



ONE

Life

ONE

Lamb

ONE

Resurrection



ALLELUIA! JESUS IS RISEN!

Easter Greeting

Easter ushers in much joy
Celebration fills the air
There is buying of Easter baskets
And thinking of Jesus is rare
Colored eggs and chocolate bunnies
A rainbow of jelly beans
But how many people truly know
What Easter really means?
Easter is a time of promise
That God has given to man.
It's the culmination
Of His redemptive plan.

*Easter blessings to you and your loved ones.
May you find the renewal of hope, health, love
and the spirit of the Risen Jesus.
May you recognize the ways Jesus shares
His resurrection promise
and is always with you.*



New District Superior, Sr. Estela Garcia

By Sr. Gloria Schultz

On December 8, 2016 Mother Goretti Lee, our Superior General, called from Rome to notify Sr. Estela Garcia and myself that Sr. Estela was named as the District Superior. It was the Feast of the Immaculate Conception so it was clear that Mary was watching over us and would continue to hold Sr. Estela and the District in her hands and lead us in the ways of her Son, Jesus. What a gift for the beginning of Sr. Estela's three year term as District Superior.

Along with the naming of the District Superior was the naming of the District Council. I am serving as the 1st assistant. Sr. Rosalie Hughes is the 2nd assistant and Sr. Mary Ann Lauren is the consultative assistant. May the Spirit guide us and Mary our Mother watch over us and lead us all closer to the loving Heart of Jesus.

Sr. Estela was living in Washington, D.C. and her ministry was as a teacher's aide. This is a big transition for her. Plans began immediately for her to put in her resignation at St. Jane de Chantal School and for her to come to Marquette for the installation which was on December 28, 2016.



All of the Sisters gathered in Marquette for this momentous moment in the history of the District and Sr. Mary Ann was also with us from Rome. After a full day of a council meeting, we gathered in the chapel for the Transfer of Leadership Ritual and vespers. I, as the former District Superior, handed on leadership through the symbol of the seal of the Congregation. The former council members, Sr. Rosalie Hughes and Sr. Juliana Djo, offered our Book of Life which guides the way we live and the Capitular Acts from our Chapter which give direction to the areas of challenge and growth that we are working on throughout our Congregation. During our prayer each Sister greeted Sr. Estela and offered support and a willingness to work together. At another point, with extended hands there was a blessing of Sr. Estela and her council deeply aware that we need God's blessing and help to embrace what is was being asked of us.



The taking of pictures followed our joyous prayer for the transfer of leadership and then a special meal prepared by the Sisters continued the celebrating moving from the chapel to the dining room. Joy filled the air as we ate and shared. This joy continued into the clean-up and dishes. May the joy of the Lord always fill our hearts and lives. Thank you God for change and for always being with us.

Early January Sr. Estela returned to Washington, D.C. to take care of business, rest and pack. During that time, I continued as acting District Superior, until Sr. Estela returned to Marquette on March 24, 2017. Another celebration of welcome took place in the local community of Marquette. It is always wonderful when our numbers in a house grow as it helps with the life of the local community.

With Sr. Estela being named as District Superior, many shifts and changes are underway in the District. We know that you are and will support us with your prayers.



*(Article from the UP Catholic
printed with permission)*

Sr. Estela Garcia Named SPC District Superior

By John Fee

She started her journey to being a religious sister in 1969 by jumping out of a window in the Philippines. Now she's moving from Washington, DC to the motherhouse in Marquette having been chosen by her order to be district superior of the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres in the U.S.

A native of Naguilian, La Union in northern Philippines, Sister Estela Fortunata Garcia was told by a priest who was instructing her for her reception of First Holy Communion, "You know you are lucky because you are learning about God, about Jesus. But, there are those in remote places, they don't know about God because no one goes there to help them." The youngster said to herself, "When I grow up I would like to go to that place to help those children."

Her Catholic family went to church every Sunday and the future nun was a member of organizations such as Children of Mary, Legion of Mary, and Sodality of Our Lady. As a college student she visited the poor with others. After graduation, she taught school for a year.

Even though her career in education was off to a start, Sister Estela said she "couldn't contain" herself due to thinking "I need to go to serve the Lord." However, her family objected.

