



PRESENTATION DOORWAYS

offering hospitality to the world



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PUBLISHED QUARTERLY by the
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The PURPOSE

The purpose of Presentation Doorways is to further the mission of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and our associates by sharing the news and views of the congregation with our benefactors, families and friends. Through this publication, we hope to share the charism of our congregation and to invite others to become involved in our mission.

Your THOUGHTS & COMMENTS

We want your input. Please send or email photos, stories and information about our sisters, associates, former members, family and friends, or any ideas which relate to the aim of this publication. Submit to:

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Cover PHOTOS

The doorways represented on the cover are snapshots of significant doors in the Presentation history and present day ministries: (Left to right) Doorway of Hotel Hope, a nonprofit hotel for homeless women and children in New Orleans, Louisiana; Doorway of St. Vincent's Academy (now St. Columbkille) in Dubuque, Iowa, in 1879; Doorway of La Luz Hispana, a center where Hispanic people come together in Hampton, Iowa; Doorway of the Presentation Motherhouse at 2360 Carter Road in Dubuque, Iowa; Doorway of Casa Betania, home for retreats and a gathering space for students in Tarija, Bolivia.

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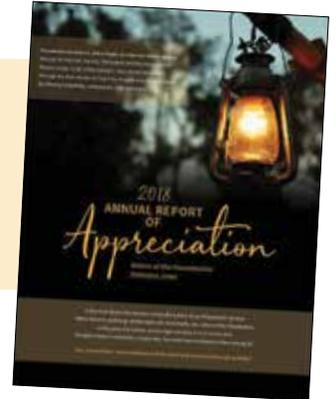
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2018 Annual Report of Appreciation

Included in this issue of Presentation Doorways is our Annual Report of Appreciation for all who have been part of our ministry efforts in 2018. New ways of being present to people in need are unfolding as a result of your partnerships. Your giving spirit continues to encourage us and for that we are grateful.



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Cover PHOTO

Sister Janet Goetz collects mail for Bishop Garrigan School in Algona, Iowa, as one of her many volunteer responsibilities where she gives her time, talents and energy. She also serves as a volunteer at St. Cecelia Parish.



Openings A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

by JOY PETERSON, PBVM

Over the years, most of you have probably experienced someone knocking at your front door and, seeing who is there, you might have groaned and wanted to pretend no one was home. However, the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us, “Don’t neglect to show hospitality, for by doing this some have welcomed angels as guests without knowing it.” Or as Jesus reminds us, “in welcoming a stranger, you welcomed me.”

Over the past few years, you have read many articles from the Sisters of the Presentation about our efforts toward living “radical” hospitality. We offer many of these stories as an encouragement toward making the whole of creation a more hospitable space.

During our Chapter of Affairs in 2017-2018, we spent several days reviewing the recent past and dreaming of plans for the future. It was relatively simple to say we wanted to deepen our commitment to living radical hospitality, but challenging ourselves to find ways to do that meant going beyond words on a beautifully designed page.

We have been committing ourselves to many actions over the years, but in last year’s congregational planning meeting, we changed our language up a bit and decided we would make “promises” to live out our commitments. A wise person suggested that promises are most often made to a person, highlighting a relationship where another receives on behalf of the promise. Looking at the needs of our communities, we asked ourselves what promises we could make. Of course we would promise to live radical hospitality in all relationships, especially with those made poor by unjust structures. But what other promises are needed?

With discernment, we felt called to promise non-violence of mind, heart, speech and action. This deepens our hospitality by adding another heart-conditioned perspective. This call asks us to explore viewpoints, such as our white privilege and racist attitudes, and come to new awareness of the pervasive culture of violence around us.

We further promised to practice forms of communication with each other and those around us that foster a spirit of dialogue where voices of difference are heard with an active spirit of openness. Listening deeply means we will be inclusive toward all, especially in our decision-making practices.

Thanks to the generosity of many and the good stewardship of our foremothers, we have been very blessed and gifted. Believing that gifts are always meant to be shared, we promised to form partnerships and utilize our resources for the purpose of living out our mission of being in kinship with all.

This spring sisters and associates are beginning the process of actively engaging with each of our promises. We have formed four groups of action that will be surrounded by the wisdom group who will offer prayer and active listening as an action of support. Each group will develop structures directed at producing measurable results that will enliven their promise and move us to new insights and movements. As we expand on each of these promises, we hope to be surprised by the angels we might have previously missed.

As our partners in mission, through your interest, your generosity and your prayers, you have companioned us thus far. We offer you our deepest gratitude and we invite you to continue your support of our mission. We pray that the radical hospitality you have offered us comes back to you in abundance and that you will join us in welcoming angels in your everyday lives.

Sister Carmen Hernandez Sister Rita Menart Sister Joy Peterson Sister Marilyn Breen

Our MISSION

We, the Sisters of the Presentation, are Catholic women who dedicate our lives to God through evangelization, prayer, service and hospitality. Our way of life is based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We share in the vision of our foundress, Venerable Nano Nagle, who dared to dream of a better world for the poor, sick and uneducated of Ireland. We commit ourselves to the empowerment of women and children. We reverence and celebrate all creation as gift. We commit ourselves to confronting injustice and working for peace.

As we continue to keep Nano’s dream alive, we are pleased to share our vision with you.

