



PRESENTATION
DOORWAYS

offering hospitality to the world



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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:

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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 Avenue which was built in 1909; and doorway by which Mother Vincent Hennessy left Mooncoin, Ireland, to begin the Dubuque foundation in 1874.

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Cover PHOTO

On May 11, Sister Raeleen Sweeney received the first-ever-awarded Patricia Blunt Koldyke Lifetime Achievement Award for her years of service to the Golden Apple Scholars Program. Sister Raeleen (right) accepts the award from Patricia Blunt Koldyke, co-founder of Golden Apple. Read more on page 8.

Contents photos: Top photo: Sister Rita Menart; Middle photo: Sister Carmen Hernandez; Bottom photo: Sister Donna Determan.

A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP



As this article is being written, headlines flash across computer screens and are spoken on the evening news: Death toll from the collapse of the garment factory in Bangladesh exceeds 1,127... An enormous category E-5 tornado hits Moore, Oklahoma, flattening the city's Plaza Towers Elementary School ... Syrian refugees endure crowded, lawless camps ... Wild fires threaten 1,000 homes in California ... Missouri River flooding damages Iowa corn and soybean acres, impacting food prices.

Following the seven weeks of the Easter Season, we, as Church, now move into Ordinary Time. In the context of the liturgical year, the term "ordinary" does not mean "usual" or "average." Rather, the spirit of Ordinary Time invites us to reflect upon the Paschal Mystery and our call to discipleship throughout the year.

Green, the liturgical color of Ordinary Time, summons us to hope! In light of circumstances throughout our planet, our world, our local neighborhoods and within our own hearts, how might we respond in hope? The Gospels suggest:

- Offer compassion to those whose hearts ache. *Luke 7:11-17*
- Welcome to your table the stranger and the outcast. *Luke 7:36-50*
- Love your neighbor (especially when it's inconvenient). *Luke 10:25-37*
- Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions. *Luke 12:13-21*
- Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be. *Luke 12:32-48*

Contemporary thought leaders and authors, Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone propose that our lives be grounded in Active Hope.

Active Hope is not wishful thinking. Active Hope is not waiting to be rescued by the Lone Ranger or by some savior.

Active Hope is waking up to the beauty of life on whose behalf we can act. We belong to this world. The web of life is calling us forth at this time. We've come a long way and are here to play our part. With Active Hope we realize that there are adventures in store, strengths to discover and comrades with whom to link arms.

Active Hope is a readiness to discover the strengths in ourselves and in others; a readiness to discover the reasons for hope and the occasions for love.

Active Hope is a readiness to discover the size and strength of our hearts, our quickness of mind, our steadiness of purpose, our own authority, our love for life, the liveliness of our curiosity, the unsuspected deep well of patience and diligence, the keenness of our senses and our capacity to lead.

None of these can be discovered in an armchair or without risk.
(Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone, Active Hope)

As we respond to the call of discipleship during these weeks of Ordinary Time, may our lives witness active hope.

Julianne Beth Ann Leanne

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 Julianne Brockamp

Sister Beth Driscoll

Sister Ann Jackson

Sister Leanne Welch



Clockwise left to right: Sister Rita Menart enjoys spending time with her nephew Stephen, her sister Marie and her mother Ann.

A True Missionary

by FRANCINE QUILLIN, PBVM

It's a long way from Duluth, Minnesota, to Entre Ríos at the southern tip of Bolivia, bordering Argentina, but Sister Rita Menart has made that trip as part of her long desire to live, work and learn from people in other cultures.

There have been some stops along the way but the journey has been made, nonetheless, and it continues even today. Upon graduation from high school, Rita, the middle of the five children of John and Ann Menart, went from Duluth to Winona, Minnesota, to attend St. Mary University. One day she spotted a flyer on the bulletin board that offered information about religious communities of women upon the return of a postcard. So Rita, largely out of curiosity, mailed the postcard. Several communities of sisters sent her written materials describing their lives. But Sister Kathleen Dolphin, then vocation director for the Sisters of the Presentation, called Rita. After they visited, she put Rita in touch with Sister Helen Marie Feeney, who was working in Winona at that time. And the rest is history, as they say. By the time she finished her last two years of college at Carleton College where

she earned a degree in Chemistry, Rita had realized she needed to take further steps to discern religious life, and she entered the Presentation community in Dubuque, Iowa.

During her years of formation, Sister Rita became certified for teaching elementary through high school, and she began her teaching career with junior high students at St. Columbkille School in Dubuque. She then taught high school science in Storm Lake, Iowa, for seven years.

Visiting with Sister Julianne Brockamp, the congregational president at the time, Sister Rita revealed her life-time desire to immerse herself in another culture, to get to really know more about the "essence" of being human. How were we really alike, and how were we different, apart from the obvious and visible differences. Sisters Rita and Julianne worked out a plan whereby Sister Rita would study the Spanish language in Guatemala for three months in 1990, preparing for whatever the future might hold.

While in Guatemala, Sister Rita made "contacts." And after language school she went to Chupol, a small "village" in Guatemala, where there was great need. Her teaching experience was to her advantage, because she began to teach the baptism and marriage catechists, as well as work with women's groups, young people's groups and a variety of other ministries required in the Center of Chupol. This little community had the opportunity for Mass only once a month, but they kept their strong Catholic faith which had been planted centuries before when the Spanish missionaries came to Guatemala. Additionally, Sister Rita worked with about 16 other communities in the Diocese of Quiché in which Chupol was located.

In the parish of over 100,000 people, these communities had been highly organized many years before by Catholic Action, a group which had originated in Spain. In every village there were two people elected to be directors for two years. They would meet each weekend on Saturday and Sunday to serve the people and prepare the Sunday readings with Sister Rita, after which they taught catechists who returned to their communities to teach the people there. This required that they travel and stay overnight, no small effort, especially for those who had children. But the indigenous peoples, Sister Rita discovered, are highly community-minded, and they are willing to make many sacrifices for their communities, so each took responsibility for a two-year commitment to being a director, with all that is involved.

When she was in Guatemala, Sister Rita had been exposed to the results of the terrible violence that had existed there over the years and the consequences of that violence for the victims who survived. The government was even killing priests and religious working there, which added to the difficulty of Catholics attempting to keep their faith alive under such difficult circumstances. Sister Rita was dedicated to work particularly with such survivors.

For 10 years Sister Rita continued this ministry among these communities. When she returned to the United States she attended the Illinois School of Professional Psychology in Chicago to earn a master's degree in clinical psychology. She then gained practical experience by working for three years at the Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic in Ames, Iowa.

While Sister Rita was working at the clinic, Sister Maura McCarthy and Sister Therese Marie Hawes, both missionaries of Entre Ríos, came to the Ames area to do a mission appeal, and Sister Maura invited Sister Rita to come to Bolivia to join them in their work there, an invitation which Sister Rita accepted. In Bolivia she was again able to use her background as an educator. She continued to teach catechists, and to use her experience as a counselor working with those who suffered domestic violence in the territory. Additionally, she visited families and was a "presence," an important aspect of ministry among the people.

When Sister Rita returned to the States again, and after a sabbatical, she was hired by the Archdiocese of Dubuque in the dual role of director of Hispanic ministry for the Archdiocese and a counselor for Catholic Charities (who provide counselors in various areas throughout the archdiocese). Sister Rita offers

counseling at the Catholic Charities Office in Waterloo, and she spends a day each week alternating between New Hampton and Marshalltown offering counseling for any Hispanics there who desire it. In addition, she visits throughout the area where there are concentrations of Hispanic populations, going particularly to Hampton once a month. She organizes with others an annual men's and women's retreat, and coordinates the regular meetings of those in the archdiocese who are ministers to the Hispanic communities.



As a counselor, Sister Rita Menart utilizes puppetry as a way to reach out to children.

Her passion for the immigrant population was unmistakable in Sister Rita's comment: "We often forget our own immigrant roots, and unfortunately we expect that today's immigrants will integrate into the community, learn the language and live as we live. But in fact, when new people come to any community, the whole community changes, and everyone must make efforts, not to draw newcomers into the established community, but to become, in fact, a 'new' community, drawing on the strengths of all groups to become something 'more' than any of them had been before."

Sister Rita adds, "Immigrants, by their nature, have an incredible strength and an adventurous spirit, and they eagerly seek to form this new type of community. But we need to revise our attitude from one of integrating to one of becoming new." Sister Rita uses the symbol of a salad to describe this new entity: "When one makes a salad, as I like to do, various ingredients are mixed into one bowl, until it becomes a wonderful dish with each ingredient maintaining its flavor."

Sister Rita Menart is an intriguing person with many interests. Her office holds many symbols reminding her of the people with whom she worked abroad, as well as beautiful paintings by her own Presentation Sisters. Occupying one of the chairs is a large puppet! Sister Rita is a puppeteer, who often uses finger puppets as a way to reach children when counseling them. In addition, Sister Rita is experienced and skilled in liturgical dance, which she often shares at liturgies with her Presentation community. Her smile breaks out before she can stop it and her sense of humor helps her keep her perspective. But her life-long desire to know more about people has led her on a journey in which all of her talents and skills have been well applied. All the stops between Duluth and Entre Ríos have been an enrichment, both for her and for those who benefited from her presence in each locale.



Left to right: Newly-installed congregational leadership team: Sisters Beth Driscoll, Leanne Welch, Julianne Brockamp and Ann Jackson.

Installation of New Leadership Team

by BETH KRESS, PBVM

On June 15, Presentation Sisters, associates and employees celebrated the installation of the new congregational leadership team. Led by Nano's lantern symbol that was carried by Sister Jennifer Rausch, the new and past leadership teams entered the Sacred Heart Chapel as all sang "One Pace Beyond" and keyboard, violin, cello and cantors provided musical accompaniment.

Believing in the mission of their foundress, Nano Nagle, and desiring to foster the Presentation spirit and charisma, all present heard the word of God as spoken in Jeremiah 18:1-6; the sung response "Send Forth Your Spirit" and a reflection on the Jeremiah passage by Sister Julianne Brockamp followed.

Retelling the story of Jeremiah going out of the city to the house of the potter, Sister Julianne narrates how "the Lord speaks to Jeremiah through the potter who reworks the clay. So is the house of Israel in the hands of the Lord. So are each of us. As we are

supple in the hands of the Lord, so He is able to rework our hearts so that we can trust Him more and more," she reflects.

