

# Heritage Happenings



Lest We Forget...



In our last issue, Theresa ended with a brief reference to Mary Graff coming (to St. Boniface) at the time of Confirmation by the Bishop. A small article in The Manitowoc Pilot dated November 13, 1869, Vol. 10 # 17 reads: "Rt. Rev. Bishop Henni, of this diocese, officiated in the Catholic Church in this village last Sunday, on which occasion he administered the rite of confirmation to a class of over three hundred candidates. This is, we believe, the largest accession of members ever received by any church in this region." The Sunday before Nov. 13 would have been November 7, 1869 and "the village" is Manitowoc.

When I read Mother Gabriel's annals, I thought this was the episode of confirmation she was referring to. I had seen the article in Sr. Donna Marie's book collection articles. I must have been wrong. This is confirmation in 1869, two days before Reception, so I'm thinking it must have been just a routine confirmation in 1868 that Mary Ann had come to St. Boniface as they were still living in Clarks Mills at this time.



At this time (November of 1868), Rosa Wahl was the only one away from Clarks Mills leaving Josepha, Theresa, Mary Ann Graf and Mary Doyle at home. We could assume they were probably making decisions about their pending scheduled move to St. Boniface in January. One thing that Theresa hasn't mentioned in her annals was the order of the day that they followed. Previously, they had been living a schedule established by the community in which they had lived. During the past year they probably developed their own by combining the two. Looking at the two schedules might help us understand more about their lifestyle. ..and ours!!



Theresa was used to the schedule followed by the Oschwald Sisters in the Pink Convent.

1. Early morning: Morning Office in German
2. Mass daily along with recitation of the rosary
3. Breakfast and then the work of the day
4. Dinner at noon: Reading "Lives of the Saints"
5. Vespers, Compline, Matins, Lauds - afternoon
6. Work continued until later evening
7. Supper with rest of the commune members
8. Evening recitation of the rosary
9. Singing of German songs
10. Retirement

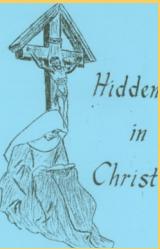


Sister Humbeline remembers: On October 4 all the Sisters would move from St. Mary's Chapel to St. Francis for the winter (warmer there!) and for Easter Sunday they would move back to St. Mary's.

Rosa Wahl, Josepha Thoenie, and Mary Ann Graf were more familiar with the Precious Blood Sisters routine although they had been with the Oschwald Sisters for the past year before joining Theresa in Clarks Mills.



- 5:00 AM Rising, bed making
- 5:25 AM Recitation of the Angelus, Morning Prayer and Meditation for 1/2 hour.
- 6:00 AM Lauds (Morning Office in German)
- 6:10 AM Holy Mass, Prime, & Prayer to St. Gaspar Breakfast .... followed by work of the day.
- 11:45 AM Office Recitation: Terce, Sext, None; then the Angelus followed by Examen of the Day
- 12:10 PM Lunch
- 4:00 PM Praying Vespers; Novenas; Spiritual Reading
- 8:00 PM Compline, Benediction, Matins, Night Prayers, and points for Meditation.



## November is Founder's Day Month November 9

Our first recorded Founder's Day mentioned was by Mother Alexia On the 40th Anniversary of our founding in 1909, she requested Sister Gabriela to write down her memories of the Founding of the Community for presentation to the Sisters gathered that day. This is all we have as a record: *"On the eve of the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday of our community in November, 1909, an appropriate little program was prepared for the celebration. A feature was a little talk by Mother Gabriel on the history of our community. At the end of her notes for this occasion she wrote a wish for the Sisters."*

***"All that my heart could desire for you is comprised in this one wish: May our Lord bestow on you His choicest blessings and pour out abundantly His graces upon you."***

Signed: Sr. Gabriela Gramlich.

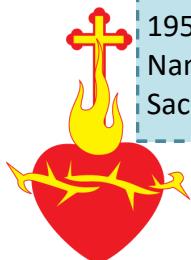


November 9, 1939 was our 70th Anniversary. Sisters who came before 1900 wrote down impressions of the early days of the Community etc. plus glimpses of the Foundresses they had known.



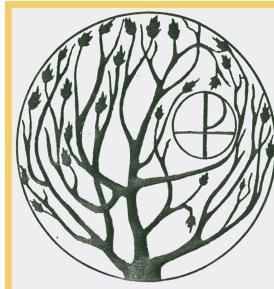
1952: History of the Community as witnessed by a little angel landing on the convent roof who went exploring!!

Founder's Day Programs were formatted in unique and varied ways depending on the creativity of the group.

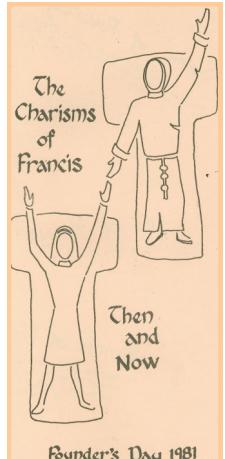


1956: 87th Anniversary—a play: "Love is My Name" - the story of our devotion to the Sacred Heart and Margaret Mary Alacoque.

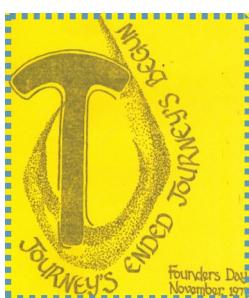
*November 9, 1869*



FOUNDER'S DAY, 1990



1962: 93rd Anniversary Play "The Weak Plant Deepest" a five scene story of Sr. Constantia's mother attempts to "make her come home"!! Complete with court room scene and a ballad.



1977: 108th Anniversary "Journeys Ended, Journeys Just Begun" Play: Coming of the German Sisters and the Fire. For supper that night Sisters sat according to reception crowd! Remember those days??

Between 1951 and 2018 sixty-nine Founder's Day programs were held. Of those programs, 60 programs are intact. Nine of them are missing for the years: 1954, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1964, 1970, 1975, 1976, and 2004. If you are a member of the Reception crowd for one of these years and have a copy of your program, please contact Sr. Caritas. She would be thrilled.

Celebrating our 150th Anniversary—Countdown of 365 significant events in our history beginning November 10. Find it on Facebook at Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity. A hard-copy of each countdown event will also be posted for non-Facebook Users!!