Our DIRECTION

Rooted in the Gospel, inspired by Nano Nagle and united to Presentation Sisters and associates around the world through the International Presentation Association, we, the Sisters of the Presentation of Dubuque, Iowa, are called to live our charism of radical hospitality in kinship with Earth and all people.

Sisters of the Presentation LEADERSHIP TEAM

Sister Carmen Hernandez

Sister Rita Menart

Sister Joy Peterson

Sister Marilyn Breen



Sister Janet Goetz enters baptismal records as part of her volunteer responsibilities at St. Cecelia Parish in Algona, Iowa.

SISTER JANET GOETZ A Welcoming Presence

by BETH KRESS, PBVM

A confident, yet modest woman, Sister Janet Goetz is a dedicated Catholic educator and a loyal fan of high school sports. Both descriptions have factored in her many years as a classroom teacher, a member of a family from North Central Iowa and in her current presence to parishioners, families and students in several communities of southern Kossuth County.

One of five children of the late Philip Goetz and Lorraine Garman Goetz, Sister Janet attended elementary school at St. Joseph School in Wesley, Iowa. At a time when many school systems were consolidating, she attended public high schools at Wesley and Corwith-Wesley for ninth through 11th grade. When Bishop Garrigan High School in Algona opened its doors in 1959, she became a member of the first graduating class of the new co-educational Catholic secondary school.

In 1960, Sister Janet left her home in Wesley to enter the Sisters of the Presentation of Dubuque. Following initial formation at Mount Loretto and graduation from then Clarke College in Dubuque, Sister Janet began a 59-year

career in Catholic education as a teacher in several Catholic elementary schools in Eastern and North Central Iowa and in Minnesota, as registrar at Bishop Garrigan High School and, from 1985 to the present, as school board secretary at the Bishop Garrigan schools.

As a long-time resident of Algona, Sister Janet now serves as a volunteer at both St. Cecelia Parish and Bishop Garrigan High School where she gives her time, talents and energy journeying with God's people in a variety of roles.

While she states that she can now "enjoy the pace which is slower and quieter" than when she was in full-time ministry, Sister Janet has a self-made schedule that allows her to carry out her volunteer services and still have a healthy, enriching balance in her day. "I have longer periods of prayer and reflection in my life now," she remarks. "I am enjoying reading Mark's gospel. I am physically closer to my family and to my alma mater. When Garrigan students present concerts, plays and other projects, I am able to be there."

On a day in early 2019 Sister recalls, "It was an unusually busy day – 7 a.m. Mass; 9 a.m. to Seton Elementary for the blessing of throats; then to Garrigan High School to process the mail, take time for adoration at the Garrigan chapel, help serve hot lunch and attend a school board officers' meeting; from there, home for a quick nap then to Whittemore for a wake. There were junior varsity and varsity basketball games that night, but after a long day, I decided to stay home and follow the games on the radio."

Sister Janet writes introductions for two students who are recognized for their leadership and service at the monthly Noon Kiwanis Club meeting. "I prep the students for what to expect, accompany them to the meeting and have the privilege of introducing them to area business men and women."

As the Bishop Garrigan School board secretary, Sister Janet records the minutes of the monthly meetings and maintains the official board set of minutes and financial reports. In addition she also works on the archives of Garrigan. Through her many years in Algona, she has a real grasp of the Catholic education history. "We have started a fourth generation at Garrigan High School," she points out.

In addition to a general presence in the Garrigan building, Sister Janet can be found at many school sports events. "I've always been interested in supporting students in their sports and activities. I have followed many Garrigan Golden Bear family athletes, coaches and teachers through the years, and most recently my grandnieces. My personal identification is a one-of-a-kind Garrigan Golden Bears stocking cap that I wear," she states with pride.

Living close to the St. Cecelia Church and parish office gives Sister Janet opportunities to volunteer to mail the weekly lector readings, record the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, marriage and deaths in the parish books and work with a parishioner on the parish archives, organizing past history, minutes, pictures, news articles and more.

"I also visit residents at the Algona nursing homes and go to wakes and funerals of parishioners, alums and friends of our Catholic schools. I attend monthly meetings at the Court St. Cecelia Catholic Daughters of America and serve as spiritual director and attend meetings for the Court St. Benedict CDA. In addition, I spend time at St. Cecelia's Perpetual Adoration Chapel on a regular basis," she adds.

Sister Janet's art of living with a healthy balance includes visiting with people at parish breakfasts and dinners; reading novels; reading Liguorian magazine and spiritual books, especially those about the gospels; doing the daily crossword puzzle and cryptoquote; and playing computer Solitaire.

"Traveling to new places stretches one's being," comments Sister Janet as she recalls going with her Presentation community during the summer of 2000 to visit Nano Nagle's homeland and the Presentation roots in Ireland. She is also



Sister Janet Goetz serves hot lunch to third graders at Bishop Garrigan School.

grateful for being able to participate in National Catholic Education Association conferences in Anaheim, California; Chicago, Illinois; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and St. Louis, Missouri, for going on a mission trip with other sisters to New York City in 1984 and, more recently, for family trips to Arizona, California, Texas, Niagara Falls and Yellowstone.

Sister Janet is grateful for her life as a woman religious today. She sees both the big picture and the everyday and ordinary dimensions. "I thank the church and Catholic community for recognizing and valuing the contribution of Catholic sisters in our country's history of education and health care," reflects Sister Janet. "Through the hard times, it is gratifying to witness the faithfulness of the young and old in religious life. I am proud to stand on the shoulders of those Presentation Sisters who have previously served in Algona, Whittemore, St. Joseph and Wesley as teachers, religious education and parish workers, musicians and administrators."