"The marginated potter's house at the far edge of town is where my friend Jeremiah found the voice of the divine. On which margin does my potter live? Where is the edge of the potter's house for me? Where do we sit individually and communally at the wheel searching for our exact center, so that all life we touch may live in a compassionate and interdependent balance. How is the Divine potter at work? How are we as co-potters constantly engaged in the evolving reign, the dream of God?" Sister Julianne reflects.

Challenging the gathered community to "widen the tent" of their visions throughout the global Presentation family and world while striving for the building up of God's reign, she ended her story, "And more, we have Nano, and we have each other,

As we live life at our margins, and experience the transformative challenges of life's daily clay, may what was said of Nano, also be said of each of us; 'she went forth with laughter in her heart.' *Sister Julianne Brockamp*

who like Jeremiah have heard the inner voice say: 'Arise, go down, discover, listen, find wisdom, be compassionate, be transformed, bring forth a new creation out of all the broken pieces in the winding lanes.' Or, as Pope Francis says, 'Open doors, do something where life is calling out to you.' So we go to heal broken hearts, to accompany those in failing health, to restore shattered dreams, and in the midst of it all feed the hungry, care for the sick, visit the imprisoned, bury the dead, welcome the stranger to our fireside table, befriend each other with life and wisdom, educate and bring good news, all to renew the face of the earth. And, finally, as we live life at our margins, and experience the transformative challenges of life's daily clay, may what was said of Nano, also be said of each of us; 'she went forth with laughter in her heart.'"

The new team accepted the ministry of congregational leadership for the next five years and all sang "How good it is, how wonderful when all live together in unity ... in love!" Sisters and associates committed themselves to the 2013 Directional Statement and Commitments and all present blessed the new leadership team.

Sisters Mary William Allen and Jessi Beck, the oldest and youngest in community, read a reflection by Sister Raphael Consedine, PBVM, echoing the sentiment, "Let love alone be the measure, for we have further yet to journey." A resounding chorus of "Renew us, God that we your people help renew the face of the earth" led everyone to the dining room for a celebration dinner. Members of the new Presentation leadership team are Sisters Julianne Brockamp, Beth Driscoll, Ann Jackson and Leanne Welch.

Sister Julianne Brockamp

Sister Julianne previously served as translator and ESL aide in the Hill City Public School District in Hill City, South Dakota; as Presentation formation director in Bolivia, South America; as parish life coordinator at Our Lady of the Sioux Parish in Oglala, South Dakota; as director of religious education at St. Joseph Parish and campus minister at Black Hills State University, both in Spearfish, South Dakota; as pastoral associate in Alamogordo, New Mexico; as congregational leader from 1989 to 1993; as a pastoral and catechetical minister in Bolivia; and as elementary teacher and principal in various Catholic schools in Iowa.

Sister Beth Driscoll

Sister Beth previously served in congregational leadership from 2008 to 2013 and before that as a team member of the Presentation collaborative Lantern Light ministry in New Orleans, Louisiana; as formation director for the Presentation community and music teacher in various parishes and Catholic schools in Iowa, South Dakota and Illinois.



Left to right: Top photo: Sister Ann Jackson receives a warm congratulations from Sister William Allen, the oldest member of the Presentation community. Bottom photo: Sister Julianne Brockamp accepts the lantern from Sister Jennifer Rausch as a symbol of the transitioning of leadership.

Sister Ann Jackson

Sister Ann has served as formation director for the Presentation community. She also served as coordinator of retreats and spiritual direction at Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center in Hiawatha, Iowa, and as an English teacher in several Catholic high schools in Iowa.

Sister Leanne Welch

Sister Leanne previously served in congregational leadership from 2008 to 2013 and before that as superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama. Her other past ministries include curriculum director for Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Dubuque and elementary administrator and teacher in various parishes in Iowa. She also served as adjunct instructor at Clarke University and Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Sister Raeleen Sweeney Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Gentle Woman, Mighty Soul

by FRANCINE QUILLIN, PBVM

Imagine yourself in a large convention hall filled with round tables seating 800 people. Then picture that 400 of these guests are young teachers. The event was the 25th anniversary of the Golden Apple Scholars Program held in Chicago on May 11 at the conclusion of National Teacher Appreciation Week.

But this particular evening was a special event for the Presentation Sisters and the Ralph Sweeney family, because Sister Raeleen Sweeney, the oldest child of Ralph and Ileen (both deceased), received the first-ever-awarded Patricia Blunt Koldyke Lifetime Achievement Award for her years of service to the Golden Apple Scholars Program.

In 1986, Martin J. (Mike) Koldyke began a process for selecting 10 Illinois teachers each year to receive a new award, the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching because he felt that excellent teachers did not receive adequate recognition for their contributions to building a stronger, better-educated society. Recipients become lifetime members of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, which conceives, develops and supports programs for teachers to make them more effective in the classroom.

When Sister Raeleen taught third grade in Oak Lawn, Illinois, Paul Cichowski was one of her third grade students. Years later when Paul was in college, he heard about this Golden Apple Award, and he nominated Sister Raeleen. After interviews and observation of her teaching by the Golden Apple staff, she received the award in the third year of its existence. (Years later Paul's mother, Mary Ann Cichowski Shaefer, now deceased, became a Presentation associate with the Chicago group of sisters and associates.)

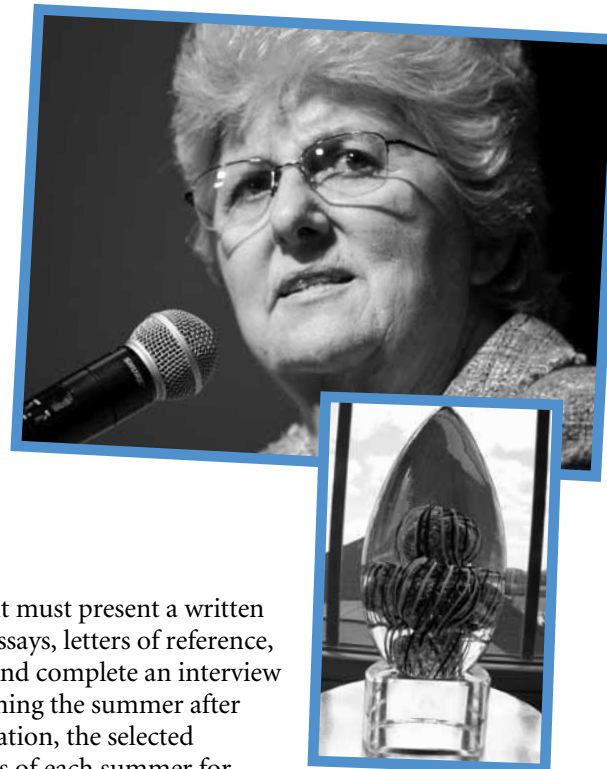
That same year, 1988, the Academy of Educators, with Pat Koldyke as director, began the Golden Apple Scholars program which drew on the expertise of the 30 Golden Apple Award winners of the previous three years. This program is designed to provide mentoring and additional training to talented high school seniors who exhibit the promise and drive to be excellent teachers. In return, these scholars make a five-year commitment to teach in Illinois schools of economic and academic need.

To be selected, a student must present a written application and seven essays, letters of reference, test scores, transcripts and complete an interview at the final stage. Beginning the summer after their high school graduation, the selected scholars spend six weeks of each summer for four summers participating in an institute planned by the Golden Apple staff and held at DePaul University and other venues. In these institutes the scholars receive advanced teacher preparation that provides in total more than three times the amount of classroom experience prior to student teaching than non-scholars receive. In addition, they build invaluable networks of support which continue into their teaching years. They also receive tuition assistance for college and for the summer institutes. Scholars must maintain a specified grade point.

In 1991 Sister Raeleen was invited to be a member of the Golden Apple staff. She began her work with the Process for the Selection of the Scholars and of the Mentoring Program. The latter involved finding mentors (often Golden Apple fellows) to mentor the scholars during their college years. During these years she also observed scholars in the classroom and taught at DePaul Golden Apple summer institutes.

Sister Raeleen assumed the responsibility for the CORE (Center for Ongoing Renewal and Enrichment) program in 1997. By then the first scholars had completed their five-year teaching commitments, but they wanted to stay connected, gain further professional development and retain the camaraderie they had already established among themselves. Sister Raeleen developed this program each summer with the collaboration of fellows and scholars.

This past summer when Sister Raeleen retired from the CORE program, the Golden Apple Foundation honored her work with a plaque in St. Xavier University Chapel, site of CORE seminars, and in her honor planted a maple tree which overlooks a boulder embedded with another plaque inscribed, "For inspiring Golden Apple Scholars, Sister Raeleen Sweeney, PBVM, June 29, 2012."



Sister Raeleen has made Golden Apple stronger and more meaningful ... Her goodness made us want to do and be good. Her sense of justice helped us order ours and her gentle demeanor held more sway than any bellicosity could muster. We who know her are better because of that sticky soul of hers that insisted ours improve. She is proof that the spirit of God walks among us. *Dominic Belmonte, Golden Apple Foundation*

After the 25th anniversary dinner, Sister Raeleen was introduced by Dominic Belmonte, current president and CEO of the Golden Apple Foundation for Excellence in Teaching. Dominic had observed Sister Raeleen's teaching after she had been nominated for the Golden Apple Award. Of that experience he wrote in 1988: "This gentle woman must have some mighty soul." His comment in his introduction at the anniversary was: "How true that sentence became for us."

He adds: "Sister Raeleen has made Golden Apple stronger and more meaningful. All in this organization who love, respect and revere this woman do so because she has the most adhesive of souls. Her goodness made us want to do and be good. Her sense of justice helped us order ours and her gentle demeanor held more sway than any bellicosity could muster. We who know her are better because of that sticky soul of hers that insisted ours improve. She is proof that the spirit of God walks among us."

Former and current scholars made such comments as: "Know that the kindness you invested in me continues to be paid forward daily;" and "Thank you for always being so thoughtful, so welcoming, so compassionate. You are truly remarkable;" and "I just hope I have been able to give back to some child just a piece of what you have given me."

Sister Raeleen spoke after receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award, sharing some memories from her experiences with Golden Apple. It was a touching moment, however, when she held up a hand-made cross which "Carl" had made for her when she spent a couple of summers in the early 1980s volunteering at Handicap Village in Clear Lake, Iowa, where she served in a cottage with Carl and others. Carl had spent three weeks making the cross by hand, which deeply moved Sister Raeleen. "Daily I am reminded of Carl's great love, and of how he is an angel in my life," she comments.

