

*In his great mercy he has given us...
a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

1 PETER 1:3 (NIV)

CELEBRATE

Easter!



ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

The Sisters of District USA send you Easter greetings.

**May our Risen Lord and Savior
fill you with Jesus' Easter gifts of love, joy and peace.**

A mass will be offered for you and your intentions.

You are in our prayers always.

Love and blessings,

Sr. Mary Ann Laurin and Sisters



Alleluia! Jesus is Risen.

**May your Easter be filled
with the wonderful gifts
that only our Savior can give –**

**May you walk in the light
of His goodness and grace
today and each day that you have.**

**Together may we be alive in the Word
and lights for the world.**



Sister Updates

- Sr. Mary Ann Laurin served as head of Pastoral Ministry at Bishop Noa Home until December 26, 2019. After being named District Superior, she moved to Marquette on January 3, 2020.
- Sr. Dorothea Jang was named head of Pastoral Ministry at Bishop Noa Home on January 1, 2020.
- Sr. Clemence Maria Mira moved to Bishop Noa Home on December 26, and is serving as Assistant in Pastoral Ministry.
- Sr. Eden Orlino was transferred to Hong Kong Province on January 1, 2020. She will be helping the Sisters of St. Paul there in many ways – teaching, pastoral services, community ministry.
- Sr. Priscilla DeGuzman is in the Philippines due to health concerns. She is staying at Mere Monique Home, seeing how the new medications affect her and doing therapy.
- Sr. Estela Garcia moved to Stephenson on January 30th, and is now working with Sr. Norma at Precious Blood Parish. She will leave July 10th for a home visit, spiritual renewal and celebration of her jubilee in the Philippines, returning on October 3rd. The US celebration of her 50th Jubilee will be at St. Christopher Parish on November 8, 2020.
- Sr. Juliana Djo is tentatively planning to have her home visit in Korea from May 15 to June 16, 2020.
- Sr. Daria Moon had to change plans for her home visit and jubilee due to her mother's illness. She went to Korea on February 19 to care her ill mother. Her return is scheduled for August 19, 2020.
- Sr. Rosalie Hughes is currently doing volunteer ministry at St. Christopher Parish in Marquette.
- Sr. Maria Diem Nguyen will remain in Washington DC until she passes the TOFEL exam. Then she will study nursing.



New District Superior and Council

The Sisters in the District of the USA have a new District Superior named for a three-year term beginning on January 1, 2020. She is Sister Mary Ann Laurin, who had been in Rome from December 2007 until November 13, 2019. She will be assisted in the ministry of leadership by Sr. Gloria Schultz and Sr. Marie Kim Nguyen, who were named on January 13. The District Superior and Council Members are named by Mother General and the General Assistants in Rome after a consultation of all the Sisters of the District. May God bless our new leadership team and grace them with an abundance of gifts of the Holy Spirit.

We thank outgoing District Superior, Sr. Estela Garcia and her Council Members, Sr. Gloria Schultz and Sr. Dorothea Jang who directed the USA District from December of 2016 through December of 2019. May God bless you with all the graces needed in your present ministries.



6th Annual ParTee Fundraiser

for the Gary Abrahamson Jr. Memory Care Center
In Escanaba, Michigan

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Begin Course 4:00—5:30 p.m.

Complete Course by 6:30 p.m.

Buffet Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

all times listed are Eastern

Island Resort Casino & Convention Center
Harris, Michigan

2 Person Teams • Indoor Golf Themed Event
18 Hole Course • Buffet Dinner
Flight Prizes • Raffles • Silent Auction

Tickets \$50.00 Each

Participants must be at least 18 years of age
Tickets available at the Bishop Noa Home
or call Mary 906-786-5810 ext 150



Dear Friends,

May our Risen Lord Jesus grant you a joyful Easter Season! May you experience the Resurrection in your own life!

Alleluia!

A saying attributed to St.

Augustine is: *"We are Easter people, and 'alleluia' is our song."*

About the resurrection, St. Paul said, *"If we are not risen, then people do not rise, and if people do not rise, then neither did Christ rise, and if Christ did not rise, then vain is our faith, and we are of all people, the most deceived."* (cf. I Cor. 15: 13-15)

When I think of Easter, I always begin with the prelude ... long, long ago, when God created the world, I think he had a vision of how he wanted people to be, how they would live and interact with each other. As a master artist has a perfect picture in his mind, or a maestro has the perfect concert in his mind, so God had in mind a plan for the perfect world.

