, computers/accessories, TVs, baby cribs or car seats, Nordic tracks or treadmills). Homemade baked goods will also be sold.

WHY:

The proceeds from the 2012 sale will assist the following ministries/charities:

- Student Endowment Fund to Newman Catholic Schools in Mason City, Iowa
- Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa

The gym behind the Sisters of the Presentation will be open for drop-offs of usable items from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily EXCEPT Sundays beginning Monday, April 2, 2012 until Monday, April 23, 2012. No items will be accepted after Monday, April 23. Larger items such as furniture, desks, large lamps, etc. should be dropped off at the white garages across from the gym.

Wrapped baked goods can be brought to the gym on April 26-27 and/or May 3-4.

For more information, contact:

Office of Associate Partnership
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa, 52001
563-588-2008

associates@dubuquepresentations.org

WHERE in the WORLD is...

SISTER CONCEPTA JOSEPH MILINSKI Her Eyes Tell the Story

by JENNIFER RAUSCH, PBVM

To meet Sister Concepta Joseph Milinski is to be enveloped by her sparkling brown eyes. As she speaks, you hear evidence of her Polish heritage as lived in her Manhattan, New York, home with her parents, Michael and Pauline Urbaniuk Milinski, and siblings, Stella, Lottie and Bernard. Sister Concepta's eyes glow as she recalls dancing the polka and enjoying traditional foods such as pierogi and chrusciki.

Her eyes are touched with sadness as Sister Concepta relates the death of both her parents when she was nine years old. The children first lived with adoptive families and then at Mount St. Michael's Home on Staten Island, New York, sponsored by Presentation sisters. There she met Sister Regis Newton who

would be a great influence in her life.

At 16, Sister Concepta left Mount St. Michael's and worked for a Jewish family and later at the Bulova Watch Company.

As a young woman, she and her close friends were very involved with the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A return visit to Mount St. Michael's resulted

in someone teasingly saying to Sister Regis that "Sophie, (Sister Concepta) is going to be a sister." Sophie protested. Sister Regis simply

commented, "It may not be tomorrow or the next day, but when it happens, I'll send for you."

As history played out, four Presentation sisters, including Sister Regis, from Mount St. Michael's, moved to Oregon, Illinois, and established St. Mary's Convent. Mother Regis invited Sophie to join the group. She entered on July 6, 1946, and was finally professed in 1952. The Oregon group became part of the Dubuque Presentation community in 1962.

Over the years, Sister Concepta taught kindergarten and grades 4, 5, and 6, before retiring from teaching in 1990. She was a foster grandparent at Nativity School and Hills and Dales Child Development Center in Dubuque until she retired in 2004. Sister now enjoys more time for reading, keeping in touch with her friends and family through letters and phone calls and especially prayer. Every night Sister leaves the dinner table at precisely 6:00 p.m. for her "chapel date." Occasionally Sister takes part in a game of Scrabble or Rummikub or a good movie.

Loving, sincere, with a delightful sense of humor, Sister Concepta is perceived by her community as "always interested and expressing support of what others are doing and experiencing in their lives."

Sister Concepta's eyes reflect her deep faith: "My life would be less meaningful if I did not have the blessing and gift of Holy Eucharist to nourish and sustain me daily in joy, prayer and service." Sister Concepta states, "I wake each day to new horizons in the hope that I come closer to a happy and blessed finale."

And her eyes say, "Thank you, Lord."



Where in the World is Sister...?

Are you wondering where a certain Presentation sister is and would like to see her featured?

Email

DOORWAYS@

DUBUQUEPRESENTATIONS.ORG

Remembering Clare

by HERMANN PLATT, PBVM

St. Matthew Parish in Clare, Iowa, was created to serve the Irish immigrants who lived along the banks of Lizard Creek. The population was mostly rural in the beginning with later parishioners working in Fort Dodge, Iowa, at various establishments. The parish was named after its first pastor, Father Matthew Norton.

