





Merry Christmas



*As with Mary and her child Jesus, may our hearts
be alive and burning with love and compassion.
Wishing you a Christmas filled with Joy, Peace,
Love and Hope!*

Our gift to you is a novena of masses that will be
offered for you and your intentions and a donation
in your honor to our 3 mission projects:



Upper Peninsula of Michigan Catholic Schools

Venezuela for safe drinking water

*Haiti, for tuitions, salaries, medicine, food,
and necessary supplies*

**Christmas Blessings,
Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres - District USA**



News of the Sisters

- ◇ Sr. Marie Kim and Sr. Martha are still on a leave of absence to care for parent(s). Please continue to pray. Sr. Martha's sister, who is 38 and has stage 4 colon cancer, is facing some extensive surgery if the insurance will pay since the chemo has not been working.
- ◇ Sr. Patrice is now 97 and is in her end stages. She is losing weight, however, her heart rate has improved.
- ◇ Sr. Ann Charles Sia had a stroke while on a leave of absence in New Jersey taking care of her mother with tongue cancer. Her left side and speech were affected. She returned to us and had physical therapy at our Bishop Noa Home. Sr. Ann is worked hard and making progress in physical therapy. She left for the Philippines on December 4th to continue her physical therapy there and to be near her mother who is now living with her daughter in the Philippines. Please pray for both Sr. Ann Charles and Sr. Patrice.
- ◇ Sr. Juliana made a one month renewal in Rome and France with our Sisters from around the world. She earned this time away with her dedication and hard work. God blessed her in many ways and touched her heart.
- ◇ Sr. Rosaline is in Thailand for a one month family visit followed by a one month retreat. Due to the flooding in Thailand and her mother's house being damaged by the flood, Sr. Rosaline will return to Thailand in January to help her mother and minister to the sick as a nurse in this time of great need. May God be with her and her family as well as the people of Thailand



St. Michael's Parish and Their Generosity



I would like to share a story about St. Michael's Parish in Marquette, MI. At a monthly women's cursillo group meeting, the women were inspired to do more for Haiti. One of their projects was to arrange to give a short talk at St. Michael's Church at all of the masses to collect monies for Haiti. The response of the parishioners was phenomenal. They raised \$5,196.30. **Thank you one and all for your generosity.**



Thank you Students of Northern Michigan University

Once again many students from Northern Michigan University through Catholic Campus Ministry located at St. Michael's Parish helped us on October 10, 2011 to do our annual mailing for our Compassionate Heart's Club. We are grateful for the student's help and for Gail Hermann and Catherine Hardenbergh who helped us to arrange this work day and who always support us. We look forward to working with the students every year and are touched by their spirits, willing hands, and the stories they share.



Help From Students

I would like to share a little about some creative things the children of the Upper Peninsula have done. Guardian Angel Parish in Crystal Falls donated \$200.00 each month for Haiti. The money was earned from dress up/dress down days.

St. Gregory's Parish in Newberry put an old fashion school desk in the entry way of the Church with a poster saying "One Penny At a Time". They collected \$600.00 for a student's tuition and a teacher's salary in Haiti.

The students from St. Anne's Parish in Escanaba collected pennies. Pennies don't seem much yet over time they really add up.

We are thankful for the leadership who inspire the children as well as for the generosity of the children and adults.



Mission Collection Report

Now I would like to share what has been collected since we began our Compassionate Heart's Club in 2008.

Oct. 2008-2009

TOTAL \$25,491.81

Venezuela	\$7250.00
Haiti	\$9051.81
Child & Family	\$9090.00

Oct. 2009-2010

TOTAL \$46,527.16

Catholic Schools	\$7465.00
	\$805.00 to each school and some more

Haiti	\$35,685.00
Child and Family	\$3377.16

Oct. 2010-2011

TOTAL \$28,430.00

Venezuela	\$2104.00
Haiti	\$20,932.55
Catholic Schools	\$3823.00
	\$313.00 to each school

Grand Total of 3 Years: \$100,448.97



St. Gregory's
Parish
Youth Group
In Newberry,
Michigan
"One Penny At a
Time" Campaign
For Haiti





April Trip to Haiti

Sr. Francis' last trip to Haiti in April showed that improvements are going on even though they are slow. She observed feeding programs in our schools and met some of the students and teachers who received help from us. Our doctor, Sr. Mary Ann Cruz continues to do amazing work and is helped by monies and medical supplies that are sent. These few pictures of her tell more than 1,000 words. She was nominated doctor of the year

through Miami. While she wasn't chosen, she was chosen in our hearts and we found her more than deserving of this award. As you know, money was raised to get her a vehicle to travel up and down the mountain and to transport patients.

