

# Bread Broken

SISTERS OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY — WILMETTE, ILLINOIS



“... everywhere one sees green  
and blossoming flowers.”

*Pauline von Mallinckrodt, 1852*

# Around the Table

What an amazing issue of BREAD BROKEN that last one was. So many interesting stories—from the one about the couple who republished the book THE WOMAN IN ORBIT to the one about Sr. Mary Ann Warwick.

**Loretta Jacobs**  
Evanston, IL

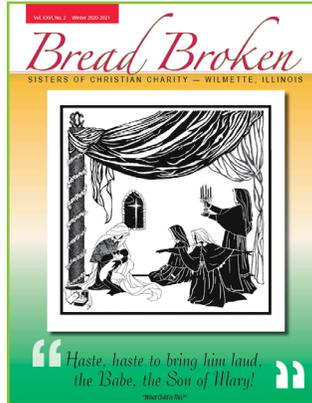
I am just getting around to responding to the most inspiring winter issue of BREAD BROKEN. Besides the lovely paper-cut nativity featured on the cover, this edition was exceptional in giving readers a close-up view of the lives of the SCCs, both past and present. I was exceptionally moved by “The Woman in Orbit” article. I vividly remember dear Sr. Manetta as the kind and caring librarian at St. Gregory during my high-school years. How great to see her photo...It was also a real balm for the soul to see the lovely photos of the flower gardens at Sacred Heart. These surely help one keep a positive attitude toward the eventual arrival of spring.

**Jean Evinger**  
Hampshire, IL

BREAD BROKEN grows better and better. I’ve just read the issue describing the celebrations of the 25th

anniversary of your mission to the blind in the Philippines and enjoyed it. Once again, I am impressed with the dedication, industry and longevity of the Sisters.

**Nancy Canafax**  
Wilmette, IL



I so enjoyed the beautiful flowers in your winter issue! The quote from Albert Camus was very uplifting and very appropriate for the times we are currently experiencing

**Sandra Smith Hale**  
Dayton, OH

Wonderful issue of BREAD BROKEN. The Sisters are very creative in many ways.

**Elaine Harwood**  
Evanston, IL

I’m always so impressed with the human-interest touches in the magazine. Highlighting Sr. Mary Ann Warwick, the Sisters planting flowers and putting the rosary sign on the fence, thanking Sr. Pauline—all give the readers an insight into the beautiful life of a Sister of Christian Charity. I also learned so much about the new outreach of Sisters going to the Philippines and the proposed work at Our Lady of Mercy Parish.

**Marge Beane**  
Ave Maria, FL



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Have you seen our website?

For current events and items not published in BREAD BROKEN, and to see your favorite Sisters, please visit

[www.sccwilmette.org](http://www.sccwilmette.org)

# A Note from the Publisher



## Bread Broken

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Bread Broken Magazine is published twice a year by the Sisters of Christian Charity — Wilmette, IL. The publication aims to be a source of information for the Sisters, their families, friends and benefactors on the presence and ministry of the Sisters of Christian Charity.



## SCC - USA Mission Statement

The Eucharistic love of Christ  
impels us  
to receive and give God's love  
daily  
for the life of the world.

*We should have  
an inexpressibly great heart  
with nothing in it but love.*

MPvM - 1849



Sr. Mary Clement Eiden  
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Dear Readers,

The summer issue of BREAD BROKEN is now in your hands. We are still in the throes of COVID-19, but we do have a bit more hope now that we did at this time last year—at least in our country. Vaccinations have eased some of the anxiety and concern. Some of our volunteers have come back to Sacred Heart Convent. We continue to pray and hope.

The main article of this issue speaks of the SCC response to injustice. As a context for this article, I share some words of our recent Holy Fathers.

“If you want peace, work for justice.” (Pope Paul VI)

“Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you. Be not afraid!” (Pope John Paul II)

“Each of us has a mission. ...each of us is called to change the world, to work for a culture of life, a culture forged by love and respect for the dignity of each human person.” (Pope Benedict XVI)

“Things have a price and can be for sale, but people have a dignity that is priceless and worth far more than things.” (Pope Francis)

In the winter 2019-2020 issue of BREAD BROKEN, there was an article that spoke about the desire for a “deeper communion” between the Western and Eastern Units of the Sisters of Christian Charity. In the summer 2020 issue you read about the work toward and consequent formulation of a common mission statement for the two Units. There have been other interactions also. Another step in our goal toward deeper unity is to have a shared publication. A committee has been formed to work toward bringing together BREAD BROKEN (West) and WEAVINGS (East). There are several matters that need consideration and a decision. Please keep this endeavor in your prayers. Look forward to what might be! ✝

*Sister Mary Clement*

Cover: A special attraction in the Motherhouse Garden in Paderborn, Germany is the colorful, natural meadow. (See article on page 17.) | Photo by Sr. Christild Neuhauser, SCC

Page 2: A rabbit rests on the front lawn of Sacred Heart Convent | Photo by Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen, SCC

# Social Justice: A Retrospective Glance

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC |  
Photos courtesy of the Western Region Archives

In preparation for this article, I read through those pages of the Western Province/Region Chronicles from 2001–2020 that Sr. Anastasia Sanford had so helpfully titled “Peace and Justice”. I was amazed at and inspired by the many and various ways in which we Sisters made ourselves aware of the human issues that “cry out to heaven for vengeance” and engaged in actions to alleviate those cries. Whether as individuals, small groups, or as a total community; whether by ourselves or with other groups; whether for some hours or longer periods of time, we Sisters are committed to work for peace and justice. We have endeavored to heed the words of Mother Pauline: “No effort is too great for our suffering sisters and brothers” (1853).

Please know that it was difficult to choose what would be included in this short article. Excerpts given here are just a few of those contained in the pages of our Chronicles. I will begin with those works of peace and justice with which we have been involved for a longer period.

## School of the Americas Watch (SOAW)

The SOAW is a protest against the School of the Americas (SOA) located at Ft. Benning, outside of Columbus, GA. It was begun by Fr. Roy Bourgeois in 1990 in response to the 1989 massacre of six Jesuits and their two housekeepers in San Salvador. Their deaths were attributed to assassins trained in violence at the School of the Americas.

The SCCs were first present at this protest/rally in November 2001. When Sr. Mary Clement Eiden and Sr. Janice Boyer left for Columbus, the only stipulation



Sr. Juliana steadies the peace pole at Sacred Heart Convent while John Nosalski pours the concrete.