"When I went to ask permission, my dad said, 'Over my dead body,' and he closed the door," Sister Estela said. But her bedroom window was close to the ground. "I jumped out the window,



saw a bus and stopped it and I went."

The following week the 21-year old prospective nun was to ride a bus to a convent to begin religious life. The mother superior called her parents and said, "If you want to see Miss Garcia one last time, we are going to gas up at the station."

Through the bus window she saw her parents at the gas station, crying, and the mother superior told her about the call. She went to them to say goodbye. Even though they didn't want her to go, Sister Estela said she knows in their hearts they were saying, "If that's what you want." She made her final vows in 1977.



When Sister Estela was sent to the United States as a missionary, her father was sick with cancer. She didn't want to leave him but he surprised her by saying, "What happened to your commitment? Why are you saying no now? You go. Our home is not here. I'll go first. Our home is there. Our life is temporary here." Sister Estela said, "I cried because he had more faith than me."

Sister Estela has been in the U.S. since 1986, ministering in Michigan for seven years - six of those teaching first and second grades in Menominee - and 23 in Washington, D.C. area teaching. She earned a master of arts in education from Northern Michigan University in 1993. Now she begins a three-year term succeeding Sister Gloria Schultz, a native of Bessemer, who has been district superior for nine years.

Sister Estela said she was "apprehensive" after receiving a call from Rome informing her of her new duties. However, she said it gives her confidence knowing Sister Gloria and the other sisters will help her. In fact, Sister Gloria is currently acting district superior until Sister Estela receives some training and can move to Marquette in a few months.

The "nitty gritty" of the district superior's duties, according to Sister Gloria is, "making sure everything within the district operates well, from all the houses, the problems of the sisters, challenges, all those things that come up including finances." Among

the locations under the sisters' care is the district house in Marquette, the Bishop Noa Home and the new memory care facility in Escanaba and operations in the Washington, D.C. area. However, the main responsibility is to be, "Spiritually animate, and keep the life of the sisters going."

"We are grateful for Sister Gloria, because our district is flourishing because of her. I would like to continue the legacy that's Sister Gloria has started," said Sister Estela.

Washington D.C. Sisters Moving

By Sr. Gloria Schultz

In May 2006, the Sisters in Washington, D.C. moved into St. Ann's Convent on Yuma Street. They moved in with another Sister from another Congregation and shared many happy years until Sr. Madden died. Our Sisters continued living there and have connected with the people in the parish and in their residential area. Now the Parish is considering selling the convent and our Sisters need to move. At present we are looking for a place to live. We ask your prayerful support as we prepare for this change in our Sister's lives.

Presently, we are asked to move by the end of June so mid-May I will drive the van to Washington, D.C. with several Sisters to help with packing and preparations for the move. Please also pray for our safe trip and the success of our helpful hands to get most of the packing finished.



Formation in the Philippines

Sr. Priscilla De Guzman

"I remember the devotion of your youth and how you loved me as a bride."

Jeremiah 2:2

The formation in the Philippines for me was an experience of God's love and mercy. Through the Sisters in community, I felt warmly welcomed, accepted and loved. Thanks to Sr. Lilia Therese Tolentino, SPC Provincial Superior and her council for the hospitality and generosity in assisting me and for providing me with what I needed to grow deeper into my integration process in the community. I felt deeply touched by their support and concern. Thank you very much.



Familiar places reminded me of my initial formation 40 years ago and constantly reminded me of the Scripture passage from the prophet Jeremiah " I remember the devotion of your youth...."

The two years went by so quickly. Aside from reuniting with the Sisters, friends and family, the process of unlearning, re-learning and learning, took place in an atmosphere of joy and enthusiasm with the young sisters in formation.

Following the program in the juniorate (term used for sisters with temporary vows), I was blessed to join activities and sessions of the sisters preparing for final vows. I also had the chance to join the first year Junior Sisters and attend inter-congregational modular classes. I also joined the midyear recollections and annual retreat with all the Junior Sisters including the junior sisters from Vietnam and East Timor. It was always fun to be with the Junior Sisters. I am grateful to all of them for being so loving and caring and for making me feel several years younger. Thank you to Sr. Auralita Intal, SPC Assistant Provincial for Formation. Thank you to all the formators and all the Sisters in formation.