Sister Mary Benedict Murphy's annals describe the establishment of the school in 1892:

"Having served the Presentation sisters as chaplain while assistant priest at St. Raphael Cathedral, (pastor) Father (Matthew) Darcy learned to esteem them for their efficient and successful school management. Therefore, when in need of teachers for his prospective school, his favorite community, the Presentation sisters, were invited to assume control."

Sisters Mary Alacoque and Scholastica Murray were the first sisters to arrive in Clare. They lived and taught in the former rectory until a building was constructed which contained the school, convent and chapel. This served the needs of all grades until 1961 when the high school closed. A new L-shaped building, erected in 1966, divided school and convent into two adjoining wings, providing a separate space for each. By 1989 an enrollment of 54 students in grades K-8 caused the closing of the school.

The closing of the high school in 1961 necessitated the transfer of the upper grades to St. Edmond Catholic High School in nearby Fort Dodge. Long-time pastor, Father John W. Cullen, worked to keep the older students connected with the parish by establishing a high school chorus which performed at community events and enhanced the parish liturgies. He also met the Fort Dodge bus every morning and regularly inspected students' report cards to "encourage" them in their schoolwork.

Former teachers Sisters Rosanne and Anthony Rottinghaus recalled that liturgical celebrations were at the heart of the parish. Young people were expected to be in attendance with their parents for such things as Holy Week services and Rogation Days.

All was not serious business, however. Two of the sisters were known to go trick-or-treating in costume. One year they were scolded by a mother who said, "You're too old for this. Go home and behave." Imagine her chagrin when her children told her who the trick-or-treaters were!

On another occasion, one young man caused quite a stir while practicing his solo for an upcoming program by suddenly announcing, "Sister, the curtain's on fire!" The heat of the lights had ignited the curtain, which ended the practice for the evening.

In addition to teaching, the sisters were involved in religious education classes, student retreats, prayer services at nearby rest homes and participation in local area prayer groups.