Then, as people acted in ways not in conformity with his perfect will, he had a meeting of the "CEO's" – Himself, His Son, and their Holy Spirit. "What shall we do? We can't let this go on. Someone needs to show them the way to live, the way to love." In God's all-prescient will, he knew what it would take ... a total self-giving, not a reluctant or forced sacrifice, but a complete self-surrender to the death out of love.

Of course, we know "the rest of the story," how Jesus became the humblest of men, living among ordinary people, always united to his Father, always acting in conformity with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, how he called people to follow him, how he cured infirmities and expelled demons, and how everything he did was done in love.

He continued saying "yes" to the Father even in the most difficult situations, *"even to death, death on a cross. Because of this, God raised him high, giving him the Name above all other names, so that every that at Jesus' name every knee should bend, of those in heaven, on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* (cf. Phil. 2:5-11)

May this Risen Lord Jesus live always in your heart, interceding for you to praise God always and to follow the perfect will of his Father.

Sr. Mary Ann Laurin



**Reflections on Praising God in
the Psalms
by Saint Augustine of Hippo**



“Our thoughts in this present life should turn on the praise of God, because in the life to come we shall rejoice forever in praising God. We won’t be ready for that life of praise unless we train ourselves for it in this life now.”

“So, we praise God during our earthly life, and at the same time we lift up our petitions. Our praise is expressed with joy, our petitions with yearning. For we have been promised a glory we possess now only in part. Because the promise of glory was made by the Lord who keeps promises, we trust it and are glad; but since full possession is delayed, we long and yearn for it. It is good for us to persevere in longing until we receive what was promised. When yearning is over, praise alone will remain.”

Alleluia, Praise the Lord

“So, I urge you, praise God! That is what we tell each other when we say, ‘Alleluia.’ You say to your neighbor, “Praise the Lord!” and your neighbor says the same to you. When we say, “Alleluia,” we are urging one another to praise the Lord. And this praise comes from our whole being; in other words, we praise God not with our lips and voices alone, but with our minds, our lives, and with all we have and do.”

“We are praising God now, assembled as we are here in church; but when we go on our various ways again, it may seem as if we stop praising God. But if we do not cease to live a just life, we shall always be praising God. You cease to praise God only when you swerve from the path of justice. If you never turn aside from that path, your tongue may be silent, but your life will cry aloud, ‘Alleluia! Praise the Lord!’ ”

Interesting or Obstacle?

By Sr. Maria Diem Nguyen

How interesting it is to learn something new such as: making a cake, drawing a picture, and, in particular way, learning English as a Second Language... but there are also many obstacles I have to overcome.

When I arrived in the United States, I had studied English in Vietnam for several months, but it was difficult to express myself well or to understand what was being said to me. It was extremely difficult! I almost fell into silence. I wanted to avoid being with people on any occasion as much as I could. I wanted to be alone. At that time I thought, if I was a dumb and deaf person, and could not hear or speak to others, it would be more comfortable for me. That was a bad idea, I finally realized. When I was in Marquette and then in Stephenson, the Sisters and some of their friends tried to help me learn English, and I also studied hard online, but there was no full - time program for English as a Second Language.



It was decided that I should enroll at the LADO School for English in the Washington, D.C. area. I began at Level 4 and this March I began Level 8. My classmates come from Columbia, Spain, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Italy, Brazil and other places. In addition to classes with homework, I also continue to study online. My hope is that I will finish Level 12 and then take the TOFEL Exam. When I pass it, my hope is to study nursing so I can minister somewhere.

