

Vol. XXVII, No. 2 Winter 2021-2022

Bread Broken

SISTERS OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY — WILMETTE, ILLINOIS



“*From the rising of the sun to its going down, the Lord’s name is to be praised.*”

Psalm 113:3

Around the Table

I loved the cover of this magazine and—inside an interesting history of the SCC's social action activities up to the present.

Elaine Harwood
Evanston, IL

The summer issue and contents always like a visit from friends. Gorgeous cover and I especially enjoyed the six Jubilarian announcements as well as social justice coverage and the very lovely "Beautiful Hands". Great job, great staff - just keeps getting better.

Ruby Stephens
Chicago, IL

So nice to get the BREAD BROKEN magazine and get news of the convent. My sister Jean always loved the magazine, too.

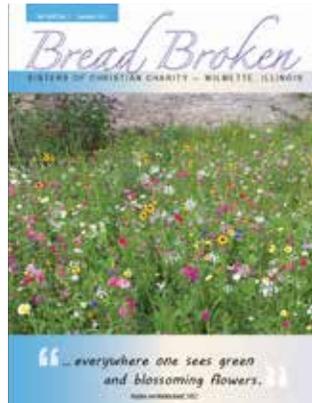
Cate Fink
Niles, IL

Greetings from Tennessee! "M" class of '53.

Margaret Cuny
Ardmore, TN

As usual you continue to outdo yourselves. BREAD BROKEN was full of wonderful inspirational stories. I'm in awe of all you Sisters do for our world.

Loretta Jacobs
Evanston, IL



Thank you so very much for your recent summer '21 BREAD BROKEN! It was read from cover to cover in one sitting. Enjoyed each article—as in past issues, also!

In particular, the main article made us more aware of what the Sisters of Christian Charity have done and continue to do in addressing the many problems facing us in today's world!

The six jubilarians' comments were impressive, too!

Our love, prayers and thanks to each of you for all your time and talent in producing such professional and informational editions of BREAD BROKEN these past many years! Continue your outstanding and remarkable work inspiring all of us—your readers.

Bob and Betty Hartman
Ballwin, MO



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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

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

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Dear Readers,

You now have the winter 2021-22 issue of BREAD BROKEN. We thought, perhaps, that this issue would be a combined one with the Sisters of our Eastern Province. Because of a major change in their development office, however, this did not seem possible. But we are still thinking in that direction.

I believe that this issue has many articles that will be of interest to you. Actually, I think they all will be such. For some reason or other we struggled a bit in getting this issue put together. It reminded me—in a very limited way, of course—of that passage in John's Gospel which reads: "A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come, but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world" (16:21).

I don't know where I came across the following verses, but the page had "2002" on the top so I guess I have had it for some time. At the beginning of another new year, I offer it for your reflection.

A fresh page opens
on a completely new calendar.

A new space is given
to our lives.

And so we open the book
which till now has been closed,
the book God wants to write with us
over the days and months.

God bless all of us! ✝

Sister Mary Clement

Cover: A vivid sunset seen from the grounds of Sacred Heart Convent—allow this photo to bring pause and peace to your spirit. Photo by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

Page 2: A butterfly fastens to a flower in the pollinator garden. Photo by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig, SCC

In the Beginning ...

Text compiled by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC



Sr. Carol Bredenkamp, Sr. Marisol Garcia and Sr. Marie Cecilia Landis. Photo by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

In previous issues of BREAD BROKEN, you, our readers, were introduced and kept informed about the idea of the Sisters of Christian Charity beginning a new intentional / international mission. This mission was seen as bringing together our general chapter mandate to deepen our international communion and our regional chapter mandate to establish a residence in a multi-cultural parish among the poor. Since the *PauLine 200* program (2017) at Our Lady of Mercy Parish (OLM) in Chicago, IL had been such a positive experience for all involved, conversations were held with Fr. Nick Desmond, pastor, on the possibility of establishing such a mission in partnership with OLM. Fr. Nick was open to and enthusiastic about such an undertaking.

The pandemic arrived and slowed down but did not stop forward action. The last “big news” was that three Sisters had offered to be part of this new mission. We pick up the story from there.



Sr. Marisol waits with the children after religious ed. class. Photo by Sr. Carol Bredenkamp, SCC

Discerning a Call

The three Sisters are Sr. Marie Cecilia Landis and Sr. Marisol Garcia from our Eastern Province and Sr. Carol Bredenkamp from the Western Region. What moved them to a decision to become part of this new endeavor?

The decision for Sr. Marisol came quite quickly. She writes:

I can't honestly say that I did much of a discernment. Ever since I heard about this project, which was, I believe, some four years ago, I felt this inner joy. It was like something inside was bubbling over with happiness and light. I recognized this feeling from the first time I thought about becoming a religious sister. I knew it was God telling me to go. I know that when I get this feeling, this inner prodding, I cannot deny it or put it aside and so I asked to go.

For Sr. Marie Cecilia, the discernment narrative was a bit different. The Lord called her on the way to the kitchen on Ash Wednesday (2021). Sister was on her way to begin her daily work when she ran into Sr. Patrice Owens (a provincial councilor). Sister had come to speak with her (an email mentioning this had not yet been seen by Sr Marie Cecilia). Over coffee in the dining room, Sister was asked to consider being part of the new ministry in Chicago. There were questions, but not too many answers. Sister shares:

Honestly, my first response? I felt very humbled and honored that my Community would even consider me for such an awesome task! And deep down in the back of my heart, I could see/hear myself writing the line “I will go anywhere and do anything that my Community will ask of me.”

Sister comments that that line is very familiar to any SCC. She was inclined to say “yes” right away but decided to sleep on her answer since she was told she could “take some time”. Sister continues:

I awoke the next morning with the refrain of a song I had written many years ago playing in my head. “Lord, I come to do Your Holy Will./ Lord I come, and my soul is very still/ as I wait for You, to put my hand in Yours. / Lord, I come. Lord, I come./ Walk with me/ Take my hand.” How could I not say “yes”?