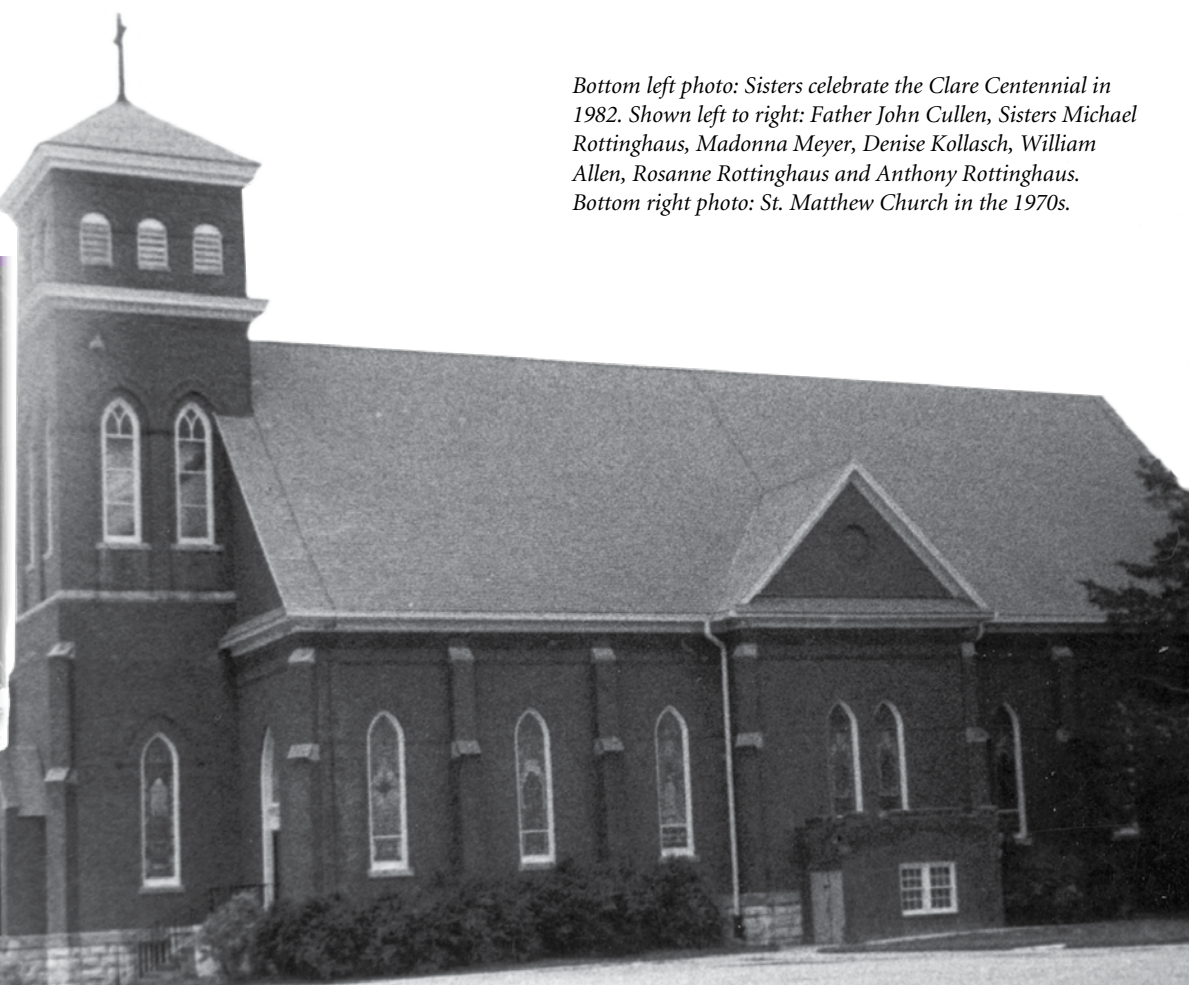
Four Presentation sisters can currently boast of their Clare origins: Sisters Mary Matthew Cunningham, Pamela Quade, William Allen and Dennis Lentsch.

Sister Matthew Cunningham, who grew up in Clare, has fond memories of her piano teachers, especially Sisters Mary Leonarda Leonard, Anita Boland and Cecelia Loes. "I started piano lessons when I was six years old. Thanks to these women I had a thorough background in music, as a piano student and as a participant in choral work, by the time I graduated from high school."

Growing up in a small town meant everyone knew everyone and they all took care of each other. Sister Matthew remembers that people used to say "Clare was so small you could only see it if a car wasn't parked in front of it. It was also a very Catholic community and you saw everyone at church on Sunday mornings." Another favorite gathering place in Sister's memory was Chalus, a combination drug store, soda fountain and sandwich shop, which was much missed when it closed.

The last Presentation sisters to serve at St. Matthew's were Sister Mary Jane Conrad and Sister Alice Marie Crilly, who taught primary grades and music respectively. They left Clare in the spring of 1989.

Bottom left photo: Sisters celebrate the Clare Centennial in 1982. Shown left to right: Father John Cullen, Sisters Michael Rottinghaus, Madonna Meyer, Denise Kollasch, William Allen, Rosanne Rottinghaus and Anthony Rottinghaus. Bottom right photo: St. Matthew Church in the 1970s.



Every issue will tell you a little bit about the life of Nano Nagle, the woman behind the lantern, and the women who follow in her footsteps.

The Lady of the Lantern

NANO
Lives



by JOAN LICKTEIG, PBVM

Mother Mary Perpetua Ryan, Superior 1931-1943

Mother Perpetua Ryan, the 10th congregational leader, came from St. Columbkille Parish in Dubuque, Iowa. She seemed to be a "natural" and was assigned early leadership roles, while she was still very young in the community, beginning as local superior in Lawler, Iowa, her first mission.

