



PRESENTATION DOORWAYS

offering hospitality to the world



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Your THOUGHTS & COMMENTS

We want your input. Please send or email
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Cover PHOTO

Sister St. James Lickteig enjoys teaching
elementary students at Irving School in
Dubuque, Iowa.

*The doorways represented on the cover are
snapshots of significant moments 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

A Look Inside CONTENTS

Sisters of the Presentation | Spring 2010 | Volume 53 • Number 1

4

Called One Pace Beyond

Sister St. James Lickteig works with AmeriCorps: Partners in Learning Program, helping elementary students at Hoover and Irving public schools in Dubuque.



6

Presentation Gathering in Latin America

The ninth gathering of the Association of Presentation Sisters in Latin America (APLA) took place in February in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

8

Associate Partnership: Cities of Faith

Connections are made, friendships are strengthened as the Mason City and Forest City associate members journey together and become closer to God.



10

Conference on Climate Change

Sister Joy Peterson shares her experience from her travels to Copenhagen, Denmark, to attend the 15th United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP 15).

12

Retreats Offer Renewal

Retreats offer individuals the opportunity to temporarily leave behind the usual distractions we face for a long enough time to allow relaxation and for an inner change to occur: the ongoing conversion of heart that is critical to deepening faith.



14

Greening the Kitchen

The Mount Loretto kitchen is getting greener and greener. Modeling the commitment of the sisters, the food service staff invite all to be part of the global effort for Earth sustainability.

16

Where in the World is...

Taking pride in her Irish heritage, Sister Ellen Murphy enjoys the many pleasures of retirement while surrounding herself with community.



19

Mount Loretto and Beyond

We share with you special times in the lives of Dubuque Presentation sisters, near and far.

Openings A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

by LEANNE WELCH, PBVM

Come on in. We have plenty of room.

“Aw, heck! Come on in. We have plenty of room.” This line from a story told by Father Doug Wathier on Christmas Day is from a primary student playing the role of the innkeeper in the Christmas pageant. Nerves got the best of him and he forgot his line. After some awkward moments, he finally spoke from his heart, “Aw, heck! Come on in. We have plenty of room.”

How often have we spoken those same words, literally or figuratively, as we go about our daily business? Hopefully, quite often as we share Nano Nagle’s passion for serving those less fortunate. Nano always had plenty of room for one more student who needed teaching, one more elderly person who welcomed a visit, one more young woman who needed support, one more family who needed food.

When do we have plenty of room? When do I have plenty of room? Examples abound.

Our retired sisters who serve meals at the Rescue Mission, work with visitors at the Lantern Center, tutor struggling students at Mount Loretto, help set up the annual garage sale, offer once again to take a drive for someone who needs help, volunteer to do service as part of Presentation Quest or take care of young children at the early childhood center always have plenty of room for others. Our mission sisters who teach a religious education class after a full day of ministry, cook and serve a meal for the hungry on a monthly basis, visit the elderly in nursing homes on their ‘day off,’ regularly run errands for an elderly neighbor or baby-sit for the mother of a handicapped child to give her a break always have plenty of room for others. Our associates who help the senior sisters with their Christmas cards, organize the garage sale, give of their time to have ‘spa’ hour in our skilled care unit, write reflections for our Lenten booklet, collect food for their local food pantry or form teams to work on weatherization projects for the poor always have plenty of room for others.

The Mount Loretto sisters had plenty of room when, following the example of Nano Nagle, they invited the men from two homeless shelters in the city to pray and dine with them at Mount Loretto on Christmas Eve. An evening of prayer, good food, great conversation and practical gifts made the evening a good time for all. On the ride home, the thing the men commented on most was their conversations with the sisters at the dinner table. This appreciation serves to remind us that each of us has wisdom to share with others. On Christmas Eve there was plenty of room in the hearts of the sisters and the men.

As we end this Lenten season and celebrate the new life of Easter perhaps we can find practical ways in our life to say from the heart, “Aw, heck! Come on in. We have plenty of room.”



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 St. James Lickteig works with fourth-graders at Irving Elementary School in Dubuque.

Called One Pace Beyond

by JOAN LICKTEIG, PBVM

The heart of the mission for Presentation sisters is rooted in the life and ministry of our foundress, Nano Nagle. Sister Mary Raphael Consedine, Australian Presentation sister, captures this in her book, *One Pace Beyond*. The opening poem ends, "Go out! For need calls loudly in the winding lanes and you must seek Christ there. Your pilgrim heart shall urge you still one pace beyond."

For the past two years Sister Mary St. James Lickteig has worked with AmeriCorps: Partners in Learning Program, serving at Hoover and Irving public schools in Dubuque. Prescribed by the teachers, she works with small groups and individual students in grades K-5 to accommodate the needs of as many students as possible. Making a difference to those children most challenged in learning provides a unique opportunity for Sister St. James. The struggles of her own initial learning experiences offer an avenue of understanding for those who take a little longer to learn a particular skill. She knows how they feel. As a former middle grade teacher, Sister St. James finds working with kindergarten and first grade children a challenge.

"The whole AmeriCorps experience has been enriching for me, particularly because of the multi-cultural opportunities," reports Sister. Here, in this new ministry, Sister St. James sees herself following in the footsteps of Nano Nagle, who was willing to go wherever need called to minister to children in any venue. This is the heart of the mission.

Sister St. James was an inspiration to students and staff. The manner in which she lived her faith on a daily basis served as a model for the entire learning community. She went above and beyond in all that she did, and while probably not always recognized, her contributions were always appreciated.

Mary Smock, Seton Catholic principal

Growing Up in Wesley

Sister St. James, formerly Janice, is the daughter of the late Urban and Agnes Mahoney Lickteig, born third in a family of seven children. Growing up in Wesley, Iowa, she was steeped in her family's strong faith. She attended St. Joseph Elementary School. In high school she boarded the bus to attend Corwith-Wesley public school until her senior year when Garrigan Catholic High School in Algona, Iowa, opened in 1959; Janice graduated with the first Garrigan class in 1960. Franciscan sisters, Presentation sisters, diocesan priests and lay teachers made up the faculty at Garrigan.

During her senior year the Franciscan sisters arranged a vocation trip to Dubuque for several young women from Wesley; here they visited three motherhouses, including the Sisters of the Presentation. The warm and jovial welcome of the sisters at Mount Loretto, having relatives in the community and the multitude of religious vocations in the Lickteig relationship, propelled Janice forward in her consideration of life as a Presentation sister. Her ministry has taken her in many directions, having taught in three states: Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota. Iowa schools included St. Cecelia School in Algona, three Dubuque Presentation schools, and most recently Seton Catholic Schools, where Sister St. James served as technology coordinator and computer teacher at the St. John Center in Peosta. These multiple directions and assignments, oftentimes challenging, did, nonetheless, echo the spirit, mind and heart of Nano Nagle.