Having given her “yes” to the provincial, all sorts of questions entered Sister’s mind. Having a practical-planning nature, Sister said that her “mind kept making list after list after list” of what might need to be done both in leaving her current ministry and in preparing for the new ministry. Then she opened her Facebook page and there it was: “God isn’t asking you to figure it out, He’s asking you to trust that He already has!”

The discernment process for Sr. Carol took a bit longer, but she summarized it.

God really tugged at my heart for this one. I was happy and content at the Josephinum and wondered if I could do both. When that was not possible, I took the tug to prayers. It seemed as though God was truly asking me to do this even though it was hard to give up the Josephinum —especially this past year when the students needed more support than ever. I loved teaching the students at the “Jo” yet still the tug was there.

Giving up my summers, usually free as a teacher, was a consideration; yet at the same time, knowing that I could serve the parishioners at OLM was a joy as well.

I had already asked to be part of this adventure, but I was still of two minds. Then—it became very clear that I was to “launch out into the deep” and jump in!



The staff of Our Lady of Mercy Parish. Photo courtesy of Sr. Carol Bredenkamp, SCC

Gifts to Be Shared

These three Sisters have gifts and talents that they will be sharing with the staff and parishioners at OLM.

In June of 2021, Sr. Carol completed eight years of teaching theology at Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart. She taught at all levels and also worked on curriculum with the other theology teachers. Her room was open as a “Campus Ministry Hang Out” space where the girls could come and just be—allowing for

conversations that might not be possible in a classroom. Although the “hang out” space ended with COVID-19, the teaching went online.

Previous to her ministry at Josephinum, Sr. Carol spent 17 years in—for the most part—primary education. She can recall the joy she experienced when first-graders read for the first time on their own and when second-graders were ready to receive their First Holy Communion. Then Sister moved into vocation ministry while working on and completing her Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies. As vocation minister, Sister spent time on college campuses and planned and executed various activities. She spent time with youth groups and was privileged to chaperone youth at World Youth Day in Denver, CO and Toronto, Canada.

Sr. Marie Cecilia loves cooking and baking and has been an SCC homemaker for over 45 years. Sister was trained by a number of SCC cooks (“fantastic”) and



Sr. Marie Cecilia joined the music ministry at Our Lady of Mercy. Photo by Sr. Carol Bredenkamp, SCC

learned to cook for groups of all sizes. In baking, Sister's specialty is large cakes for any and all occasions.

As a homemaker, Sister Marie Cecilia also picked up home maintenance and remodeling skills. She describes one such experience:

In Jersey City, NJ when half of our house was condemned and torn down, I had to quickly plan and organize a whole makeshift kitchen, laundry, dining room, pantry, storage space and multi-utility room out of what was left of the house.

Sister has a BA in psychology with a specialty in addictions and art therapy. She was hired by New Hope Manor (Barryville, NY) where she had done her internship. At New Hope for ten years, Sister was the addictions counselor and art therapist. She set up and ran the weekly therapy groups, created a new Mother/Infant Program for pregnant women and mothers, taught the 30-day Orientation Program for those entering the program, did the hiring and firing of the childcare workers as needed and was even receptionist on occasion.

Before Sr. Marisol came West, she was teaching at the School of Saint Elizabeth in Bernardsville, NJ. She taught Latin in kindergarten-5th grade and Spanish in 6th-8th grade. Prior to that, Sister had been in Uruguay, South America for 12 years. While there she taught Religion and English in our schools.

Getting the House in Order

Much work had to be done before the Sisters could permanently move into Resurrection Convent. In an August 26th email to the Sisters, Sr. Juliana Miska mentioned some of that work. The maintenance staff at Our Lady of Mercy Parish finished painting the first and second floors of the convent. Stanley Steemer would be coming to do the carpets and furniture. The



Sr. Carol talks with Maritza, the office manager, about the calendar. Photo courtesy of Sr. Carol Bredenkamp, SCC

curtains in the dining room had been dry-cleaned. Dining room chairs had to be reupholstered. Anderson Pest Control would be visiting Resurrection Convent. Chapel furnishings would arrive by moving van from Denville, NJ in mid-September. Many hands pitched in to do this work with the Sisters of the Regional Leadership Team setting the pace. (See more on this on p. 16.)

Ministry Is Initiated

While the house was still being “prepared”, the three Sisters began their ministry. They commute from Sacred Heart Convent—where the Sisters are always eager to hear what is going on and assure the Sisters of their support and prayers.

Sisters Carol, Marie Cecilia and Marisol met the staff on Tuesday, August 3, during the regular staff meeting. (Staff meetings are held each week and the Sisters began attending these on August 31).

On August 4 the staff from Our Lady of Mercy Parish met at Mundelein Seminary for a workshop focused on coming together to work efficiently as a united parish. The workshop was led by Msgr. John Canary who spoke about the ways that the staff could work together: e.g. openness, good communication,

The Regional Leadership Team, Sr. Anastasia Sanford, Sr. Juliana Miska, Sr. Mary Ann Warwick and Sr. Monica Cormier, relax at the new convent. Photo by Susan Barrett

being willing to listen.

Officially, the Sisters began their ministry on Saturday, August 28 and Sunday, August 29 as they attended Masses and greeted parishioners at Our Lady of Mercy and St. Francis Xavier. This included participation in six Masses beginning with the 5:30 p.m. Saturday evening Mass and ending with the 6:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday. In between the Masses the Sisters visited with parishioners and enjoyed food from various cultures at the Taste of Mercy Fiesta. The Sisters returned to Sacred Heart Convent very tired yet filled with joy.

All of the Sisters are involved in the work of evangelization in various ways. The religious education programs began the weekend of September 11. Sr. Carol has become involved with the youth group. Sr. Marie Cecilia connected with the music ministry and Sr. Marisol found her spot with the Legion of Mary. The three are also involved with other evangelization needs as they are made known. The ministry of presence is a priority.