After her mission experience in Lawler, Mother Perpetua was appointed novice mistress. Only three years later she was elected to lead the community as Mother General. After her first term Mother Perpetua was elected a second time, both six-year terms. Next she was elected for six years to the Office of Vicarress. Following congregational leadership, she was sent to St. Columbkille, her home parish, where she served as superior of the local community and principal of the grade school. Following her six-year term there, she was named principal of St. Patrick School in Monona, Iowa, for another six years. From 1961-1967 she began still another six-year term on the general council. And when she came to Mount Loretto in 1968, she became director of the retired sisters until 1971. Her leadership marathon lasted for 45 consecutive years.

During Mother Perpetua's first term as congregational leader, in 1932, all Irish-born Dubuque Presentation sisters were invited to return to Ireland for the 31st International Eucharistic Congress held in Dublin; for many it was their first and only return to their native land. What a gift in the midst of their family and personal sacrifices.

Mother Perpetua may not have had as much formal education as other community members, but few have rivaled her vision or her concern for the sisters. She invited the voice and participation of the sisters (first Chapter of Affairs) years before it became common practice. In her appointments she looked to the common good, and perceived future needs for education and updating schools, caring for the sick and the exigencies of foreign missions. She arranged for building improvements for the comfort and convenience of the sisters. She appointed the first school and music supervisors and sent the first sister to study nursing. She gave a number of classroom teachers a year or more free to complete studies toward a degree, a previously uncommon practice.

Though she never called attention to herself, Mother Perpetua was a woman of exceptional vision, whose other claim to fame is that she is often considered the most beloved leader in the history of the community. She served generously, when convenient and inconvenient. While 45 years of leadership takes its toll, she neither had nor did she ever expect a sabbatical or a professional leave. With St. Paul (2 Tim. 4:7) she could say, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." One extraordinary woman!

An Awesome Experience

by DOLORES ZIESER, PBVM

When asked about her week in Haiti, Becky Derr replied, “It was an awesome experience!” Becky, a senior at Loras College in Dubuque and a Presentation associate, spent the week of January 22-28 on a mission trip with a group of five students and two faculty members of the campus ministry department at Loras. In a small community about 25 miles from Port-au-Prince, the group worked at the Louverture Cleary School (LCS). This Catholic boarding school founded in 1980 by a parish in Providence, Rhode Island, is sponsored and supported by “The Haitian Project.” The school houses up to 350 students, ages 12-18, who cannot otherwise afford an education. These students must pass an entrance exam to be accepted. In Haiti nearly 80 percent of the population still lacks basic reading and writing skills. The goal of LCS is to educate leaders who will then go out to better their communities. For over 12 years Patrick and Christina Moynihan and their family have been living in Haiti near the school where Patrick serves as president of “The Haitian Project” and head of the school.

Asked why she chose to be part of this Loras mission trip, Becky explains, “I have wanted for a long time to go to Haiti; my parish, St. Francis Xavier in Dyersville, Iowa, sends a group each year to various sites in Haiti. This sparked my interest. I’ve done other service trips in the past from Loras, but only in this country. I wanted to learn more about Haiti. Also, because I have an elementary education major, this trip to a school seemed to fit into my future plans.” Becky was the student coordinator for the group which met several times in preparation for the trip through prayer, voicing concerns and discussing the logistics of the trip.

The students lived with the Moynihan family while the faculty members stayed on campus at the school. They had a rigorous daily schedule of early rising, morning prayer, assigned duties in the LCS or another program that the school offers, manual work around school or in the community in the evenings, ending with evening prayer and reflection before retiring for the night. Some of the manual work included moving loose stones from around the buildings, evidence from the earthquake, and picking up trash. They also spent evening time playing with the children. “It was hard work, but it was purposeful; we knew why we were doing it. It helped me feel more connected with the school community and culture there,” states Becky.

“As Patrick Moynihan, the school leader, says, ‘I’m not doing this because it’s fun; it needs to be done,’” states Becky. “The LCS students have big dreams about being doctors and teachers and want to stay in Haiti and help their people.”