Sr. Janice and Sr. Mary Clement reciting the non-violence pledge before the procession.

they were given was: “Don’t get arrested.” The two Sisters had attended a non-violence training session in preparation for participating in the protest. This first venture did not begin well, but the two Sisters returned to Columbus in 2002—much better prepared this time. Trips to the gates of Ft. Benning continued through 2014 (with the exception of 2012). Two–four Sisters from the Western Province/Region went each year and from 2003 through 2011 they were joined by Sisters from the Eastern Province. SCC participation in this protest was discontinued when the focus of the SOAW seemed to shift.

## Peace Pole Project

“Peace Poles are now the most recognized monument dedicated to peace on earth. . . . They are planted to uplift, empower and elevate the human consciousness to embrace the oneness of our global family.” (Global Peace Pole Network)

A Peace Pole Planting Service was the “action statement” of the Assembly. Neighbors, Church leaders, Village officials and friends had been invited to join the Sisters in this ceremony. . . . In the early evening of June 16, a group gathered around the “flame-wrapped” pole at Sacred Heart Convent. After various prayers the pole was blessed and unwrapped. Peace candles brought by each household were blessed and carried in silent, prayerful procession to the Peace Pole at the Province Center. All who attended received a “Flames of Peace” bookmark as a remembrance of this moving event planned by Sr. Janice Boyer and Sr. Juliana Miska. (Chronicles 2005)

Through the years, these Peace Pole prayer services were conducted at Sacred Heart Convent as part of

our annual assembly. In 2019, this service for peace was a Taize Prayer Service. . . The service was held in Sacred Heart Chapel. The pews were completely filled and chairs had to be set up. The atmosphere of quiet and candle-light was most conducive to prayer and reflection. (cf. Chronicles 2019)

## Pro-Life (anti-abortion)

Although all justice issues can be termed “pro-life”, today that term often translates as “anti-abortion”. The anniversary day of the Roe vs. Wade decision is marked by prayer, vigils and rallies across the nation. The Sisters have been part of these events over the years.

Sr. Joachim Kaufmann participated in the Walk for Life on January 19th in Tucson, AZ. Police were present to prevent any violence by abortionist demonstrators. (Chronicles 2002) Sister did this for many years.

On January 22nd the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students of St. Peter School in Fulton, MO and their teachers, including Sr. Dolores Bozif, went to the Capitol in Jefferson City to join other students from area schools and adults in praying the rosary to overturn Roe vs. Wade. After the prayer, roses for life and signatures were brought to the Governor’s office. (Chronicles 2004)

In South Dakota, Sr. Mary Clement worked with Carmen Miller to facilitate the “Fight FOCA [Freedom of Choice Act] Postcard Campaign”. The campaign was done in all three West River parishes (all small) over two weekends. Carmen and Sister



On April 24, 2010 Sr. Juliana Miska, Sr. Monica Cormier, Sr. Mary Ann Warwick and Companion of Pauline, Theresa Warwick, donned tee shirts and joined a group of volunteers handing out anti-trafficking brochures.

labeled and stamped all the postcards. Over 60 sets were mailed to South Dakota’s two US senators and one US representative. (cf. Chronicles 2009)

On January 22, Sr. Dolores Bozif accompanied fifty-five students and five other teachers from St. Mary’s Academy in New Orleans on a bus ride to Baton Rouge for the first all-state Pro-Life March. About three thousand people participated in the march. (Chronicles 2011)

In the afternoon of February 28th, Sr. Monica Cormier and Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig joined a small



Students from St. Mary’s Academy participate in the first all-state Pro-Life March in Baton Rouge, LA.

group of protesters at the building site of an abortion clinic near Ochsner/Baptist Hospital [New Orleans]. While the protesters were there, the builders stopped working and eventually left the property. For seven months the building foundation has been postponed because no construction company would take the job. (Chronicles 2015)

## Anti-Trafficking

Before leaving for South America, Sr. Mary Clement purchased a video, “The Child Sex Trade”, an investigative report narrated by Bill Kurtis. The Sisters of the Province Center watched the video together the evening of November 18th to see if this report would be a good educational tool to share with the Sisters of the Province. The trafficking of women and children, a growing problem in the United States and around the world, is a special focus of the Sisters’ concern and prayers. (Chronicles 2003)

In the fall of 2004, the SCCs explored the idea of a collaborative effort with the Sisters of the Living Word (SLW) in the area of human trafficking. In January of 2005 a workshop on Effective Partnering was opened to members of both communities and held at Sacred Heart Convent. The Counter Human Trafficking Committee was formed and met regularly

through the year to plan a trafficking awareness event. On May 5, 2007, “Awareness Seminar: Slavery 2007?” was held at Notre Dame HS in Niles, IL. This interactive seminar included videos, discussion, informational input, reflection and prayer.

The television program “Human Trafficking” was aired on January 18 at 6:00 p.m. This three-hour program was viewed by Sisters at the Province Center, Josephinum Convent and Sacred Heart Convent. (Chronicles 2009)

A press conference on trafficking was held at the Thompson Center in downtown Chicago on April 19. Sr. Juliana Miska and Sr. Monica Cormier attended. Several people later commented that they had seen Sr. Monica on the evening news listening very intently to what was being said. Although the Sisters had no opportunity to speak during the conference, they made several important contacts before and afterwards. (Chronicles 2010)

On January 19, Sr. Monica Cormier, Sr. Theresa Marie Tran, and Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig were among the women religious who gathered for a prayer service and vigil to protest human trafficking in New Orleans as the Super Bowl and Mardi Gras were approaching. The Sisters gathered at St. Rita Church for this service. (Chronicles 2013)

On Saturday, November 16th the four Sisters from the Center and six Sisters from Sacred Heart Convent arrived at the atrium of St. Francis Xavier School. At 2:00 p.m. three members of the Still Point Theater Collective began their presentation: “The True Cost: Stories of Human Trafficking.” ...[the] performance was comprised of “chapters” based on real stories of human trafficking, collected through interviews with volunteers who work with trafficked individuals. After the performance there was a 45-minute panel discussion to learn more about what can be done to combat this epidemic. (Chronicles 2019)



Beginning in 2004, Sr. Juliana Miska (right) was JPIC coordinator for the province/region. Sister kept alive our awareness of social justice issues, encouraged us to pray and engaged us in actions. In 2020, Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig assumed this responsibility. With enthusiasm and diligence, Sister carries on. She was invited to join the JPIC committee of the Eastern Province. Through this connection, we have become more aware of available resources and actions in the area of social justice.