Striving to model Nano Nagle, Sister Janet Goetz states simply, "I aim to wear a smile always, to be friendly and positive and to be available to help and offer encouragement."

As Dubuque Presentations deepen their understanding of Nano Nagle's gift of radical hospitality, Sister Janet carries a welcoming heart with her every day.

Bishop Garrigan High School celebrates 60 years as a Catholic school in the Diocese of Sioux City. The Sisters of the Presentation have served at Bishop Garrigan since their doors opened in 1959



Left to right: Many afternoons, Sisters Francine Quillin and Annette Skyles enjoy catching up with one another, nurturing their friendship of over 65 years.

SISTER FRANCINE QUILLIN

Compassionate Companion

by BROOKE BODDICKER, COMMUNICATIONS INTERN

On the hunt for Sister Francine Quillin? Simply look for the woman with a friendly smile sharing her kind spirit with others. After 53 years of active ministry, Sister Francine has not stopped nurturing both new and old relationships. In her retirement, Sister Francine continues to volunteer at the Church of the Resurrection in Dubuque, Iowa.

“I visit parishioners,” says Sister Francine, “people who are elderly or not well, usually in their homes, in the hospital and in care centers.” Because Resurrection is one of the largest parishes in the Dubuque Archdiocese, this keeps Sister Francine quite busy. But she is very used to that!

From a young age, Sister Francine knew she wanted to serve others as a teacher. The Sisters of the Presentation taught

every grade at St. Patrick School in Waukon, Iowa, when young Maureen (Sister Francine) was a student there. Sister Francine knew each sister well and admired all as great teachers. The thought of becoming a sister herself became a serious consideration during her senior year of high school. She mentions, “I worked closely with two of the sisters in our high school. They both invited me to consider becoming a sister, so that sparked the earlier desire.” Ignited by that spark, she entered the Sisters of the Presentation a few months after high school graduation in 1955.

When she entered the Presentation community, Sister Francine pursued a degree in education. After earning her bachelor’s degree in English at Clarke College in Dubuque, she taught eighth grade at Sacred Heart School in Osage, Iowa.

She then moved on to Oregon, Illinois, where she served as both principal and junior high teacher at St. Mary School. After earning her master’s degree in theology at Marquette University in Milwaukee, she taught theology at Loras College. She was appointed as a member of the formation team, and during that time she taught theology to the sisters in formation whose credits came through Clarke College. She also served as a member of the general council for the Sisters of the Presentation.

Subsequently, she went to Rome to study canon law and received her license from the Dominican University. She worked in the Dubuque Archdiocesan Metropolitan Tribunal, and later became its director.

With each vocation has come a plethora of tales. Some of the most cherished stories come from Sister Francine’s time in Rome when she studied canon law. Traveling to Italy with only one summer of studying the Italian language may not have been easy, but Sister Francine made the most of her experiences.

“Studying in Rome was a very interesting and challenging experience,” recalls Sister Francine. “But one very nice thing about it was a special opportunity it offered. I had a brother who died during the Battle of the Bulge, and he was buried in Luxembourg. When I was in Rome, my sister came to visit me, and together we traveled to Luxembourg. We were the only ones of our family who were ever able to visit his grave. That was very special to me.” Another treasured memory made in Rome was meeting Father Joseph Hauer, who was also studying canon law there, and they became good friends. Some years later, when he became the pastor of the Church of the Resurrection in Dubuque, he invited her to join the parish staff as a pastoral associate.

I think what was most valuable about my years in all those positions was the people with whom I worked and the people I met through the various ministries.

Sister Francine Quillin

Throughout her time in active ministry, Sister Francine enjoyed the people with whom she ministered wherever she served.

“I think what was most valuable about my years in all those positions was the people with whom I worked and the people I met through the various ministries. They exemplified such lives of faith and endurance in their hardships, and to be able to be present to people in those needs is really a gift.”



Sister Francine Quillin consults a canon law book to respond to a question regarding marriage law.

Time spent with others seems to be the gift that keeps on giving. The value Sister Francine placed on relationships during active ministry was plentiful, but this value has grown since retirement.

“I have good friends in my community, and I have good friends in other religious communities and among lay people, and that’s important to me. Otherwise you would get very closed in on yourself. It would just be very lonely and a difficult life. I think to have people who are close and special to you in your life is important. I learn from them, we share things together, have interesting conversations ... it’s so good,” explains Sister Francine.

She identifies the impact others had on her life, but she does not realize the difference she makes in the lives of many. Full of humility, Sister Francine is a perfect example of the Presentation promise to live radical hospitality in all relationships.

“I’m enjoying retirement, but I still have some ministry to do,” comments Sister Francine. “It’s nice to have this time where you don’t have to be in a certain place at a certain time and to enjoy the richness of community life and prayer life. It is the great gift of retirement.”

Do you have news to share?

**We would love to publish it.
Please send your news items to:
info@dubuquepresentations.org.**

Sister Anne Marie Kollasch

Celebration of a Century

by SISTER MAXINE KOLLASCH, IHM

Sister Anne Marie Kollasch has always loved history, and with her 100th birthday in March, she's making some history of her own. She is the oldest member of the Dubuque Presentation community and is the longest-lived Kollasch on record.