The vehicle was purchased for \$10,000 and \$500 was given for gas and Sr. Mary Ann's traveling expenses.

Sr. Francis was able to see the orphanage that was opened. It is a small





orphanage yet seeing the orphans more than melts your heart. Our Sisters talked of the pain the children had adjusting and how they were always asking for their parents. As time passed, they were asking less and less and were getting adjusted. Since her visit, we have opened a second orphanage. In the future we can help to support the orphans as well as our other efforts.





JAPAN

News of Japan

Just a little note to let you know that our Sisters in Japan are back to doing the ministries they had before - most of them work in education. But for several months after the earthquake and tsunami our Sisters were out among the people, doing whatever they could to help the needy - whether orphans or widows or anyone in need - sometimes just being there to talk with and to pray with people. Our Mother General twice tried to schedule a visit to our Sisters in Japan, but the Provincial Superior asked her to postpone her visit "because we still have aftershocks almost every day, and we are worried about you getting affected by the radiation..."

We are very proud of our Sisters and their going out of their normal ministries to help the people. They still do what they can. Please keep them and all the people of Japan in your prayers. With the land in so many areas contaminated, and so much destruction, life is still hard, and we can not say that it

Japan Still Needs Help and Prayers

I received a note thanking us for the money that was donated for the East Japan earthquake and tsunami. The money was distributed to our schools in Sendai and Morioka that were damaged by earthquake to help with the repairs and to help the students.

Seven months have passed since the enormous earthquake and tsunami happened. People have gradually gone back to the stricken area to rebuild and to try go on with life, however many victims are still forced to a life as evacuees. There is increased pain and suffering for the refugees by the nuclear plant accident. They have much to bear.

Sr. Maximilienne, the provincial of Japan, is asking us to please continue to pray for Japan. - Sr. Gloria Schultz



Thank you to the Compassionate Hearts Club

Archangels

Randy & Tennie Binzer, Spencer, IA
 Rev. Louis P. Bracket, Wakefield, MI
 Edwin J. Nichols, PhD, Washington, DC
 Rita & Don Zalewski, Stevens Point, WI

Angels

Francis F. Lewis, Escanaba, MI
 Myrna Meneses, Marquette, MI
 Mike Nidiffer, Marquette, MI
 Rev. Paul J. Nomellini, Florence, WI
 Col Bernadette L. Reider, Marquette, MI
 Martha Weatherdon, Marquette, MI

Saints

L. Jerome Allen, Johannesburg, MI
 John Baker, Escanaba, MI
 Robert & Sherri Bink, Escanaba, MI
 Delaine Bishop, Escanaba, MI
 Rita Burke, Bethesda, MD
 Thomas G. Cody, Bethesda, MD
 John & Mary Connelly, Escanaba, MI
 Kenneth & Maura Davenport,
 Marquette, MI
 Russell, Dupras, Escondido, CA
 Mrs. Elaine Fassbender, Marquette, MI
 Thomas E. Fitzgerald, Jr. Bethesda, MD
 The Most Rev. Bishop James H. Garland,
 Marquette, MI
 Joanne B. Garrity, Bethesda, MD
 Althea G. Hicks, Bowie, MD
 Ira Hutchison, Marquette, MI
 Mr. Patrick Jennings, Marquette, MI
 Dorothy Kollmann, Escanaba, MI
 John G. Kublin, M.D., Marquette, MI
 I. Larson, Superior, WI
 Fred C. Leone, Silver Spring, MD
 Mr. & Mrs. Julius Larsson, Marquette, MI
 Thomas & Carol Lepenna, Marquette, MI
 Emily Lewis, Marquette, MI
 Rev. Emmett M. Norden, Escanaba, MI
 William Perron, Escanaba, MI
 Rev. Joseph R. Sileo, Bethesda, MD
 Bart & Laurie Stupak, Menominee, MI
 Catherine M. Tolnay, Silver Spring, MD
 Twin Cities Interfaith, Menominee, MI