My journey of learning English still has some obstacles. But I have to encounter them. Sometimes it makes me upset, why I cannot understand or speak English fluently. Last month when I was at mass, the Words of God came to me *“Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”* (Mark 8.33) Jesus, the Son of God, came down from above. He died for me. As a human, I am just a small speck of dust but I want to “go up”, want to be a ‘perfect person’ and Jesus told me. *“Satan, your wants are not God’s will. You have to learn from me to be a humble person, I will make a way for you, I will be your guide with love and strength for you each day.”* The thing I have to do is to get off the rock of unbelief and be a child of God, opening my heart to let God enter into my life so that I can see the resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

The obstacles! I am still facing them, but I feel peace in my heart because He will take care of me. He will lead me to overcome my obstacles. Although I am not fluent yet in English, I am feeling happy. Not only because I understand quite a bit of English, but also happy because I am integrated into the American life and society. As the saying goes, *“Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you will still be among the stars.”* (Les Brown Quotes)

Pastoral Ministry to the Homebound and those in Care Facilities

by Sr. Juliana Young Ok Djo

I remember the passage of Scripture: *"I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you made me welcome, sick and you cared for me, in prison and you came to see me."* (Matthew 25:35-36)

My ministry is about visiting people. I visit and bring the Holy Eucharist to the homebound, and to those in nursing homes in Marquette, Negaunee, and Ishpeming, to various assisted living centers, to the hospitals, and to the Veterans' Medical Facility.

When I enter their rooms, I smile and greet them by name. They also smile at me. I ask them if they would like to receive Holy Communion. After this, we pray together. Sometimes they ask me to sit down and talk with them. Sometimes they ask me to listen to their prayers. They say, "nobody listens to me." They are very happy to have someone listen to them. For my part, I feel warmly welcomed and accepted by them as well.

Those I encounter in my ministry are such good people. I am very

touched in listening to their beautiful sharing of life. They talk about their families, their sufferings, their hobbies, their faith, their difficulties, their sorrows, and share their prayers. It is an experience of God's love and mercy. Some of them have been very wounded in their life, so when I am with them, I want to be the face of God for them, showing love and compassion. I call ahead before I visit, so that they will be expecting me.

Once in a while, when I am late, or in

Pastoral ministry



a hurry, somebody will call to me and say, "Sister, you did not pray with me." So, I say to them, "Okay, let's pray now." God is with them and with me in every present moment. I am deeply touched by their sharing. My memory goes to some verses from Scripture: "*Yahweh will give strength to his people. Yahweh blesses his people with peace.*" (Psalm 29:11)

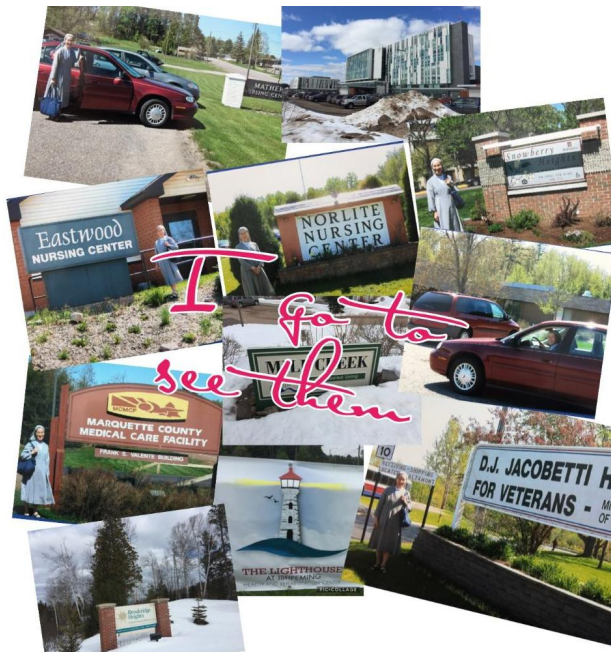
My ministry is really to the Catholic people in all these places, but often those who are not Catholic ask me to talk with them and even to pray with them. All of them are beautiful children of God.

In the Assisted Living facilities, the people invite me to come to their activity room, they show me their crafts and talk about what they have done. I show interest and ask things such as: "What color do you like?" The people are so lovely and it is joyful to see them interested in so many things.

At Christmas, St. Peter's Cathedral gives me bags of cookies for the people I visit, and at Easter, they support me in printing cards for them. I personally write every card for the residents. These cards mean a lot to them. Sometimes this card is the only one they receive. At times, when I visit the homebound at the hospital, I am surprised to see that they brought the card I gave them to the hospital. This shows how much they long to be in contact with people, to be thought of, to be remembered.

Whenever one of the people I visit dies, I try to go to the wake or to the funeral, and I always send a condolence card to their family members.