Sister Anne Marie currently resides at the Presentation Motherhouse (Mount Loretto) in Dubuque. She devotes her days to prayer and to listening to programs about history, politics and religion. She enjoys connecting with family and conversing with her Presentation Sisters and with staff who are part of the rich texture of her daily life.

Sister Anne Marie notes that while the process of aging is challenging, it also gives her time to reflect on her experiences. She is grateful for a life that is not only long but also deeply meaningful. She writes in her autobiography, *A Kollasch Collage*, "I am ever aware of the 'hundredfold' that is mine as God's beloved," adding that she is thankful for the support of family, friends and religious community throughout her life.

Her journey began in rural Iowa in 1919. She was born to Anna (Laubenthal) and Charles Kollasch on a farm near Whittemore, in the Diocese of Sioux City, established only 17 years earlier. Baptized as Margaret, she was joined in succeeding years by eight brothers and sisters.

Faith, family and farming were central to Kollasch life and provided rich soil for young Margaret's vocation. She attended grade school first at the country school and then at Presentation Academy in Whittemore, where she was taught by the Sisters of the Presentation. In her autobiography, she recounts that in third grade, while attending a mission talk at church, she set her heart on becoming a sister. Knowing it would be years before she could enter, she advised God, "Don't let me forget." God remembered.

The desire for religious life stayed with Margaret throughout high school. She hoped to enter the Presentation community after graduation, but instead remained home to help the family during the challenges of the Great Depression. At that time, they had no electricity or running water, they raised their own food and money was scarce. They relied on God, one another and their neighbors, and found joy in the midst of hardship.

In 1940, Margaret pursued her dream of religious life, and entered the Sisters of the Presentation in Dubuque, Iowa. After initial formation, she received the religious name of Anne Marie and professed final vows in 1946. Northwest Iowa



In celebration of her 100th birthday, Sister Anne Marie Kollasch's family, friends and her Presentation community gather at Mount Loretto for a birthday celebration on Saturday, March 2. Pictured with Sister Anne Marie is her niece, Sister Maxine Kollasch, a member of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) of Monroe, Michigan.

continued to be fruitful spiritual territory. In the Presentation community alone, six of Sister Anne Marie's relatives became sisters. Two siblings and a niece also joined religious communities. Many family members took active roles in their parishes as lectors, musicians and pastoral ministers, a tradition that continues today.

In 1943, Sister Anne Marie began her ministry of teaching, which spanned 50 years. She taught at Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Sioux City and across Iowa: Mason City, Dubuque, Key West, Waukon, Charles City and Algona. Along the way, she earned a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in English. After graduate work, she became a federally-certified remedial reading specialist. Sister Anne Marie retired in 1993 and returned to Mount Loretto where she takes great delight participating in liturgical celebrations and the beauty of her home.

"As I continue my sojourn into the sunset of life, I am ever aware of the 'hundredfold' that is mine as God's beloved. I find myself repeatedly telling God how grateful I am for His sustaining love at this time in my life. Unable to hurry as in the past, I've slowed down and now take time to 'smell the roses,' as they say," smiles Sister Anne Marie.

Father Doug Wathier

Joyful Presence for 25 Years

by SISTER CARMEN HERNANDEZ

In 1994, 25 years ago, Father Doug Wathier became chaplain for the Sisters of the Presentation. The sisters comment daily about his concerned attention to them and about the quality of his daily homilies. Father Doug comments about his experience:

"I consider it a blessing to have been able to serve as chaplain at Mount Loretto for two and a half decades. My great-aunt, Sister Mary Wilfred Kress, was a member of the community; but beyond that connection, I really had very little experience of the community before starting as chaplain," states Father Doug.

"Over the years I've been edified by the witness of strong, thoughtful women who are committed to Christ and the gospel. I think of the many changes the senior sisters have experienced and how they remain joyfully committed to their vocation and the service of God's people," recalls Father Doug. "It's an inspiration to have the opportunity to have conversations with sisters in their seventies, eighties and nineties who are vitally interested in what's happening in the world and are dedicated to the Presentation mission of working for justice and being signs of grace lifting up the world. I so appreciate the joy of the women at Mount Loretto. Life's challenges are confronted with good humor and the readiness to share the 'duty of delight.' It's not that sisters haven't experienced pain and diminishment; but their confidence in the grace of Christ allows them to 'sing of the goodness of the Lord.'"

I so appreciate the joy of the women at Mount Loretto. Life's challenges are confronted with good humor and the readiness to share the "duty of delight."

Father Doug Wathier

When asked how the sisters have impacted his life, Father Doug recalls, "Before I started at Mount Loretto, I knew very little about Presentation foundress, Nano Nagle. It's been a privilege to learn more about her ministry and to see how her commitment to hospitality is embodied by the sisters. I particularly appreciate how the sisters reach out to those who



Left to right: Sisters Julia Wingert, Deborah Paige and Donna Demmer celebrate Father Doug Wathier's 25-year anniversary of being chaplain at Mount Loretto.

are at the margins and fringes of society. The motto of 'one pace beyond' and the symbol of the lantern light bringing the light of the gospel to the shadowy places of our world are particularly powerful for me."

Believing that each sister deserves recognition and gratitude for their lifetime commitment to consecrated life, Father Doug tries to personalize his jubilee, funeral and other homilies related to specific sisters as a fitting gesture of the Church's gratitude for the sisters' service on behalf of God's kingdom.