I was given nine months for my apostolate to work as a Chief Nurse in Mere Monique Home, a retirement home for our elderly and sick Sisters. Here I met some of the Sisters I worked with, my teachers, mentors, superiors, friends. Their witness of fidelity is priceless

and how beautiful to see their transformation from the efficient professional roles in apostolate to being serenely who they are before the Lord. I am forever thankful for this privilege. I am grateful to Sr. Reginald Pastrana, SPC Local Superior and all the Sisters and staff of Mere Monique Home and St. Paul Hospital Iloilo City.

A two month intensive program was designed for my enclosure in preparation for my final vows as well as prepare for my return to Michigan. I am grateful to Sr. Maria Consuelo Celis, Juniorate Directress for accompanying me in my journey, as well as to my teachers, Sr. Antoinette Bengson, SPC and Sr. Estrellita Orino, SPC.

A new path unfolds in my journey back to the US District to be home with the Sisters, friends, those we work with and those we minister to. I am grateful to Sr. Gloria Schultz, SPC, the District Superior at that time, for allowing me have my formation in the Philippine province. To Mother Goretti Lee, SPC General Provincial for giving me the opportunity to have a formal formation in the Philippines.

Thank you to Sr. Estela Garcia ,SPC the newly appointed District Superior and all the Sisters in the US District for all your prayers and support. I look forward to being home soon!





New Life for the Sisters of St. Paul in District USA

By Sr. Gloria Schultz

Everyone knows the joy of parents when a baby is to be born. We are experiencing the same joy of new life as Anna Hyeon Gang has entered the Sisters of St. Paul in District USA as a postulant. As I write this, she has not yet arrived. Her arrival day is March 29th, so around the time you receive this newsletter, she will be in Marquette if all goes as planned.

Anna comes to us from Toronto, Canada. She is Korean by birth. Her family moved to Canada when she was 15 years of age. She is trained in Chinese Medicine-Eastern holistic medicine, and so has been working in this field of healing. Our next newsletter will bring you more news about Anna. In the meantime, please keep her in your prayers.



End of Ministry in Wakefield

By Sr. Gloria Schultz

It with sad hearts that we share with you that we will not be leaving Sr. Norma Vicentillo and Sr. Dorothea Jang at Divine Infant Living Center in Wakefield. This also means an end to their outreach in the area. Our financial



situation has changed and we need to put our Sisters into stipend ministries in order to survive. Their presence on the Western end of the Diocese has made a difference to many so along with our sad hearts many people share this sadness. We wish it could be different, however there are times in life when God closes a door so that some other window can be opened. We trust that God is leading and guiding us.

Our Sisters will be leaving Wakefield the middle of May. Sr. Norma is now the Juniorate Directress and will go to Washington, D.C. for a few months. Sr. Dorothea is waiting for her new assignment. Please keep all of this in your prayer.





Sister Update

Sr. Gloria Schultz— Sr. Gloria has been named the First Assistant and Postulant Formator for a young woman entering our Congregation the end of March. She will also help Sr. Marie Kim with her re-entry to religious life and with her grief work. Sr. Gloria has also been assigned by Bishop John Doerfler as coordinator of the women religious in the Marquette Diocese.

Sr. Marie Kim Phuong Nguyen – Sr. Marie has been on a leave of absence taking care of her parents who were ill and aging. Her parents have died so she returned to the District on March 20th. She will reside in Marquette for a period of re-entry. Presently her brother is in the hospital. Please remember him and the family in prayer.

Sr. Priscilla De Guzman – Sr. Priscilla finished her formation in the Philippines and returned to Marquette on March 15th. She is scheduled to leave for D.C. April 7th where she will do a ministry experience in the United States before she makes her final vows at St. Christopher Parish on August 27th at 3:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this momentous time in our history.

Sr. Norma Vicentillo – Sr. Norma has been named as the Junior Directress and will help Sr. Priscilla in her final stages of preparation for vows. Sr. Norma will go to Washington, D.C. in the van trip mid-May. She will stay there until August when she and Sr. Priscilla will come to Marquette awaiting their new assignments.

