

1911 Photo of Holy Family Convent

Three Sisters Pronounce First Vows



Sister Natalie Binversie and Fr. David Beaudry posed with the Sisters who made their first profession of vows, front row l to r: Sister Colleen Demro, Sister Clare Rose Oswald, and Sister Cecilia Joy Kugel.

Manitowoc, Wisconsin—Sunday, June 2, 2019 was a special day of celebration at Holy Family Convent as Sister Colleen Demro, Sister Clare Rose Oswald, and Sister Cecilia Joy Kugel pronounced vows of poverty, chastity and obedience during the 2 p.m. Eucharistic celebration.

Sister Natalie Binversie, Community Director received their vows at a liturgy celebrated by Rev. David Beaudry. Their parents, other family members, and members of the Franciscan Community witnessed the event.

Sister Colleen is the daughter of James and Marlene Demro, Green Bay, Wisconsin. She entered Holy Family Convent in 2016 from St. Mary Church, DePere, Wisconsin. Sister Colleen is looking forward to her first assignment which will take her to Visitation Convent, Oshkosh, Wisconsin where she will be serving as assistant to the Parish Administrator at St. Mary Parish in Winneconne and St. Mary Parish in Omro and doing outreach services in the area as possible.

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Newly Professed Sisters (Continued from p. 1)

Sister Clare Rose, the former Tricia Oswald is the daughter of Robert II and Becky Oswald, Kimbolton, Ohio. She entered Holy Family Convent as a postulant in 2016 from Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, Ohio. Sister Clare Rose will be completing her degree in Secondary Education with a major in History at Silver Lake College of the Holy Family and residing at the Motherhouse.

Sister Cecilia Joy, the former Megan Kugel is the daughter of Chuck and Mary Lou Kugel, Shawno, Wisconsin. She entered Holy Family Convent from Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Shawano in 2016. Sister Cecilia Joy's first mission assignment will take her to St. Paul Convent, Kaukauna, Wisconsin where she will serve as Assistant in marketing and communications for St. Paul Elder Services and in the Vocation Office.

Sister Hue Graduates

Sister Hue Thi Kim Dang from the Congregation of the Lovers of the Holy Cross, Vietnam graduated from Silver Lake College of the Holy Family on May 11th with a Major in Information Science Technology and a Minor in Psychology.

We enjoyed having Sister Hue as a part of our Motherhouse Community and we sent her off with our blessings and prayers when she left May 24 to visit a great-aunt in Florida before returning to her Community in Vietnam on June 27.

Sister Hue is pictured with her major advisor, Sister Christine Stoller.



Name Change for the Pope Paul VI Institute

Omaha, Nebraska—It isn't every day that the patron of your place of employment is canonized. Everyone at the Institute was so excited—and so very proud—as this past October we watched Pope Francis canonize our eponymous patron, Paul VI. So excited in fact, we just had to change our name from Pope Paul VI Institute to Saint Paul VI Institute. On May 25, 2019, Dr. Thomas W. Hilgers, founder and director of the Institute made the official announcement: The Pope Paul VI Institute is now **Saint Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction and Saint Paul VI Institute Physicians, PC.**

—Sister Renée Mirkes

Window Replacement

Philippi Quality Construction, Manitowoc, Wisconsin is completing a three year window replacement project on the west side of the Motherhouse.



The first year—1st floor windows were replaced, in the second year—4th floor, and the third year—2nd and 3rd floors.

All windows on the west side of the building are new, except the Chapel windows. The frames are dark brown metal in place of the silver. The stained glass windows in the Chapels were not changed; just the storm windows for these windows.

The windows are a tight fit so much of the outside air, does not seep into the building.

Sister Leads Holy Family Conservatory Harps Concert

Manitowoc, Wisconsin—Holy Family Conservatory teacher, Sister Marsaia Kaster, selected an assortment of Celtic, classical, patriotic and modern pieces for the May 19th Harps Concert at the Franciscan Music Center, Endries Hall on the campus of Silver Lake College of the Holy Family.