Becky hopes to return to Haiti sometime; she feels committed to service opportunities there. In addition to elementary education, she plans to take up special education after graduation.

For more information about “The Haitian Project” and Louverture Cleary School, go to www.haitianproject.org.



Top photo: Becky Derr works with Haitian students who take part in a free program offered for younger kids in the neighborhood.

Bottom photo: left to right: Loras College Haiti service trip participants: Back row: Dr. John Eby, Jon Denham, Jacob Urbelis; Front row: Hannah Way, Becky Derr, Mary Agnoli and Jess Withey.

Mount Loretto AND BEYOND

Featured below are special times in the lives of Dubuque Presentation sisters, near and far.



People in Need Award

Left to right: On behalf of the Sisters of the Presentation, Sisters Sheila Kane, Lynn Mary Wagner and Dolores Zieser accept the People in Need (PIN) Award, sponsored by the Dubuque Area Congregations United (DACU), for their service and support to those in need within the Dubuque community.

Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Awards

As part of the Dubuque Archdiocesan 175th Celebration of Consecrated Life on February 5, 2012, Sisters Carla Popes and Francine Quillin were presented with the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Award for their dedicated service within the archdiocese.



Helping One Bag at a Time

Sister Rita Cameron hugs a Wahlert Catholic High School student upon accepting 50 ditty bags made and assembled by Wahlert freshman class council members and the Wahlert community. Presentation Associate, Barb Ressler advises the students. The bags will be distributed on a New Orleans service trip with students from three different colleges. They will share the bags of personal care items with those made poor.

Relationally SPEAKING

Sisters, Associates, Family, Friends in Brief



Sparked by the inspiration and invitation of **Sister Deborah Paige**, and the assistance of Sister Sheila Ann Dougherty, Presentation sisters and associates collected supplies and contributions to complete 50 personal care bags for the men at St. John's Lutheran Shelter in Dubuque, Iowa. The gratitude of the recipients confirmed the project as a first-rate ecumenical venture.

You are invited to join us.

March 30-31, 2012
Dubuque's Got Sisters
Discernment Weekend
Sisters of the Presentation
Dubuque, Iowa

April 26-28 & May 3-5, 2012
Garage/Gym Sale
Sisters of the Presentation
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa

May 5, 2012
QUEST Service Opportunity
Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up
Dubuque, Iowa

May 21-26, 2012
QUEST Immersion Opportunity
Urban Plunge/8th Day Center for Peace
Chicago, Illinois

June 2-9, 2012
QUEST Service Opportunity
New Orleans, Louisiana

For updated information about the activities and events of the Sisters of the Presentation of Dubuque, please visit our web site at www.dubuquepresentations.org or call 563.588.2008.

Please pray with us.

April 21-22, 2012
Presentation Associate & Sister Retreat
Dubuque, Iowa

April 29, 2012
World Day of Prayer for Vocations

21st of each month
Pray for Vocations

25th of each month
Mass for Benefactors

*Do you have news
to share?*

We would love to publish it.
Please send your news items to:
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dubuquepresentations.org

Please help us keep our database up-to-date.
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us, call us at 563.588.2008 or email us at
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Website Redesigned for More Interaction

We invite you to explore our completely redesigned website and all the new features it offers. Some features include:

- **INTERACTIVE TIMELINE**
- **SISTER PROFILES AND DIRECTORY**
- **ON-LINE GIVING**
You can now make a donation on-line. Whether you support the sisters through a general donation or you "Light a Lantern" by dragging Nano's lantern to a ministry of your choice, you are making a difference in the lives of many.
- **PHOTO GALLERY**
- **VIDEO CLIPS**
- **SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER NEWS & EVENTS**
- **GUESTBOOK**
- **SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTIONS**
- And many more wonderful ways to connect you directly to the Sisters of the Presentation. Explore today!