## Immigration

During the year Sr. Margaritis Kullowitch has taken part in the activities of Sisters and Brothers for Immigrants (SBI). Whenever possible, Sister has joined the group at 7:15 a.m. on Fridays outside the Broadview, Illinois Immigration Detention Center. That is the day when undocumented immigrants are loaded onto buses there for deportation from the United States. (Chronicles 2008)

On January 8 Sr. Margaritis Kullowitch and Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen attended a Press Conference/Prayer Service at Holy Name Cathedral (downtown Chicago) sponsored by Sisters and Brothers of Immigrants. The purpose of the gathering was to inform the public about the issues of immigration and to push for legislative reform that would ease the plight of immigrants. (Chronicles 2010)

Sr. Margaritis and Sr. Susanne on the front steps of Holy Name Cathedral

In St. Louis, Sr. Mary Ann Eultgen joined 20 other Sisters, priests and Brothers from various communities to attend the initial archdiocesan immigration meeting at Cardinal Rigali Center on Saturday, February 25th. The attendees later received the minutes of the meeting and other information needed about the upcoming lobbying at the Capitol in Jefferson City, MO. (Chronicles 2012)

The Archdiocese of New Orleans sponsored monthly peace walks beginning on January 27th. Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig joined the groups each month as they walked, prayed and talked with residents of various neighborhoods. She also took part in several vigils and rallies for immigration reform. (Chronicles 2015)

On Monday, April 2, Sr. Theresa Marie Tran and her formation group at Divine Word College in Epworth, IA led a holy hour for the school to pray for the immigrants. Promoting justice was one of their goals for the year. (Chronicles 2019)

## Other areas

As I bring this article to a close, I am aware that some areas of outreach were not mentioned. So, I include a few closing, at-random selections from the Chronicles.

On September 22nd, the Sisters of St. Peter Convent (Fulton) went to the State Capitol in Jefferson City, MO, to attend the Missouri Catholic Conference. The participants had the opportunity to attend workshops on various social justice issues. (Chronicles 2001)

Sr. Mary Clement and Sr. Janice attended the “Good Friday Walk for Justice” in Chicago from noon to three o’clock. The participants made their prayerful journey through the crowded streets of Chicago praying at eight different stations. (Chronicles 2004)

A conference was held in Rome at the Generalate with Sr. Adalberta Mette and the coordinators of peace and justice from each province. Sr. Juliana Miska represented the Western Province. She left on April 21 and returned on May 5. (Chronicles 2008)

On June 26, Sr. Juliana Miska and Sr. Monica Cormier participated in the Greater Chicago Food Depository Hunger Walk. It was a 5K walk, marking



Sr. M. Joanne took this photo of a tee shirt worn by many of the peace walkers.

its 25th year, and started at Soldier Field at 8:00 a.m. (Chronicles 2010)

On January 12th, Sr. Theresa Marie Tran and Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig attended a talk at Loyola University New Orleans, presented by Sr. Helen Prejean, the author of Dead Man Walking. Her talk focused on the issue of the death penalty. (Chronicles 2013)

On the weekend of October 21-22, there was a “Black Lives Matter symposium” at Xavier University in New Orleans. Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig attended. The theme was “Urban Education Matters”. Presenters were experts in the areas of racism and racial justice, community organizing, educational reform and advocacy, racial and cultural consciousness. (Chronicles 2016)

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You have now read through a “retrospective glance”. You know, hopefully, a bit more about how the SCCs, along with so many other concerned and dedicated persons, have contributed to the building up of Christ’s kingdom on earth. Through our Pauline Ministry Fund and in many other ways we continue this work. †

## Assemblies

In 2004, the third day of our annual Assembly was devoted to peace and justice, with a workshop “Toward a Spirituality of Justice” conducted by two staff members of the 8th Day Center for Justice in Chicago, IL. A practical result of this workshop was that the Sisters chose to keep the 11th of each month [in remembrance of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington D.C.] as a day of fasting and prayer for peace and justice. For many years, monthly reminders were sent out.

The annual assembly of 2005 featured Fr. John Dear, SJ. Father presented inspiring talks on Gospel nonviolence and social justice—the beatitudes of peace and the Sermon on the Mount; Mary as teacher of peace and justice; transfiguration—the mission to practice Gospel nonviolence in a culture of violence and war. (Chronicles 2005)

Bishop Gerald Kicanas from New Mexico was the [assembly] speaker for Thursday morning, June 23. “Immigration” was the theme for the day and for the Liturgy. . . . First on the agenda for the afternoon were table discussions on “Immigration”. Each group shared their insights with the full assembly by means of a summary paper. (Chronicles 2011)

## A Tradition Carried On

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC | photo by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig, SCC

Sr. Janice Boyer is the Region's sports enthusiast and it was she who put together the first SCC Super Bowl party when she was living and working in St. Louis. When Sister moved to the Chicago area in 1995, the party came with her to St. Joseph's in Wilmette. When Sister began living and working at the Center around 2000, yes—the party was continued at the Center and more and more Sisters were coming. The Center Sisters continued the tradition after Sr. Janice was transferred to Sacred Heart Convent in 2019. Because of the coronavirus, the Super Bowl LV party of 2021 was held separately at the two locations on February 7.

The party at Sacred Heart Convent began at 5:00 p.m. in the community room. That was a welcome change from the dining room! All supper menu items were “finger foods” provided by the kitchen staff. Foods included finger sandwiches (ham, turkey, cucumber), sausage bites, cheese and salami tray with crackers, veggie tray with dip, fresh fruit tray, Vietnamese egg rolls/sausage/sticky rice cake and a variety of snacks. There was also a variety of soft drinks and a dessert—Klondike Bars provided by one of our volunteers. The nursing staff helped with the serving of those not able to navigate the food line on their own. Munching—sometimes called “grazing”—was a given for the entire evening. All food carts (along with some of the Sisters) stayed at the game to the bitter end. Most were disappointed at the outcome.

Probably none of us watching the Super Bowl (or at the party) this year knew that the first Super Bowl game (then known as the AFL-NFL World Championship Game) was played on January 15, 1967 in Los Angeles, CA. We certainly couldn't tell anyone that there is a tie for the most “winningest” team in Super Bowl history. But, that lack didn't hinder any of the Sisters from having a great time! †



## Still Remembered

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC | photo by Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen, SCC

Even though COVID-19 put a stop to most social activities, groups that would come to entertain and visit at Sacred Heart Convent—especially during the Christmas season—still kept us in mind.