Back in 1988 after Sister received the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching, she and the other recipients were invited to the Koldyke home for dinner, and she noticed a lovely sketching on their wall. Walking over to get a closer look, she noticed the sketching was familiar, and the conversation that ensued revealed that Carl was the son of Pat and Mike, the same Carl Koldyke who years before had made the wooden cross for Sister. Such graced moments are more than coincidences! To further the story, Mike Koldyke's mother went by the name "Nanno!"



Left to right: Top photo: Sister Raeleen Sweeney (second from left) is overjoyed to have her siblings, Fran, Jack and Pat, present for the evening. Middle photo: Sister Raeleen celebrates with Sisters Sheila Ann Dougherty, Barbara Rastatter and Jessi Beck. Bottom photo: Sister Raeleen is surrounded by her CORE Team 2012.

In her acceptance of the award, Sister also shared the story of Nano Nagle, Presentation foundress, "who taught children in Ireland under the unbelievable pressure of penal laws that forbid education to the Catholic poor. Through the Golden Apple, it has been my privilege to continue Nano Nagle's passion for educating students and providing excellent teachers with attention to those most in need."

It was evident that Sister Raeleen's years of service to the Golden Apple Foundation have been productive and appreciated when so many young teachers came to greet her and thank her at the anniversary event that she never was able to eat her dinner! Clearly these people love her.

Sharing the joyful event were her guests: siblings, aunt and uncle, cousins, nieces, nephews, grand nieces and nephews, and several Sisters of the Presentation, all gathering from the states of Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin and California. Paul Cichowski, who started this venture with his nomination of Sister Raeleen many years ago, was also in attendance. Five CORE colleagues were included as guests, hosted by Sister Virgie Luchsinger, friend of Sister Raeleen and Presentation associate.



Sister Carmen Hernandez holds Victor and Joselyn while their mothers participate in the "Container Gardening" class at La Luz Hispana.

New Hispanic Ministry in Hampton, Iowa

La Luz Hispana

by BETH KRESS, PBVM

La Luz Hispana, sponsored by the Sisters of the Presentation, will create a spirit of hospitality where Hispanics can come together to celebrate their cultural strengths and personal gifts. The center, situated in downtown Hampton, Iowa, will be a space where Hispanic people can share and build up their strengths, where social isolation is not a barrier, and where hope and a sense of possibility is stimulated.

On Wednesday, March 27, Sisters Carmen Hernandez and Maura McCarthy celebrated the beginning of their new ministry, La Luz Hispana, meaning "The Hispanic Light" in Hampton, Iowa, during a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce. An open house, including a blessing, tours and delicious food and refreshments prepared by the Hispanic guests and friends was held on April 12.

"A massive show of Hispanic families, many children dressed in native Mexican costumes, began to pour into La Luz Hispana for the open house," states Sister Carmen.

Presentation Sisters and associates, friends and family members, Chamber of Commerce representatives and other Hampton personnel also attended. Father Mike Tauke, pastor of the Ackley and Hampton parishes, led the blessing with interpreter Marilu Vondra. Father Tauke's blessing was characteristically animated capitalizing on the Hispanic sense of family, solidarity, warmth and ended with a massive "Wow!"

La Luz Hispana was not built in a day. The center has been a work in process, as all great things take time to create. Sister Carmen pursued the idea of opening the Hispanic center through her previous work as Hispanic outreach coordinator at the

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LaLuzHispana

Mercy Family Medicine Residency in Mason City, Iowa. She formed a ministry exploration partnership with Presentation Sisters and associates and the Hispanic people themselves.

From 2008 to 2010 Sister Carmen traveled to Hampton once a week to help with a pregnancy clinic for Hispanic women. Through the work, she was able to get to know some of the residents. After visiting similar centers, Sister Carmen then completed a survey on what Hispanic residents – which make up 21.5 percent of Hampton's population, according to the 2010 U.S. Census – would like to see in a Hispanic center.

"They told me it would be nice to have their own place," she recalls. "After that, I knew that's what I wanted to do. We decided to open right here in Hampton. We already had the relationships built."

After spending 33 years as a missionary among the Latin and Guarani people of Bolivia, Sister Maura McCarthy joined the initiative, bringing her experience as a teacher, pastoral minister, pastoral worker with Hispanics in Florida and advocate for migrants and indigenous people at the United Nations.

In August 2012, Sisters Carmen and Maura began steps toward a North Central Iowa Hispanic center. They relocated to Belmond and began meeting Hispanic families and agencies such as ministerial associations, Catholic Daughters of America, Iowa State University Extension, chambers of commerce, public health, schools and church personnel.

Since early March, Sisters Carmen and Maura and their Hispanic and non-Hispanic partners have been setting up the center in Hampton and now have space to create a community of learners and problem-solvers.

"La Luz Hispana will seek to empower the Hispanic people with gifts of self confidence, leadership and solidarity, as well as to explore ways that will lead to greater integration and membership in the Central Iowa community," states Sister Carmen.

"Reverence for relationships with all religions and ethnic groups and celebrating the unity of all peoples is a main focus of the center," adds Sister Maura. "La Luz Hispana will foster partnerships with educational, religious, commercial, governmental and nongovernmental agencies and organizations and provide a combination of educational services and programs that employ dialogue as a way of learning and solving problems – recognizing that all have something to bring to the conversation/table regardless of age, race and level of education or gender."

In keeping with the tradition of Nano Nagle, Presentation foundress, the center's objectives will be largely educational. Some of these educational possibilities will include conversational English, composition and grammar, handicrafts, defensive driving skills, computer proficiency, health and exercise, budgeting and managing finances and citizenship education.



Top photo: The "Container Gardening" class proudly displays their finished products with Dennis Carlson, ISU instructor. Bottom photo: Sister Maura McCarthy with her newfound friend.



"We also aid Hispanics in navigating social service systems, teaching them what services are available to meet their needs," says Sister Maura.

Already this spring, the center has offered a variety of services and classes. Some of them have included learning English, exercising every morning, computer classes, self-care including facials and gardening workshops. It also brought an immigration lawyer from Iowa Falls for a session, which drew a packed house.

"Many of the ideas are coming from the Hispanics themselves," says Sister Carmen. "All programs are free at La Luz Hispana. In order to give all a sense of dignity and a sense of mutuality, participants are encouraged to give back service hours to the center or to the community at large."

"Our hope is to have our own immigration lawyer who would be willing to work pro bono or accept small payments," comments Sister Maura. "With the hope of immigration reform, we would like to help get the paperwork done and done right."

"We want to make the path to citizenship easier," adds Sister Carmen. "It's a long, expensive and complicated process."

Above all else, Sisters Carmen and Maura want La Luz Hispana to be a welcoming place for Hispanic residents to gather. "Our door is always open," says Sister Carmen. "We want to be a light for the Hispanic people."



Remember - Reconcile - Reform Postville: 5 Years Later

by JESSI RUSSO

There were 389 red carnations raised toward the gray sky on Friday, May 10, outside of the Federal courthouse in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Each flower held in the air during a moment of silence represented a person arrested in Postville, Iowa, during the immigration raid on Agriprocessors, Inc., in 2008. It had been five years since that tragic event and 500 people gathered in Cedar Rapids to remember those arrested, to reconcile with those who contributed to the injustices, and to call for just, compassionate comprehensive immigration reform.

The event marking the anniversary of the raid began with a remembrance vigil at the courthouse where the immigrants were charged with their crimes. Pastor David Vasquez of Luther College, who helped to assist the pastoral staff at St. Bridget Parish in Postville following the raid, opened the remembrance vigil by saying, "We gather at this Federal courthouse symbolic of extreme measures taken to enforce a broken and unjust and inhumane immigration policy. We gather in solidarity with those throughout the United States who work to create and implement legislation that is enlightened, just, compassionate and expressive of the highest ideals and hopes of our nation."

On May 12, 2008, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials raided Agriprocessors, handcuffed immigrants and bused them to the National Cattle Congress in Waterloo, Iowa. Most detainees were charged with identity theft and spent five months in prison before being deported. Many of the immigrants did not understand the charges against them and, in many cases, were not given adequate access to legal counsel. The immigration charges against the CEO of Agriprocessors, however, were dropped.

After the moment of silence for those affected by the raids, the crowd took part in a "Walk for Justice" to Immaculate Conception

Parish for a prayer service. During the walk, men, women and children could be heard chanting in both English and Spanish: "What do we want?" "Reform!" "When do we want it?" "Now!" Neon signs with big bold lettering proclaimed, "Keep families together!" "Pass immigration reform now!" and "Protect workers!"

Presentation Sisters Marge Healy, Ann Jackson, Maura McCarthy, Rita Menart and Joy Peterson attended the event. They, along with many others at the commemoration event, signed a letter to Senator Grassley asking for reform.

For Sister Marge, the event was an emotional one since she had spent time working with heartbroken families in Postville following the raid. "Being in Cedar Rapids was a gift," said Sister Marge. "To see detainees and their families reunite with those who had accompanied them through days and months and even years, and to see persons of many faiths continue to stand with each other as all look for healing was moving."

After the Walk for Justice, the crowd gathered inside Immaculate Conception Parish and Archbishop Jerome Hanus gave the opening prayer. "Though five long years have passed – our memories are still fresh. We wear like a shroud the shock, the fear, the shame, the crushing injustices of Postville," he said. "We stand as witnesses, to a rush of events that shattered lives, crushed hopes and scattered families. We pray for all men, women and children who were affected by the raid, wherever they may now be."

One family affected by the raid was that of Pedro Lopez. Pedro was in 8th grade at the time of the raid. His mother was deported after she told officials she did not have any children for fear they, too, would be deported. Pedro, now 17 and just graduated from high school, did not want to speak about the past, but about the future.

Photos left to right: Participants were invited to sign a petition asking for immigration reform; Sisters Maura McCarthy, Marge Healy, Ann Jackson and Rita Menart were present for the event; In a moment of silence, Pastor David Vasquez asks all to raise their carnations representing the 389 arrested in Postville in 2008; Sister Joy Peterson takes part in the "Walk for Justice."