Sister Marsaia Kaster

During the American melodies, audience participation was requested for the song "Take Me Out to the Ballgame". Modern pieces included "Beauty and the Beast", "Star Wars", "It is Well with My Soul" and "Chariots of Fire". Students were highlighted in large group, smaller ensembles and in solo playing. Gretch-



Harpists practice together in Sister Marsaia's music studio.

en Henry, soon graduating from high school and pursuing studies in Nashville, Tennessee was awarded special recognition for her accomplishments with the harp and was affirmed for her personal goodness.


—*Sister Julie Ann Sheahan*

Clergy Caucus Met with Congressman on Behalf of Asylum Seekers

Tucson Arizona—Representatives from Pima County Interfaith Clergy Caucus met on May 31 on behalf of asylum seekers with U.S. Congressman Raul Grijalva. With the crisis at the southern borders growing more critical each day, the topics of discussion included: addressing the future flow of asylees into Tucson, Yuma, and Nogales; the possibility of federal or local resource help for the faith groups and other NGO's who are responding heroically in their ministry to asylum seekers; the possibility of non-partisan action on behalf of addressing the crisis. Sister Leonette Kochan, a participant in the Clergy Caucus gatherings, is pictured here with the representatives who met with Representative Grijalva, pictured in the center. The Congressman shares the concerns of the group and is in support of humanitarian approaches to addressing the migrant/refugee situations at the borders. Besides representatives from the Catholic community, the Pima County Interfaith Clergy Caucus membership includes



faith leaders from all faith traditions
in the Tucson area.



Catholic Community Services, which coordinates the diocesan ministry to asylees at the former Benedictine Monastery in Tucson, reported that they have been informed by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) that they can expect over 200 – 300 people being brought to them each day into the unforeseeable future. Many other faith congregations also provide this same ministry to the extent that their space allows. Funding, food and supplies depend on the generosity of the local Tucson community, people who have been magnanimous in their response as volunteers and donors. All, including Rep. Grijalva, are gravely concerned because; while the flow of asylees appears to be on the increase, non-profit organizations cannot indefinitely sustain their current level of support without government help.

—*Sister Leonette Kochan*

Sister June Honored on Her 60th Jubilee

Cambridge, Ohio—On Sunday, May 19, 2019, the Sisters from St. Benedict's Convent honored Sister June Smith on her 60th Jubilee as a Franciscan Sister of Christian Charity.

The celebration began with the parish Mass at 8:00 a.m. Each Sister prepared a delicious dish for a picnic dinner after which they enjoyed playing the card game, "315" and Sister June was the declared winner.

A meaningful Evening Prayer was prepared by Sister Jan Villemure. Sister Carol Juckem brought forward a candle that reminds us of the light of Christ guiding all of us in our Community, past, present, and future. The Rule and Constitutions was carried by Sister Helen Marie Paul. A crucifix was brought up by Sister Sharon



Sister June Smith, celebrating a dinner in honor of her 60th jubilee.

Paul, representing the gift Sister June received at her first profession and our following of Christ. Sister Jan Villemure carried in a ring which Sister June received at her final Profession and is a symbol of God's love and fidelity. The final symbol was a rose offered by Sister June, depicting the joys and the sufferings of living for Christ.

Sister June Smith will continue her celebration at Holy Family Convent, Manitowoc, Wisconsin with the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity on July 7th.

There will be seven other Sisters celebrating their Diamond Jubilee.

—Sister Sharon Paul

Annual May Crowning Service Held at Holy Family Convent

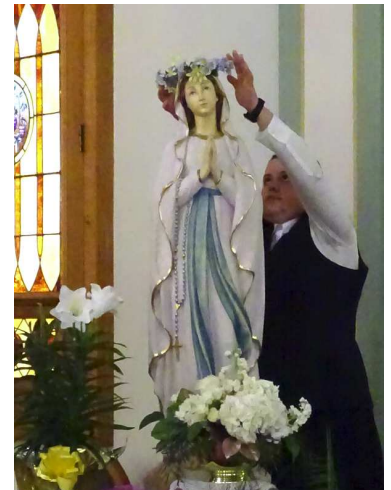
Manitowoc, Wisconsin—The annual May Crowning service took place on May 5th in St. Mary chapel at the Motherhouse.