Visitors

From September 14 through 17, the leadership team from our Eastern Province (Sr. Joann Marie Aumand, Sr. Patrice Owens and Sr. Esther Falzone) were in the Western Region. They came primarily to see



The Provinciate from Eastern Province and Regional Leadership Team from the Western Region relax after a day of planning for the new Convent. Photo courtesy of Sr. Juliana Miska, SCC

Resurrection Convent and to meet with the Regional Leadership Team of the West to move matters along with regard to the new mission. The chapel furnishings arrived when they were here.

On September 20th Sr. Mary Joseph Schultz, general councilor for North America, also came for a visit. She was given a tour of Resurrection Convent on September 23.

A Setback

On September 27, Sr. Juliana sent this email message to the Sisters:

Last week, a valve was removed from a radiator at Resurrection Convent. This caused a leak in three rooms: one on the third floor, second floor and first floor. Some walls and ceilings need to be repaired. During the time of repairs the Sisters will continue their ministries and will be able to spend time in the convent during their in-between times of ministry without any difficulties.

When Sr. Maria del Rosario, general superior, received this news her return email read:

“Who would let herself be frightened by the first obstacle?” (Mother Pauline) “Not us.” †

Lease arrangements must still be finalized. The Sisters are now hoping to move in by the beginning of 2022.



The entrance of the convent is decorated for autumn.

The Mission to the Philippines

Compiled by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

The sending of new “missionaries” to the Philippines is still being delayed by COVID, but Sr. Theresa Marie Tran and Sr. Marie Jose de la Rosa have not been idle.

In the Meantime...

Sr. Theresa Marie describes the last two years as “being on a roller coaster ride”. While there have been many changes and adaptations to the original plans, Sister has found “many blessings in disguise” during the period of waiting. A new work opened up for Sister at Divine Providence Hospital in Williamsport, PA. At DPH, she ministers to the patients, families and staff. Doing this during the time of pandemic, Sister says, “has opened my horizon and stretched my skills in responding to the needs of the time”. The work is challenging yet fulfilling. It also gives Sister the opportunity to live and minister with other SCCs in the area.

The time of waiting has also given Sr. Theresa Marie the opportunity “to crystallize, affirm and deepen my call and commitment to the mission in Asia”.

God is faithful and has creative ways of carrying out God's mission. I believe that I continue to be formed, transformed and prepared for what God has planned for me. In the meantime I stay well, enjoy and am grateful for the bonuses, and at the same time remain ready when the time is right. I continue to pray with Mother Pauline, “Lord, let me be as soft wax in your hand.”

In Between Time...

“God writes straight with crooked lines.” With this saying, attributed to St. Teresa of Avila, Sr. Marie Jose describes her “in between time”. Although disappointed in the delays, Sister sees “the thread that God is weaving through the events that have occurred”. As a registered nurse, she saw herself returning to the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. Surprisingly, however, Sister was missioned as a long-term substitute teacher at St. Jude's School in Mountain Top, PA. In this role, Sister saw the daily challenges faced by educators during the pandemic and “was happy to assist in delivering quality in-person education”. She turned her attention “from lung sounds to lexile [reading] levels”. She learned, most importantly, “how much I love working with children”.

After this experience, Sr. Marie Jose knew that it was time to once again pick up her stethoscope. Sister writes:

Grateful that God re-ignited a love for children in my heart, I began a ministry with Aveanna Healthcare at their Pediatric Day Health Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA. As a Registered Nurse, I care for medically fragile children from infancy to preschool age. I monitor for any changes in condition and help to create a warm, safe environment for them to “just be kids”. It is my joy to be with them.



Sister Marie Jose looks forward to arriving in Quezon City and joining the Sisters and the young women at Margaretha Home for the Blind. She appreciates, though, the “twists and turns” of her present journey and continues to trust in God's plan as she enjoys “the ride” and “strives to be Christ-like love wherever I am”.

Sr. Theresa Marie and Sr. Maria Jose keep in touch with one another through texts, phone calls and email. They also join when able the ZOOM meetings with the two Sisters in the Philippines and with the Sisters in the generalate. ✝

Sr. Marie Jose “knew that it was time to once again pick up her stethoscope.”



Sr. Theresa Marie takes a break from ministry .

A Shared Talent

Text and photos by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

Sr. Bernadette Voss and Sr. Marie Cecilia Landis discovered soon after Sr. Marie Cecilia arrived at Sacred Heart Convent that they had a common interest and talent: cake decorating. Sr. Marie Cecilia put her album of cake photos on one of the tables in the community room. One could hear “ooooohh!” and “Wow!” and “Look at that!” and “Oh, my gosh!” as Sisters came in and turned the pages of the album. Then Sr. Bernadette brought down her photo album of cakes and there were more exclamations.

Sr. Bernadette has not been able to decorate cakes since she suffered a stroke several years ago and Sr. Marie Cecilia gave all her decorating equipment away when she came West. However, the two Sisters had much to share as they looked at each other’s creative handiwork. †



Sr. Bernadette and Sr. Marie Cecilia look through their photo collections, as Sr. Dolores Bozif points out a photo while Sr. Eleanor Ann admires the cakes.