Perceptions

A former principal, Deb Fleckenstein, eagerly shared, "It was a privilege to have Sister St. James on the staff. For a number of years she was the only woman religious faculty member. We looked to her as our role model and appreciated the way she shared her religious perspective." Laughing, she added that Sister St. James had a most exceptional ability to organize, arrange and color-code all manner of things.

Another former principal, Mary Smock, with equal enthusiasm, commented in a similar vein. "Sister St. James was an inspiration to students and staff. The manner in which she lived her faith on a daily basis served as a model for the entire learning community. She went above and beyond in all that she did, and while probably not always recognized, her contributions were always appreciated."

Sister St. James has no regrets about the choice she made in 1960 to enter the Presentation community. She describes herself as a homebody who delights in the peace and quiet of her convent home and in the companions she shares there. Sister can be the life of the party as she entertains with stories of her early childhood or breaks into song at the least provocation: a line of conversation suggesting a musical verse, an aria or two to round out the evening. Gratitude names the prominent emotion regarding her Presentation vocation. Dr. Seuss' popular book, *Oh! The Places You'll Go*, resonates with St. James as she reflects on the hundredfold of her life, with special appreciation for her education.

Interests and Hobbies

Personally, Sister St. James has had a number of interests and hobbies, serving as channels for her many talents: creative woodworking, refinishing furniture, silk-screening, computer graphics and computer productions. She is most at home in front of her computer screen, surrounded by related technology that makes it all work together. Recently she has been focusing on her penchant for history: family and community history alike. A researcher at heart, she loves delving into records and accounts of the past. From the time before she entered the Presentation community until now, Sister St. James has found inspiration in the courage and dedication of Presentation foremothers. Family history has been a hobby for 20 years; she makes ancestral discoveries on a regular basis as she leafs out the family tree.

Opportunities for healing and helping others during this time of economic struggle are available in reaching out to the less fortunate. The way Sister St. James sees it, "People didn't mess with Nano; her courage carried her dream to reality." With prayers for a share in the fire, courage and dedication of Nano, Presentation sisters throughout the world move one pace beyond in their efforts to spread the mission of Nano's love and concern for the poor.

AmeriCorps Program:

Initially funded in September 2000, the AmeriCorps: Partners in Learning Program was moved to the City of Dubuque in 2008, at which time the city became the fiscal agent under a competitive three-year grant. Now known as City of Dubuque Partners in Learning, AmeriCorps focuses on literacy with the primary goal of empowering youth to improve academically during school and out of school hours. Members provide academic support to students K-12 during school, after school and on non-school days. Through summer programming, members create supportive and safe learning environments providing recreational and cultural enrichment. Members serve in 14 Dubuque Community Schools, Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque Community Y, Multicultural Family Center, Hills and Dales, Juvenile Detention Center and two neighborhood family resource and technology centers. (Source: City of Dubuque Partners in Learning Web site)



Presentation Gathering in Latin America Celebration and Wisdom

by SUZANNE TAKES, PBVM

The Association of Presentation Sisters in Latin America (APLA) was formed in Sicuani, Peru, nearly 25 years ago. Since that time Presentation women have met every three to four years to deepen their understanding of their common mission, share stories and animate one another in the spirit of their foundress, Nano Nagle. They continue to be motivated by her words, "If I could be of service in any part of the world, I would gladly do all in my part." The 2010 gathering was the ninth and took place the first week of February in Cochabamba, Bolivia. It was hosted by Dubuque and New Windsor sisters ministering in Bolivia.

Participants gathered from Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and the United States. In addition to sisters presently ministering in Latin America, sisters who formerly ministered there and representatives from Presentation leadership teams of the International Union, Australian Society and North American Conference were present. Sisters Marge Healy, Suzanne Takes, Mery Cary Paz, Rita Menart, Maura McCarthy and Therese Corkery represented the Dubuque Presentation congregation. Gathering the wisdom from as many circles as possible, the group listened, learned, remembered, laughed and, most of all, spoke of blessings and challenges.

The first day the sisters from the represented countries shared the history of their local missions and remembered all those who were part of the unfolding journey. Those gathered delighted in the many similarities of the founding stories and celebrated the gift of mission through prayer, song and dance. "Each person's contribution to the story was pondered and reflected upon with the realization of how enriched we are by our extended Latin American family," states Sister Therese Corkery.

As the group focused on listening to the wisdom of one another, they were grateful for Father Gregorio Iriarte's, O.M.I., analysis of the Latin American reality. He asked why there is so much inequality and exclusion in the world and why instead of diminishing, it is progressively increasing. He also stressed that economic growth is not the same as equal development. Mere economic growth does not lead in itself to solving inequality or alleviating poverty.

Sister Adriana Curaqueo, from Chile, spoke about the future of religious life, challenging all to recognize their interconnectedness with one another and all of life. The personal story of her battle with ants gave testimony to the need to be respectful of one another and all creatures. While she contemplated using poison to do away with the ants who were eating her flowers, a friend of hers suggested that she plant something additional for the ants to eat so that they wouldn't need to feed on her flowers.

The group pondered the wisdom of four women panelists: Marta Orsini, Estela Ramírez, Claudia Montes and Vicenta Mamani who shared their personal theologies and the future of mission. Each in her unique way delighted those gathered and helped them to understand the call to mission. Marta, a teacher, and theologians, Estela and Claudia, gave their perspectives. Vicenta, also a theologian, charmed all with her personal story and the richness of her Aymara culture. She recalled with fondness her childhood memories of growing up in her family near Lake Titicaca in La Paz, Bolivia. She also shared the difficulties she encountered being the first woman named the maximum authority in her village. It took time but she won respect of even the village men through patience and dialog.

It was a privilege to have Sister Antonieta Potente, a Dominican sister from Italy who presently lives and ministers in Cochabamba, share her views on spirituality. The group was enriched by her presence and challenged by her message. She stated that spirituality is of the Spirit, present in all peoples and in every aspect of the cosmos. "It is extremely important that we respect and cultivate respect – reverently waiting and making a sacred space for one another. It is a grave offense to eliminate rather than learn to live in union with one another. The challenge is not to try to have everyone be the same but to foster the creativity of every individual," expresses Sister Antonieta Potente.

She encouraged all to work together for harmony in the universe, respecting, reverencing, making sacred space for all as diversity is celebrated.

"The time together was filled with laughter, songs and remembering as well as in-depth sharing as we challenged ourselves and one another to live out our common Presentation charism. The highlight of our sharing was writing our own APLA mission statement, which embraces the spirit of our International Presentation Assembly statement while personalizing our present mission reality and incorporating the wisdom circles of our gathering in Cochabamba," reflects Sister Suzanne Takes.