"Only true change can break the cycle of injustice that my parents so long escaped," he said. "This will not be accomplished by Band-Aid legislation ... Without hope of true change, our potential is wasted. Give ME a chance to break the cycle – to contribute to this great nation." Pedro moved the crowd in such a way that they stood to clap for a full minute after he had finished.

The prayer service ended with the song, "We Shall Overcome," and those in attendance were encouraged to take home a red carnation as a symbol to never forget and to continue to work for justice.

"Our memories may upset us but they will never paralyze us," said Sister Mary McCauley, BVM, who was a pastoral minister at St. Bridget's at the time of the raid. "Our memories, our conscience, our integrity, our respect for the dignity of all persons, as well as our respect and love for our country, call us unabashedly to do all that we can to turn the tragedy of Postville into a victory for justice."

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

Sister Mary Jeanine Kuhn, Superior 1984-1985



Having served for two terms as vicress (assistant to the congregational leader) on the community leadership team, Sister Jeanine Kuhn was called to complete Sister Martin McCormick's term after her death. Sister Jeanine was the second Presentation vicress to complete the term of a major superior who died in office; Sister Presentation Griffin completed the term of Mother Angela Crowley in 1906. When Mother Vincent Hennessy died unexpectedly, Bishop Hennessy appointed Mother Patricia Reidy as head of the young community; no vicress had previously been named.

Sister Jeanine (Margaret), daughter of Sylvester and Elizabeth (Sullivan) Kuhn, was born in Osage, Iowa, and attended

school there. A lively, spontaneous and congenial young woman, Margaret entered the Presentation community and attended Clarke College for her undergraduate degree. Later she received a master's degree in guidance and counseling from Loras College and in 1992 a master's in Christian Spirituality from Creighton University.

Teaching assignments took Sister Jeanine to St. Columbkille School, Dubuque, and St. Odilia School, St. Paul, Minnesota. Her next assignment was that of principal at St. Joseph School in Farley, Iowa. From 1969-1985 Sister served in a variety of community leadership roles: vocation director, novice director, formation team member, vicress/first councilor, spiritual growth director and major superior for seven months.

Sister Jeanine's sunny personality, positive outlook and personal zeal suited her well for each of her community assignments. Along with others in leadership, she orchestrated a multitude of spiritual enrichment opportunities, varied retreat designs, summer houses of prayer and summers of spiritual renewal.

Following one of her dreams, Sister Jeanine renovated a cluttered, dusty loft of unused space above the maintenance shop to create a simple rustic refuge, a kind of "upper room." She called it the Poustinia, a Russian term referring to a small, sparsely-furnished room where one goes to seek God's presence in silence, solitude and prayer. The response of the sisters confirmed that it was well-named, well-designed and well-used. In due time it fell into disrepair and disuse, but the concept remains alive in new dreams expressed by the sisters in their Caritas meetings.

Following her 15 years in various leadership roles, Sister Jeanine engaged in pastoral work at Immaculate Conception Parish in Charles City, Iowa, and then served for 15 years (1997-2012) as administrator of American Martyrs Retreat House, the archdiocesan retreat center in Cedar Falls, Iowa. In 2004, she was honored by the Archdiocese of Dubuque with the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal, a papal honor given for outstanding service to the church and the pontiff.

Currently Sister Jeanine ministers as a spiritual director in the Cedar Falls/Waterloo area, works in the peer-ministry program at St. Stephen the Witness Catholic Student Center on the UNI campus and is a hospice volunteer.



Rachel Fitzgibbons (left) and Hannah Way (right) visit with Sister Therese Corkery before they travel to Entre Ríos, Bolivia, for a service trip this summer.

Exceptional Individuals Honored through Scholarships & Awards

by JANE BUSE

In commemoration of the 225th anniversary of Nano Nagle's death and in the spirit of her desire to serve, the Sisters of the Presentation initiated two scholarships and two awards to further her legacy of education. The sisters are pleased to honor the following well-deserved recipients.

Nano Nagle Service Award

The \$500 Nano Nagle Service Award is awarded to a person of exemplary service, nominated by a Presentation Sister or associate. The service award may be used to benefit a service project or in some way aid the nominee in continuing the gift of service. This year's award was given to **Leah Lucas** from Grinnell, Iowa.



Leah Lucas, a junior studying an independent major in Poverty and Progress in the Americas at Grinnell College, was nominated by Sister Jessi Beck who met Leah on the 2011 Presentation Quest New Orleans service trip, where she witnessed firsthand Leah's passion for justice. Through this experience, Sister Jessi felt compelled to nominate Leah for the service award as she is "already creating change in the world."

Leah expresses, "While I am blessed with the amenities and limitless opportunities that my liberal arts education provides, I cannot forget the faces of hunger and poverty that I have seen around the world. Through my service work with the NGO Oxfam America and with a Guatemalan non-profit project that I founded last summer, I am able to follow my passion to work against hunger and poverty and put my studies into practice."

Nano Nagle College Scholarship

The Nano Nagle College Scholarship rotates among the many high schools in which Presentation Sisters have ministered. The scholarship was awarded to a student at Wahlert High School, Dubuque, Iowa in 2010; Garrigan High School in Algona, Iowa in 2011 and Newman High School in Mason City, Iowa in 2012. This year's \$500 Nano Nagle College Scholarship was awarded to **Wendy Broich**, a deserving senior from St. Mary High School in Storm Lake, Iowa, who models self-giving service to improve the lives of others; uses her God-given talents for the betterment of others; exemplifies exceptional service; and



plans to further her education. In the fall, Wendy plans to attend the University of Northern Iowa majoring in social work, a career path close to her heart.

"Wendy has demonstrated her character in her life as a person dedicated to others in the community and is willing to demonstrate that in her time and commitment to serve others," says Ervin Rowlands, principal at St. Mary School. "Wendy has proven that she is an outstanding individual and student who has the qualities that I look for in our students that become the future leaders in our communities."

Mother Vincent Hennessy Foundation Scholarship

In the celebration of Mother Vincent and the Dubuque Presentation foundation, the Sisters of the Presentation offer a \$500 Mother Vincent Hennessy Foundation Scholarship to a graduating senior from Wahlert Catholic High School (WCHS), Dubuque, which Presentation Sisters have actively supported since its inception. This year's recipient is **Samantha Bandy**. Samantha plans to attend the University of Iowa in the fall and volunteer at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital, as well as become involved in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

Described as buoyant, smart, articulate, engaged learner, self-motivated and hardworking, Samantha is friendly, heartfelt and a person of deep service. As stated in a nomination letter by Carol Lavenz, theology teacher at Wahlert, "Sam is an icon of a person. Her wholesome character and academic abilities make her a valuable gift to any family, institution or community. Her initiative and intrinsic motivation to witness her faith and be loyal to her commitments is nothing short of inspiring."

Presentation Mission Service Award

The Presentation Mission Service Award is offered to a person(s), 18 years of age or older, committed to serving the Presentation mission and who may otherwise be unable to afford a mission immersion experience, locally, nationally or abroad. This year's recipients are **Rachel Fitzgibbons, Hannah Way, Sarah Dickhut, Hannah Kauffold** and **Charlene Becicka**, all from Loras College, Dubuque.



Left to right: Top photo: Sister Joan Lickteig congratulates Samantha Bandy on receiving the Mother Vincent Hennessy Foundation Scholarship. Bottom photo: Presentation Mission Service Award recipients Sarah Dickhut and Hannah Kauffold.



Rachel Fitzgibbons and **Hannah Way**, both felt a call to serve in Entre Ríos, Bolivia, with Presentation Sisters Mery Cari Paz, Suzanne Takes and Therese Corkey. This summer they will spend two months immersed among the people of Bolivia, learning, sharing, understanding, helping and living their life.

Sarah Dickhut will participate in the APUFRAM project in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, for a week this summer. APUFRAM educates and provides housing for children of all ages, as well as abandoned mothers with children allowing them to become self-sufficient, successful contributors to society.

Hannah Kauffold looks forward to serving as a missionary for the FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) organization. She will be building relationships with students, teaching them about the Catholic faith and inviting non-practicing students to participate more fully in the Catholic faith.

Charlene Becicka will be serving as a Salesian Lay Missioner (SLM) at an orphanage, Hogar Maria Auxiliadora, in Itocta, Bolivia – just outside the city of Cochabamba. Associate Barbara Ressler expresses, "Charlene is phenomenal. Her deep faith, interest in the others and passion about service made her an ideal recipient of the Presentation Mission Service Award."

Left to right: Charlene Becicka appreciates the support of her nominator, Barbara Ressler, with whom Charlene student taught at Wahlert Catholic High School.

Associates & Sisters Connect, Reflect, Pray CARMA Retreat

by BETH KRESS, PBVM

“The enlivening spirit is among us,” declared Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM, keynote presenter at the 10th Biennial Conference of Associates & Religious of the Midwest Area (CARMA) in Dubuque, Iowa, on April 20. Throughout the day, 250-plus associate members and vowed members of 17 congregations of religious women and men reflected on the expressions of the Spirit among them and within their religious congregations. Inspired by word and silence, thoughtful conversation and attentive listening, poetry and song, image and symbol, story and ritual, those present for the day heard and discussed Sister Mary Ann’s keynote presentation, “Caught by Common Charism, Creating Uncommon Community.”

Coming from many different states, participants shared insights and responded to the practicalities, questions, challenges and future of associate programs by dialoguing with a panel of three associates and three sisters from area congregations.

“Everything and everyone is inspired by a single holy fire; to look at anyone or anything is to see the radiance of God,” stated Sister Mary Ann as she invited those gathered to reflect on the spark of the assembled community, on the spark of gratitude set in their lives to “want to make something beautiful and true for God,” on the spark of connection through the mutual sharing of stories, and on the spark of meaning as together, associates and sisters further the identity and mission of religious congregations.

Sister Mary Ann guided participants to “open up the meaning of charism and to release the beauty of charism” expressed by their own congregations. She reflected on several themes: the creative Spirit of God in the originating energy of charism (Creative Fire); the energy of charism witnessed in the life and mission of Jesus (Christic Fire); the energy of charism as uniquely expressed in the founding dynamism of religious congregations (Charismatic Fire); and the experience of sisters and associates being grasped by the charism of a religious congregation.

“All that exists is ablaze with the fire that is God ... We are stars come from stars to illumine the universe with our particular expression of the fire that is love.” (God’s Fire of Love). This is



Left to right: Top photo: Presentation Sisters and associates participate in the CARMA 2013 conference.