Cakes by Sr. Bernadette (left) and Sr. Marie Cecilia (right)



A Shared Party

Text and photo by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

The week of September 19-25, three of the nurses on staff here at Sacred Heart Convent had a birthday. They (in center: Mary Lou Leones, Benita Maliwanag and Rosa Tabamo) opted for a celebration with the Sisters and this occurred on September 23. The meal and dessert were provided by the nursing staff and they knew exactly what the Sisters liked. After the meal there was some karaoke singing. The Sisters enjoyed singing and the music covered up the fact that they were not always in harmony. Since Sr. Mary Joseph Schultz, general councilor, (second from the right) was leaving on the 24th, there was a rendition of “Leaving on a Jet Plane” and a couple of the Sisters were actually able to sing along. The closing song was the “Our Father”. All had a great time and the Sisters felt honored that the nurses wished to have their birthday celebration at Sacred Heart Convent. †

The Gift of Creation

“Our selfishness, our indifference and our irresponsible ways are threatening the future of our children. I therefore renew my appeal: let us take care of our mother Earth...let us overcome the temptation of selfishness that makes us predators of resources, let us cultivate respect for the gifts of the Earth and creation, let us inaugurate a lifestyle and a society that is finally eco-sustainable.” (Pope Francis on May 25, 2021 as he launched the Vatican’s seven-year *Laudato Si* action plan)

A Gift from Nature

Something unusual was going on at the grounds of the Regional Center. Jorge, the landscaper, pointed out to us that two tomato plants were growing in between the evergreen trees along Elmwood Avenue. We supposed that the seeds had been carried there by friendly, neighborhood squirrels. Jorge provided two spiral wire frames to support the two plants. Both plants were thriving and had numerous “cherry-size” tomatoes on them. They added sweetness and juiciness to our salads.

Contributed Sr. Mary Ann Warwick, SCC / Photo by Sr. Juliana Miska, SCC



Pollinator Garden

It was May 14, 2021 that Julie Dell, sister-in-law of Chuck Ryan, administrator at Sacred Heart Convent, helped dig the pollinator garden at Sacred Heart. Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig was with her. Sister helped to prepare the soil by hauling away the pulled-up weeds as Julie dug the egg-shaped garden. Julie had gotten 11 starter seedlings from the Wilmette Garden Club when they had a plant sale at Gillson Park. Two of the plants were specifically for attracting monarch butterflies: a tiny milkweed and a butterfly weed. A second pollinator garden was planted in October of 2021.

Contributed by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig, SCC / Photo by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

Mother Pauline’s Thoughts on Creation

“Nature seems to have chosen flowers as the favorite children of creation, and she has endowed them with charms denied other creatures. What delicacy there is in a tiny leaf, and what harmony is blended in myriad varieties and shapes of flowers! One’s eyes rest with admiration upon such beauty. Flowers teach us many interesting lessons in reference to our earthly life, but they remind us likewise of the better works to come. What a delightful experience it is to enter a flower garden on a bright early morning to see everything refreshed by sparkling dew and the coolness of night!”

“God is in the elements. He gives them their being. God is in the plants; he gives them life. God is in the animals; he give them sensitivity. God is in human beings; he gives them comprehension. All the good in the world is only an effusion of God—like the rays emanating from the sun, the waters from their fountainhead. All must revert to him just like the waves after returning to the sea are absorbed by the clouds. All nature is filled with God. What wonderful mysteries are here revealed!”

Go Green Wilmette

Those of you who have good memories might recall reading that a few years back our Sisters participated in the GO GREEN WILMETTE effort. This group was founded in 2006 “to raise environmental awareness in the Wilmette community and to inspire residents to take action to make a difference.” I gathered a group of Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent and we discussed ways in which we could protect the environment. I kept the Sisters’ interest alive for a time, but then came COVID and most activities were curtailed. However, I was able to stay connected with GO GREEN via ZOOM and was kept posted about events during and after the Covid lockdown.

During the summer, I was invited to join a group of GO GREEN members (all women) who gathered weekly at Mallinckrodt Park to weed and tend the plots of native plants. I joined these women one Thursday morning. As I reflected on the dedication of these women who often worked in the sun and heat, I remembered the dedicated SCCs throughout the years who tended the motherhouse orchards, strawberry and currant patches, vegetable and flower gardens.

Contributed by Sr. Mary Ann Warwick, SCC / Photo by Sr. Anastasia Sanford, SCC



The Herb/Vegetable Garden

The idea for the herb/vegetable garden came after I had talked with several of the Sisters here at Sacred Heart Convent. But, good ideas need plans and plans need to be executed. Guidance and physical labor were provided by a new volunteer: Julie Dell, a very active member of GO GREEN WILMETTE.

After purchasing the frame for this garden, Erasmo Ramirez (Sacred Heart’s in-house landscaper) and I filled it with dirt. Erasmo and Julie then planted all of the herbs and vegetables: basil, sage, dill, tarragon and thyme; tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplant, sweet peppers. Most of these plants were donated by Julie and by Liz of West End Florist.

Erasmo and Julie shouldered the responsibility for the maintenance and care of this garden. Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig gave some assistance with the watering. I know that the Sisters and staff have enjoyed and appreciated the “fruits” of this garden.

Contributed by Chuck Ryan, SHC Administrator/Photo by Chuck Ryan

Creation and Eucharist

(thoughts of Chad Pecknold flowing from *Laudato Si*)

“I think one thing that’s easy to forget . . . is that the bread and the wine actually come from the earth. And not in an abstract way, but that there must be a grain of wheat in every wafer means that there had to be a wheat farmer, means that there had to be arable soil for that wheat to grow, means that there had to be rain that wasn’t acidified, that meant that there had to be time for the cultivation of the earth.”

Contributed by Sr. Mary Ann Warwick, SCC

In & Around the Region

Mallinckrodt Scholars Focus on Social Issues

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Elden, SCC | Information and photos provided by Sarah Hallett (Gannon Center for Women and Leadership at Loyola University Chicago)

The first Mallinckrodt Scholars were named for the 2015-16 academic year. If a Gannon Scholar entering her sophomore year at Loyola University wishes to apply for the Blessed Pauline von Mallinckrodt Scholarship, she must write an essay which shows how she—like Mother Pauline who found practical solutions to the social problems of the 19th century—will work to develop solutions to a 21st century social problem. Over the past issues, the responses of the named Mallinckrodt Scholars have been shared with our readers. We continue this sharing with the current Mallinckrodt Scholars.