I am thankful to all the Sisters of St. Paul, the priests and people of St. Peter Cathedral, and all those who support my ministry by their prayers.





Room at the Inn: Individuals without Homes Sleep in Church Hall

By Sr. Rosalie Hughes

It has been my distinct honor and privilege to be present on several occasions at St. Christopher's Parish in Marquette when they host "Room at the Inn". The team of parish volunteers come prayerfully prepared to welcome our guests on a Friday night for an overnight stay for a week to 10 days.

St. Christopher's Parish family has an outstanding and very dedicated team who "check-in" guests from 9-12:00 pm. An employed gentleman stays 12-6:00 am. The Parish has seven "Meal Teams" who prepare generously the daily evening meal for individuals without homes at the Warming Center in Marquette. This is an incredibly noteworthy gift, blessing and gesture of warmth and hospitality in the Marquette community from the sheer love, care, and dedication of St. Christopher's Parishioners to their brothers and sisters in need! Thank you and God bless you all!

After their evening meal at the Warming Center, the individuals arrive by MARQTRAN Bus to St. Christopher's Church Hall for "check-in". A few come on their own from elsewhere. We usually have full-house with 33-37 guests per night.

I have been humbled and touched by the encounter of the presence of Christ in those individuals I have met, call by name, converse with, listen to, smile and laugh with, and yes, pray with...and who so happily bless me! It is truly amazing to touch the flesh of Christ in these beautiful individuals who suffer and struggle for life and love in so many ways, with longings and yearnings to belong, with gratitude and values of goodness and tenderness displayed midst their plight, and yet, how some so easily open themselves to prayer, blessing and faith! One gentleman, always so happy with his stay at St. Christopher's calls his bed area an "Executive Suite", and tends to it as such!! Precious man!

Some of our guests were kicked out of their families, some veterans with disabilities, PTSD, some insulin dependent, some with cancer, and others who struggle with drugs and alcohol addiction. It is very obvious how the winter cold and their severe lack of sleep affects their mental health, their interactions and relationships. Yet, deep within, is so much goodness and talent, sacred story! Once "checked-in", it doesn't take long after guests make their beds and charge cell phones, wash their faces, sometimes agitate one another but mostly care for each other, and tuck themselves in, that they are quickly quiet and asleep in the warmth of the Church Hall.



I believe and thank God that as part of our Marquette and surrounding communities – our brothers and sisters, a community within a community – are provided the most wonderful blessing of Christian service in love at St. Christopher Parish, of

being shown their dignity and worth, given warm shelter, hot meals, bathroom amenities and blankets, and a caring dedicated team whose gentleness and tenderness of spirit provide guests with peace and calm, quiet and tranquility, safety, joy and a sense of belonging! If only for a little while the quality of life is raised for the Individuals' good and well-being, Amen! To hear responses from individuals already in bed: "Thank you, Mr." and "God bless you too" means everything! And God loves each one unconditionally and perfectly!

The Wounds of Christ

By Sr. Daria Moon

The monthly gathering at our Community in Washington, DC, took place on January 11, 2020. It was a privilege as well as a delight to have with us at our January gathering, Sr. Mary Ann Laurin, SPC, (our District Superior), Sr. Maria Diem, SPC, and seven friends of our community who have experienced various losses, especially of loved ones.

The guest speaker was Fr. Dominic Eshikena, O.P. who presented a talk on the Wounds of Christ as a source of healing for all the wounds that we experience in life. In his talk, "By His Wounds, We Are Healed," Father Dominic reflected on two passages from Scripture:

"He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, and as one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely, he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed." (Isaiah 55: 3-5)

"He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (1 Peter 2:22-25)

He led the group in a reflection on the different wounds of Jesus and how each of the wounds is a source of grace, strength, and hope for us. He asked the group what



we thought about the number of wounds Jesus Christ had. There were various answers - some answered “five –two hands and two feet and his side.” Others in the group said Christ had “seven wounds,” that is, by adding the wounds of his shoulder as he carried the cross, and the crown of thorns. After some discussions, Fr. Dominic said all our answers were correct. He then led us in a reflection based on some stories of private revelations of Christ to some saints such as St. Bridget of Sweden, St. Gertrude of Germany, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, and St. Maria Faustina Kowalska.