- At the beginning of December, the Women's Guild from Ss. Faith, Hope and Charity Parish sent over beautiful poinsettia plants—one for each Sister. Some of these plants were around yet until the end of March!
- The Ronald Knox Montessori School came one morning in December. It was a relatively mild day and the Sisters were all outside on the kitchen porch and the ramp. The group of children and teachers stood in the courtyard to sing songs, wave and say hello. They had brought with them Christmas bags for each of the Sisters.
- The Trinity Church Nursery School sent a representative to bring us greetings and goodies.
- The Girl Scout Troop from Harper School sent a delegation on March 8. They came with a beautiful sign, boxes of Girl Scout cookies and flowers. Again the Sisters were outside to greet them.

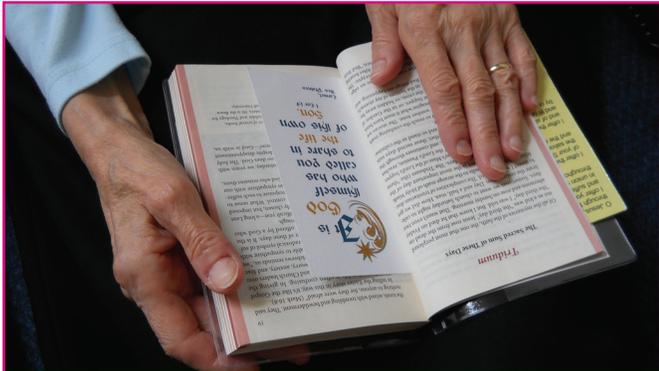


Girl Scouts proudly display their banner for the Sisters. The banner hung in the dining room for several weeks as a reminder of the young women's care for the Sisters.

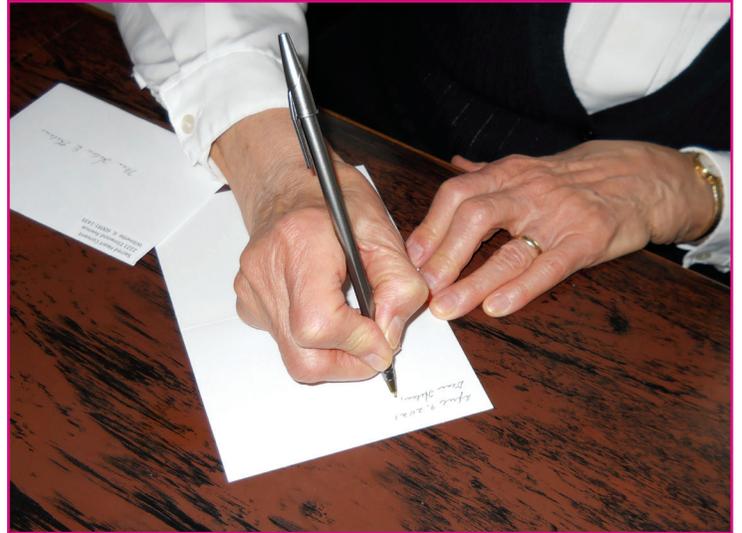
*(continued on page 19)*

# Beautiful Hands

Captions and photos by  
Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC



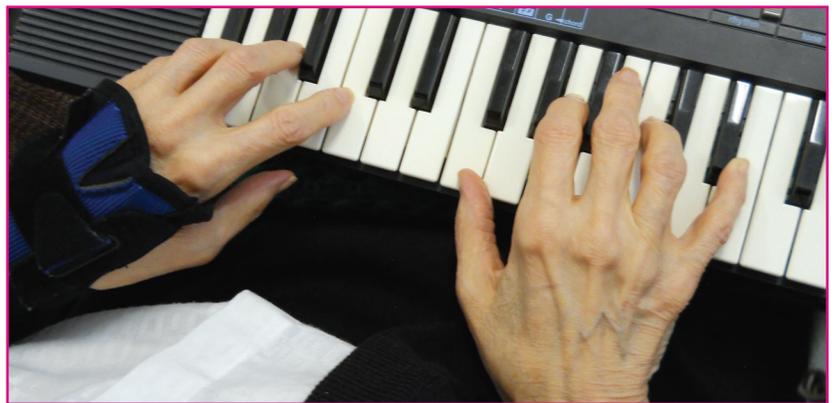
Sr. Campion Breske's hands hold a reflection booklet with which she often spends time.



Sr. Caroline Schafer is often at her desk writing notes to volunteers, friends and benefactors.



Sr. Eleanor Ann Ortmann writes out the menus for the day.



Sr. Mary Cecilia Torborg still enjoys playing the keyboard. In the past, Sister also played the violin and would share her gift with us on special occasions.



Sr. Janice Boyer is busy at the computer. She has much to "get out" in her ministry as local leader at Sacred Heart Convent.



Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen (left) and Sr. Karen Zgutowicz hold some of the hand-made decorations for the celebration of jubilee at Sacred Heart Convent.

# Six Sisters Celebrate Jubilee

Accounts collected by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC |  
Photos by Sr. Anastasia Sanford, SCC

This year, our six Jubilarians were asked to share on two topics with our readers. The first was to tell of something significant that had happened to them since the celebration of their last jubilee. For some this was ten years ago, for some five.

## Sr. Agnette Bengal - 90 Years

Sr. Agnette was not pressed for answers to the above two questions. She did recall from her past, however, that she enjoyed teaching eighth grade. Keeping discipline was not a problem for her. She also recalled helping Sr. Marina (her sister) in the sewing room but readily made it clear that Sr. Marina was the better seamstress.

Sister did not offer any thought about the current pandemic, but did recall hearing about the influenza pandemic of 1918 when she was four years old.



## Sr. Therese Fields - 80 Years

Moving from the second [independent living] to the third [assisted living] floor in our convent was something I feared and avoided for as long as I could. And yet when it happened in September of 2020, I was amazed at how peaceful an experience it proved to be. Nurses and their aides were right there to meet my every need with such loving care. And their service continues. Theirs are the hands and words of Jesus to me.

Hearing what has been going on throughout the world as a result of COVID-19, I realize that I have been greatly blessed by the Lord. It has led me to pray for the whole world, especially for those who do not know the loving Lord. It is my faith in Him that has sustained me. I am also grateful to all the staff and my fellow Sisters for their wisdom, cooperation and sacrifice that made it possible for none of the Sisters to get the virus.