Megan Grizzle (Senior)

Megan has focused her attention on the problem of mental disorders. She writes: *“According to the World Health Organization, one in four people is affected by a mental disorder. While there is a wide range of mental disorders in our population, many with these disorders are stigmatized and commonly ignored.”* Through her education in Psychology, Spanish, and Healthcare Administration, Megan wishes *“to lessen the stigmatization of mental disorders and promote the importance of healthcare access to those who are left without it”*.

Alexandra Almanza (Junior)

Because of her family background, Alexandra very early became involved with immigration issues, especially those of the undocumented. Already in high school, she pioneered an organization that provided a variety of informational sessions for the immigrant community. Alexandra is working toward a degree in Political Science and Global and International Studies. She sees these studies as allowing her *“to understand the political side of the immigration debate within the U.S. on both a domestic and international scale”*.



Sarah Strom (Junior)

Sarah’s mission is to *“fix modern issues such as the inequity occurring within women’s healthcare”*. As a Public Health major, Sarah aims to create *“an easily accessible resource”* that will, among other purposes, *“serve to educate populations on how to advocate for themselves and others within healthcare settings”*. Sarah believes in education as empowerment. As Global Health University Coordinator for Loyola’s chapter of GlobeMed, she is responsible for *“researching current social injustices and health-related disparities and formulating a weekly lesson plan to educate”* GlobeMed members.

Deena Al-Ali (Sophomore)

As the daughter of a Palestinian immigrant father and first-generation Palestinian mother, Deena is quite aware of the situation of the Palestinian people. She is also aware that anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism are *“two widely different concepts”*. Deena has a double-major in Political Science and International Studies and hopes to *“focus these studies on the politics of the Middle East in particular”*. She hopes that her education will provide her with the tools and the knowledge *“necessary to combat the stigma surrounding the Middle East and the Palestinian cause”*.



Sophia Khatoon (Sophomore)

Sophia wishes to address the *“rampant levels of healthcare inequality present in American society”*. Sophia has a STEM major (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). She wishes eventually to pursue medicine and realizes that *“the pursuit of medicine and the pursuit of social justice cannot be two independent struggles”*. Sophia’s hope is that her participation in student organizations that discuss access to healthcare as well as her own research will enable her to *“improve the experience marginalized groups have with the healthcare system”*.

Angels Unawares

Text and photos contributed by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

During the week of September 27-October 2, Fr Walter Miller, SVD was our chaplain here at Sacred Heart Convent. In one of his homilies, Father mentioned the “Angels Unawares” sculpture that he had seen at Loyola’s Lake Shore Campus. His remarks stirred up interest. Sr. Janice Boyer, the local leader, made inquiries about exactly where the statue was located and how much walking might be involved. She then put out a sign-up sheet for anyone who might be interested in seeing the sculpture.

Through the internet, one can find out that this sculpture by Timothy Schmalz “is a bronze life size sculpture that depicts a group of migrants and refugees from different cultural and racial backgrounds and from diverse historic periods of time.” The piece is twenty feet long and weighs 3.5 tons. This sculpture has been in St. Peter’s Square in the Vatican since September 29, 2019. At its inauguration, Pope Francis said he wanted the sculpture “to remind everyone of the evangelical challenge of hospitality”.

The sculpture on the grounds of Loyola University is a recasting of the piece at the Vatican. It is the property of the Catholic University of America and has been on a tour of 10 U.S. cities since last fall. †

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares” (Hebrews 13:2)



Sr. Janice Boyer, Sr. Mary Clement Eiden and Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig visited this beautiful sculpture. Sr. M. Joanne is the Region’s Peace and Justice Coordinator and keeps the Sisters mindful of the plight of migrants and refugees through information that she shares. Once a month at Sacred Heart, a Mass is offered for the safety and welfare of immigrants.



The newly-washed stones almost glow! Inset: Even the oldest stones have become more readable.

Our Cemetery Shines Again

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

September’s weather was warm and sunny—perfect weather for a bit of power washing. Early in September Michele Fuser (Facilities Director) began washing the stones in the cemetery. After a few days two maintenance men from Sacred Heart Convent took over:

Adam Klopotoski and Erasmo Ramirez. With the grass trimmed the stones seemed to glow in the sunshine. None of the Sisters can remember the last time the stones had been this thoroughly washed. This will not be the case in the future; washing the gravestones is now on the annual job schedule! †

Sharing Pauline's Vision



A Woman for the 21st Century

Text by
Sr. Mary Joseph
Schultz, SCC

The international character of the Sisters of Christian Charity has been a reality since 1873 when Mother Pauline sent the first Sisters to South and North America. From the time of the first arrivals in Chile and the United States, the intention was always to fully embrace the new cultures that the pioneer Sisters would encounter. Returning to Germany, even for a visit, was not an expectation of any Sister when she left the homeland.

Before leaving for the New World, the Sisters spent time studying English and Spanish in preparation for entry into the United States and Chile. Their futures were unknown. The first locations, though, were in the midst of German immigrants, since the invitations had come to Mother Pauline from Bishops and priests ministering in German settlements. Here the Sisters found a welcome and a home among their native people. Almost immediately the ministries of the Sisters expanded. New schools and hospitals were opened under their administration and the Sisters found themselves venturing into what we now call “interculturality”.

“Interculturality” is a term which has become a clarion call in religious life and the Church today. As we observe the ever-increasing rate of immigration and people on the move in the twenty-first century, we must accept the fact that there is no going back to homogeneous groupings of people, nor to “the way life used to be”. Races and ethnicities are intermingling at a speedy rate, and we are being called to look at cultures of peoples with new eyes. While “internationality” may be a first step, it does not denote the fullness of experience offered by an “intercultural” mindset. Living in an international

setting could mean merely tolerating or managing differences among people. Even moving up to a “cross-cultural” experience might be a step in the right direction, but often the goal here is for one group to be assimilated into the other. “Interculturality” is a much more demanding, yet much richer lifestyle.