St. Bridget, for example, wanted to know the number of times Jesus was struck during his passion. In one of her many visions., Jesus told her that he received 5,480 blows during his passion (<https://www.getfed.com/st-bridget-sweden-devotion-jesus-wounds-5853>). St. Gertrude in the thirteenth century, received mystical revelations concerning the passion of Christ. In one of such visions, Christ revealed to St. Gertrude that he received a total of 5,466 wounds during his passion (<https://churchpop.com/2018/03/15/the-exact-number-of-wounds-suffered-by-christ-as-revealed-to-a-medieval-saint/>)

Father Dominic explained that we generally focus on five wounds of Christ because after the resurrection, these were the five wounds that remained on the glorified body of our Lord as he appeared to the disciples. The wounds of Christ are powerful sources of comfort, grace, mercy, healing, and courage especially when we experience the different afflictions of life and especially when we are wounded.

As we experience our woundedness, we are encouraged to look up to Mary our Mother, who suffered in union with Christ. Mary and Jesus are united in their wounds. As followers of Christ, we are called to see Christ’s wounds in our wounds and then, to see our wounds in the wounds of Christ.

No one suffered like Jesus and Mary. They help us carry our cross of loss, grief, physical pain, spiritual distress, mental problems, financial difficulties and relationship problems. We can find healing through the wounds of Jesus. As Christians, we are called to be like Jesus, bearing the cross of life each day with love, peace and thanksgiving.

I am sure that our group also was encouraged by the wounds of Jesus. Thank you, Jesus, thank you!



Unforgettable Experiences

By Sr. Mary Ann Laurin



Who would ever have believed it? Going around the world - not once but many times to Africa, Europe, North and South America, Asia and Australia! I would never have imagined that I would be elected to a position of leadership in the Congregation at the Generalate in Rome, nor that this would lead to 12 years of going around the world! (Me – from a small rural town in the U.P. of Michigan.)

Among the 25 or so countries I visited; some moments stand out more than others. Cameroon was the first country I visited where most of the people are black. Sr. Monique and I were the only Caucasians there – but I felt at home among “my Sisters” and we were all one. In Cameroon as well as in Madagascar, one custom is that when guests come, the relatives of the Sisters come to greet us and bring gifts of food, among which is a live chicken they extend to us to hold!

In the Philippines, everywhere we went, we were welcomed as royalty. At the schools, a kindergarten was chosen to offer flowers to the visitors, and there were speeches, cultural dances, and musical performances. One time the little girl chosen to offer me flowers approached me, then suddenly turned away and ran to her teacher with the flowers. When her teacher asked her why, she said she was afraid of me because I was “so big!” But when I returned two years later, the same girl came to me with her mother and offered me flowers with beautiful elegance.



In several countries, they have only cold water – either on tap, or in a large bucket. Experiencing cold showers, the mosquitos, bed nets, and having to take medicine to prevent getting malaria and yellow fever, made me appreciate our first Sisters who went “to the missions” not knowing what they were getting into and opted to stay there for the rest of their lives.

I went to Haiti 5 times. The first time was a year after the devastating earthquake of 2010 in which over 250,000 people were killed and 300,000 were injured. Debris and ruins were still everywhere. It was hard to believe that our Sisters and students had not perished in the destruction of our convent and school in Delmas. By God’s grace, the students had been dismissed early that day, and the Sisters were outside on the porch. I was also privileged to return for the blessing of the rebuilt convent and school in later years. The people were so resilient and God centered. Practically all the shops had Christian names: St. Joseph’s Bakery, Store of the Good Savior, etc.

In Vietnam we have over 1000 Sisters. By 1975, all the Sisters’ schools, hospitals, and other facilities had been taken over by the government, and our Sisters were no longer allowed to teach in schools or work in hospitals. But with creativi-

ty, they have opened clinics for the poor, schools for the deaf-mutes, and homes for the handicapped. They also do pastoral work in parishes all over the country, traveling from their convents to their places of ministry by motorcycle most of the time.