Middle photo: Sisters Janice Hancock and Julia Wingert enjoy conversation with Associate Karen St. John.

Bottom photo: Associate Becky Searcy, Sister Sharon Kelchen and Sister Carla Popes utilize the break to catch up.



how each associate and sister, through their Baptism, each person through their very existence is called to make a difference in the world, she said.

Yvonne Kisch, Presentation associate from Charles City, Iowa, reflects, “One thing that opened my heart was the symbol of the flame and circles to inspire my soul to be ablaze in the world with Divine energy, unity and love. One of the panelists said, ‘We should have a mission goal for our faith’ and that has inspired me to go another step beyond just believing my faith to setting goals for what I want to further do with that faith. I feel that everyone experienced an almost tangible connection of belonging to each other. We were sent forth with an inspiration to live out our Baptismal call.”

“What difference does the connection between the spirit alive in us and that of the charism of our congregation make in everyday life?” queried Sister Mary Ann as she invited participants “to bring the power of our particular charism to bear on our reading of the Gospel; to reflect on the necessary gift of communities’ charisms in Church, world and universe; to imagine the unfolding shape of communities formed in common charism; and to celebrate the creative transformative grace of our diverse charisms.”

ASSOCIATE PARTNERSHIP

In Memory of Karla Berns

November 29, 1940 - May 26, 2013



GIFT GIVEN – God blessed Karla Berns! She was truly gifted and during her lifetime, on many occasions and in many places, shared her giftedness.

GIFT RECEIVED – For numerous years the Sisters of the Presentation have been touched by her giftedness among them. She was sister and friend, mentor and believer, co-worker and companion on the journey.

GIFT GIVEN – A true lover of her God and follower of Nano Nagle, Karla was witness to the Gospel and with determination carried the lantern light to advance and promote the charism of the Presentation Sisters.

GIFT RECEIVED – With open hearts many Presentation associates experienced Karla’s authentic appreciation for the community and the desire to also further the mission of Nano Nagle.

GIFT GIVEN – And so, in humble gratitude, with sympathy to her family and friends, and with heavy hearts Presentation Sisters commend their Gift, Karla, to her eternal reward. She will be missed dearly.

Annual Garage Sale Raises Over \$17,000

For the past nine years, the Sisters of the Presentation and their associates have been organizing and conducting an annual garage sale. It continues to get larger and larger each year. Each spring, a call goes out to the sisters, associates, employees and friends to donate gently-used items of all kinds to Mount Loretto for an April/May sale in conjunction with the Dubuque and Asbury city-wide sales.

Again this year, the sale offered a \$5.00 charge for “early bird” shoppers which was well received (those coming before 8 a.m. on opening day). The coffee, donuts and bake sale items available for purchase continued to add a warm hospitality to the day. As one shopper stated, “This garage sale has really become ‘up town.’ It is the sale of the year we look forward to. Everything is so neat and arranged so nicely with space to move among the tables.”

The Presentation Sisters and associates collected over \$17,000 for the student endowment at St. Mary Catholic School in Humboldt, Iowa, and the La Luz Hispana ministry in Hampton, Iowa.

The core team working on this sale is very grateful to all who contributed, helped unpack, sort and organize, made signs, encouraged customers to buy, donated fresh-baked goods and shared hospitality with all. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

A Warm Welcome to New Associate Co-Director



Carol Witry, a long-time friend and associate of the Presentation Sisters, has accepted the position of co-director of the Associate Partnership. In September, she will join Co-Director Sister Lynn Mary Wagner.

“I’m very grateful to have the opportunity to share in the mission of the Sisters of the Presentation as an associate and, now, as co-director of the Associate Partnership. I look forward to connecting with associates and sisters as we seek to deepen relationships among each other and with all of creation.”

Carol’s first connection with the Presentations was through Sister Barbara Rastatter, with whom she served in parish ministry. Sister Barb extended the invitation to learn more about the Presentation community by becoming an associate. “Since then I’ve had the opportunity to share life and faith with many more sisters and associates whose example and wisdom have nurtured and supported my continuing growth in faith,” shares Carol.

This past spring Carol retired after serving 23 years in parish ministry as a director of faith formation. Prior to that she spent some years as an at-home mom and 10 years as an elementary teacher. Carol’s family includes her husband, Tom, a retired teacher and coach, her two sons, Mike and Matt and her daughter-in-law, Sarah. “As I begin this next part of my journey, I look forward to a little more time to just be and to the privilege of working more closely with sisters and associates.”

Collaboration Essential to Vocations

by RITA CAMERON, PBVM

Collaboration is an essential component when vocation directors representing Presentation communities from Fargo, North Dakota; Aberdeen, South Dakota; Dubuque, Iowa; New Windsor, New York; and the United States Province of the Union, gathered in New Orleans, Louisiana, for a week of service, immersion, prayer and discernment with women discerning the possibility of becoming a religious sister. The sisters in New Orleans representing the Lantern Light ministry hosted five women and two vocation directors for Presentation Vocations Week, March 10-16, 2013. During the week sisters, volunteers and guests at the center visited, shared their stories and gained a greater understanding of what community really means.



Sisters and participants enjoy great discussion while preparing snacks for the guests at Lantern Light.

This discernment/service trip can best be appreciated by reading the words of women who participated in the March experience. “This Presentation service trip changed my life by allowing me to reach a better understanding of myself and fostering a deeper and richer relationship with God. The Presentation Sisters, especially those present on this trip have become dear friends of mine and hold a special place in my heart. They have helped me to see that sisters are great role models who know how to touch the hearts of those around them.”

Another woman said, “After only a few hours spent with the sisters at the Lantern Light ministry, I knew I was in for quite the

week. The joy and passion they find in the work they do and more importantly the love they have for those they serve is so inspiring and motivating. Through their example I learned to encounter the poor as I encounter the Eucharist; as a holy and living example of God in our lives.”

A third participant expressed her appreciation by saying: “Every time I interact with a Presentation Sister, I am struck by the kindness and open-hearted generosity. The sisters are so hospitable and they care about the whole person. This week at the Lantern Light ministry has been a true blessing. I see Nano in the sisters as her light shines through them.”

The friendships made, the lessons learned and the appreciation of each other’s gifts have been unexpected rewards from this collaborative ministry. Vocation ministers, participants, sisters that minister at Lantern Light and visitors to the Lantern Light have expressed a deep gratitude for the experience to journey together during this service/immersion/discernment trip.

Another dimension of collaboration becomes evident through interaction with other religious communities beyond Presentation Sisters in such experiences as Dubuque’s Got Sisters. Vocation ministers from the Dubuque Franciscan Sisters, Sisters of Charity BVM, Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters and Presentation Sisters combine efforts to provide a 24-hour tour of their convents as they share life through praying, dining and storytelling. Women interested in learning more about religious life are invited to “come and see” what life is like as a religious sister. This event happens twice a year, usually in the spring and fall.

When asked what part of the Dubuque’s Got Sisters weekend was most helpful, one participant said: “I found it very helpful to go to all of the congregations to get an inside view of them. Speaking, eating and praying with so many different sisters helped me start to form an intuitive sense of the charisms of the various communities.”

Another responded by saying, “The conversations with the sisters through the weekend were probably one of the highlights of the weekend. I really enjoyed the discussion we had. It was nice to get other sisters’ points of view as well as visit with other discerners.”

Sisters from the four congregations and participants expressed gratitude for the time spent sharing stories, time together in prayer, meals and other experiences.

Presentation Pacers Relay for Life

by DOLORES ZIESER, PBVM

“Relay for Life,” the annual walk and fundraiser for the American Cancer Society on a national level was begun in the mid-20th century; it began in Dubuque, Iowa, in the late 1990s. Dubuque is rated #10 in the nation for participation.

Relay for Life for the Dubuque Presentation Sisters has grown since they joined this annual event in its beginnings in Dubuque participating as the “Presentation Pacers” relay team. In the early days of participation the Presentation team consisted of a group of sisters; in 2010 associates were invited to join the team. Sister Dolores Zieser has been team captain since 2010 with Associate Colleen Venter as co-captain. This year Presentation employees were rallied to join in the event by house coordinator, Jean Lange. This brought the team number to 33 members.

With great enthusiasm and spirit, team members held fundraisers at Mount Loretto from March through May with bake sales, prize raffles, ice cream social, movie and popcorn and treats in the dining room, all bringing in donations for a good cause. These fundraisers along with individual donations solicited by team members brought in a total of \$4,300.96 for the American Cancer Society. This amount along with funds raised by other Dubuque teams netted a total of over \$200,000. These funds help with cancer research, advocacy, education and service; only a small percentage is used for administration because of the many volunteers involved.

The Relay event in Dubuque on the last Friday of May each year invites team members to take turns walking the special track from early evening and overnight to early morning symbolizing cancer diagnosis for a cure as from darkness into light. The Dubuque Relay for Life has had several sites since its inception in the late 1990s to the present, beginning first at a riverfront park, to the gymnasium of Clarke College, to the athletic track of Dubuque Senior High School, to McGraw Hill parking lot. This year, because of inclement weather, all teams were invited, rent free, to meet in the Grand River Center Ballroom for the usual schedule of music, walking, food concessions and games. Cancer survivors are honored with a special dinner and a special walk around the track. As darkness descends participants view the lighting of colorful luminaria around the track in honor of cancer survivors and in memory of those who died of cancer.

This year Presentation Pacers remembered Sister Ruth Ann Takes and Associate Karla Berns who died of cancer this spring and also remembered relatives of team members. The theme of this

year was “River of Hope” for a world without cancer, for a world with more birthdays. The Presentation Pacers with about 80 other Relay teams made for a night of fellowship, remembrance and hope for a cure for cancer.



Top photo: Gathering outside of the Presentation motherhouse are some of the sisters, associates and employees who participated in the Presentation Pacers Relay for Life team. Bottom photo: Housekeeping and maintenance staff hosted a pie sale in an effort to raise money for the Presentation Pacers team. Pictured left to right: Sheila Anton, Kathy Friend, Judy Hefel, Betty Michels, Amanda Kirk and Linda Brown.

SISTER DONNA DETERMAN

Loving Every Minute

by COLLEEN VENTER, ASSOCIATE

For over 50 years Sister Donna Determan ministered in Catholic elementary schools in Iowa and Illinois. She loved every minute of every year of teaching. In August of 2009 she was called to community prayer and service at the Mount Loretto motherhouse in Dubuque. Here Sister Donna has been reunited with many sisters with whom she taught and sisters who taught her.