## Sr. Elizabeth Ann Buscher - 70 Years

COVID 19 has kept people from visiting here at Sacred Heart Convent. I truly missed all our wonderful volunteers who were unable to come here. I missed associating with our friends. I look forward to having things back to normal and I appreciate the ways we are again able to be closer to one another now at table and elsewhere.



## Sr. Mary Ann Poppler - 70 Years

The past ten years since my 60th jubilee have been years of many happenings. I visit the Sisters who are ill and bring Communion to those who are unable to be at Mass. I do household chores such as dishes and reception duty. One significant change is that I no longer have the craft sales which I had for 33 years to contribute to the support of the Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent. I still knit and give these articles to Aid for Women. Because of health problems, my activity is limited at this time. I hope to improve so I can be more active.

COVID has put many restrictions on all of us. I find this hard, but necessary. I am looking forward to the time that things get back to normal.



## Sr. Dolores Bozif - 60 Years

Since I last celebrated a Jubilee, my 50th in 2011, I have experienced various ministries. I retired from full-time teaching in 2014 after about 50 years of teaching. At that time I was in New Orleans. I then came to Sacred Heart Convent in Wilmette to be sacristan and take on other tasks for the Sisters. I also taught religious education a few years at St. Joseph, our parish. Last year I was appointed Director of the Companions of Pauline.

As all over, many things have changed at Sacred Heart Convent due to COVID. God blessed us and we have remained COVID free. We could not always have daily Mass, but we did have a daily Communion Service. Sr. Mary Clement Eiden and I were the ministers on those days. We found out how important Eucharist is for us. I am also looking forward to the time when we can resume our relationships with family and friends.

## Sr. Bernadette Voss - 60 Years

I have come to the conclusion that for me the most significant thing in the past ten years is that nothing in my life has noticeably changed. My health remains what it pretty much has been and for that I am most grateful. I can still readily maneuver myself around in my wheelchair. Going to the library and browsing through the books affords me much pleasure. I still enjoy coloring. I still am an avid reader.

My COVID thought is that we have been well protected. One thing I am very aware of is the daily check-up of our temperature, oxygen level and heart rate. There were also the COVID tests administered every two weeks since November 2020. I am glad that we are finished with those.



# In & Around the Region

## Sr. Agnette Does It Again

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC |  
Photo by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig, SCC

The back cover of the summer 2014 issue of *BREAD BROKEN* showed a bright and alert Sr. Agnette Bengal on the occasion of her 100th birthday. She was sporting a lovely red-carnation corsage and was looking into the future.

For the summer 2018 issue, Sr. Agnette had moved to the front cover of *BREAD BROKEN*. She was pictured surrounded by her Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent as she celebrated her 104th birthday. Sister looked ever so happy and the thought beneath the photo was from Mother Pauline: “Let the spirit of youthful joyousness be characteristic of us . . .”

Sr. Agnette put in another birthday appearance in the 2019 issue of *BREAD BROKEN*. For her 105th birthday, Sister was photographed enjoying her birthday dinner. She was also serenaded with “Happy Birthday” played on accordion and bagpipe—together!.

In this issue, you see Sr. Agnette on her 107th birthday. It was really quite the party! It seemed as though everyone wanted to have a picture taken with her! Sister was a good sport but was tired by the end of dinner. When asked about a 108th birthday, Sister so wisely commented: “That is in God’s hands.” †



On the birthday banner each Sister had written below her photo her good wishes to Sister Agnette. The banner was placed on the wall near Sister’s bedroom. Every day she would name each Sister’s photo.

## A Particular COVID Adjustment

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC | Photo by Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen, SCC

Among the many COVID adjustments that had to be made at Sacred Heart Convent, perhaps the hardest adaptation flowed from our Eucharistic spirituality. When the “stay-at-home” order was first given in Illinois, both the SCCs and the SVDs (Society of the Divine Word) abided by it conscientiously. March 22 through June 27 of 2020 and January 19 through March 13 of 2021 were the longer periods when the Sisters did not have the services of the SVDs for daily Mass. Communion services were held in its place.

Sr. Dolores Bozif (sacristan) and Sr. Mary Clement Eiden (who had experience of such services during her time on the reservation in South Dakota) alternated serving as presider at these services. The two Sisters followed the rubrics laid down in the Rite of Distributing Holy Communion Outside of Mass. Sr. Dolores said: “I felt privileged to officiate for the Communion Services, and I tried to make the Service meaningful for the Sisters.” Sr. Mary Clement remarked that preparing for services was a gift for her. “I tried to have the Penitential Rite and the General Intercessions in some way reflect the readings of the day and current issues. I could always count on the Holy Spirit to guide me.” Both Sisters could depend on Pastoral Patterns for assistance with Sunday services.

*(continued on page 13)*

## COVID-19 Life

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Elden, SCC |  
Photo by Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen, SCC

When news of and warnings about the coronavirus were first given—way back in March of 2020—a team at Sacred Heart Convent—Sr. Janice Boyer (local leader), Sally Turbov (director of nursing) and Chuck Ryan (administrator—met regularly to determine what protocols should be put in place for the protection of Sisters and staff. They processed information and made decisions. They familiarized themselves with the CDC’s COVID-19 guidelines for shared or congregate housing and put them into practice.

Staying at home was one of the first precautions, followed closely by masks and social distancing. Sally periodically shared information about the virus such as possible symptoms and how the virus was spreading. The west wing on the third floor was set aside as a COVID ward in the event that a Sister would contract the virus or have to be quarantined for some reason. Volunteers were “suspended”. Safety stations were set up at both front and back entrances for essential workers. Employees, upon entering, had to take and record their temperature, oxygen level and heart rate. These “vitals” were also taken and recorded daily for the Sisters.

On November 3, testing for COVID was begun. Every other week this test was administered to the Sisters. Staff were also tested. It was remarkable how quickly and orderly this testing went. On February 3, all the Sisters received the first shot of the MODERNA vaccine. Pharmacists from the nearby Jewel-Osco—in partnership with the Cook County Department of Public Health—came to the convent. The second shot was received on March 3. Since it takes two weeks for the vaccine to take effect, a last COVID testing was done on March 9.

At one point, arrangements in the dining room were changed and only two Sisters (who were permanent partners) were at a table. Fourteen days after our second shot, we went back to three Sisters at a table and were encouraged to move about. The lifting of this restriction was appreciated by everyone.