Intercultural living requires people to see with the eyes of God, to love the culture of another as my own. In Mother Pauline’s words, the Sisters should be “one heart and one soul”. There was to be no dominant group among them. When young women from Chile and the United States began to enter the Sisters of Christian Charity, novitiates were opened in these countries and these women were fully accepted. Certainly, their initial formation as SCCs retained much of the German culture and heritage, maintaining the essentials of the Congregational charism. Adaptations had to be made to embrace the reality of the newcomers. It would be safe to say that the learning curve was steep in those early years as both groups worked to move beyond mere tolerance or acceptance to growth in esteem and love for one another.

In 1879 and 1880 Mother Pauline completed a visitation of every convent and institution in the Americas. She braved the high seas, traveling on ships large and small, through storms at sea and perilous travel in small boats to reach islands off the coast of Chile. In the U.S. she covered thousands of miles from New Orleans to New York, visiting Chicago, St. Louis, and all points in between where Sisters of Christian Charity were then ministering. Her appreciation grew and her vision widened as she experienced the new challenges of intercultural living as it was not experienced in Germany at the time.

On January 20, 1880, Mother wrote back to Sister Christine in Valdivia, Chile: “Please continue to see that the Sisters learn Spanish and the Chilean Sisters German.” To Sister Marina two days later we read in a letter, “Do be very intent upon learning Spanish.” And to the Sisters in Ancud, Chile on February 27, 1880 her advice was: “Please see that all the Sisters learn German.”

Pauline made the houses in Chile “her own”, entering with her heart into the ministries and the needs of the native people she met there. She desired to open a new house in Osorno: “We shall do all we can to further the project” she wrote in a letter to Sister Augusta on February 28, 1880.

(continued on page 18)

Companions of Pauline

Looking Back & Moving Forward

Text by Sr. Dolores Bozif, SCC

As COVID continues, some groups of Companions have met for face-to-face meetings. They enjoyed seeing each other after a year or more when all meetings were virtual or by phone. The Fulton and the St. Louis groups have had personal meetings this past year and will continue doing that as long as all are vaccinated and following guidelines.

Celebrations

May 28, 2021 was a day of great rejoicing for the St. Louis Companions of Pauline. This day represented the first time that the St. Louis group was able to meet



The St. Louis Companions met in person for the first time since COVID became a pandemic. Photos contributed by Darlene Johnson, CP.

in person since the beginning of the pandemic. Although COVID prevented an in-person celebration of the group's 30th anniversary last year, they were now able to celebrate their 31st together. All of the devotions during their meeting were taken from the prayerbook for the SCC Lay Associate Program. Members were greatly moved by the beautiful words of Mother Pauline herself in so many of the prayers. In honor of their special day, a beautifully-decorated cake, adorned with Mother Pauline's image, was served.

June 3, 2021 was the 20th anniversary of the Companions in Fulton, MO. The Companions there celebrated at a Mass in their parish church. A picture of Mother Pauline was set up in

Fulton Companions: Brenda Kempker, Kay Neudecker, Kathy Harris, Catherine Fegley and Kay Neudecker. Photo contributed by Brenda Kempker, CP.

the back of the church along with some pictures of the past.

Informative brochures

about the Companions were also put out in the hope of interesting other parishioner to consider joining the group. Five of the six Companions were there to celebrate. After the Mass, the group went outdoors for refreshments and memory sharing.

New Initiative

During the enlarged council meeting held in June 2021, a new idea concerning the Companions was presented. Each unit of the Congregation was asked to submit the name of a Companion who would work with the unit's Director of Companions in collaborating with a general councilor for the purpose of uniting the Companions at the international level as they work to spread Mother Pauline's charism. Sr. Adalberta Mette is the appointed general councilor. Sister has written several letters to the Companions about different aspects of Mother Pauline's life. The last letter, a lengthy one, was about Mother Pauline's spirit and attitude of gratitude.

The Western Region has asked Jo Styler, an Illinois Companion, to serve on this committee. Sr. Dolores has met with Jo to discuss how to increase membership in the Companions so that more and more people will learn about Mother Pauline and live her charism. ✝



Our Future

A New Approach to Vocation Ministry

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

As you read in the last BREAD BROKEN (Summer 2021), three Sisters have said their “yes” to living at our new Intentional International SCC Community and serving at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Chicago.

In these photos are just some of the families and friends of the Sisters of Christian Charity who have said “yes” to helping us get our new Resurrection Convent ready! The walls are painted, the carpets are cleaned, the rooms have been arranged. Most importantly, the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament will be here with us!

Now, we invite YOU and your FAMILY to “Come and See” where the Sisters of Christian Charity live, who they are and if you are feeling called to a life of love and service. Will you say “yes”?

Come meet the Sisters of Christian Charity as we begin this new vocation ministry and evangelization in and for the Congregation and the Church of Chicago!

Chuck, administrator of Sacred Heart Convent, reminded us of Mother Pauline’s words as he and Erasmo hung her picture. “Wherever the Spirit of God blows, there is growth!”

Families interested in getting together at Resurrection Convent at 2840 Nelson Avenue, Chicago please email Sister Juliana (srjuliana@sccwilmette.org) or Sister Monica (srmonica@sccwilmette.org).

Hope to meet with you soon! ✝

Erasmo Ramirez and Chuck Ryan hang the painting of Mother Pauline.

“Reflection can begin with the hanging of a picture,” wrote Chuck.



Olga from Victoria’s Upholstery renewed the dining room chairs from Resurrection Convent.



Fr. Nick checks on the work being done.



Angelo and Jose from St. Francis Xavier help with painting and cleanup.



Susan Barrett, Business Manager for the Sisters of Christian Charity, arranges the sanctuary lamp in chapel.