Sister Donna, the youngest of four girls, was born in Mason City, Iowa, to Bonita and Raymond Determan. "We had wonderful parents. They were loving and so good to us," recalls Sister Donna.

Growing up, the Determan girls lived only two blocks from St. Joseph Church and School. From the time she was young, Sister knew that she wanted to be a sister and a teacher. After attending Clarke College, Sister joined the Sisters of the Presentation community in 1958. Her older sisters, Sister Bonita and Sister Rayanne, were very influential in her life as were the Presentation Sisters who taught her. When requesting her religious name, she asked for the name Donna in honor of her married sister, Donna Umbarger.

Sister later received a bachelor's degree from Clarke College with a major in history and elementary education. Her first teaching assignment was at St. Columbkille School. "It was a perfect beginning for me." When Resurrection School opened in Dubuque in 1961, Sister Donna was assigned to teach there. "Oh, did I love it! I really liked working with the younger children. They brought such enthusiasm to the classroom and to learning."

Sister also had the opportunity to teach third grade at St. Dorothy School in Chicago, Illinois. "Teaching and living in an African-American community was a wonderful experience. The students, the staff and the families were delightful."

During her teaching career, Sister Donna also taught at St. Mary School in Storm Lake, Iowa. She was there for over 24 years. "I really enjoyed helping the children prepare to receive First Reconciliation and First Communion. It was a thrill for me to see former students grow up and then to have families of their own." One of the students nominated Sister Donna for the Teacher of the Year award. "Receiving that award was an honor. I am proud of the legacy and quality of education the students received from everyone with whom I taught."

Sister Donna was one of St. Mary's most avid fans. "I tried to support the students whenever I could. I often rode with parents or on the bus to many out of town games and activities. I am still an avid sports fan, especially of Notre Dame teams – that loyalty comes from my dad, a big Notre Dame fan." Thanks to friends in Storm Lake, Sister has the fun and joy of attending a football game each year in South Bend, Indiana.

In retirement one of Sister's favorite past times is playing ping pong. Sister recalls having a ping pong table at home. Neighbors and friends took part in the fun of friendly competitions. Sister Donna also enjoys visiting with family and friends. She likes to help at the motherhouse however and whenever she can. Her day includes time for praying, walking, reading and writing. During their busy season she helps at the Trappistines candy factory. Sister is an active member in support of Dubuque County Right to Life. She spends time in prayer for sisters in their various ministries and for vocations to religious life.

In 1978, Sister Donna, Sister Bonita and Sister Rayanne (known as "the Determan Sisters") went on a Pilgrimage to Rome, Holy Land and Greece, thanks to the generosity of their dad. "This will always be a special memory of a wonderful trip," recalls Sister Donna.

Sister Donna's favorite Scripture quotes are: "I am with you always," and "Whatever you do to others you do to me."

In retirement, Sister Donna finds it heartwarming to see the joy, the peace and the happiness of the senior sisters at Mount Loretto.

Remembering

Mason City

1910-2012

by HERMANN PLATT, PBVM

Catholic education began in the "River City" area in 1888 with the building of St. Francis Academy, a boarding school for girls and a day school for boys and girls. The Academy was staffed by the Sisters of St. Francis from Clinton, Iowa. When this first structure burned in 1908, the sisters returned to Clinton. By the time a new building was erected in 1910, they were not available to return to Mason City.

When a request came from Father Michael Carolan for Presentation Sisters to take over the educational duties in Mason City, the small number of sisters available prompted Mother Benedict's reply, "We are sorry to disappoint you, Father, but to supply you with teachers is an impossibility at this time." However, at the advice and urging of chaplain Father Patrick Leahy, two sisters from among the General Council, with two others taken from their duties at the motherhouse, were assigned to take on this task.

Mothers de Pazzi Curtin and Columba O'Callaghan, along with Sisters Mary Baptista Hussey and Leo Roach, made the trek west to Mason City in 1910, thus establishing the Presentation presence in the school which was to last 102 years.

The opening of the school for grades 1-8 saw a larger-than-expected enrollment, which required the hiring of a lay teacher to take over the middle grades. Between 1912 and 1916, grades 9-12 were added, with the first class graduating in 1916. By 1920, increasing enrollment prompted the building of additional classroom space and a renovation was in order. In the process of updating, the school was supplied with equipment in accordance with state requirements, and inspectors from the State of Iowa placed St. Joseph's on the list of accredited high schools.

The year 1927 saw yet a further significant increase in enrollment and another expansion of facilities. A spacious assembly and a gymnasium graced the new structure, providing for indoor athletics. As enrollment continued to rise, the sisters' quarters were converted to classrooms, and the parish purchased what was originally the Duffield family home to be used as a convent. This



St. Joseph Catholic School in 1911.

structure was dubbed "The Mansion," and housed the sisters from 1949-1965 when it was sold and given to the city. Now known as the Charles H. MacNider Museum, it stands as an important arts center today. A final move found the sisters in a new convent located behind the church. The spacious new living arrangement featured a chapel with windows designed by Presentation Sister Josita Zieser.

The educational system continued to evolve, with the addition of the construction of Newman Catholic High School in 1961, the consolidation with Holy Family Parish to become Central Catholic Grade School in 1973, a day care center in 1986, and the eventual move of the whole system to the Newman campus in 2003.

Along with its distinction as an NCEA School of Excellence, the Mason City school system also became a Catholic education family tradition for many. Sister Joellen Price and her mother, Irene, both graduated from St. Joseph School, and even had some of the same teachers. At the closing of the St. Joseph building, Sister Bonita Determan, who made her First Communion there, recalled that her father's youngest sister boarded with the sisters in the earlier years.

Records kept between 1936 and 1990 list 144 Presentation Sisters who ministered in Mason City, with Sister Joan Brincks being the last sister to teach in the school system. Presentation presence in the school ended in 2012. The parish history counts 30 sisters, nine priests, and two religious brothers among its former members. Who can say how many lives have been impacted by those who could trace their roots to this Catholic foundation in "River City?"

Conference of Presentation Sisters Convening, Adjourning, Missioning

by JENNIFER RAUSCH, PBVM



2013 Conference of Presentation Sisters participants

All the details were in place and it was time for the Conference of Presentation Sisters (CPS) to gather for its annual meeting. To help set the context for this meeting, a reminder that the Conference is one of the three units that comprises the International Presentation Association (IPA) along with the Union (Ireland and its world-wide foundations) and the Society (Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea). These three units provide a functional infrastructure for the 2000 Presentation Sisters throughout the world.

The Conference convened in Dubuque on May 29-June 2 as the leadership teams from congregations in Aberdeen, South Dakota; Dubuque, Iowa; Newfoundland/Labrador, Canada; New Windsor, New York; San Francisco, California; Staten Island, New York; and the U.S. Province of the Union gathered. The mission of CPS states:

“The Conference of Presentation Sisters exists to provide opportunities for collaboration of the members, to promote unity, to strengthen the spirit of Nano Nagle and to encourage the works of the sisters to fulfill the Presentation mission.”

The 27 Presentations in attendance from across the North American continent gave evidence of the spirit and mutual

support within the Conference as they shared prayer, reviewed business items and responded to input from facilitator, Sister Patricia Kozak, CSJ.

Words from the 2012 IPA Directional Statement: “Energized by this evolving consciousness ... that move(s) us to personal and systemic transformation” helped to provide focus for the Conference meeting as Sister Pat illustrated the principles of spiral dynamics. Using this construct, a system of core values or collective intelligences applicable to both individuals and entire cultures is defined. Spiral dynamics suggests that the understanding of units of culture known as “value memes” or “vMemes” can be used to craft transformational change. This construct addresses the foundational questions:

- HOW people think about things (as opposed to “what” they think)
- WHY people make decisions in different ways
- WHY people respond to different motivators
- WHY and HOW values arise and spread
- The nature of CHANGE

Thus spiral dynamics offers a point of view that looks at the evolutionary dynamic of underlying values systems – the foundation for transformational change.

Having covered all agenda topics, the principles of spiral dynamics in leadership and moments of prayerful visioning and planning, the gathering was adjourned. Participants expressed great appreciation for the time together to reflect on the question, “For what do you hope these days for the Conference, for what do you pray?” Clearly the Conference goal to promote collaboration, unity and the spirit of Nano Nagle in mission was the experience of all who gathered. In gratitude, they can now celebrate the convening, the adjourning, the missioning.

*Learn more about
Presentations world-wide*

www.internationalpresentationassociation.org
www.sistersofthepresentation.com

A WOMAN OF DETERMINATION Sister Maria Goretti Dullard

July 30, 1934 - April 22, 2013

by RENÉ LAUBENTHAL, PBVM

Sister René Laubenthal, a long-time friend and classmate of Sister Maria Goretti Dullard, shares a few of her reflections about Maria, “a woman of faith, determination, persistence and a dose of stubbornness.”

Sister Maria Goretti and I entered the Sisters of the Presentation in 1952. I soon learned that Sister Maria’s parents had not only nourished her faith but had encouraged her to enter into life with all she had. In spite of her challenges, she did nearly everything we as a class did, and in addition, she could sew, which was something we couldn’t do.

I remember summers when Sister Maria and I were going to Clarke College. Sometimes we could study together in preparation for a test; she was pretty quiet during the discussions. The next day she would ace the test.

One of Sister Maria Goretti’s missions was Timber Lake, South Dakota. When visiting with Sister after her first year there, it seemed she thought there was no place quite like it. Since I had been there for six years previously and found it a great mission, I could understand her enthusiasm for Timber Lake. I thought no other mission would replace it as her favorite. Later Sister

was missioned to Waukon, Iowa, and that became the great love of her life with Father Ed Lechtenberg and Sister Margaret Anne Kramer at the top of the list!

Upon retiring at Mount Loretto, Sister Maria Goretti was pleased with her various assignments, which we called “charges.” She was a receptionist and served as a relay captain, providing motherhouse information for sisters on the missions. She also sewed for the missions. Since she had sewed for Sister Presentation Dahlhauser for many summers, she again took up the task of helping Sister James Marie Gross with mission sewing. These weren’t just jobs for Sister; she prized them.