Joylyn O. Wahla, Marquette, MI
 Linda Walton, Deale, MD
 Rita Willour, Marquette, MI

Cherubs

Anonymous
 Emelia & Manuel Aragon, Bethesda, MD
 James & Lisa Alexander, Marquette, MI
 Tim & Carol Beauchamp, Rock, MI
 Dorothy Bloomfield, Bethesda, MD
 Lennea Bressette, Marquette, MI
 Elizabeth Carpenter, Marquette, MI
 Shirley Charlier, Carney, MI
 Dorothy E. Cherne, Rock, MI
 David & Tatyana Desjardins, Irving, TX
 John Kraft, Republic, MI
 Mike & Laura Ebert, Menominee, MI
 Sara Edlebeck, Iron Mountain, MI
 Fr. Ryan Ford, Marquette, MI
 Angela Fornetti, Marquette, MI
 Sue Giesen, Vulcan, MI
 Irene Gembel, Garden, MI
 Annette Greene, Marquette, MI
 John & Irma Greis, Escanaba, MI
 Joseph Gregorich, Marquette, MI
 James Hansen, Abingdon, VA
 Dick & Donna Hubert, Escanaba, MI
 Judy Katona, Negaunee, MI
 Cheryl Kemmer, Escanaba, MI
 Richard Marenger, Escanaba, MI
 Connie Mayville, Escanaba, MI
 Bev Moe, Gwinn, MI
 Naomi R. Morin, Escanaba, MI
 William Morris, Bethesda, MD
 Rev. Msgr. Jed Patrick, Gwinn, MI
 Miriam Ratner, MSW, Silver Spring, MD
 Edward Retaskie, Marquette, MI
 Rita Sharon, Escanaba, MI
 J.R. & M.J. Sullivan, Marquette, MI
 Matthew Surrrell, Marquette, MI
 Mary Thorrington, Marquette, MI
 Rene & Ilona Tuballa, Ashland, MA
 Regis Walling, Marquette, MI
 Barbara Whatley, Marquette, MI



WYD 2011 - Planted and Built up in Jesus Christ! Firm in the Faith *Sr. Nenita Leonardo, SPC*

A part of me considers Spain as the place of my spiritual awakening . As we toured the city of Madrid, I saw the connection between people, places, and events and the time we arrived from the airport. There was a sacredness; a connection with the Divine where deity was to live like in Avila where St. Theresa and St. John of the Cross were baptized or St. Isidore's uncorrupted body, St. James' mission place and of course our own patron St. Paul missionary journey. My gut feeling was like I was receiving the faith from these beginnings and our ancestry. *I quote from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians 2:6- 7. "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness"*. These words are powerful and awesome; they helped me in my reflection day by day in Madrid. I was living the realization that Spain baptized and Christianized the Philippines way back in 1521.

Coming to this pilgrimage allowed me to focus as I stepped on the roads of Madrid on the Roots of my Christianity which is a vital part of my faith and belief. My very being should be *rooted and built up in Him.* My life then ought to be rooted and built up in Jesus who gave me nourishment everyday as I go to Mass and my daily prayer with Him and in Him.

My experience of getting lost in the wide airfield early at dawn caused me to stop and pause. I stayed in the shelter where the Eucharist was placed during the night and said, "Lord, I should not get lost. Let me get back to the place where I was." I started humming the tune to the Lord is My Shepherd whenever I got lost as I tried to figure out where to go. With trust and with faith I walked knowing Jesus was with me. I was surprised to find



and arrive in the place where my group was still in their panchos inside their sleeping bags in a damp space after the rain. My heart was filled with love, gratitude and joy because of what the Lord was doing in my life. These experiences were telling me that I should continue to build, to be rooted and steadfast in faith with the God who called me from birth.



Pilgrimage in Madrid 2011

Sr. Rosaline Charoentavit, SPC

“Sister you might need water” The lady offered 2 bottles for me in the dark around 4 am. I woke up early because I wanted to go to the bathroom. First of all I thought that I didn’t need water, but it wasn’t true. I needed water to brush my teeth and wash my face. It was a little thing but I could feel the care of God for me.