The time together was filled with laughter, songs and remembering as well as in-depth sharing.

Sister Suzanne Takes



Left to right: Top photo: Sisters ministering in Bolivia planned the 2010 Latin American gathering: (front row) Sisters Rita Menart, Mery Cary Paz and Maura McCarthy (Dubuque); (back row) Sister Suzanne Takes (Dubuque) and Laura Urbano (New Windsor). Middle photo: Sister Rita Menart passes the APLA candle to Sister Ellen Cafferty (San Francisco) who ministers in Guatemala where APLA 2013 will be held. Bottom photo: Participants of APLA 2010.

2010 APLA Statement

English Version

Grateful for the gift of walking with those made poor in Latin America and inspired by the Spirit, we, as Presentation women, are called by means of a profound listening to create together with others, spaces that give life and enlarge the weaving of our human, intercultural and cosmic relationships.

Out of the complexities of our daily lives, we intuitively sense the urgency to unite our energies with those of all peoples, so that our struggles and dreams open roads to reconciliation, dignity, justice, harmony and warmth.

We accompany all efforts to transform the systems and styles of life that cause suffering, inequality, injustice and the destruction of our Mother Earth.

We inhabit historical and geographical spaces with attitudes of simplicity, faith, silence, contemplation, respect and delight that lead to inclusion and interdependence in the process of searching for the creative wisdom present in the universe.

Spanish Version

Agradecidas por el don de caminar con las/los empobrecidas/os de América Latina e inspiradas por el Espíritu, nosotras, mujeres de la Presentación, estamos llamadas mediante la escucha profunda a crear conjuntamente, espacios que dan vida y que ensanchan el tejido de nuestras relaciones humanas, interculturales y cósmicas.

A partir de la complejidad de la vida cotidiana, intuimos que es preciso unir nuestras energías con las de los pueblos para que nuestras luchas y sueños abran caminos de reconciliación, dignidad, justicia, armonía y calidez.

Acompañamos todos los esfuerzos por transformar los sistemas y estilos de vida que causan sufrimiento, desigualdad, injusticia y destrucción de la madre tierra.

Habitamos los espacios históricos y geográficos con actitudes de sencillez, fe, silencio, contemplación, respeto y complacencia que conducen a la inclusión e interdependencia en el proceso de buscar la sabiduría creativa presente en el universo.



A symbol was added daily to one of the circles in the gathering space.

Building and Strengthening Cities of Faith

by KARLA BERNIS, ASSOCIATE CO-DIRECTOR

Once upon a time in Mason City, Iowa, in the late 1990s, Sisters Annette Kestel and Joan Brincks began the Presentation Associate Orientation Process with Harry and Mary Irene Stanton and Rita Cameron (now Sister Rita). Harry and Mary Irene first became involved with the Sisters of the Presentation in 1996 when they responded to a service opportunity to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Both expressed, "We are happy to be a part of this beautiful group and enjoy our sharing in the Presentation missions and ministries. The hospitality and spirit of the group is outstanding. We appreciate being associates."

During this same time, Sister Dolores Moes was working through the orientation process with Stephanie Jacobson in Forest City, Iowa. All four of the candidates made their initial commitment as Presentation associates on June 14, 2001, in Mason City.

"When I met Sister Dolores, I was exposed to the work and charism of the Presentation community. I wanted to be a part of this charism but did not have a vocation to be a sister," states Stephanie. "I accomplished this goal by becoming an associate. Although my health has limited my participation in associate activities, I feel that through prayer, meetings and e-mail, I am an active part of the Presentation charism."

In 2002, Julie Blomme and Sherry Booth, both from Forest City, joined the group. Julie states, "I joined the group because of their commitment to prayer, hospitality and service to others. As a teacher, I have ministered to children of all ages, with all sorts of challenges. I value the fact that my associate group does service projects for others throughout the year, whether we are creating gift baskets for children in Mississippi or collecting books and sending them to deserving organizations." Julie continues, "I especially enjoy having a group of people with whom I can share parts of my life and know that they love and support me through prayer and friendship." The Mason City and Forest City groups became one and chose the name "Cities of Faith."

Kathy Meinecke, Julie Duncan, Deb Blaul, Lucy Durnan and Jane Nagy, all from the Forest City area, studied and completed the orientation process next, joining the group in 2006. Sessions were led by Sister Dolores coming from Dubuque and Sister Joan from Mason City.

Jane Nagy feels blessed to belong to the Cities of Faith group. "Though we might be a small group, we have been active. I remember the Mother's Day baskets we prepared for the Crisis Intervention Center in Mason City, the meal we prepared and served at the Community Kitchen of North Iowa and the fellowship of our combined meetings with other groups. I have enjoyed the trips to the Presentation motherhouse and Sinsinawa for retreats. I can really feel the spirit of God among us."

Jane also shared that she values the discussion the group had on the Earth Charter and the efforts to be more environmentally friendly. "The five year plan to reduce our carbon footprint is challenging but worthwhile."

The Cities of Faith group has read and discussed books on hospitality, joy, forgiveness in the time of tragedy and the eternal presence of God's love. Many of these facets were part of their last book discussion of *The Shack*.

Left to right: front row: Sister Joan Brincks, Julie Blomme, Jane Nagy, Jeffery Duncan, Mary Stanton, Harry Stanton; back row: Stephanie Jacobson, Kathy Meinecke, Julie Duncan and Lydia McDonald. Not pictured: Lucy Durnan, Deb Blaul, Sherry Booth and Sister Dolores Moes

Year 2009 was spent studying with Jeff Duncan and Lydia McDonald as they participated in orientation. The group commented that each time they review the orientation materials, there is more to learn about the spirit and mission of Presentation Foundress, Nano Nagle, and the Presentation sisters. Both Jeff and Lydia made their commitment as Presentation associates in September 2009. As Lydia requested to become an associate, she reflects, "I've learned the importance of hospitality that the sisters exemplify every day in helping others. I want to be closer to God. Sisters Dolores and Joan are inspirational role models who continue to show us how we should live, like the apostles."

With the commitment of Jeff and Lydia, the Cities of Faith group totals 12. Sherry Booth and Lucy Durnan, two of the original members of the group, have moved from the area. The group makes every effort to keep in touch especially through phone calls.

The group plans to meet once a month, alternating between Mason City and Forest City. They will continue to pray and enjoy mission projects and discussions. They feel very fortunate and blessed to have Sisters Joan and Dolores to help guide them as they serve the Lord following the beautiful example set by Nano Nagle.

Sister Joan states, "I feel humbled to see and experience the faith shared by these associate men and women. I feel challenged to become more aware of those in need and to give of my service to them as I continue to be called 'one pace beyond.'"