Sister Maria delighted in others teasing her in fun. Sister Barbara Rastatter would see Sister approaching and would sing out, “How do you solve a problem like Maria?” which brought gales of laughter from Sister Maria. When Randy Engler, maintenance director, would meet her along the way, he’d ask, “Now, what did you break, Maria?” and this, too, brought forth a hearty laugh from her.

Sister Maria enjoyed Scrabble games on Friday and Saturday nights with Sister Cecelia Marie Auterman, and she looked forward to Wednesday evenings with her faithful Tri-omino friends. Birthday celebrations with Associate Linda Dolphin and Sister Cecelia Marie were always special, too.

Despite her sufferings, Sister Maria Goretti journeyed with faith, prayerfulness and joy until she danced into the arms of God.

A Memorial in Honor of a Loved One

One way to honor loved ones is to remember important values and hopes that were dear to them. When you make a gift in memory of a loved one to the Sisters of the Presentation, you are keeping their memory alive through the sisters’ works of charity, education and service. Memorials can be sent to Sisters of the Presentation, 2360 Carter Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52001.

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



ALWAYS POSITIVE AND CHEERFUL

Sister Jocile Moes

March 19, 1913 - April 7, 2013

by JOAN LICKTEIG, PBVM

The congregation spoke for Sister Mary Jocile Moes when they sang the entrance song for her funeral liturgy: "I know that my redeemer lives, the One who calls me home. I long to see God face-to-face, to see with my own eyes."

Sister Mary Jocile waited 100 years until April 7, 2013, to realize her dream. Born on the feast of St. Joseph, March 19, 1913, in Dubuque, Iowa, Lucille Josephine Moes entered the Sisters of the Presentation in October 1932. She graduated from Loras College with a degree in English and took graduate classes in art at Viterbo College in La Crosse, Wisconsin. For nearly 50 years she taught students in grades 4-8 in 10 different Iowa parish schools.

Sister Jocile retired at Mount Loretto in 1985 where she pursued hobbies of singing, art, reading, crafts, walking and community service. The response to the reading for Sister Jocile's funeral was taken from Psalm 116: "In the land of the living I will walk with God all my days." She did just that, as a Presentation Sister for 80 years. The reality of these words bore evidence in her warm and loving interaction with others, particularly during her retirement years.

With a 1932 entrance date, Sister Jocile was a Dubuque Presentation at the time when every living-member of the community entered; no one remembers a time when she wasn't here. She served as a kind of "icon of presence" for all.

For many years Sister Jocile might have been described as a quiet, reflective, serious, proper, reserved person – a competent elementary teacher with a picture-perfect classroom, artistically appointed, attractive, absolutely everything in its place.

At 90 years of age, following a short sick spell, she became the new Sister Jocile, a totally different person. With an unexpected personality change, she became a "free" woman: outgoing, friendly, talkative, enthusiastic, uninhibited, and self-expressive. All who visited her were told over and over of her love for them.

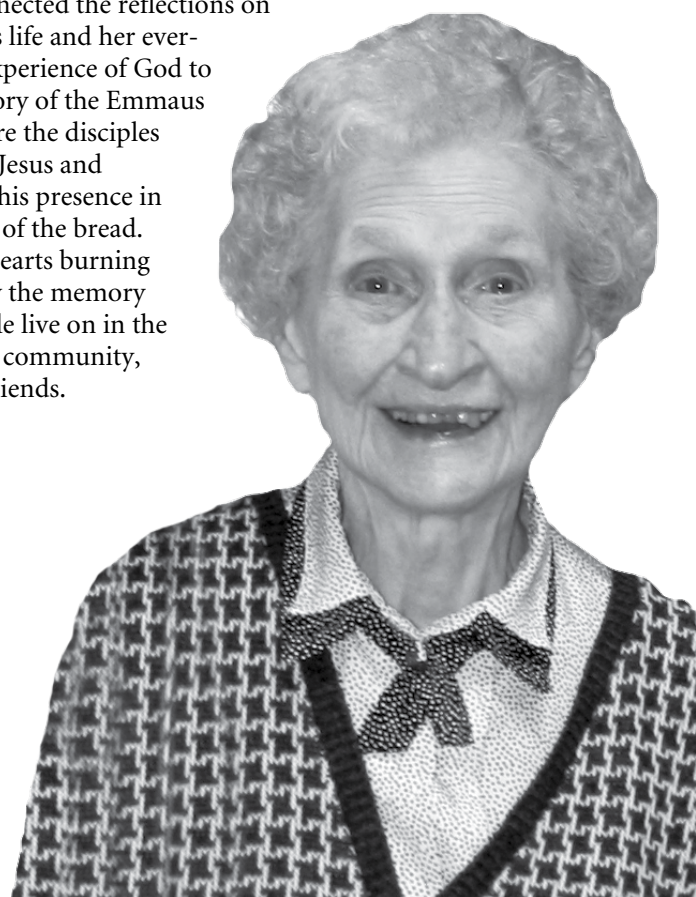
Frequently, while she waited for supper in the kitchenette, sisters and nurses aides gathered around her as she spontaneously delighted all with her conversation and her expressions of love. She held on to hands and kissed them. She saw beauty and love everywhere, in everyone. The long years of life had dimmed her vision; her glasses had become ineffective, but she looked with

the eyes of her heart, the eyes of God, and she saw each person as beautiful and lovable, bearing out the message, "she had walked with God all her days." Daily she influenced lives with her goodness and her love.

What hadn't dimmed was the unusual sparkle of her bright blue eyes and her radiant smile. At the "Sharing of Memories" during the wake service Sister Irma Ries called attention to the special quality of Sister Jocile's smile. "Have you noticed her smile? I've been drawn to the loveliness of Sister Jocile's smile. It has changed over the years. Her smile reflects something very special, a touch of the divine."

Sister Jocile's positive approach and cheerful manner were convincing as she nearly always insisted that she felt fine, with 'nary an ache or a pain.' No wonder she was a Hospice dropout. And, of course, she gave God the credit, often saying, "I just love Him; don't you?"

In the homily at her funeral Mass, Father Doug Wathier connected the reflections on Sister Jocile's life and her ever-deepening experience of God to the Easter story of the Emmaus journey where the disciples walked with Jesus and experienced his presence in the breaking of the bread. Now with "hearts burning within," may the memory of Sister Jocile live on in the hearts of her community, family and friends.



A WOMAN OF PRAYER AND MINISTRY

Sister Ruth Ann Takes

February 12, 1944 - March 23, 2013

by JOAN LICKTEIG, PBVM

Karen Kathryn Takes, oldest daughter of Leo and Rozena Smith Takes, known in religion as Sister Mary Ruth Ann, grew up on a farm near Monti, Iowa. With two older brothers, Carroll and Jim, strong, loyal, loving and – always the "big brothers," and two precious younger sisters, Patty and Diane, Karen occupied the "center" of the sibling line-up – and has remained "central" in the hearts of her immediate and extended family.

Rooted in all things rural, Sister Ruth Ann maintained a life-long love of nature. She chose the time of her home visit based on haying season, so she could help. Her preference was always outdoor work and a favorite exercise was walking/communing with God's creation.

Sister Ruth Ann, salutatorian of her high school graduating class, became a music teacher, having earned a bachelor's degree in music/theology at Clarke College, Dubuque, a master's degree in music at the University of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as well as a master's from Loyola University in Chicago with an emphasis in liturgy. She taught music in six different Presentation schools in Iowa and South Dakota; her first mission in the shadow of Mother Vincent at Key West. Additional ministries included serving as a pastoral minister in two parishes, Fonda and Varina, Iowa, and as a pastoral administrator at St. Clara Parish in Clara City, Minnesota. As Mount Loretto house coordinator she directed activities at the motherhouse for seven years. Her most recent ministry was that of care associate at St. Therese Care Center in New Hope, Minnesota, where she walked the journey with many hospice residents to their eternal home. May she now rest from her labors for her good works accompany her into the arms of God.

Like Nano Nagle, Presentation foundress, Sister Ruth Ann offered a passion for service, a heart full of care and a pastoral presence. Spirit-filled, energetic, generous, loyal, and industrious, Sister possessed a "Nano-heart," and ministered accordingly. A deep, family-rooted faith, fostered in early morning prayer each day, marked the centrality of God in her life. Like a lantern she warmed and welcomed those who shared life with her.

For her friends she offered an anchor, supported by her balanced and faithful ways. For her family she was the "glue" that kept everyone humming and celebrating. After all, everything was usually on hold "until Ruth Ann got there."

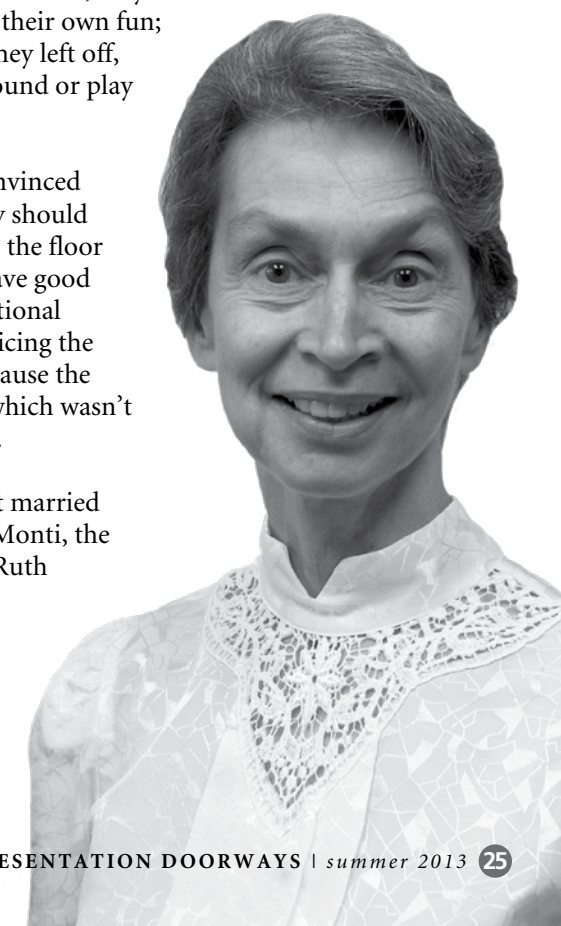
Though life isn't perfect for anyone, Sister Ruth Ann maintained a song in her heart, and a spring in her step. She lived simply and gracefully – like a dance! With a spirit of gratitude for all, she made a difference wherever she went. Her joy was contagious and her happiness a legacy to her family and friends.