How long living with COVID restrictions will last is an unknown. But, we can hear Mother Pauline saying: “Have courage, dear Sisters, all will be well!”. Sally commends the Sisters for their discipline, their ability to respect and abide by the rules of the CDC and their faith in prayer. “We are truly blessed,” she said. ✚



Sally Turbov, RN administers the COVID-19 test to Sr. Bernadette Voss

Adjustment *(continued from page 12)*



Sr. Dolores Bozif leads a Communion Service during Lent.

Many Sisters on Sunday chose to also watch a televised Mass. The one from Holy Name Cathedral at 9:30 a.m. was always on in the community room. Some Sisters also found a source for a daily televised Mass through the internet.

There was also a long period when we did no congregational singing at Mass as a further precaution against COVID. This restriction was lifted for us right before Holy Week because our immunization had taken effect. Singing with a mask on is its own challenge! ✚

# Sharing Pauline's Vision



## A Leader for Then and Now

Text by  
Sr. Mary Joseph  
Schultz, SCC

In the arena of social reform and innovative care for the unfortunate, Pauline von Mallinckrodt was a woman ahead of her times.

The renowned Protestant theologian Hans Carl Wendlant affirmed her as “the greatest Catholic German woman of the nineteenth century”.

In nineteenth-century Germany, women as individuals had little access to fields of charitable activity. This was strictly a male undertaking and usually dictated by the hierarchy of the Church. Nevertheless, religious congregations of women began to make inroads into social reform as they emerged from their cloisters and, as active women religious, embraced the care of the unfortunate and forgotten.

From a very young age, Pauline observed the charitable deeds of her parents, Detmar and Bernardine von Mallinckrodt, and of her teacher Luisa Hensel. Her learning was not as a bystander but as an eager participant. She was trained by Luisa Hensel how to dress wounds and to tend the sick, even to cleansing the infected heads of little children.

In the 1830's, Pauline and several close friends from her school days joined together in charitable works, first in Aachen, and then after she moved to Paderborn, as part of the Paderborn Caritas group. Soon they noticed a need that no one else was addressing: the care of the sick poor in their homes, particularly at night. Pauline and her companions decided to focus their attention here, and by their persistence won over several government officials who were initially not in favor of such an independent

move. Dr. Joseph Schmidt, director of the hospital in Paderborn, worked closely with the women and supported their efforts. Quite astounding was the fact that this group was ecumenical. Thus was born the “Women’s Association for Help for the Sick Poor in their Houses”. This was more than one hundred years prior to the Second Vatican Council which called for such action.

The Women’s Association divided Paderborn into four regions according to the four Catholic parishes, and the twenty-four women members assumed their duties. They cared for elderly, sick women, maternity cases, and children. They brought meals, bathed patients, washed linens and clothing, and spent nights nursing the patients. Pauline herself spent over

100 nights caring for the sick poor in their homes during the first half year. Such a charitable organization in this locality was unprecedented.

While engaged with the work of the Women’s Association, Pauline quickly noticed another pressing need. The children of the sick poor and day laborers were roaming the streets unattended and unsupervised. In 1840 Pauline and two other women created a day-care center which grew to sixty children. This was soon joined by an independent home for the blind

when two blind children were brought to her door by Dr. Schmidt. Both institutions were created only after Pauline overcame hurdle after hurdle regarding financing, locations, and government approvals.

In the petition for the beatification of Blessed Pauline (which occurred on April 14, 1985) and a summary assessment of her life, Archbishop (later Cardinal) Degenhardt said:

“In Pauline von Mallinckrodt we recognize a personality who made her decisions while consciously listening to the Will of God and guided by him in all the circumstances in her life. Through her faithful cooperation with grace, helping and healing powers unfolded within her. With these, and in the spirit of Christ’s love, she sought to meet the needs of her times. Her way of living the Gospel can also provide direction to the people of today.” †

*Through her  
faithful  
cooperation  
with grace,  
helping and  
healing  
powers unfolded  
within her.*

# Companions of Pauline

## Initiatives

Text by Sr. Dolores Bozif, SCC and Sr. Mary Ann Warwick, SCC

As COVID continues, the Companions are still not having meetings or gatherings. Telephone calls, ZOOM meetings and regular mail are the ways of contact during this time. The Coordinators have been very creative with activities.

### Guest Speaker

One suggestion for an activity was to have a speaker. Sr. Mary Ann Warwick took the initiative in Illinois and invited Sr. Theresa Marie Tran, SCC, to give some talks on prayer. It was at first intended for the Illinois group, but then was opened to all Companions, the Sisters and others. Sr. Theresa Marie prepared a series of four presentations:

- God Is All Around Us,
- Prayer [Relationship with God],
- Discernment [Recognizing God's Will for Me],
- Spiritual Direction.

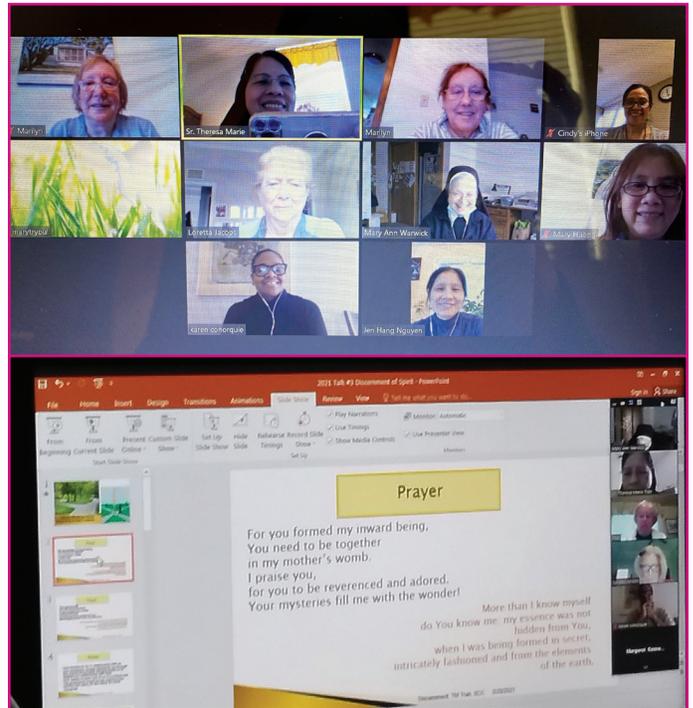
The sessions were on Saturday mornings (January 30, February 6 and 20, March 6) from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and were offered by means of ZOOM, FACETIME, I-Pad, Smart phone. Between 15-17 participated in this way. Several who had wished to participate but could not received print-outs of the PowerPoint presentations. Also, Sr. Dolores took notes on the talks and is offering them to Companions in those areas that could not get the talks.