Certainly, 'cities of faith' are being built and strengthened in the Mason City and Forest City areas as the Cities of Faith group journeys closer to God and shares their gifts with others.

ASSOCIATE PARTNERSHIP

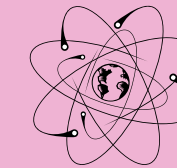
In Memory of Mary Ann Cichowski-Schaefer

August 8, 1935 – February 15, 2010



Presentation Associate Mary Ann Cichowski-Schaefer was always grateful for her "connections" with the Dubuque Presentations since the time her young children attended St. Germaine School in Oak Lawn, Illinois. Mary Ann volunteered as a teacher's aide to Sister Raeleen Sweeney. Over the years, Mary Ann always searched for a deeper spirituality and an understanding of the mission of Nano Nagle. She became a Presentation associate on June 4, 2000.

Six months of illness and hospitalization finally ended for Mary Ann on February 15. Sister Raeleen and Associate Sister Virgie Luchsinger, SFCC, were privileged to join the family the last few hours of Hospice care, quietly singing hymns, praying and supporting one another in silence. It was a gentle, peaceful process to the very last moment. Sister Raeleen was honored to fulfill the request of the family by presenting the eulogy at Mary Ann's funeral. Mary Ann will be missed by her husband, Frank, also a Presentation associate, her family, fellow associates and friends. The common thread remembered and shared by many was her gracious smile, her kindness, her deep faith and her love for learning. We remember Mary Ann with love and gratitude.



PRESENTATION QUEST

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

**April 5-10, 2010
Chicago, Illinois**

An immersion into the systems and structures of the urban environment from the perspective of justice, spirituality and ministry. Participants will hear speakers and visit a variety of social services that impact people's lives. Daily prayer includes scripture and reflection.

**May 15, 2010
Dubuque, Iowa**

Help keep the earth free of litter by volunteering time and energy walking two miles west of Dubuque on Hwy 20. Families are encouraged to participate.

**June 27-July 2, 2010
Kansas City, Missouri**

An effort in caring for Earth and the people around them with Presentation associates in the Kansas City area. There are a variety of services within the community – Operation Breakthrough, outdoor work at Powell Gardens, assisting at Alphapointe Association for the Blind and service at Christ the King Food Pantry. Volunteers are needed for child care, meal preparation and housing logistics.

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

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Copenhagen Conference on Climate Change

by JOY PETERSON, PBVM



Last December, 45,000 citizens of the world gathered in Copenhagen, Denmark, as part of the 15th United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP 15) under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. As promoter of peace and justice for the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa and with support from the congregations of women religious in Eastern Iowa and the International Presentation Association, Sister Joy Peterson traveled to Copenhagen for the COP 15. All around the city “Hopenhagen” signs reminded her that the world was watching for a just and fair outcome to the conference. Sister Joy shares her experience.

The UN Convention on Climate Change was the result of the 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro where countries met to address the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. In 1997, the Kyoto Protocol established legally binding reductions of emissions for the 189 countries that have ratified the document. Since the terms of the protocol expire in 2012, the Copenhagen Conference was considered crucial for creating a fair, ambitious and legally binding agreement to move climate change action forward.

While there seemed to be wide agreement at COP 15 that carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere must be stabilized, from the outset coming to agreement on establishing the level of limits was a stumbling block. Less developed countries called for carbon limits of 350 parts per million (ppm) of the atmosphere. More developed nations and fast-growing countries like India, China and South Africa wanted the limit set at 450 ppm. Unfortunately, the ambitious agreement that many had hoped for did not come from the conference. Instead, a political accord was reached in which governments “recognize” the need to reduce carbon concentrations and promise to “enhance our long-term cooperative action to combat climate change.”

Words like “recognize” and “enhance” carry no legally binding commitments and this was a great frustration to many who had hoped for something more substantial in terms of action. At the same time, many believe that the struggles to reach agreement at Copenhagen demonstrate how seriously governments are taking climate policy. While there was difficulty in setting carbon limits, some direction was set. A Green Climate Fund will be established

to help more vulnerable nations adapt to the effects of climate change. And in a separate agreement, steps were taken to address degradation of forests and to fund deforestation in poor countries.

While governments were struggling to work out new levels of agreement on climate issues, those of us who came as representatives of non-governmental organizations were lobbying government representatives and participating in parallel events on issues of climate change. Many groups, including various government-sponsored institutions, offered educational programs on topics such as geothermal heating of homes, electrical cars, the impact of climate change on persons living in poverty and genetically modified agricultural products.

One evening, I attended a program offered by the government of Bolivia. This event was hosted as part of Bolivia’s effort to gain United Nations’ support for a Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth. Bolivian Ambassador Pablo Solon and South African environmental lawyer Cormac Cullinan presented the background for this movement. Cullinan challenged listeners to give up the attitude of ownership that has historically allowed humans to go so far as to “own” other humans – slaves, wives and children. When something is owned it has no rights and it exists only for the use of the owner. The Rights of Mother Earth calls for a relationship to Earth where respect for harmony with creation replaces an attitude of domination. Pope Benedict spoke with a similar attitude in his World Day of Peace homily (January 1, 2010) when he envisioned “right relationship among all of God’s people and with the Earth that sustains us.”

Residents of Copenhagen opened their homes for renters during the COP 15. I decided to take advantage of this hospitality with a young architect who gave up the single bedroom in her apartment to make room for me. Besides providing me with a delicious breakfast each morning, Rikke taught me many things about her way of life. Like many other Danes, her primary mode of transportation is her bicycle. Over 150,000 Copenhageners ride their bikes to work each day. By constructing well-marked, wide bicycle lanes, city planners hope that by 2015, 50 percent of the residents will bike to work. One day during the conference, I joined others from the U.S. on a transportation tour of the city. Since Copenhagen is known as one of the most livable cities in the world, the U.S. delegation offered this tour as an opportunity to learn from a place that has significantly reduced carbon emissions, while building a state-of-the-art transit system and creating well-planned development.

On one of my last days in Copenhagen, I attended an ecumenical prayer service in the Cathedral of Notre Dame where the Archbishop of Canterbury’s homily challenged us with two questions: “How do we show that we love God’s creation? How do we learn to trust one another in a world of limited resources?” He gave an answer using the Scripture 1 John 4:18: “There is no fear where love exists. Rather, perfect love banishes fear.” After hearing the stories of the climate induced struggles of my global sisters and brothers, I brought this conviction home: When we love we are not afraid to act to protect Earth’s resources nor are we afraid to reduce our consumption of those resources so that all humanity has equal access to Earth’s riches.