SCCs Around the World

SCCs Make Perpetual Profession

Excerpted from material by Sr. Ann Marie Paul, SCC

On August 15, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, three Sisters of Christian Charity—Sr. Mathilde DeLucy, Sr. Bridget Harakal and Sr. Clara Kim—made their perpetual profession of vows during the Eucharistic Liturgy at the Chapel of Mary Immaculate, Mallinckrodt Convent, Mendham, NJ. Most Rev. Kevin J. Sweeney, Bishop of Paterson, NJ was the celebrant. The Sisters made their vows into the hands of Sr. Joann Marie Aumand, Provincial Superior of the Eastern Province.

Previous to their profession, these Sisters had participated in a period of intense preparation known as tertianship. This was held at the motherhouse from June 27-August 20 and was directed by Sr. Mary Joseph Schultz, General Councilor for the Sisters of North America. During this time, each Sister withdrew completely from her usual ministry in order to intensify her relationship with Christ in an atmosphere of silence and recollection. From August 7-15, the Sisters participated in a spiritual retreat led by Rev. Daniel Issing, CSC, Professor of Theology at King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Sr. Mathilde DeLucy was born in Scranton, PA. She currently teaches music at St. Francis Cathedral School,



Outside of Mallinckrodt Convent, Mendham, NJ, following Perpetual Profession of Vows (left to right): Sr. Mary Joseph Schultz, Sr. Clara Kim, Sr. Bridget Harakal, Most Rev. Kevin J. Sweeney, Sr. Mathilde DeLucy and Sr. Joann Marie Aumand.

Metuchen, NJ. Sr. Bridget Harakal is from Schnecksville, PA. She teaches third grade at St. Francis Cathedral School, Metuchen, NJ. Sr. Clara Kim was born in Busan, South Korea. She is a Chaplain in the Pastoral Care Department at St. Joseph's Healthcare and Rehab Center, Cedar Grove, NJ. †

Celebrate Creation

Text and photo courtesy of Sr. Shawn Donnelly, SCC

The JPIC (Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation) committee sponsored a "Creation Celebration" on September 25. Sr. Bette Ann Jaster, OP was the presenter. Sister works full time coordinating various groups who want to develop a greater appreciation of our earth as well as intercultural awareness globally. Several Companions of Pauline joined the Sisters for the day.

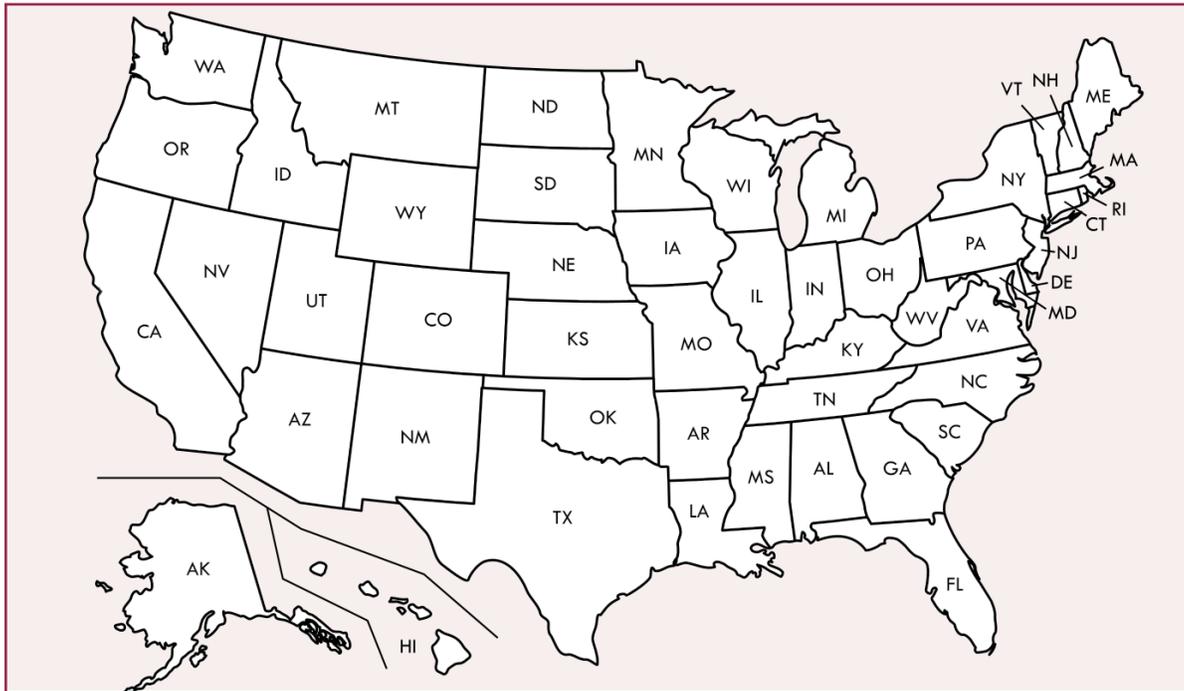
There was a special liturgical celebration in the chapel at 11:00 a.m.. This was followed by a boxed lunch.

The Sisters and Companions were involved in several activities in the afternoon: building bat houses, making reusable shopping bags from old shirts, cleaning out blue bird houses and accompanying Sr. Bette Ann on a meditative nature walk. †



Several Sisters work at making the reusable shopping bags.

Across the USA



AK	1
AL	7
AR	5
AZ	43
CA	47
CO	21
CT	3
DE	1
FL	62
GA	10
HI	2
IA	27
ID	1
IL	924
IN	30
KS	6
KY	8
LA	174
MA	9
MD	15
ME	2
MI	226
MN	168
MO	241
MS	8
MT	1
NC	10
ND	2
NE	7
NJ	26
NM	10
NV	5
NY	16
OH	26
OR	5
PA	21
SC	5
SD	57
TN	10
TX	36
UT	2
VA	17
VT	1
WA	9
WI	102
WV	1

Not everyone reads mailing lists. Let's face it; unless you're in charge of a mailing you probably have little idea of where things are being sent. In the offices of BREAD BROKEN a discussion took place about the mailing. It was decided to take a closer look at our mailing list. Lo and behold, we learned that BREAD BROKEN is currently being sent to 46 states! †

(continued from page 14)

A Woman for the 21st Century

In Valdivia, where a large hospital administered by the Sisters was already flourishing, she gave instructions that they should also open a school. Her encouragement was underlined as she expressed to the Sisters the "great importance of your house there".