*I would like to share a highlight of my pilgrimage in Madrid, (World Youth Day). I journeyed with Jesus who manifested in me, **“The good of my being lost when I met my good shepherd.”***

We all slept in the field where no one expected it would be like this. Some left because they were overwhelmed by the huge crowd. The number of the youth in



that area was about 1.5 million. After we took time to surrender and accept the situation, we had a space to lie down using the tarp which Greg prepared for us. We were packed like sardines. We slept even though we were wet from head to toe. I woke up to go to the bathroom. I thought I knew the way back by myself. On the way back I stopped at the drinking water tent. There a kind man offered a bottle of water to me. I started to walk back to our group but I could not find them. I met one of the youth; I think she came from Germany. She said, “Not only you are lost, I am lost too and I slept on the dusty street for 3 hours.” I continued to walk in the dark among the people who were sleeping. I met many people who were trying to find their way back to their groups. “Don’t give up you will find them,” I told myself. I felt tired and my feet were sore. I sat down several times and drank the water which the good Lord gave to me through the kindness of people. Once again I met the young lady who slept on the dusty street. She found her group. She said,



“Sister, I will pray the Rosary for you, dawn is coming, by sunrise, you will see clearly and find your group. Don’t give up.”

What was the purpose of getting lost like this? I met many kind people who encouraged me to have hope. I sat on a chair in the dark and the moon was shining. I asked, “When will the sun come up?” Most of the people started to move as there was a wake up call. It was nine o’clock, and the Mass will start at 10:00. I still hadn’t found my group. “Oh Lord, please help me. I am so tired and thirsty. All of my water is gone.” One young lady from Russia ran to me. “Are you a Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres, Sister? I am so happy to see you. We work with your Sisters in Russia.” My response didn’t match her excited conversation. “I am lost. I can’t find my group. Please help me.” The priest from Russia and the lady suggested that I ask a volunteer to find my place.

The climax of my Journey started when the crowd moved to clear their places and arrange for the celebration of the Mass with Pope Benedict XVI. Most of the youth were standing beside the way where the Pope would pass by. I was in a corner. I saw him face to face. He smiled at me. I was so happy! I forgot my problem. My heart was filled with hope through the Pope, the Leader of the Church, who is a representative of Jesus Christ. Being lost ended up being good. If I hadn’t gotten lost, I would not have seen the Pope face to face. I saw the youth jump and run to follow his pathway. This image showed the energy of the next generation who will follow Christ in the Catholic Church. “What shall I do now?” I asked the volunteers help to find my group. “Please show me your I.D.” It is D1 and not D3 like I thought. “Oh! How silly am I!”

*Now I had 15 minutes to find my group before the Mass started. So, I walked and passed the huge crowd to my group. I reported myself to my group with teary eyes: **“I was lost, but it was good being lost because I saw the Pope and he smiled at me.”***

I felt that I received big grace to see the Pope and experience being a witness of Jesus Christ in my weakness, my being lost, and my hope for the youth. The Lord raised me up today. The Mass was magnificent. It was a true celebration for me who had been like a lost sheep. The good shepherd held me in his Heart. After I wandered for about 5 hours, I will never forget that the God of Mercy gave me a big joy to be a witness of Hope. My Lord surprised me each moment. How can I repay him? I will



share about My pilgrimage and what it meant to me.

We didn't have a chance to receive Jesus in Holy Communion but I received him in my desire to meet him. When we walked back after the Mass, I saw a huge, huge crowd of youth who were marching with joy to go out to spread the good news which they had experienced not by words but by their lives. I saw many nations walk with faith and hope. It was a wonderful image to see the youth who came and joined World Youth Day. We greeted each other with our smile and the sign language of love. I realized that "World Youth Day" was a sign of new hope because the Holy Spirit showed his power among the youth of the Catholic Church. It is a sign of unity, solidarity, and love. The youth don't like to listen to many words but they want to live as the witnesses of new hope. They want to have an experience, to see, and to feel.

I was not a candidate to go to Madrid, but by the plan of God, I went to Madrid as a witness of love. Thank you to the SPC Sisters who allowed me to deepen my spirituality and to experience the hope that I will see Christ in a single day. Shall I sing, "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, what the Lord has prepared for those who love him."

The pilgrimage is not ended. We are pilgrims and we get lost several times but the Lord continues to come to us and bring us home. Thank you for all the Pilgrims who gave us a good example and shared their joy, laughter, and hope. It was a wonderful pilgrimage for me. The question I always ask... Am I strongly rooted in Christ? Are my spiritual roots expanding deeper and broader?