In respect to this, Father Doug comments, "My remarks are never adequate to what the sisters ought to receive; but I try to do my small part to say, 'thank you, good and faithful servant.' It's one of the advantages of serving at Mount Loretto for such a long time that I've had the chance to get to know the sisters and to hear the stories of their early years of religious life. I love listening to the stories. The world has changed significantly in 50, 60, 70 years; but the sisters remain faithful and share with the world the truth of the Paschal mystery. I truly believe the church needs the presence of women religious; and it's more important than ever to ensure that their story is shared and heard."

Thank you, Father Doug, for these past 25 years - we are most grateful for your faithful service, joyful presence and daily inspiring words.



Left to right: The Chicago associate group gather to fill bags of food at Saint James Food Pantry. Back row: Sisters Marilyn Breen and Lou Cota, Associate Gino Pacetti, Mary Ricci, Sister Raeleen Sweeney and Cathy Moore, director of the food pantry. Front row: Sister Janet Stelken and Associate Bridget Lahart. The Hearts of Hospitality associate group prepare sweet treats for distribution to those in need in the Dubuque area. Left to right: Associates Jen Hayes and Sue Brimmer, Sisters Rosalyn Ulfers, Annette Kestel and Margaret Anne Kramer, Associates Judy Kalb and Carol Wyatt.



Left to right: Associates Jean and Jeff Lange and Sisters Rosalyn Ulfers and Margaret Anne Kramer hand out food and other items to those in need outside Carnegie Stout Library in Dubuque. Associate Carol Witry and her husband, Tom, attend a fundraiser for the Miracle League Baseball Field. Associate Billie Greenwood volunteers at the Kino Border Initiative providing humanitarian assistance to migrants.

Go Where Need Calls Most Loudly

by CINDY PFIFFNER, ASSOCIATE PARTNERSHIP CO-DIRECTOR

During each associate commitment ceremony, Presentation associates read a commitment statement that in part says, “I pledge to prayerfully support and live out the charism and mission of this (Presentation) community.” The charism and mission of the community began with the actions and life of Nano Nagle as she carried her lantern through the streets of Cork in solidarity with those living in desperate conditions. Nano spent the majority of her life as a lay woman, offering radical hospitality to the marginalized and powerless of Cork. Her ministries were varied and determined by the needs of her time and her place in history.

The daily lives of associates are varied and look much different from that of the sisters and from one another, but as Presentation associates, they share a common commitment to search out opportunities to heal a broken world by responding to the needs of the people they encounter within their families and communities.

Whether together with their associate groups or individually, associates answer the call to radical hospitality and justice as they carry on Nano’s legacy by offering compassion and encouragement to others.

On a cold, snowy Saturday in January, the Chicago associate group assisted at Saint James Food Pantry setting up tables

and food stations, bagging, lifting and carrying food for those who came. Saint James is located within blocks of Chicago’s Chinatown, and the majority of the recipients were elderly Chinese, who were very grateful for the help.

In January, the Hearts of Hospitality associate group met at Mount Loretto to bake pans of brownies, rice cereal treats and chocolate chip cookie bars, packing 100 bags of sweet treats. On January 20, some group members met at the Dubuque Rescue Mission and prepared over 70 burritos, 40 hot ham and grilled cheese sandwiches and eight peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Following that, the group met with members of the Urban Bicycle Food Mission of Dubuque to find people who needed a meal. Men staying at the Dubuque Rescue Mission were fed as well as individuals keeping warm at the library, inhabitants of the area men and women’s transitional housing complexes as well as various other stops along the way. In addition to the warm food and sweet treats, the group handed out fruit, string cheese, oatmeal packets, hats and hand warmers.

The Urban Bicycle Food Mission of Dubuque started in August 2018, and through monetary donations prepares burritos and sandwiches and distributes them along with other donated items to the homeless, those with food insecurities or anyone who needs food. During the warmer weather, the food

It’s our hope that the Miracle League will be a place of radical hospitality where everyone is included, acceptance is nurtured and differences are celebrated.

Associate Carol Witry

is distributed by bikers every Sunday afternoon. When the temperature drops, they do their mission work via cars. They are currently working on their non-profit status, so for now the group is operating out of the Dubuque Rescue Mission.

As a volunteer at the Kino Border Initiative, Associate Billie Greenwood spends several months each year helping to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in transit and recent U.S. deportees who have been repatriated to Mexico. The migrants receive hot meals, first aid, clothing, advice and security alerts, human rights education and advocacy assistance at the migrant assistance center just inside Mexico on the U.S.-Mexico border. Billie helps women in need receive clothing, assists migrants in making secure and free phone calls to family members around the world, prepares and serves food and organizes donations.

Every person who enters the door is experiencing a personal crisis or transition, and Billie knows she is privileged to witness grace under pressure every day. She learns the reality of poverty and oppression in our world through their lives. Billie says, “The team members I work with demonstrate amazing commitment and caring to the needs of our migrant brothers and sisters – as they patiently accept my limitations and allow me to share in their ministry.”