AT YOUR SERVICE 25 Years of Dedication

by JANE BUSE

Randy Engler has been director of maintenance, overseeing the building and grounds, for the Sisters of the Presentation for the past 25 years. Randy was honored during Mass and brunch on Sunday, January 10, 2010.

Sister Ruth Ann Takes, house coordinator, reflected during the celebration, “We are here to celebrate Randy who for 25 years has served the Sisters of the Presentation at Mount Loretto. Over the last 25 years many sisters have come and gone but Randy has been the ‘constant.’ His many gifts have kept our home running smoothly. On behalf of all of our Presentation family we say, ‘Thank you, Randy,’ and may we enjoy your presence for the next 25 years.”

In conjunction with community and staff, Randy has assisted the community through various renovations and improvements – chapel renovation, main building renovation, new formation house, two driveway resurfacings, two new roofs, new windows – to name a few.

“Randy is a hard-working and dedicated employee who takes great pride in his work. We are fortunate to have him here with us,” states Sister Lynn Marie Fangman, personnel director.

Away from Mount Loretto, Randy enjoys spending time with his wife, Shelly, and three boys, Pete, 31, Chris, 29, and Mike, 26. In his free time, Randy looks forward to hunting season and his annual fishing trip to Canada. One of Randy’s hobbies is taxidermy. He is co-owner of Angler-Beaver taxidermy.

“The last 25 years have been a real joy, something different each day,” reflects Randy. “The community has always made me feel like family. My celebration was a trip down memory lane – sitting in the chapel recalling what it looked like before renovation, eating in the dining room and talking to all of the sisters, remembering all those who are no longer with us. I am thankful for the opportunity to work with the sisters and I hope to be around for another 25 years.”



Randy (middle) with his two faithful sidekicks, Jim Richman (left) and John Richman (right). Jim Chapman (not pictured), who recently retired, worked in maintenance for the Sisters of the Presentation for 13 years.



Above photo: Banners in the shape of sails identify some of the non-governmental groups leading the 100,000 people marching to the UN conference center to make pleas for fair and binding global reductions in carbon emissions.



Above and right photos: After eight days of being displayed in a Copenhagen city plaza, the melting ice-sculpted polar bear created by the World Wildlife Fund represents the thaw of the Arctic ice fields.

Integrating Body, Mind and Spirit Retreats Offer Renewal

by DIANA BLONG, PBVM

Without doubt, a Christian needs certain periods of retreat into solitude to be recollected and, in God's presence, rediscover one's path. *Pope Benedict XVI*

According to the *Constitutions and Directory of the Sisters of the Presentation*, each sister is encouraged to participate in a yearly retreat - a "time for private communion with God" in order to "renew her promise of steadfast love."

For many in the Presentation community a special retreat at Mount Loretto near the beginning of each year offers an opportunity to respond to God's invitation to grow in love. It is a time to pause, to take note of, appraise and to reflect on one's life and experiences. Other retreat opportunities are also available at retreat centers in Iowa and throughout the country. Sister Janice Hancock values the variety of retreat experiences: preached, scripture-guided, one-on-one, directed and private. Many retreats last five to eight days in order to foster prayerful reflection; however, even one day or weekend renewals throughout the year deepen ongoing spiritual growth.

Sister Jeanine Kuhn, director at American Martyrs Retreat House in Cedar Falls, Iowa, sees a retreat center as "a place of grace" where retreatants experience "peace and serenity" just by turning into the driveway. "They leave behind all that has been so overwhelming and draining and enter into a place set apart so they can return to their daily life refreshed and alive to give of what they received," states Sister Jeanine.

While retreats may have seemed limited to priests and men and women religious, Sister Ann Jackson, spiritual director at Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center in Hiawatha, Iowa, notes the strong tradition for retreats in the Catholic Church and in other faith traditions. Leonardo da Vinci, nearly 500 years ago, expressed the need each person has for quiet and reflection on one's relationship with God. A retreat "offers the integration of body, mind and spirit" so that we may "discover places where we can find healing and connections... Retreat centers provide sacred spaces for us to engage this grand invitation of the Divine."

Retreats offer individuals the opportunity to temporarily leave behind the usual distractions we face for a long enough time to allow relaxation and for an inner change to occur: the ongoing conversion of heart that is critical to deepening faith. The *Catholic Encyclopedia* describes the necessity of such retreats: "In the fever and agitation of modern life, the need of meditation and spiritual repose impresses itself on Christian souls who desire to reflect on their eternal destiny, and direct their life in this world towards God."

So Why Make a Retreat?

Listen to Presentation sisters who have listened to their hearts. Sister Jeanine sees a retreat as having all to "do with the heart - that interior place where we move deep within ourselves to discover the truth of who we are and to discover what we can of God. We learn to live more intentionally - we learn the ways of the heart in order to recognize, protect and nurture what is sacred about life."

Jesus knew the importance of sacred space for his apostles as he invited them to "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." (*Mark 6:31*) Sister Julia Wingert, a spiritual director, affirms this "time to stop, look and listen...to eat, sleep and pray in a more focused and leisurely way...to stop all the daily and ongoing 'do-ing' and simply 'be' and to be more intentionally in and with God."

Retreats offer individuals the opportunity to temporarily leave behind the usual distractions we all face for a long enough time to allow relaxation and for an inner change to occur: the ongoing conversion of heart that is critical to deepening faith.

A yearly retreat "reenergizes or renews" Sister Bernard Mauss' desire and deepens her love for God and neighbor, while Sister Marie Therese Coleman values the peace in taking "time to rest in the love of Jesus."

Sister Marie Barth uses the image of the "tune-up I need - a focus on what's important - an affirmation of my spiritual journey." Sister Dolores Zieser also sees the need for a time "to withdraw from the 'busyness' of life and tune into one's spirit." Sister Julie Siggelkov appreciates the "extra time for prayer and slowing down" while Sister Jennifer Rausch enjoys the "luxury" of reading a spiritual book or "capturing my prayer/reflection in my original art."

"My yearly retreat is a special time to count my blessings and to listen to God speaking through the director, through Scripture, through the events in my life and through the silence provided for reflection," says Sister Dolores Moes. Sister Catherine Wingert treasures the quiet time and has "a new appreciation of nature, the beauty of animals, flowers, skies and galaxies. God is so present all around me."

For Sister Anne Marie Kollasch, a retreat also affords time "to pray for kith and kin, friends and acquaintances." Others cite discovering new ways of looking at life, becoming more positive in relationships with others and deepening love for the scriptures. Sister Lois Lehmann is aware of the changes in retreats over the years and is open to the ways God "is leading me now." Following the inner journey, a retreat "compels" Sister Mary Jo Leifker "to move forward in what really matters." And sometimes, according to Sister Kevin Cummings, "bits of retreat wisdom surfaces years after a retreat."