I pray and thank you God for giving me your Son Jesus and for all the inexhaustible supply of graces. May the water from above during the Vigil in Cuatro Vientos quench my thirst. May the spiritual food, your Holy Word, satisfy my hunger to grow in my spiritual maturity and remain ever faithful to Your calling, securely anchored and rooted in Christ to persevere in my religious vocation with joy and fidelity, to follow with courage and generosity the path He maps out for me.





Jubilee Celebration

On September 11, 2011 at St. Christopher Church in Marquette, MI, Sr. Francis Mortola and Sr. Nenita Leonardo renewed their vows. Sr. Francis was celebrating her Golden Jubilee, 50 years in Religious Life. Sr. Nenita was celebrating her Silver Jubilee, 25 years in Religious life. It was a beautiful celebration and witness to their faithfulness and constant "yes" to God.

Before the celebration both Sr. Francis and Sr. Nenita had a 40 day renewal in the Philippines which included an 8-day retreat. Following was a big celebration with their groupmates, family, and friends. Sr. Francis also had a big celebration in her home town prepared by her family.

Following is an article on Sr. Francis celebration and a personal reflection of this graced time by Sr. Nenita.

Thank you Sr. Francis and Sr. Nenita for your witness and your presence in District USA. May God grant you all the grace you need to continue to remain faithful and to grow in intimacy with Jesus.

Thank you to all who were present at any of the celebrations, who sent gifts or who helped in any way.





Renewal of Sr. Francis Mary Mortola in the Philippines

The lovely surroundings of the Sisters of Saint Paul of Chartres provincial house in the Philippines provided the perfect venue to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of nine Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres of the Philippine Province. In the presence of the Provincial Superior, the Bishop of Antipolo, priests, family and friends, the nine Sisters renewed their commitment to God and to the service of God and His people.

Among those celebrating was a Sister who has spent 25 years of her religious life, generously serving the people of God in the United States, Sister Francis Mary Mortola. There was an air of joy and gratitude as families and friends of the Sisters filled the chapel to over-flowing to celebrate a mass of thanksgiving. The principal celebrant, Bishop Gabriel Reyes of Antipolo, was joined by many priests who are friends of the Sisters. A choir of Sisters and friends provided inspirational songs that filled the chapel with beautiful music. The Sisters participated in the mass by doing the reading, petitions and remarks of thanksgiving at the end of the mass.

Sister Francis's large family and many friends showed up in numbers from as far away as the United States as a sign of appreciation for her life in the Lord's vineyard having served in both education, religious formation and administration throughout the years. In the United States she served in the Archdiocese of Washington DC, at Nativity Parish as parish minister and in the Diocese of Marquette, at St Christopher Parish also in parish coordinator. She is currently serving at Our Lady Help of Christian Center in K. I. Sawyer. It is an outreach of St. Anthony Parish of Gwinn.

Aside from her parish work, Sister Francis has faithfully served the community as a local superior and as a member of the District Council of the United States for many years. Her wise counsel and compassionate nature are appreciated by all those she serves, both the members of the Congregation, her family and friends.

After the mass, each Sister gathered with their family and friends for a traditional Filipino meal in a lovely reception room at the provincial house. It was a joy-filled afternoon as congratulations filled the air for all of the sisters from both their family and friends.

Sister Francis and members of her family and friends continued to celebrate at a gathering in Sister Francis's home town of Cagayan de Oro on the beautiful island of Mindanao. Her family had prepared a splendid celebration. First a mass of thanksgiving was celebrated at a local chapel and followed by the reception. The hall was beautifully decorated and a delicious meal was served. The Provincial Superior, Sister Zeta, recounted the years Sister Francis has served the Congregation of the Sisters of St Paul of Chartres in her various ministries adding that she always served with a spirit of generosity and sacrifice. Many of Sister Francis's friends from her childhood and school years were there also to tell some "interesting stories" and to sing praises of her many talents and love of fun. Her sister Delsa provided a slide show which gave much hilarity as she lovingly presented pictures from her sister's childhood. Sister Francis also presented each guest with a locally made bag filled with mementoes.

It was a joy and privilege to share these events with Sister Francis. She is a dear and loyal friend and with all of you, I thank God for her fifty years as a Sister of St Paul of Chartres.