One of the ways Associate Carol Witry and her husband, Tom, are living the mission of radical hospitality is through their efforts to build a Miracle League baseball field and an all-inclusive playground for people of all abilities. Play is an inherent need and right for everyone. More than 10,000 individuals in the Dubuque area have documented disabilities – and few of them are able to fully participate in sports leagues or at a playground. The Miracle League facility, with its flat, smooth surfacing and fully accessible playground equipment and support building, will offer people of all abilities the opportunity to interact, play together and learn to appreciate each other. Carol states, “It’s our hope that the Miracle League will be a place of radical hospitality where everyone is included, acceptance is nurtured and differences are celebrated.”

Associate Partnership

For more information, please visit:

WWW.DUBUQUEPRESENTATIONS.ORG

Office of Associate Partnership
563-588-2008

associates@dubuquepresentations.org

REMEMBERING Cedar Falls, Iowa

1969-2012

by MARY HERMANN PLATT, PBVM, ARCHIVIST

Saint Patrick Parish traces its history to the first Mass in Cedar Falls, Iowa, celebrated by Father Patrick McGinnis in the home of Andrew Mullarky in 1855. In 1856 Father John Shiels began to minister to the Catholics of Cedar Falls, and directed the building of a new brick church. In 1867 Father Thomas Gunn was appointed the first resident pastor. As the population grew, a second church was built in 1876. This latter building was razed by fire in 1913 and replaced in 1916.

In the early 1900s, Father Luke Donlon established the Newman Club for college students, taught an accredited class in religion at Iowa State Teachers College and acted as spiritual director for the students, beginning a long-term association between the parish and the college population.

St. Patrick School opened in 1891 under the direction of the Sisters of Charity, who remained until 1969 when the Sisters of the Presentation took over the educational duties. Principal Sister Irma (Mathias) Ries led the first Presentation faculty consisting of Sisters Barbara (Arthur) Rastatter, Suzanne Gallagher, Annette Skyles, Michael Rottinghaus, Lorraine Baxter and Noreen Burlage. Between 1969 and 2012, 36 Presentation Sisters ministered as teachers, principals and directors of parish religious education programs.

The parish and school reflected the population of the city. Many of the parents were professors or students at the University of Northern Iowa who demanded high educational standards. Family involvement was a given component of the program, and every effort was made to accommodate the needs of busy parents.

A unique feature of the program at one time was the use of Individually Guided Education (IGE) begun in 1972. This method involved pre-assessment of knowledge, planning for future learning, implementation of the plan and re-assessment. Small group, multi-age teaching provided for the individual needs of each student.

To enhance the total religious education in the parish at the same time, teachers of the school and of the religion classes were involved in planning and teaching the part-time program. The resources of the school were available for the total program

using the IGE approach throughout. Adults and children were all involved in the learning activities.

At various times throughout the years, St. Patrick School added a latch key program, a preschool and Spanish language classes from third to eighth grade.

Enrollment fluctuated at St. Patrick School, as it did in the rest of the city. However, an article in the *Courier* on January 10, 1999, noted the increased enrollment in St. Patrick School despite smaller numbers in the neighboring public schools. Sister Louise Scieszinski, principal at the time, when asked why she thought this was the case, cited the fact that parents wanted Christian values-based teaching, along with strong academics and a family-centered school. This set of attributes has always been part of the program at St. Patrick School, along with individual student responsibility and parent involvement.

During their tenure in Cedar Falls, the Presentation Sisters were active in parish activities along with their ministry in the school. They were engaged in work with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, served as extraordinary ministers of Communion, visited parishioners in their homes and in the hospital, tutored immigrants learning the English language and were members of the parish choir.

The last Presentation Sister to minister in St. Patrick parish and school was Sister Marilou Irons, who left in 2012.



The first Presentation Sisters who ministered at St. Patrick School in Cedar Falls, Iowa, along with priests and lay women.

Human Trafficking Awareness Efforts

by JOY PETERSON, PBVM



Members of the Tri-State Coalition Against Human Trafficking and Slavery and local and state officials surround the hotel manager of Grand Harbor Resort in Dubuque.

For several years now, the City of Dubuque and Dubuque County have participated in the national effort to make the month of January Human Trafficking Awareness Month. At the request of the Tri-State Coalition Against Human Trafficking and Slavery, a proclamation was made at the first meeting in 2019 recognizing January as "Human Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month."

Sisters Marie Barth, Sheila Ann Dougherty, Anne McCormick and Joy Peterson were among the area women religious who established the coalition five years ago to address the issue of trafficking in the tri-state area. Sisters Marilou Irons and Brigid Stanley, and Associate Sue Murphy, have since contributed their skills to the work of the coalition. Initially, the focus of the group was on education of adult groups in the area. Recently, several coalition members have been trained to help hotel and motel staffs recognize victims of trafficking.

Several national hotel chains have committed to training staff in understanding the indicators of trafficking. Aided by organizations like ECPAT, which has set the goal of ending child slavery at the source, travelers are also invited to notice potential trafficking victims. In travel settings, ECPAT recommends watching for signs, such as an adult always speaking for the child in a way that prevents the child from making eye contact or showing physical or verbal autonomy.

Polaris Project, a nation-wide organization founded to end human trafficking, defines human trafficking and slavery as "the business of stealing freedom for profit." Traffickers trick, defraud or threaten vulnerable populations and then benefit from coercing them into service for sex and/or physical labor. The project estimates that nearly 25 million people are trapped worldwide by traffickers. They sponsor a National Human Trafficking Hotline which allows them to gather statistics for reported cases in the U.S. In the year 2017, nearly 9,000 calls were made. The hotline number is 1-888-373-7888.