After the visitation was complete and Mother Pauline was back in Germany, she instructed Sister Philomena, the secretary of Mother Mathilde in the United States, to write important letters to the Superiors of the convents in the Americas and a separate letter to all the other Sisters. In these letters she stressed the need for an intercultural, spiritual bond among all the Sisters. She admonished them to be faithful to the true religious spirit. Her practical advice is valid for all of us wherever we find ourselves. To the Superiors she wrote that they must make a sincere effort to embrace the young Sisters who were born there "so that they become fully and completely attached to us.... By nature, they are different from the Germans, but there must be a mutual accommodation and blending". "Where would we be if America had not accepted us so lovingly and hospitably!"

Each group of people has its own distinct culture, going far beyond food and language. In our post-modern view we are now able to study the effect of fluidity, diversity and unity on the notion of culture itself. There is no culture that is better or worse than any other. As we grow in appreciation of the differences and similarities, we can better experience the richness offered to us. We are invited to embrace the cultures of others, seeking to understand them in order to better love those who are "other". As we see more and more the gifts being offered to us, we can strive to grow in the words engraved on Mother Pauline's tomb, echoing those of Jesus at the Last Supper: "That they may be one." †



Sister Mary Ann Poppler

passed peacefully at Sacred Heart Convent on Wednesday, August 18th. It was only four days before she would have celebrated her 70th jubilee. She was 87 years old.

Mary Ann was born in Waconia, MN. She was the 5th of 11 children. She attended St. Joseph School where she met our Sisters.

In January of 8th grade Mary Ann asked to enter our Community. She entered our aspirancy and was a Freshman at Maria Immaculata Academy. Mary Ann was invested on August 21, 1951, receiving the name Sister Francine. After first vows on August 21, 1953, she spent each summer until final vows—

August 20, 1959—returning to the Motherhouse to take college courses.

Sister's first assignment was to teach 2nd grade. Her work as teacher took her to Illinois, Michigan, Missouri and Iowa. In 1991 Sr. Mary Ann began her first unit of study in Clinical Pastoral Education. Pastoral ministry at Our Lady of the Resurrection Hospital in Chicago followed. Sister moved to Sacred Heart Convent in 2003 where she continued her work of pastoral ministry to the Sisters there.

In addition to serving the spiritual needs of the Sisters, Sr. Mary Ann served at the reception desk. While there, miles of yarn passed through her nimble fingers, turning into afghans, lap robes and more. Sister had a booth at local craft fairs and held several craft sales at Sacred Heart Convent. †

A Long-Standing Tradition

Text and photo by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

For as long as I can remember, there has been the tradition in our community of praying for and paying respects to our deceased Sisters on November 2, the feast of All Souls. One of my earliest recollections is walking in and out of chapel during the vigil of All Souls Day to pray six times each the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be to gain a plenary indulgence for the poor souls. Another recollection is the procession from the motherhouse down to the cemetery in the afternoon to pray at the graves of the Sisters. We might have been carrying candles. It seems to me that Sr. Friedberta gave the cemetery a special cleaning at this time. Over the years, this tradition has probably been modified in various ways but never forgotten. When the new Province Center was built in 1999, the cemetery was much closer. The practice was to have Vespers in the Center chapel and then process over to the cemetery for the blessing of graves. This year, the opening prayer service was held in the chapel at Sacred Heart Convent so that all could attend. Then riders and walkers went to the cemetery where Sr. Monica Cormier and Sr. Anastasia Sanford blessed each grave. †

Sr. Mary Ann Poppler, SCC



Nicholas Ciaccio
Brother-in-law of Sr. Francetta Scherer

Rose Marie Hengesbach
Sister-in-law of
Sr. Angelica Hengesbach [Dec.]

Darlene Kay Nelson
Cousin of Sister Juliana Miska

Terry Organek
Husband of Colleen Organek
[Companion of Pauline]

Dolores Welch
Companion of Pauline



Sr. Anastasia (left) and Sr. Monica prepare to bless the graves. They hold holy water buckets (special for the occasion) and pine sprigs.

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Gatherings by the Gazebo

Excerpted from the annals of Sacred Heart Convent by Sr. Alice Mary Ortmann, SCC

Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 9, was "Oktoberfest" at Sacred Heart Convent. The nursing staff, kitchen staff, volunteers and other friends brought an array of delicious German foods for our noon dinner. After dinner, since it was a beautiful, warm, sunshiny autumn day, all were invited outdoors to the gazebo area for dessert, which of course included apple strudel. Arkady Bodner, our friend and accordion player, provided wonderful toe-tapping, clap-along music. The Sisters very much enjoyed this celebration and were greatly appreciative of the thoughtfulness of all who organized and provided for this gathering.

Photo by Sr. Janice Boyer, SCC ✝



Rosary Rally

October 13 was another beautiful autumn day and the Sisters of Christian Charity, our employees and our friends gathered in the gazebo area to participate in the Public Square Rosary Crusade. This event was organized by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig who is one of the Crusade's 20,000 captains across the United States. Various Sisters and guests led the decades of the rosary and the refrain of the "Lourdes" hymn was sung at intervals. This Crusade has many intentions among which are: for an end to abortion, pornography and all offenses against the Law of God; to stop the waves of sacrilege, blasphemy and anti-religious hatred within our society; for the wisdom and knowledge necessary to solve America's complex problems. ✝