- Mary Carol Goodman



Return to the Source: In the Hands of the Potter **April 1-May 12, 2011**

By Sr. Nenita Leonardo

Forty days of Spiritual Renewal with 8 days Retreat included, is an experience to cherish. Coming back in the Potter's Hands at Our Lady of Chartres Convent in Antipolo City last April, deepened once again God's call coupled with His faithfulness. The feeling of coming back 25 years to the source, to encounter Jesus by reading the Scriptures and the life of our founder Fr. Louis Chauvet and listening to the input of the different speakers molds my life in a special way. The silence and rest were conducive to my listening to His words and His love. He is the person who journeys with me through sorrows, joys, concerns, anxieties, struggles, and fears. His manifestation among the Sisters, the people, places, events and experiences touches me as well as the fact that I touch them.

The day we had the topic on "*Awakening the Mystic and Prophet Within*" allowed me to be more conscious and come to terms with my real self. I experienced how God sees me in the light and darkness and I've come to see who I am in the eyes of God. He has been patient and creative in manifesting Himself to me. The very experience that I had during one of our exercises was about the Source of light that penetrated my whole body. The sparkling light that comes in and out of me embodied His great healing, mercy and love for me. The great Epiphany that I experienced was of the God who loves me in the deepest sense of my Beloved-ness to Him. He is my God who journeys with me through thick and thin.

Then came "*Choosing the Worst Part*", and I tried to turn the Gospel around like, "Lord, who do you say I am?" This challenged me to follow Him and commit myself totally to God by my Vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. This is the value of religious life in the mission. I reflected on the following quote "*at heart, religious life is prophecy. In the line of the prophets of Israel, the religious are to be God's watch people.*" It is my duty to warn others in times of danger or infidelity, to remind them of God's word, and to call them to conversion. Thus, I am building on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. So I pondered; is my vow of chastity a daily gazing in the perspective of Jesus on the cross by loving more people with passion and compassion? Am I embracing all even if not loved by all,



sometimes feeling alone with the Alone? With the vow of poverty, did I give a generous solidarity and justice with the poor around me in the community and my neighbor? Am I involved in the ongoing search for the lost sheep and the search for the little ones? With the vow of obedience, did I possess a limitless listening to the voice of the God who calls me? Challenging indeed, a kenosis of a missionary religious. I constantly remind myself that I don't own my religious vocation. It is a gift from God and the vows I profess to the public has to be life giving! It is a gift given to me and to be shared with others for the sake of the kingdom and to make disciples to all nations, "...as the father has sent me so I am sending you to bear fruit that lasts."

My prayer is that the Lord shape me into a vessel of His grace, a vessel that can hold His Divine grace and pour that grace out on the people whom I come close.





Miracles Do Happen

We would like to share with you a letter that was received so together we can rejoice at what God is doing.

My dear sister,

On December 13th, 2010 you came to my sick bed and through the power of JESUS performed a miracle. You might question why I am contacting you 6 months later. I can only say that until now I just did not know what to say.

Let me first relate to you the events of that day from my memory. On the previous Wednesday I had major back surgery at Marquette General Hospital. I was due to be released on Saturday of that week. However, my bowels did not restart and I was kept longer. By Monday my condition had deteriorated. I was in total organ failure and the doctors had told me that I might not live through the day. At about noon you came to my bedside and asked what my condition was, and for me to put your hand on my problem area. This is where our recollection might differ immensely. I immediately felt the power of your touch radiate through my body. You might remember me frantically trying to touch your face. I wanted all of that power I could take in. I am sure that during that period you were praying for me. However, I heard not another word spoken for quite some time. I was having a spiritual conversation with a heavenly spirit. I saw that my love and faith in our Lord was perfect and the love for me was unconditional. It was a perfect moment not stained by the weakness of the flesh. During this time of ecstasy I shouted in my mind "Are you Mary?" You clearly turned to me and said one word "JESUS".

I heard not another spoken word until I suddenly returned to a physical awareness and you were saying you came to the hospital on Mondays and Thursdays. Recalling the event a couple days later my wife and I never recall you coming into the room or introducing yourself. We seriously considered the fact that you might have been an apparition. It was only days later when we investigated your presence, that we found out you were a real person.

Within the hour my bowels came alive and all my organ systems returned into normal ranges. By five the next morning all my blood tests, which only twelve hours earlier were grossly abnormal, were perfect. My clearly relieved physicians could not discharge me fast enough. To this day my recovery is progressing nicely.