The first time I went to Indonesia, I was very worried because I was going to a Muslim country. But meeting the Sisters and some of their Muslim neighbors was reassuring. There is a lot of mutual respect. For example, the Sisters do not eat in public during Ramadan, and they greet their neighbors for the Muslim feasts. The Muslims bring food or other gifts to the Sisters at Christmas and Easter. In learning about their fasting and their commitment to several calls to prayer each day, I really came to admire the Muslims and their devotedness.

Part of my ministry in Rome was helping in the frequent spiritual renewal sessions of groups of our Sisters coming from all over the world. This included leading the Sisters in pilgrimages along the Appian Way, to the Catacombs, to St. Peter Basilica and other holy sites in Rome, Assisi, and elsewhere in Italy. It has been a real source of inspiration to have prayed at the tombs of so many saints including St. Maria Goretti, St. Padre Pio, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Benedict, St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, St. John Paul II, St. Paul VI, and St. John XXIII.



While in Rome, other special memories were attending the audiences of Pope Benedict XVI and of Pope Francis, watching the smoke come out of the Vatican announcing the election of Pope Francis, and attending his audiences, shaking his hand, and witnessing the canonization of Pope John Paul II, of Pope John XXIII and that of Pope Paul VI.

Many times, I helped lead the renewalists to France where we prayed at the birthplace of our congregation in Levesville, and at the Motherhouse in Chartres. I also was happy to have been able to pray at the tombs of our first Sisters and of Fr. Louis Chauvet, our Founder. It was also a privilege to go to Pertuis where Fr. Chauvet was born and to Avignon where he was ordained. Then, as the schedule permitted, we also went on pilgrimages to Lourdes and Lisieux. We prayed at the tombs of St. Therese of Lisieux and her parents, of St. Bernadette, St. John Vianney, St. Catherine Laboure, and St. Vincent de Paul.

Last, but not least, I can never forget the immense privilege I have had to visit the Holy Land, to walk in the footsteps of Jesus and the Apostles, to pray at the tomb of Jesus, and to visit so many sites of biblical miracles.

This visit was made more special because the Sisters from the Philippines who minister in the Holy Land had prepared a pilgrim's guide with Scripture passages, site descriptions, and prayers for each place we visited. These included Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Capharnaum, the Sea of Tiberius, the Mount of Transfiguration, the Garden of Olives, the Tomb of Jesus, the Upper Room.

I will forever be grateful to God and my congregation for these unforgettable experiences!



My Mission at Precious Blood in Stephenson, Michigan

By Sr. Estela Garcia

My mission as District Superior from 2017 – 2019 was just finished. Time to move on and respond to what God's will for my next mission. In one of my conversations with Sr. Mary Ann Laurin, our new District Superior, she asked me to go to Stephenson, MI to help Sr. Norma Vicentillo in doing Pastoral work. I willingly accepted the mission offered to me.

On January 30, 2020, Sr. Mary Ann brought me to Stephenson. Sr. Norma, my local Superior warmly welcomed us. Fr. Edward Baafi, the pastor of the parish came shortly and helped us unload my things and brought them inside the convent. Sr. Norma was so gracious and she prepared a delicious meal for us.

The next day, Sr. Mary Ann, Sr. Norma and I had a short meeting with Fr. Edward at the Rectory and I also presented myself officially. Fr. Edward was happy to see us. He went over with us the list of activities we need to get involved with in the parish. We had a great meeting and Sr. Mary Ann was pleased about it.



The following day, Sr. Norma oriented me in the things I should do to help her in the parish like preparing the things for mass every day. I helped her prepare the cruets, chalice and hosts. Sometimes I am also a lector, server, and Eucharistic minister as well.

On February 2nd we renewed our vows and after the mass some parishioners approached me and warmly welcomed, greeted and thanked me for being part of the parish. I joined Sr. Norma visiting the Roubal Nursing Home on Tuesdays, praying the rosary with some of the residents and volunteering for the Bingo in the afternoon. The residents and staff were very appreciative and grateful for our presence.

Part of my involvement in the parish is attending the Legion of Mary for weekly prayer on Wednesday morning, CCD class on Wednesday afternoon and visiting the "Home Bound," more so in spring, summer and fall.

It was so enriching and uplifting to be with the parishioners praying the rosary, praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the church and joining them in the Adoration every Friday afternoon.