Sr. Juliana Djo—Sr. Juliana celebrates her 50th Jubilee in 2017. As part of her celebration of her Jubilee year, Sr. Juliana will have a home visit in Korea for a celebration with groupmates for a Jubilee mass. Save the date—Her celebratory mass in the USA will be held October 15, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Cathedral in Marquette, Michigan.

Come, join the Sisters of St. Paul for the

Third Annual "PAR-TEE"

on **Thursday, April 6, 2017** at the Island Resort & Casino Convention Center in Harris, MI. Tickets are \$50.00 including Buffet Dinner, Golf-themed Games, Raffles, 50/50, Silent & Live Auctions, and a lot of fun! The "PAR-TEE" Event provides funding for **The Gary Abrahamson Jr. Memory Care Center**, sponsored mission of the Sisters, presently housing Community Action Agency's Adult Day Service Program for individuals with Alzheimer's and Dementia related Diseases as well as free monthly Educational Programs for families and caregivers. Tickets are available at Bishop Noa Home and WDBC/KX Country Studios.

The Par-Tee starts at 4:00 p.m. E.T.

with Delicious Buffet Dinner at 7:00 p.m. E.T.

Contact: Sr. Rosalie Hughes, SPC at the Mission

Advancement Office: (906)217-2372 or

Bishop Noa Home (906)786-5810.

Must be at least 18 years of age.





Thank you from Haiti

Sr. Marie Paul, the District Superior of Haiti, has expressed her great thanks for all of the support that she gets from you. You make a great difference in their lives and the lives of those so in need. The money given for the Sisters helped to pay for the installation of a water-system for the District House. This is a great gift for the Sisters. Those who lives were affected by the hurricane often come for help so your donations go directly to those in need. Much of the money was given to keep the school in the mountains in Oriani open and to pay for teacher's salaries. The Sisters, students, parents and faculty are thankful as this school offers a great service. So you can see that your generous donations to Haiti are going to good use. May God bless you for your continued support and generosity.

Archangel

Rafael Convit, M.D., Washington, DC

Roger Kulas, Gladstone, MI

In honor of: Kari and Brandt Vettel and Sierra

Kristi and Chris Mahrer

Jennifer and Scott Hansen

Natalie and Aaron Morland

Aaron and Maric Knodel

Dr. Eric Lindahl

Ms. Mary Francis Quaid, Washington, DC

Saint

Bob & Kathy Bixby, Berwyn Heights, MD

Ms. Maria Carmona & Ari Fitzgerald, Silver Spring, MD

Jane Pryal, Escanaba, MI

Ann Richardson, Marquette, MI

Rose Mary Sankovitch, Escanaba, MI

Cherub

Angela & Larry Christian, Mitchellville, MD

Neriza Dumayas, Chicago, IL

In honor of Krisel Iquin Sabater

Arllys Eastvold, Fort Myers, FL

Teresita Gelvoria, Northridge, CA

Dorothy Kollmann, Escanaba, MI

Lawrence & Angeline Lundquist, Menominee, MI

Stephen & Patricia Lynott, Marquette, MI

Rev. Msgr. Jed Patrick, Gwinn, MI

Mrs. Vincent Puritano

Margaret Mary Russell, Bethesda, MD

Susan Ritter & Gregg Sutherland, Marquette, MI

Dcn. Dave & Diane Talford, Escanaba, MI

Ilona Tuballa, Toms River, NJ



Compassionate
Heart's Club



A heartfelt Thank you for all the gifts and donations to our community and the Mission Projects.

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 Mike Beauchamp, Marquette, MI
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Thank You!

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

You may write or email Sr. Estela Garcia at:

Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres

1300 County Road 492

Marquette, MI 49855

Email: srstpaulweb@yahoo.com

www.sistersofstpaulusa.org

“Like” us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/SistersofStPaulUSA

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.

Name _____

Address _____

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_____ I would like more information on becoming a Sister

_____ I would like information on including you in my will

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_____ To rebuild Haiti Schools and Haitian relief

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_____ The Catholic Schools in Marquette Diocese

_____ Central Africa