American Martyrs Retreat House in Cedar Falls, Iowa

Sister Sheila Kane paralleled her retreat with three passwords used to prepare for Lent: "a time to plant seeds that nurture my spirituality, a time to prioritize my life and a time to promise that I will continue to live out my commitment of service to God and the people in my life." She would encourage others to consider a retreat as a "wonderful time for a spiritual vacation. It's a time to get off the merry-go-round of life."

Blessed are they who follow the path of Jesus, who find or choose a quiet place and time to rest, that the Spirit might lead anew in love!

Retreat Centers in the Archdiocese of Dubuque

American Martyrs Retreat House
2209 North Union Road, Cedar Falls, IA 50613
319-266-3543
<http://americanmartyrs.tripod.com>

Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center
120 East Boyson Road, Hiawatha, IA 52233
319-395-6700
www.prairiewoods.org

New Melleray Abbey
6632 Melleray Circle, Peosta, IA 52068-7079
563-588-2319, ext. 100
www.newmelleray.org

Shalom Retreat Center
1001 Davis Street, Dubuque, IA 52001
563-582-3592
www.shalomretreats.org



Sister Jolynn Brehm, FSPA, retreat director, pours water at the Service of Reconciliation during the 2010 Winter Retreat at Mount Loretto.



Left to right: Top photo: Mount Loretto kitchen employees, Amy Brown, Lynda Mills and Barb Lenz work together to prepare lunch. Left photo: Dean Fingerson empties the compost daily.

Walking Gently on the Earth Greening the Kitchen

by BETH KRESS, PBVM

“Buy Fresh, Buy Local” is a guiding motto for the Food Service department at the Sisters of the Presentation. It is also a local organization that helps farmers and growers connect with buyers. The Keitel Family Farm, owned and managed by Jim and Katy Keitel of Lost Nation, Iowa, is the preferred grower for many food products served in the Mount Loretto dining room. Jim and Katy are members of River Bend Chapter of “Buy Fresh, Buy Local.”

Attending the Earth Charter Summit at Augustana College in Rock Island, Sister Ruth Ann Takes, house coordinator, Lisa Behnke, director of food service, and Gina Francois, kitchen staff, agreed that the clearest message of the day was “Get a farmer.”

“The message included to not only get a farmer, but to know your farmer,” comments Sister Ruth Ann. She and Lisa hope to visit the Keitel farm this spring.

“Everybody here at Mount Loretto is on board,” states Lisa. “I just request the products and Jim will provide them.”

Having the Keitel farm as “our own grower,” says Lisa, gives her and the staff the incentive to continue the Presentation sisters’ commitment to reduce their carbon footprint and to help sustain Earth.

Among the products that Lisa obtains from the Keitels are eggs, vegetables: lettuce, green peppers, potatoes, carrots, peas, beans, beets, squash, cucumbers, broccoli, cauliflower and homegrown pop corn and meats: poultry, beef and pork. Chickens, pigs and beef cattle raised on the Keitel farm are not fed hormones nor given antibiotics and eat organically grown corn.



Lisa Behnke



Sister Ruth Ann Takes

“Soon we hope to purchase year-round vegetables, in summer from the soil and in winter from hydroponics,” adds Sister Ruth Ann.

Hydroponics (from the Greek words “hydro” (water) and “ponos” (labor) is a method of growing plants using mineral nutrient solutions, in water, without soil. Vegetables are grown hydroponically through nutrients in water that runs through pipes that contain the plants. Terrestrial plants may be grown with their roots in the mineral nutrient solution only or in an inert medium, such as perlite, gravel or mineral wool.

“I rely on Sister Deborah Paige for her organic tomatoes grown in the Mount Loretto garden,” says Lisa. When in season, fresh homegrown tomatoes fill the salad section every day. “We also enjoy her garden produce of lettuce, beets, potatoes and green beans.”

Other sisters, associates and friends also share their homegrown produce.

Two years ago Sister Ruth Ann and Lisa started buying locally grown food, namely eggs and some vegetables. Eventually they found a source for meat. “Now the Keitel Family Farm handles most of the orders with our goal to purchase all from Jim and Katy,” states Sister.

Food preparation is also getting greener at Mount Loretto. Beginning with cooking “from scratch,” to reducing the use of processed food, to using corn and olive oil, sisters and guests can count on healthy meals.

In addition to supporting sustainable local farming, Mount Loretto participates in the City of Dubuque’s year-round composting program. “It’s a great thing!” declares Lisa. “It’s wonderful to take food scraps and left-overs and do something with them – like to make a lawn greener or to grow awesome vegetables.” At her home in Farley, Iowa, Lisa and her husband are planning this spring to landscape and garden with compost.

“We recycle a lot – glass, plastic, paper bags, cardboard, juice cans,” adds Lisa. Collaborating with the housekeeping department, food service also uses cleaning products that are Earth friendly.

The Mount Loretto kitchen is indeed getting greener and greener. Modeling the commitment of the sisters, the food service staff invite all to be part of the global effort for Earth sustainability.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Garage Sale

Spring is coming and the Presentation Garage/Gym Sale is right around the corner! For the past five years, many of you have helped support the Sisters of the Presentation ministries. The 2009 sale raised over \$14,700. Can we count on you again this year?

WHEN:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
April 22, 23, 24, 2010
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
April 29, 30, May 1, 2010
(Thursdays, Fridays 8 a.m. -dusk;
Saturdays 8 a.m.-1 p.m.)

WHERE:

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

WHAT:

Please bring gently-used items: clean adult, children and baby clothing; household items; books; CDs; furniture; games and toys, etc. (Please no shoes, computers/accessories or TVs)

Homemade baked goods will be sold.

WHY:

The proceeds from the 2010 sale will assist the following ministries/charities:

- Student Tuition Assistance to St. Patrick School in Danbury, Iowa
- Hispanic Ministry in Dubuque
- Haiti Relief Fund

The gym behind the Sisters of the Presentation will be open for drop-offs of useable items from **8 a.m. to 8 p.m.** daily EXCEPT Sundays beginning **Monday, April 5 until Wednesday, April 21.** Larger items such as furniture, desks, large lamps, etc. should be dropped off at the garages across from the gym.

Wrapped baked goods can be brought to the gym on April 22-23 and/or April 29-30.

For more information, contact the Associate Office at 563.588.2008 or associates@dubuquepresentations.org.

Lantern Center: Help Defray Moving Expenses

The Presentation Lantern Center, a drop-in center offering hospitality, education opportunities and advocacy to women and their children who are striving to better their lives, is a Presentation sponsored ministry. In the near future, the center will need to relocate. The board is looking for a Dubuque-based site with sufficient space (at least 1800-2000 sq. feet), adequate parking, on or near the bus line and with reasonable rent. You can help if you know any available sites or by donating to help defray moving expenses. For further information or to make a donation, contact Sister Corine Murray at corinemurray@aol.com, call 563.557.7134 or send to 1501 Jackson Street, Suite B, Dubuque, Iowa 52001. Checks payable to Presentation Lantern Center.