I am just glad that as a community here in Stephenson, we have quality time of prayer, consistent with our meetings and whatever activities we have we do it together. I give thanks to God for my new mission, for the mission of each one in the District and in prayer I hope that our District USA, our different SPC communities in the US will hold each other to Pray, Witness and Proclaim the Gospel.





Helping the Students Form Stronger Relationships with Jesus

By Sr. Delfina Tede

My ministry at Catholic Campus Ministries (CCM) at Northern Michigan University began with the fall semester of 2019. Every week I spend about 20 hours at the Catholic Student Center near St. Michael Church. My involvement includes participating in weekly Bible Study, and Food for Thought sessions. I attend the Sunday student liturgy at 7:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Parish, followed by a social time and informal conversation.

In addition to these specific activities, I keep busy at the CCM center, providing pastoral care and spiritual formation with the youth, as well as helping the students develop a friendship with Jesus. My most rewarding experience at CCM is when the students gather together to talk about Jesus, and to witness them form stronger relationships with Him.



Website

We recently changed our website address to:

www.sistersofstpaulus.org

Some updates are being planned

Mission at St. Francis Connection Center

by Sr. Fidelia Villa

I started my mission at St. Francis Connection Center at Sawyer at the beginning of September 2019. The center is an outreach ministry of St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Gwinn, Michigan.

We distribute food items from St. Vincent de Paul Society and bread from Econofoods on Mondays and Fridays. For some residents who can not go to the Center, I bring the food to their homes. This gives me a chance to visit them and share the love of God. I also offer a ride to pick up people to go to the Center, or I bring them home with their food supplies especially during winter time.

On Wednesdays and Fridays, the Center serves free lunch. Welcoming people from different backgrounds is always a blessing. We do not only share meals but also stories, laughter and even tears. We support one another not only materially but more so spiritually in any way we can.

I'm also given a chance to share my faith with the little ones. I do catechesis once a week at St. Anthony Parish in Gwinn with kindergarten and first grade students. It's always a grace for me to be a part of the spiritual formation of the young ones.

I'm so blessed to work at the Center and in the Parish because I've found a new family with the people I work with and those whom I serve.

Caritas Christi Urget Nos! (Latin for "The love of Christ impels us!")





Dear friends and members of the Compassionate Hearts Club,

A great big heartfelt "Thank You" to everyone who has sent donations for the Mission Projects we are sponsoring: Our missions in Haiti, actions against Trafficking of Women, the needs in Central Africa and Scholarships for the Catholic Schools of the Upper Peninsula.

We regret that several of you were targeted by the Steelworkers Union which represents some of the employees at Bishop Noa Home. Evidently they used our Christmas newsletter to obtain your names and then looked up your addresses. The letter they sent to you was very misleading and implied that our Congregation has used your contributions in ways other than you intended. We can assure you that each donation to the Sisters of St. Paul is given to the charity for which the donor specifies. If we are ever unable to use it as the donor intends, we cannot accept that donation.

If you would prefer your name to not appear in our newsletter when you send in a donation you can request it not to be included.

Sincerely,

Sr. Mary Ann Laurin
District Superior



Compassionate Hearts Club

Archangel

Genevieve Murphy
St. Mary Queen of Peace Church

Angel

Kenneth & Maura Davenport
Elizabeth & Robert Joyce
St. Anne Church
Margaret Trone
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Saint

Bob & Kathy Bixby
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Ann & Dale Ford
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Thomas & Bonnie Kilpela
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Cherub

Maria Aurora Charvat
Corazon De Lara
Nancy & Michael Fassbender
Linda Furbey
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Susie Lewis
Theresa Raikko
Mary Russell
Marilyn Syria
Deacon Dave & Diane Talford
Karen Williams



A heartfelt “Thank you” to everyone that had sent gifts and donations to the Sisters of St. Paul and our Mission Projects.

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A special “Thank you” to the following people who gave a donation to the Mission Projects of the Sisters of St. Paul in memory of Msgr. Timothy Desrochers, our good friend, and the co-founder of the Companions of St. Paul, “Fr. Tim” died January 31, 2020.

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

You may write or email Sr. Mary Ann Laurin at:

Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres

1300 County Road 492

Marquette, MI 49855

Email: srstpaulweb@yahoo.com

www.sistersofstpaulus.org



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Envelope Enclosed

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Name _____

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