Annual Benefit Garage/Gym Sale

The 2019 Presentation Garage/Gym Sale is right around the corner and work is already underway! The 2018 sale raised \$24,400. For the past 14 years, many of you have helped support the sale through donations of sale items, baked goods, purchases and precious time. Can we count on you again this year?

EARLY BIRD SALE - \$10 Donation

Thursday, April 25
7-8 a.m.

WHEN:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
April 25, 26, 27, 2019

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
May 2, 3, 4, 2019

(Thursdays, Fridays 8 a.m.-dusk; Saturdays 8 a.m.-1 p.m.)

WHERE:

Garage and gym behind the
Sisters of the Presentation Motherhouse
2360 Carter Road, Dubuque, Iowa

WHY:

The proceeds from the 2019 sale will go to:

- Catholic Charities for immigration legal services/counseling, Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa
- Presentation Lantern Center, Dubuque, Iowa

Spring Cleaning? Donate to Cause!

Please bring gently-used items: clean adult, children and baby clothing; household items; books; CDs; furniture; games, toys, etc. Plants such as hostas, ferns, schefflera, crotons, etc., sell very well too. (Please no shoes, computers/accessories, entertainment units, TVs, baby cribs or car seats, Nordic tracks or treadmills.)

The gym behind the Sisters of the Presentation will be open for drop-offs of usable items from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily EXCEPT Sundays beginning Saturday, April 6 until Saturday, April 20. **No items will be accepted after Saturday, April 20.** Larger items such as furniture, desks, large lamps, tool items, sports equipment, gardening, bikes, etc. should be dropped off at the white garages across from the gym

Homemade baked goods will be sold. Wrapped baked goods may be brought to the gym on April 24-27 and/or May 1-4.

Relationally SPEAKING

Sisters, Associates, Family, Friends in Brief

Re-Imagining Initial Formation



Nearly 30 sisters gathered at Mount Loretto on Saturday, February 16, to participate in a day of “Re-Imagining Initial Formation.” Sister Ann Letourneau, CSJ, who has been a formation director for her congregation as well as a licensed counselor practicing in Chicago, facilitated the day. She began the day by reviewing statements from the sisters’ constitution, summarizing some of the current perspectives on initial formation and guiding a time of contemplative reflection on initial formation. The afternoon was spent in group sharing and discussion around the critical issues to keep in mind in this re-imagining time.

New Book on Nano Nagle

Presentation associate, Barbara Ressler just published a book about Nano Nagle titled, *Becoming Light: A 21st Century Retelling of the Life of Nano Nagle in Prose and Poetry*.



Barbara’s manuscript came in second of the two finalists in response to an invitation by the Union of Presentation Sisters for an updated account of the life of Nano Nagle for the modern reader. According to Barbara, “Each chapter has poetry and is written as if Nano is writing in her journal. My intent was to have Nano come alive as a person to help the reader relate to her.”

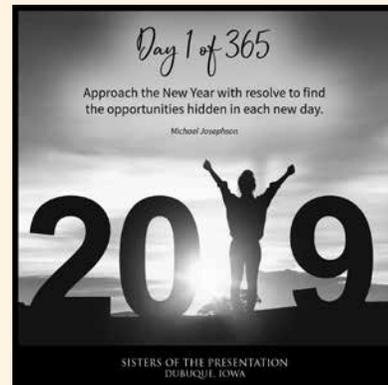
Barbara, a high school teacher, wanted to write a book that can be read easily and would interest her students. She says the book can be read in one or two hours and covers Nano’s life from age 13 to her death.

Copies of Barbara’s book can be ordered at Archway Publishing and is available in paperback, hardcover and e-book formats.

Looking for Inspiration in 2019?

Every day in 2019, an inspirational post is shared on our social media channels with the hope to inspire all to dream, achieve, succeed and strive to live a healthier and happier life.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram @dbqpbvms! Or, if you would like to receive these daily reflections by email, please send your email to info@dubuquepresentations.org and we will add you to the list.



Scholarship Opportunities Deadline April 1, 2019

In the spirit of Presentation Foundress, Nano Nagle, and her desire to serve, the Sisters of the Presentation offer the following scholarship and award opportunities:

- Nano Nagle College Scholarship
- Mother Vincent Hennessy Scholarship
- Nano Nagle Service Award
- Presentation Mission Service Award

To apply visit:
www.dubuquepresentations.org
OPPORTUNITIES

Mount Loretto AND BEYOND

Featured below are special times in the lives of Dubuque Presentation Sisters and associates.



Annual Wine & Cheese Party

On January 27, the sisters enjoyed an annual wine and cheese party, a gift from Jim Dempsey and daughters Elaine and Anne. This party follows a tradition started in 2013 by Peggy Dempsey, sister of Sister Anne McCormick. Before she died, Peggy had the idea to gift the sisters with a wine and cheese party. Peggy was known for her gift of hospitality and her family continues this tradition in memory of Peggy whose love for and loyalty to the Presentation Sisters goes back to her 12 years of being educated by them at St. Patrick School in Waukon, Iowa. Left to right: Sisters Hermann Platt, Joy Peterson, Thoa Pham, Cecelia Marie Auterman and Linus Coyle.

PLEASE JOIN WITH US.