### Reaching Out

In Michigan, a few Companions got together on December 20th and crafted little gifts for other Companions. They used small coffee cups and flowers/greens to produce pleasing arrangements. They then had a great time delivering them to each of their fellow Companions from Fowler and Westphalia. Vicki remarked, "It was a blessing to be able to see everyone and to visit for just a bit since we cannot get together for meetings. We loved every minute of it!"

### Making Mother Pauline Known

There is a woman in St. Louis who is interested in becoming a Companion of Pauline. So, the Companions there are working on a project to help her know more about the Companions and Mother Pauline. Each Companion will send the "candidate" some information which she feels is important for a new member to know. ✚



Although COVID prevented the Companions of Illinois from gathering in person, they enjoyed seeing each other and participating in a ZOOM session.



Michigan Companions Peggy Braun, Vicki Horak and Wendy Klein enjoyed making little arrangements for their fellow Companions.

## The Intentional International SCC Community

Text by Sr. Juliana Miska, SCC and Sr. Monica Cormier, SCC |  
Photo courtesy of Sr. Juliana Miska, SCC

“Surrender to what is dying and be attentive to what is emerging.” Very good advice! Despite the pandemic, something NEW is emerging! Planning for the Intentional International SCC community in Chicago moves forward! Sr. Caroline Schafer composed a prayer in this intention which is now being prayed daily by the Sisters in the Region either privately or communally. The Regional Leadership Team is looking for a residence to rent within a three-mile radius from Our Lady of Mercy Parish (OLM) so that the Sisters will be living in the midst of the people they will be serving. At first we were looking to rent a former convent, but that did not work out. So, word is out that we are looking for a residence—not too big and not too small—to rent. The Leadership Team will be assisted by our Business Manager in matters of negotiations and lease. An immigration lawyer has already volunteered to help with the documentation necessary for visas for those Sisters from South America and Germany who will hopefully join this new community and give it the “international” character.

Most exciting is that Sr. Carol Bredenkamp from our Western Unit and Sr. Marisol Garcia and Sr. Marie Cecilia Landis from our Eastern Province have already discerned their willingness to be part of this community. The Sisters from the East will come to Wilmette at the end of this July and live at Sacred Heart Convent as they transition and move into their new ministries at OLM. They are in contact with Fr. Nick, pastor at OLM, via ZOOM or phone to clarify their ministries. Once a house has been located and

approved, the Sisters who will be living there will help organize and move into the convent. The Sisters of the Region will also help with this move.

The North American Leadership Teams continue to research the particulars of beginning a new convent: budget, transportation, insurance, etc. It is also hoped that from time to time, the Sisters of the Region will be invited to OLM so that the parishioners might witness internationality, be aware of our presence and be open to fostering vocations to the religious life. Fr. Nick knows that vocations are present in the parish. He wrote: “We already have two seminarians, five candidates for the permanent diaconate, but we need Sisters who can exemplify the joy of religious life for our young women interested in serving God.”

Mother Pauline wrote: “I shall lay everything at the feet of God’s Church. May she, the Bride, decide what will tend to the honor of the Bridegroom. I will follow her unconditionally and not lift a finger in any undertaking which she does not approve.” In a letter dated July 31, 2020 Cardinal Cupich wrote: “With care and attention, I read your proposal regarding plans to establish an international community in Chicago in 2022. Please know that I have no objection to your pursuing this proposal, and I ask that you keep me apprised regarding its development. Please extend this message to your Sisters as you work together to implement it.” Cardinal Cupich and the Vicar for Religious are being “kept in the loop” as plans move ahead.

We hope you can feel our excitement and gratitude! We count on you to keep this new community in your prayers.

We trust that there will be more GOOD NEWS to share with you in the next issue. ✝



Sr. Monica Cormier, Fr. Nick Desmond and Sr. Juliana Miska.

# SCCs Around the World

## Opportunities Are Still Here

Text by and photos from Sr. Christhild Neuheuser, SCC - German Unit

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen both in political disputes and in our everyday convent planning that the two values of freedom and security are often at war with each other. We want to be free in our encounters and activities; but at the same time, we want to be safe from the virus. Again and again, we decide which value we prefer and what compromise we can take into account.

### At the Motherhouse

During this pandemic, we Sisters at the motherhouse became aware that we have an advantage over many others, especially single people. We are in community; we can celebrate the Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours every day; we do not miss those things that are important to many such as cinema, theater, football, going to a restaurant, shopping etc.

Our large garden offers good opportunities for walks, encounters and celebrations. We can invite relatives, friends and guests to meet with us or with one another in the great outdoors. For example, a celebration of First Communion for four children could take place there. A special attraction is our colorful natural meadow, which we planted two years ago to create more living space for insects.

### At the Retreat House

Many programs at our retreat house had to be cancelled or modified. The necessary distancing had to be considered and hygiene measures proved expensive. Planning is repeatedly thwarted. But with hope and creativity we were able to keep in contact with our guests in different ways, especially through mail, telephone calls and digital offerings. The many guests who usually spent the Christmas season and the turn of the year with us received a package with homemade cookies and spiritual thoughts. Their pictures decorated the Christmas tree in the chapel.

A special opportunity was a retreat day for a restricted number of members from our Paulinenbund

The Sisters creatively kept in touch with their many guests who usually spent the Christmas season with them.



Four children celebrate their First Holy Communion in the motherhouse garden.

[similar to our Companions of Pauline]. The topic for the day was “Freedom” as seen in the life of Mother Pauline. She saw freedom as a growth process. Obedience to her parents and to the Church was not a contradiction to her own thinking and free decision-making but a way to responsible judgment and action. ... Mother Pauline always insisted on the Sisters being able to express their opinions freely. ... Mother Pauline was stabilized in her inner freedom. She could accept all in serenity because fulfilling God’s will was always her first desire. †



## Making Their Own Connections

Several BREAD BROKEN readers found themselves making their own connections to articles that appeared in the winter issue (2020-21).