The service was taken from the book, *Order of Crowning an Image of the Blessed Virgin Mary* published by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

As has been the tradition, a Postulant does the crowning and a Sister from St. Rita Health Center carries the crown in procession. This year Sister Mary Charles Hlinak escorted by novice, Sister Concepción Medina, carried the crown and postulant Yazmin Martinez Lopez placed the crown on the image of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, while the Sisters



Sister Concepción helps Sister Mary Charles in offering the crown to Yazmin for placing on the statue of Mary.



sang "Bring Flowers of the Rarest".

Another favorite hymn from the past, "On This Day", was sung as an opening to the celebration of the Word of God within which the crowning took place.

We are asked to participate in prayer with Pope Francis for the intention: *That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are most poor.* Pope Francis' reflections on the Beatitudes, particularly on the pure of heart relate to this intention. He writes: "This Beatitude speaks of those whose hearts are simple, pure and undefiled, for a heart capable of love admits nothing that might harm, weaken or endanger that love. Certainly there can be no love without works of love, but this Beatitude reminds us that the Lord expects a commitment to our brothers and sisters that comes from the heart. For 'if I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have no love, I gain nothing'. A heart that loves God and neighbor, genuinely and not merely in words, is a pure heart; it can see God. Keeping a heart free of all that tarnishes love: that is holiness.

Here is a true story about a nine year old boy who lived in a rural town in Tennessee that seems to speak to this month's prayer as well as to a holiness rooted in purity of heart and simplicity grounded in poverty.

His house was in a poor area of the community. The pastor came knocking on his door one Saturday afternoon. The boy came to answer the door and greeted him. The pastor asked if his parents were home, and the little one told him that his parents take off every weekend and leave him at home to take care of his little brother. The man couldn't believe what the boy had said but he asked if he could come in and talk with the boy. They went into the living room and sat down on an old couch with the foam and springs exposed. The pastor asked the boy, "Where do you go to church?" The young boy surprised the visitor by replying, "I've never been to church in my whole life." They talked. The pastor shared some stories of Jesus with the fascinated child. Finally, they prayed for quite some time and then the pastor asked if he could pick

the boy up for church the next morning. "Sure," the nine year old replied.

The pastor got to the house early the next morning and gave the boys a couple of donuts for breakfast on their way to church. Keep in mind that this boy had never been to church before. The church was a real big one. The child just sat there, clueless of what was going on.

A few minutes into the service, these tall unhappy guys walked down to the front and picked up some baskets. The kid, with utter fascination, watched them walk up and down the aisles. He still didn't know what was going on. All of a sudden, like a bolt of lightning, it hit the boy what was taking place. These people must be giving money to Jesus. He then reflected on the free gift of love he had received. He immediately searched his pockets, front and back, and couldn't find a thing to give Jesus. By this time the basket was being passed down his row and, with a broken heart, he just grabbed it and held on. He finally let go and watched it pass on down the row. He turned around to see it passed down the rows behind him. And then his eyes remained glued on that basket as it was passed back and forth, all the way to the rear of the church. Then he had an idea. This little nine year old boy, in front of God and everybody, got up out of his seat. He walked about eight rows back, grabbed the usher by the coat sleeve and asked if he could have the basket for a moment. Then he did the most astounding thing I have ever heard of. He took the basket, set it on the carpeted church floor and stepped into the center of it. As he stood there, he lifted his little head up and said, "Jesus, I don't have anything to give you today, but just me. I give you me!" - Author Unknown.

Let us, along with all priests, and all those who strive to be pure in heart, join that little one in giving our poor gift to the one who loves us so!

Sisters Visit Hydroponic Farming Operation

Imperial, Nebraska—Agricultural farming can take on a variety of forms and resources especially in the sandhills of southwestern corner of Nebraska! On Saturday, May 18, Sister Michael Ann O'Donnell and Sister Rochelle Kerkhof traveled to the home of Rob and Carma Hartman who have raised ripe, red, juicy, delicious tomatoes using a hydroponic technology system for the past five years. The Hartman's farm is about 11 miles southwest of Imperial near the smaller town of Champion. Dan graciously conducted a tour of the greenhouse and explained the process in detail to the Sisters as they walked amid the ripening tomato plants strung up all around them.