You know it was the power of JESUS that healed me. It is also quite clear that this happened only because of the holiness of the vessel that JESUS worked through. My family can never repay you for that. Truly you are blessed with GODS favor. I know this is not easily earned. Your life of service can not be underestimated. My thanks will never be adequate for your blessedness.

*With great love and respect,
Fred Albrecht*





Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help

Several of us took a day trip to Green Bay, Wisconsin to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. It is a simple shrine yet a holy place and our hearts were touched by the presence of Mary and Jesus. We were able to attend mass there and to pray for you.

Now maybe you don't know anything about the Shrine. The 1850's were a time of great immigration to Wisconsin. Among the Belgium immigrants of 1855 was a family from the province of Brabant with a daughter Adele Brise who lost her eye as a young child. She was known for her fervent piety, simple religious ways, and confidence in the intercession of the Blessed Virgin.

Our Lady appeared to her in October of 1859. Adele first saw our Lady standing between two trees while on her way to the grist mill. In one of her encounters, Adele asked after being counseled, "In God's name who are you and what do you want of me?"

The Lady said, "I am the Queen of Heaven...Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation... Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the sign of the Cross, and how to approach the sacraments; that is what I wish you to do. God and fear nothing. I will help you."

To learn more about the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help go to shrineofourladyofgoodhelp.com

Together let us approach Mary in confidence for our needs and the needs of our world.

Mary, our Lady of Good Help, pray for us!





Trip to South Bend

I will always remember the day when the Sisters of St. Paul went on a trip to South Bend, Indiana. That was a Friday, September 23rd and God gave us a beautiful day to travel with the sun shining, blue sky, and cool breeze blowing on our faces.

The day before the trip was a very busy one for the four Sisters of St. Paul in Marquette. They shopped, worked, and baked in preparation for the long trip. It was not surprising because it is so typical of the SPC Sisters to make sure that there will be enough provisions for everyone. By 8:00 p.m. everything was ready to be loaded in the car early the next day.

The Sisters planned to be all in the car at 4:00 a.m. You can just imagine the time of our rising in order to be down in the garage right on time. I could not sleep thinking of our trip. So I was down at 3:45. I wanted to help the Sisters load the car but they were done doing them before I came. Sr. Gloria was in Escanaba so we agreed to meet at a parking lot in Rapid River by 5:00. She left Escanaba at 4:30. She made a good calculation. We both arrived almost the same time at the parking lot of an apartment building. We transferred all our provisions into the van that Sr. Gloria was driving and started on our journey toward St. Ignace on U.S. 2. We had a quick breakfast at McDonalds before crossing the Mackinaw Bridge down to South Bend, IN.

The Sisters made this trip to visit and see the “Women and Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America” exhibit at the Center for History in South Bend, Indiana. This traveling exhibit is sponsored by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. While in South Bend, the exhibit is at the Center for History. The Sisters of the Congregation of Holy Cross offer free housing for women religious at their Motherhouse at Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame, Indiana.

The display features photographs and information telling the story of each congregation’s founding, history, mission and charism, and past and present ministries in the United States and in countries around the world. Each community’s habit is on display, along with a photograph of Sisters wearing the habit. It also gives a brief history of the garment.

Women and Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America reveals the mystery behind a small group of American Women who helped shape our country. First arriving in America nearly 300 years ago the Sisters have opened schools, colleges, and hospitals. They also have provided social services that have served our people. Over the years these brave women overcame many difficulties both physical and cultural to bring their caring influence all over the country. -Sr. Marie Claire Tuballa

My Impression of Women and Spirit

I found the exhibit very well done and very moving. While I already had a good idea of the history of Women Religious in the United States, I was deeply touched by the pioneer spirit of every Congregation and the creativity and courage that was used to meet the needs of the day. I could clearly see how this spirit continues in women religious to this day.

In our Congregation we speak of the tranquil daring, courage, and great love that are a part of our history and that moved us through the French Revolution, accepting our first mission territory in Cayenne in 1727 under difficult circumstances and then to many foreign lands in order to build the Kingdom of God. It was inspiring and touching to see how the same spirit in our Congregation starting in 1696 was the same spirit in Religious Women in the United States both past and present. There is indeed a unity and zeal in Religious Women to build the Kingdom of God regardless of the cost.