Formation Cultural Experience

In June 2010 Sisters Julie Marsh, director of formation; Jessi Beck, temporary professed; and Lizzie Guiliani, novice, will travel to Entre Ríos, Bolivia for an immersion experience focused on the life and culture of the Bolivian people with whom Presentation sisters have ministered for almost 40 years. They will join Sisters Mery Cary Paz, temporary professed, and professed Presentation Sisters Suzanne Takes and Rita Menart who presently minister there. An experience such as this is possible because of our generous benefactors who support our mission spiritually and financially. If you would like to contribute to this experience, please contact Sister Julie Marsh at julie@dubuquepresentations.org, call 563.543.0121 or send to 2360 Carter Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52001. Checks payable to Sisters of the Presentation.

SISTER ELLEN MURPHY

An Irish Woman

by JANICE HANCOCK, PBVM



Irish folklore describes a leprechaun as a type of fairy usually taking the form of an old man, clad in a red or green coat, who enjoys mischief. Sister Ellen Murphy possesses the gifts of Irish heritage, including wit.

Taking great pride in her Irish heritage, Sister Ellen Murphy makes March 17 one of her favorite days of the year as she shows the talents of a wee sprite and dons her green leprechaun costume for St. Patrick's Day.

Even more, Sister Ellen's heritage from Nano Nagle, to teach the faith, is clear in her many years of teaching little ones to read and write and in preparing them for First Communion and First Reconciliation. Since coming to Mount Loretto in 1998 she continues to live Nano's charism.

Sister Ellen is not totally retired – she spends time rocking babies at the Young-Uns Child Care Center, tutoring a Chinese woman in English and volunteering at the office of *The Witness*, Dubuque's archdiocesan newspaper.

"Sister Ellen brings lots of pep to the office each Thursday," says Sister Carol Hoverman, OSF, editor of *The Witness*.

Steve McMahon, *The Witness* writer states, "In addition to carrying out her weekly tasks around the office, Sister Ellen offers a real ministry of presence – a pure heart and a quiet spirit of love and compassion that lifts up those around her, undoubtedly without her even realizing it."

"Given the day-to-day stresses of the workplace and the little tensions that sometimes develop among co-workers on days that she's not around, Sister Ellen serves as a bridge-builder of sorts, as an instrument of peace, soothing things over with her genuine, unpretentious way of interacting with everyone," adds Steve McMahon.

Sometimes Sister Ellen brings treats to the office and gathers those who want to join her for a coffee break with bread, light chatter and personal updates.

When faced with life's inevitable physical frailties, Sister Ellen characteristically bears them with her strong faith, following her doctor's orders while remaining unbroken in spirit.

Sister Ellen is witness to the hospitable, generous, joy-filled lives of women religious and of her Presentation community. She reveres the time to attend daily Mass and the daily recitation of the Liturgy of the Hours with her sisters. "I appreciate the time to pray and the freedom to make daily choices. I treasure the opportunity to attend a party, go out to eat or take in an open house," she comments.

The matriarch of her family, Sister still enjoys short visits to her family members. "I cherish each member and keep in touch the old fashioned way – by mail."

Sister Ellen's philosophy – "live one day at a time; the past is over and the future will come." Erin, Go Bragh!



PRESENTATION LANTERN Honors Volunteer Tutors

The light of a lantern can bring hope and courage when life seems too challenging. Such is the light of those who journey with visitors at Presentation Lantern Center.

At the December 2009 Appreciation Dinner for tutors and the board of trustees, two volunteers were honored for their outstanding service. The first, Sandy Amberg, a retired high school Spanish teacher, has been a volunteer since January 2006. She shares her expertise and creative teaching methods with a variety of visitors over the years. With a gentle voice and a loving heart, she welcomes newcomers and helps them understand not only the language but also the culture of a new place. Many a week she is at the center every single day.

"Volunteering at the Lantern Center has opened up a new world for me," shares Sandy. "I am grateful for the wonderful people I come in contact with daily. Everyone teaches me something. The languages may be different but the common denominator is that all people are seeking a life where they can live in peace, have enough food, adequate shelter and a purpose for being. We smile, laugh and encourage each other. And all leave happier."

The second volunteer to be honored was Sister Francesca Presseller. From the very first day that the center opened, she was there sharing the gifts she has honed from a lifetime in the classroom. For years, she has come each Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. With the wisdom of her years, she helped newcomers learn English, as she became their friend.

"What an honor to have received the Lantern Service Award. To be able to have been a part of the Lantern family has been a great privilege," states Sister Francesca. "In my case it is more blessed to receive than to give! It has been a great privilege to work with the wonderful visitors who come to the Lantern. May the Lord continue to bless all who enter there."

Sister Corine, executive director of the center, celebrates the gifts of Sandy and Sister Francesca. "I am so impressed by the generosity of these women. As volunteer tutors for people struggling to learn English, they are helping individuals find their own voices. It forever changes the lives of the visitors."

In the tradition of Nano Nagle and offering their hospitality, wisdom and compassion, both Sandy (left) and Sister Francesca (right) have touched the lives of newly found friends from around the world.



The Lady of the Lantern

NANO Lives



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.

by JENNIFER RAUSCH, PBVM

April 2010 brings to an end the world – wide celebration of Presentation sisters and associates marking the 225th anniversary of Nano Nagle's death. Two centuries plus have not dimmed the deep admiration and love displayed by the people of Cork who learned of her death with these announcements in the local newspapers:

"Last Wednesday, the disposition of Miss Nagle was announced in the sorrowing faces of the poor of this city to whom she was the best of benefactors and patronesses. She died about noon this day, and truly indescribable is the universal lament for the departure of this lady who for many years was the object of unexampled admiration and unlimited esteem of all ranks of people."
The Hibernian Chronicle, April 26, 1784

"Died. Miss Nagle, foundress of the South nunnery – her unremitting efforts in the cause of charity have raised a monument to her name which will resist the all – destructive hand of time and transmit the knowledge of her virtues with reverence and admiration to future ages."
Volunteer Journal, April 26, 1784

And two centuries plus have not dimmed the legacy to which Presentation sisters and associates devote themselves as they continue to carry the lantern of hope to a broken world.

YOU ARE HOME

Sister Mary Paulette Traut

February 3, 1922 - November 30, 2009

by MARGARET ANNE KRAMER, PBVM

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.” These are good words when someone dies, especially when it is someone who has been a part of our lives for many, many years. At the time of death there is always a sense of emptiness, but also the reassurance that our loved one is at home - home with the Lord.