### From Mary André Rini:

As always, I was excited to receive my winter issue of BREAD BROKEN. I immediately recognized the cover artwork of Dan Paulos, art student of Sr. De Lourdes Bragg.

As personal friends of Sr. De Lourdes, my husband, Tony, and I were given one of Dan's (paper cutting) art pieces as a wedding gift in 1988! It is a beautiful rendering of our Blessed Mother holding the Child Jesus on her lap.

FROM THE DESK OF  
*Sister Manetta*

Dear Mrs. Werner:

A copy of my book, THE WOMAN IN ORBIT, together with enough flyers (I hope) to be enclosed in the outgoing mail during the month of November, went into the mail today. I feared you would be too busy to come to get these, so am saving you the trip here.

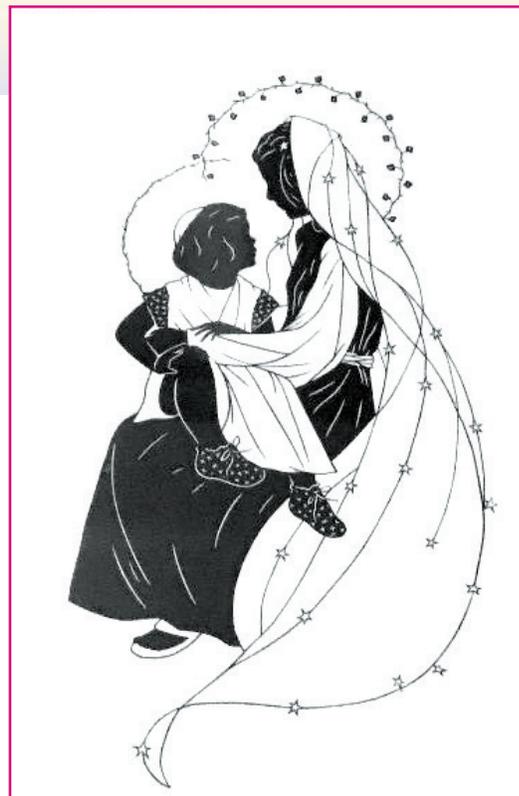
The book is a complimentary copy for you. Perhaps after you peruse it, you will be the more enthusiastic to help spread devotion to the Blessed Mother. It makes a good gift for Christmas, birthday, wedding, and the like. The orders can be sent to me or to the publisher, THE LAMBERTY CO. Books will be mailed to purchasers immediately. Thank you so much! God bless you and Mary protect you.

Gratefully,

(signed) *Sister Manetta, S.C.C.*

(over)

Be sure to read the "blurb--account on the book jacket, the preface and the dedication which to me mean so much.



I feel privileged to have this unique work of art.

I am grateful to have known Sr. De Lourdes through my great aunt, the late Sr. Andre Blanchard. Many fond memories were evoked just by looking at the cover of BREAD BROKEN!

### From Jean Di John Wenzel

Your article on "The Woman in Orbit" was so very interesting. I was given the book at one of the "M" [Mallinckrodt High School] fall banquets. I don't remember why; perhaps because I was "mistress of ceremonies". I took the book down off the shelf in my bedroom and when I opened it there was a signed type-written note from the author, Sister Manetta SCC. I had completely forgotten about it. It was made out to "Dear Mrs. Werner" who apparently donated it and then in turn it was given to me. Enclosed is a copy of the note.

Sincerely,

(signed) Jean Di John Wenzel '59

*When called, Jean said that she is reading daily from the book and enjoying it very much. She is amazed that Sister Manetta was able to collect so much information about Mary.*

### From Jean Bishop

This issue [BREAD BROKEN, winter 2020-2021] touched me in many ways. The story—or history—of The Woman in Orbit brought back fond memories of my first Mallinckrodt friend, Sister Mary Sakowski. How nice to see her picture and remember her classes, one on The Wisdom Books and another on Modern Moral Theology. Your quote from Albert Camus prompted me to read more—and Commonweal magazine January had an interesting article on his life. Thank you for connecting so many lives, once again, in so many thoughtful ways.

*(continued on page 19)*

Still Remembered (continued from page 8)



Members of Guild 4 of the Ss. Joseph & Francis Xavier Women's Group generally come to Sacred Heart Convent each year for an evening of conversation and refreshments. For the past two years they have not been able to visit the Sisters. They still bring the gifts: soap, shampoo, etc.

The photo shows Mary Versino, Sr. Mary Clement and Heidi O'Toole looking over this year's donations from Guild 4.

Photo by Sr. Janice Boyer, SCC ☩

Helen Alonso  
Companion of Pauline

Harry Boyer  
brother of Sr. Janice Boyer

John Fields  
cousin of Sr. Therese Fields

Barbara A (Roden kirk) Fuhrman  
"M" Alumna

Margaret Grothe  
Companion of Pauline

Marie Guagliardo  
Companion of Pauline

Mary Lou Lander  
Companion of Pauline

Christopher Maassen  
Nephew of Sr. Carol Bredenkamp

Eugene Meuwissen  
Brother-in-law of  
Sr. Mary Ann Poppler

Bernice Oertle  
Companion of Pauline

John Schafer  
Cousin of Sr. Pauline Schafer  
and Sr. Caroline Schafer

*Now is the time of trouble and toil. But precious will it be when, at the end of our life, the Master says, "I will give the laborers their pay."*  
(Pauline von Mallinckrodt)

Connections (continued from page 18)

## From Shirley Phillips (excerpts)

It was a pleasant surprise to read about the Blessings SCC doll in Bread Broken.

In 1997 I contacted Blessings about purchasing an SCC doll and received a phone call that they did not have one but would produce one. I mailed them a picture of my sister, Sister Philomene Fleck SCC, in habit and described it.

They probably have #1 and I purchased #2 for my cousin as she had the nuns at St. Mary's in New Ulm. I received #3 (July 17, 1997) as I had Sisters at Holy Trinity in New Ulm. . . .

I see on the photo that Joan's was #32 (April 1, 1999) so they did sell a few. ☩



Sr. Philomene Fleck (dec.) in front of the Sacred Heart Statue in the motherhouse gardens...in the new habit.

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Wilmette, IL 60091

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## Remember Winter?



In the recent winter issue of BREAD BROKEN, there was a taste of summer amid the cold of winter. Now we give you a touch of cold in the heat of summer.

- Snow heaped up on the bushes in front of Sacred Heart convent.
- A snow-bedecked pine tree in the courtyard at Sacred Heart.
- Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen stands beside her snow people. †