Hydroponics originates from the ancient Greek, from the words "hydro" which means water and "ponos" which means work. Therefore, hydroponics system



Mr. Hartman explains the hydroponic technology operation to Sister Michael Ann.

farming is an agricultural practice where the cultivation of plants is done without the use of soil. Plants are planted in mineral solutions (water) without soil. This practice dates back a long time ago, and it is thought that it was first used in Hanging Gardens of Babylon. As time passed more and more advancements were made in this almost magical discovery and books were published to document it. It demands constant pruning and vigilant care as the product is being produced; however, the outcomes are 'out of the world' delicious.

—Sister Rochelle Kerkhof

Note: Sister Rochelle requested a 'Sister Companion', if possible, for a few weeks during May and June to assist in community living and outreach ministry. Sister Michael Ann is now offering service in Imperial and the Grant Deanery to fill this need.



Sister Rochelle Kerkhof recently attended the graduation ceremony and reception of a few of the CYO Seniors in Trenton, Nebraska.

Let us pray for the deceased



SISTER AUDREY KOLOSSO

Born: April 18, 1923

Died at Holy Family Convent

May 20, 2019

Religious Profession of Vows

August 15, 1953



SISTER MARY EDITH SCHIMPF

Born: April 16, 1935

Died at Holy Family Convent

May 27, 2019

Religious Profession of Vows

August 15, 1955

Sisters Respond to a Call for Help

Sister Jacqueline Spaniola writes: This thank you was emailed to St. Anne Church office and it was passed on to us.

My name is Matt Dunham. I am a repair technician for a company that supplies rehab equipment like manual and power wheelchairs, scooters and a few other odds and ends to customers that need help with their mobility and daily needs. I find it a very rewarding profession.

Last Thursday I hurt my back and I couldn't bend over and lift my tool bag into my van. I needed help. Seeing your church across from where I was parked, I opened my map app on my phone and got your phone number. I called and a very nice woman answered the phone. I explained my situation and asked if someone could come over and help me lift a 40+ pound tool bag into my van.



My dash cam captured this image of the two wonderful women [Sisters Jacqueline Spaniola and Marcelyn Garvais] that came to my rescue.

I don't know their names, but I want to say a big thank you for their willingness to help me in my time of need. My back is feeling much better now!

Thanks,
MATTHEW DUNHAM
Service Technician



Tucson, Arizona—Many Alleluia's were sung as the children of San Xavier Mission School celebrated their First Communion on this beautiful Saturday morning, May 4! This is the second of four Saturdays of First Communions for the children of San Xavier School and Parish! Sister Carla Riach and Sister Rosalyn Muraski are an integral part of each of these celebrations helping to prepare the children and their families! Praise be to you my Lord for the gift of Yourself in the Eucharist and for the children whom you love so much!

—Sister Mary Ann Spanjers



Diane Steinberger visited with Sister Marella Wagner on May 16th. Diane was a music student of Sister Marella's years ago. She took piano lessons and was convinced by Sister Marella to take the strings class and has just recently purchased a cello. Diane played the violin during a live musical entertainment program for the Sisters in St. Rita Health Center performed by the Music Lovin' Friends from St. James Choir group from the Cooperstown/Denmark area.

—Lisa Rezach, Activities Coordinator

A Grateful Farewell for Sister Ellen and the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity



Tucson, Arizona—The school administration, faculty, families, former teachers, students, alumni and Carmelite priests of Santa Cruz School gathered to celebrate a delightful evening of gratitude for Sister Ellen Pachmayer's 12 years of loving service.

As our Community withdraws from Santa Cruz School, all the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity who walked with the children and families for the past 15 years were also remembered. The evening was filled with conversation, hugs, stories, delicious food complete with cake and many wishes of gratitude and promise of mutual prayers.

—*Sister Mary Ann Spanjers*