March 25, 2019
April 22, 2019
May 27, 2019
Centering Prayer
5:30 p.m. Evening Meal
6:15-7:00 p.m. Prayer
Sisters of the Presentation
Sacred Heart Chapel
Dubuque, Iowa

Holy Week Mass Schedule

April 18, 2019
Holy Thursday
7:00 p.m.

April 19, 2019
Good Friday
3:00 p.m.

April 20, 2019
Holy Saturday
7:00 p.m.

April 21, 2019
Easter Mass
9:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart Chapel
Sisters of the Presentation
Dubuque, Iowa

April 25-27, 2019
May 2-4, 2019
Annual Garage/Gym Sale
Sisters of the Presentation
Dubuque, Iowa

For updated information about the activities and events of the Sisters of the Presentation of Dubuque, please visit our website at www.dubuquepresentations.org or call 563.588.2008.

PLEASE PRAY WITH US.

March 16-23, 2019
Service & Discernment Opportunity
New Orleans, Louisiana

April 6, 2019
Conference of Associates and Religious of the Midwest Area
Dubuque, Iowa

21st of each month
Pray for Vocations

25th of each month
Mass for Benefactors

Join us in
OFFERING
hope, love, hospitality
TO OUR WORLD



To learn more visit

WWW.DUBUQUEPRESENTATIONS.ORG

Follow us at #DBQPBMVS





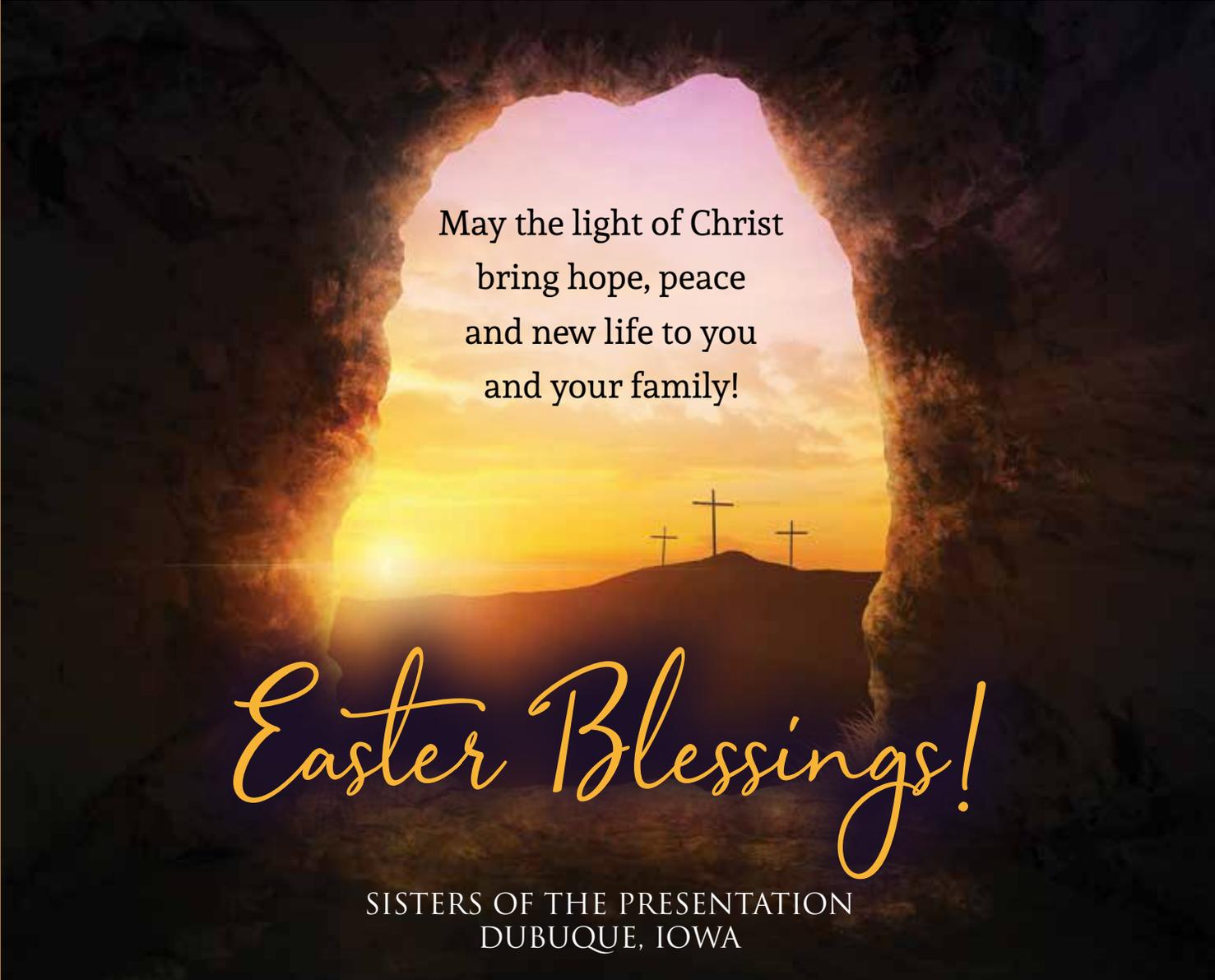
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(please indicate which is correct)



May the light of Christ
bring hope, peace
and new life to you
and your family!

Easter Blessings!

SISTERS OF THE PRESENTATION
DUBUQUE, IOWA