God, thank you for calling us, thank you for the millions of “yeses” throughout the years and thank you for continuing to call and to touch the hearts of young women in the Church today.
Sr. Gloria Schultz



50th Anniversary of District USA

We would like to let you know that in 2013, we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in District USA. Due to our small numbers to help with preparations, we will kick off our celebration on August 5, 2012 with a presentation of our history through power point, music, pantomime, and skits at Holy Name School in Escanaba, Michigan. Please mark you calendars. Then on May 19, 2013 we will have a celebration at St. Peter's Cathedral. We certainly hope that you can join us. We are letting you know in advance and hope that this helps with your planning.

Renovations

Praise God we have some young women showing interest in entering. This has motivated us to look at the need to renovate the bedrooms in our Motherhouse. When the Motherhouse was built in 1968, common bathrooms were the norm. This is no longer true so we would like to put a bathroom between bedrooms to better meet the needs of professional women who would enter.

District Assembly Begins on the Birthday of Mary, September 8, 2011

All the Sisters gathered in Marquette for our District Assembly which was on vocations. How great to start on a Feast of Mary and to entrust this Assembly into her hands. With the help of two Franciscan Sisters we looked at ourselves and asked if our hearts were open and ready to receive young women and to adapt to the changes necessary for formation since Vatican II. We also looked at what we are doing to promote vocations and what more we could do. We would appreciate your support in this matter by doing what you can to promote vocations for us. We are certainly open to any ideas that you have to offer.

We have prepared new vocation materials to help including a banner, 3 vocation posters, and 3 brochures, business cards with a prayer on the back and a postcard with our mission statement. We are excited about what we have accomplished.

If you or anyone you know is interested in religious life and would like further information, please let us know.

Please pray, pray, pray for vocations to our small District.
Sr. Gloria Schultz





A Heartfelt Thank you to everyone who donated in whatever capacity you chose.

Harley & Marquerite Adair, Marquette MI
Ray & Jeanneane Adamini, Marquette, MI
Mark & Julie Aho, Marquette, MI
Frank & Beth Allen, Marquette, MI
Ortacia Allen, Washington, DC
Cynthia Ampe, Marquette, MI
Anonymous donation for the community
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Joseph Grondine, Escanaba, MI
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 Tony & Pat Wros, Marquette, MI
 Geri Zanon, Port Angeles, WA
 P.Tim & Susan Zhulkie
 John Zimmermann, Gladstone, MI

In memory of Ruth Morrison

Kenneth & Maura Davenport,
 Marquette, MI
 Jack & Francine Friedman, Wilmington, NC
 Susan Ritter, Marquette, MI
 Gene Scalvini, Concord, NC

Compassion Hearts Club – 3rd year Saints

Bonnie Hurkmans, Gwinn, MI
 Julius & Geraldine Larsson, Marquette, MI
 Ruth Morrison, Marquette, MI
 In Loving Memory of Ruth
 Carol Sedlock, Gwinn, MI

Please, Remember us in your will.

When you write or review your will, please consider leaving a charitable bequest. Ask your attorney to include such words as these: *"I give, devise or bequeath to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Paul, 1300 County Road 492, Marquette, MI 49855-9632, for its general purposes, all (or state fraction) of the rest, residue or remainder of my estate, whether real or personal."* Or *"I give to the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres, 1300 County Road 492, Marquette, MI 49855-9632, the sum of _____ dollars to be used for the general purposes of the Sisters of St. Paul."*

Note: "Congregation of the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres" is a legal title of the Sisters of St. Paul.

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Want more information about becoming a Sister of St. Paul?

You may write or email Sr. Gloria Schultz at:

Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres

1300 County Road 492

Marquette, MI 49855

Email: srstpaulweb@yahoo.com

www.sistersofstpaulusa.org



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Envelope Enclosed

We are enclosing an envelope for those who may wish to make a donation, write for information, be added/deleted/make correction to the mailing list or to add a friend to the mailing list, etc.

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_____ I would like more information on becoming a Sister

_____ I would like information on including you in my will

_____ I wish to make a donation for _____

_____ I wish to make a donation for _____ to the

Mission Projects

_____ Venezuelan water project

_____ To rebuild Haiti Schools and Haitian relief

_____ The Catholic Schools in Marquette Diocese