On November 30, 2009, Sister Paulette Traut did go home, home to the one she knew and loved so well. The Hindu people refer to death as the quenching of a lamp because the dawn has come. For Sister Paulette the dawn of a new day has come, the day that will not end has come. The light that she now enjoys is that of Christ.

Sister Paulette’s journey began February 3, 1922, as the daughter of Adam and Maude Traut. Sister Paulette, formerly known as Mary Kathleen (Kay), grew up in Dubuque, attended St. Patrick Grade School and St. Joseph Academy. She entered the Presentation community on September 8, 1939, and finished high school at St. Columbkille.

Sister received her bachelor’s degree from Loras College and her master’s degree from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee. Throughout her 50 years of teaching, she shared in the Presentation mission by teaching all grade levels in Catholic schools and in religious education programs. Sister Paulette was one of the first to receive the Master Teacher Award from the Diocese of Sioux City in 1986.

Throughout her life Sister was a lover of music and dance and was always involved with the dramatic arts in the schools as she helped with school musical programs. Sister Paulette had many hobbies among which were traveling. She especially enjoyed her trip to Italy with her family and the opportunity to visit the pope while there. She enjoyed crossword puzzles, art, music, dance and reading. Those of us who

had the privilege of living with Sister knew she was seldom seen without a book in her hand.

Sister Paulette appreciated her family, the Presentation sisters, her friends and the nurses and staff at Mount Loretto. As she prayed so often, “I thank everyone who has shared my life in any way. I appreciate them and thank God for them.”

We have no idea what eternal life is - the scriptures sometimes speak about it as a meal or a banquet to which everyone is called and sometimes as a paradise in which there will be no more tears. Sister Paulette spent the last several years in a wheel chair praying for the needs of the community. We rejoice that she is home and now enjoying the banquet.

The Gift of Giving Back

Through your financial support you can participate in spreading the fire of Nano’s dream and work by partnering with the Sisters of the Presentation to assure that the light of our ministry can continue.

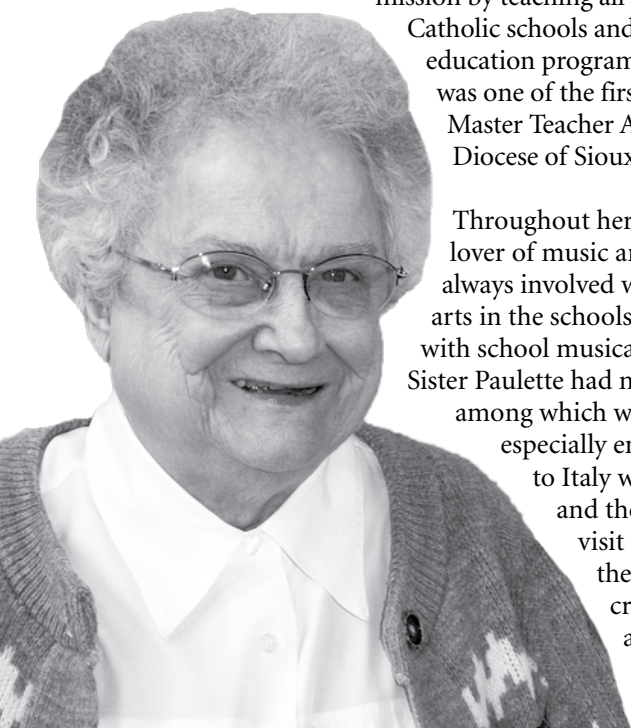
Matching Gifts

You can double your gift to the Sisters of the Presentation if your employer has a matching gift program. Fill out a matching gift form and send it to the Sisters of the Presentation with your gift. We will complete the form, return it to your employer and your employer will send us a check that matches your gift.

Memorials

When you make a gift to the Sisters of the Presentation in memory of a loved one, you are keeping the deceased’s values and hopes alive through the sisters’ works of charity, education and service.

For more information, contact the Development Office at 563.588.2008 or email us at development@dubuquepresentations.org.



Mount Loretto AND BEYOND

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



Giving Voice Conference

In January, Sister Jessi Beck, with 22 sisters in their 20s and 30s from 15 different religious communities, gathered in Phoenix, Arizona, for the 7th annual Giving Voice gathering.



Time for Tea

The second annual Epiphany Tea was hosted by the leadership team for sisters living at Mount Loretto. Sisters Matthew Cunningham (left) and Beth Driscoll (right) share a festive moment with tea and treats.



Memories of Okolona

A Thanksgiving to be remembered! Sisters Marie Barth, Louann Doering and Dolores Moes travelled with Terry Hilkin to Okolona, Mississippi, over Thanksgiving to help Sister Jean Ann Meyer who works amid the African-American community. They prepared a Thanksgiving meal for 200 people, taught children who were eager to learn and sorted items for the One-of-a-Kind resale store. The sisters were willing to help in any way. Recently Sister Dolores lost a dear friend and associate, Mary Cullen, and a cousin, Lois Connelly. Sister was delighted to be able to donate many of their belongings to the resale store, knowing both Mary and Lois would be appreciative. Pictured is Sister Louann Doering with EXCEL students.



Exhibit Schedule

January 15, 2010 – April 25, 2010
S. Dillon Ripley Center
at the Smithsonian
Washington, D.C.

May 9, 2010 – August 28, 2010
Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
Cleveland, Ohio

September 24, 2010 – January 22, 2011
Statue of Liberty National Monument/
Ellis Island Immigration Museum
Liberty Island, New York

February 2011 – April 2011
National Mississippi River Museum
Dubuque, Iowa

You are invited to join us.

April 5-10, 2010
QUEST Service Opportunity
Chicago, Illinois

April 9-10, 2010
Dubuque's Got Sisters
Sisters of the Presentation
Dubuque, Iowa

April 22-24 & April 29-30, May 1, 2010
Garage/Gym Sale
Sisters of the Presentation
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa

April 25, 2010
Taize Prayer
7:00 p.m.
Sisters of the Presentation
Sacred Heart Chapel
2360 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa

May 15, 2010
QUEST Service Opportunity
Dubuque, Iowa

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 11, 2010
60th Jubilee
Sister Dominic Church
Sister Bonita Determan
Sister James Marie Gross
Sister Therese Marie Hawes
Sister Joan Lickteig
Sister Madonna Meyer
Sister Annette Skyles
Sister Marian Sweeney
Sister Dolores Zieser

April 17-18, 2010
Presentation Associate & Sister Retreat
Sisters of the Presentation
Dubuque, Iowa

June 19, 2010
25th Jubilee
Sister Martha Donnelly

21st of each month
Pray for Vocations

25th of each month
Mass for Benefactors



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