Sister Matthew Cunningham offered her assessment from the vantage point of another music teacher. Holding high her index finger and speaking with corresponding authority, Sister Matthew declared that Sister Ruth Ann never said an unkind word about any one. Isn't that the highest of compliments?

Family gatherings for both the Smith and Takes families usually meant a pot-luck dinner, followed by clearing the table and an afternoon and evening of card playing. For big and not-very-big occasions, they played cards, or when Sister came home, or they came to visit, they played cards. Or for no reason at all, they played cards. What is it about card-playing families? They are never without entertainment; they are creative enough to make their own fun; they can pick up where they left off, and then have another round or play one more hand.

As a youngster Karen convinced her sister, Patty, that they should both put their pillows on the floor at night so they would have good posture. It worked. Additional discipline included practicing the piano wearing gloves because the piano was in the parlor which wasn't heated in the wintertime.

When her sister Patty got married at St. Patrick Church in Monti, the bridal couple and Sister Ruth Ann climbed into the Volkswagen, drove to Independence for a private dinner party, and then went to Cedar Rapids to visit a hospitalized



grandmother. Seeing Patty in the finery of her bridal attire, Mark in his tuxedo, and Sister Ruth Ann in full habit offered, as you can imagine, a number of head-turning opportunities at the hospital.

When Sister Ruth Ann was on mission she sang and danced and played a variety of musical instruments. She sang with the local chorales and played in a hand bell choir. When the Dubuque Presentations made a pilgrimage to Nano's homeland, Sister danced the Irish jig in its native setting. She joined the select dance group for the Presentation Convergence in St. Paul, 2006. She also enjoyed horseback riding, swimming, aerobics and line dancing.

Sister Ruth Ann visited her sister, Patty, and brother-in-law, Mark, when they were teaching in Egypt, and took weekend mini-retreats at the home of her sister, Diane. She played cards with her family when they gathered. When the card game ended and nearly everyone went home, the host family and Sister Ruth Ann watched a movie and ate popcorn. She always enjoyed the simple and the ordinary with her family and community.

When the grandchildren came to visit, "Ruthie" hid so they could find her. She was known once to have jumped the creek; well, that was the plan. With family gathered, she could have done it, but she stumbled in the launching and fell in. It turned into a first-class Takes "laughing event," with Sister Ruth Ann laughing as hard as anyone, while all waited for her brother-in-law, Dave's rescue.

For any and every occasion, Sister Ruth Ann greeted all her family with a hug and a kiss. Her nieces and nephews said that she was "just fun." And as they grew to adulthood, she continued to support them. One of her nieces chose to become a Catholic School teacher and principal, a cause dear to the heart of Sister Ruth Ann. No Catholic Schools Week passed without a call of interest and support from Sister.

Sister Ruth Ann absolutely loved life! Exuberant in ministry, seeking always to serve, she sang and danced her way into the hearts of those with whom she worked and to whom she ministered. Full of life and joy, involved in family, community, and full-time ministry, and not yet 69, her family and community were reluctant about her leave-taking when she was diagnosed in mid-January with ovarian cancer.

When rest and nutrition failed to give her strength, and treatment was not recommended, Sister Ruth Ann came to Mount Loretto, where just two and a half years earlier she had served a seven-year term as house coordinator. Sisters, young and old, and employees from all departments lined first and third floor halls, an extensive honor guard, characterized by tear-filled eyes and words of blessing.

So in touch with God, Sister Ruth Ann demonstrated her Kingdom-kinship by a truly awesome acceptance of her illness. In spite of her weakness, she was so in-touch with family and community, so present to each person, and when anyone stopped to see her she called each one by name, in her usual loving-inflected manner.

In her last days Sister Ruth Ann spoke of her love for life and for all those with whom and to whom she ministered. She said, "I did my best; I did my very best." She did!



PRESENTATION QUEST

IMMERSION & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

July 28 - August 3, 2013: Appalachia

Please join Presentation sisters in a week of community at Bethlehem Farm, a Catholic community in Appalachia that transforms lives through service with the local community and the teaching of sustainable practices. Volunteers are invited to join the community in living the Gospel cornerstones of community, service, prayer and simplicity.

August 12-16, 2013: East Coast area

The Sisters of the Presentation and the Sisters of St. Francis in Dubuque are co-sponsoring a service trip to the East Coast. Volunteers will join Habitat for Humanity personnel to help rebuild where Hurricane Sandy left so much destruction and devastation. Consider joining sisters, associates and friends in an effort to help those in need and to strengthen volunteer service programs sponsored by women religious.

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

*Together,
we make a difference*

Presentation sisters strive to create lasting solutions to poverty, hunger and social injustice in the United States and Bolivia. Your support, generosity and prayers truly make a difference, ensuring Presentation mission and ministries continue.

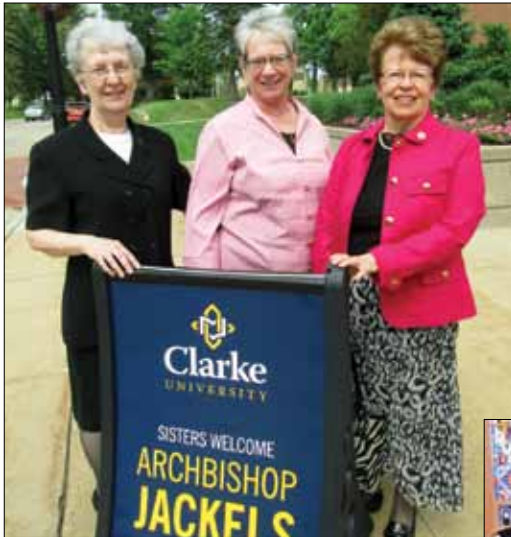
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WWW.DUBUQUEPRESENTATIONS.ORG

Under "Donate Now"

Mount Loretto AND BEYOND

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



Welcoming Archbishop Jackels

The Sisters of the Presentation were among 18 congregations of women religious who welcomed the Archdiocese of Dubuque's new Archbishop Michael O. Jackels at a prayer service at Clarke University on Friday, May 31. Several area sisters were present for the celebration. President Jennifer Rausch had the opportunity to address Archbishop Jackels briefly to share with him the life and mission of the Presentations Sisters. Pictured (left to right) are Sisters Leanne Welch and Marge Healy with Sister Mary Ellen Gevelinger, OP.



Postville: 5-Years Later

On Friday, May 10, the Presentation community gathered in the Sacred Heart Chapel for a prayer service in support of those gathered in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for an event marking the five-year anniversary of the Postville Raid in 2008. Sister Jeanette McCarthy led the congregation with accompaniment from Sisters James Marie Gross, Louise Scieszinski, Dolores Moes and Lois Lehmann.

A Question of Habit

"A Question of Habit: Changing the Stereotype of Catholic Sisters Today," brought nearly 90 communicators and other professionals serving 13 religious congregations to join filmmaker Bren Ortega Murphy for a screening of her "Question of Habit" documentary, narrated by Susan Sarandon.

Following the screening, participants had the opportunity to discuss the use of sister-images by the media and the challenges these, and other images, pose to one's specific role in serving a congregation of women religious. Discussion focused on helping participants in creating awareness, in exploring alternative ways to promote sisters and in expanding understanding of women religious today. Networking with professional peers was core to the day's program.

The workshop was sponsored by Sisters United News* of the Upper Mississippi River Valley and communicators for regional congregations of women religious.

*Sisters United News (SUN) includes the following congregations: Carmelite Nuns, Eldridge, Iowa; Congregation of the Humility of Mary, Davenport, Iowa; Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, La Crosse, Wisconsin; Sinsinawa Dominicans, Sinsinawa, Wisconsin; Sisters of Mercy, West-Midwest Region, Omaha, Nebraska; Benedictine Sisters, Rock Island, Illinois; Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa; and Sisters of Charity BVM, Sisters of the Presentation, Sisters of St. Francis, Sisters of the Visitation, and Trappistine Nuns, all of Dubuque, Iowa.

You are invited to join us.

July 19, 2013
7:30 a.m.

Memorial Mass for Karla Berns,
Presentation Associate and Employee
Sacred Heart Chapel
Sisters of the Presentation
Dubuque, Iowa

July 28-August 3, 2013

QUEST Service Opportunity
Appalachia community in
Talcott, West Virginia

August 12-16, 2013

QUEST Service Opportunity
East Coast Area

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.

July 18-20, 2013

Community Gathering
Dubuque, Iowa

July 18, 2013

50th Jubilee Celebration
Sister Janet Stelken
Sister Joy Peterson
Sister Julia Wingert
Dubuque, Iowa

October 13, 2013

60th Jubilee Celebration
Sister Karen Jasper
Sister Josita Zieser
Dubuque, Iowa

75th Jubilee Celebration

Sister Matthew Cunningham
Sister Damian O'Brien
Dubuque, Iowa

October 18-20, 2013

Conference for Sisters and Associates
Presentation People Celebrating
Our Global Oneness
Dubuque, Iowa

21st of each month

Pray for Vocations

25th of each month

Mass for Benefactors

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info@dubuquepresentations.org. Thank you.*

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 Remove my Name
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(please indicate which is correct)

Relationally **SPEAKING**

Sisters, Associates, Family, Friends in Brief



Rachel Fitzgibbon (left) and Hannah Way (right) collaborate to design a cardboard boot.



Hannah and Rachel help Antonia Cuellar get back on her feet and enjoy time with their newfound friend.

Award Recipients Making a Difference

Presentation Mission Service Award recipients, Hannah Way and Rachel Fitzgibbon are making themselves right at home in Bolivia with Presentation Sisters Suzanne Takes, Mery Cari Paz and Therese Corkery. They were recently called to Pajonal to help Antonia Cuellar, nearly 90 years old, who had fallen taking down her freshly-washed clothes drying on nearby bushes and branches. As she was stretching to reach the clothes, a huge rock from a stone fence fell on her leg, injuring her muscle. Aside from the doctor's prescription of pain medicine, he suggested she wear a boot to protect her leg and keep the foot immobile while healing. Hannah and Rachel were quick to take up the challenge and fashioned together a therapeutic, cardboard boot in no time. Antonia fell in love with her new friends, and enjoyed all the loving attention they showered upon her. The Presentation Sisters are grateful to have both these young women serve with them. Hannah and Rachel are truly an inspiration in their desire to serve the people of Bolivia.