



Heritage Happenings

Archives Office

October 2023

Lest We Forget...



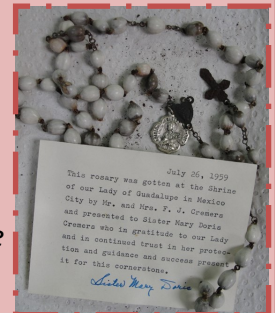
*College Cornerstone
Ready for Placement—
July 29, 1959*



What was all placed in that cornerstone?
Who were the individuals who placed items in the cornerstone? Why did they put them in the corner stone? Enjoy this special edition of Heritage Happenings. Here is the Cornerstone. ...item by item. Then see the Cornerstone on display in Heritage Display Room.

Why Our Lady of Guadalupe as Patroness

At the convent college convocation in May of 1958 Sister Rosamond Nugent gave a talk based on the book, "Our Lady of America, Liturgically Known as Holy Mary of Guadalupe." On June 26, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Gross of the Lay Apostolate movement, showed the movie "Our Lady of Guadalupe" which made quite an impression on the whole Community. Knowing that the Self-Survey would be in the hands of the readers about July 12, Sister Brideen placed the accreditation and the welfare of the college building program in Our Lady's hands. Knowing the need for a powerful advocate, she chose Our Lady of Guadalupe as the Patroness of the College. A Holy Mass was offered in her honor for the next 24 plus months. On September 22, the monthly Mass to Our Lady was held after being postponed and, that same day, permission from the Holy See to make necessary loans was approved. On November 14, the day architecture bids were opened, Mother Edna received a silken scarf which bore the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. **Sister Mary Doris'** brother, visiting in Mexico, sent her a rosary from Mary's shrine of Guadalupe. *The rosary from Mexico and the Self-Survey were both in the cornerstone. Due to mildew, and deterioration, the rosary could not be kept but a Job's tears rosary was used in its place.*



Cornerstone Dedication

*Donors of the Cornerstone
John Beller and his family
Joseph Beller and Father J. S. Beller
Helen Beller, in memory of
August Beller, deceased.
The Beller Family, including
Mother M. Agna and Sister Rita Ann*

"At the suggestion, and persuasion, of the building committee, who considered it fitting that the Mother General in office during the building of the college should be so honored, Mother Agna Beller graciously consented to have the cornerstone dedicated to her." In the cornerstone, Mother Agna placed photos along with this note: "Donors of the Cornerstone". John Beller and his family, Joseph Beller

and Father J. S. Beller, Helen Beller in memory of August Beller, deceased, the Beller Family including Mother M. Agna and Sister Rita Ann Beller.





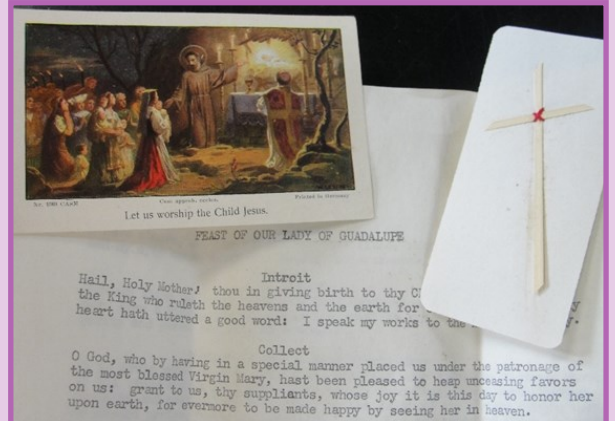
As items were removed from the container, the question became, WHO all put items in this cornerstone and WHY. Donors were members of four groups 1) The Administrative Council of Holy Family College;: Sisters Brideen, Rosamond, Mary Doris, Josepha, Francis Marie, Dolora, Teresita, Orestes and Marina. 2) Mother General and Councilors / 3) Board of Directors of the College; : Mother Agna, Sisters Virginia Maire, Edna, Joseline, Henriella, and Mary Ruth; and and 4) Faculty Members: Sisters Rosamond, Mary Angela, Teresita, Josepha and Dolora. Enjoy what they decided to offer!!

Sister Brideen Long & Sister Dolora Deem



They donated a holy card of the Holy Family and one of Our Lady of Guadalupe along with a silver medal with the words around the edges in Spanish "Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe" (Our Lady of Guadalupe). The image of the Sacred Heart is on the reverse.

Sister Francis Marie Pinion—Business Office



Sister Orestes Kolbeck—College President Pro-Tem; Faculty—History Instructor

Sister Orestes: As Acting President of the College she signed and added the Annual Reports for 1955 – 1956, 1956 – 1957.



As Faculty / History Instructor: she added:



1) a card painted and printed by Sister Maxine (Sister Victoria Masil), Art Instructor at the College, June 1959. Upper left corner of the card was a painted calligraphy "T" over a book with the letters "Veritas" on the book pages. The "T" is the first letter of the saying

"The first law of history is not to dare to utter falsehood; the second not to fear to speak the truth".

2) A photo of Pope Leo XII bending over a pillow in prayer at the opening of the Vatican Archives, August 18, 1883.



3) a small silver medal of the head of Pope Pius XII on the front and Our Lady of Perpetual Help on the back. The medal was blessed by Pope Pius XII in 1954.

Sister Francis Marie donated the Liturgy for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary along with a holy card "Let Us Worship the Child Jesus", printed in Germany, depicting St. Francis and the people of Greccio on Christmas. On the back of the card, in very faint pencil was written: Dear Sr. Fr. Marie, M. Alexia October 4, 1928

Sister Virginia Marie Roll—Vicaress General

Sister Virginia Marie contributed something very special: her rosary made out of roses from Mother Generose's funeral in 1945 and given to her as a remembrance of Mother Generose. The beads were all covered with mold and had clumped together on top of Sister Virginia Marie's photograph.

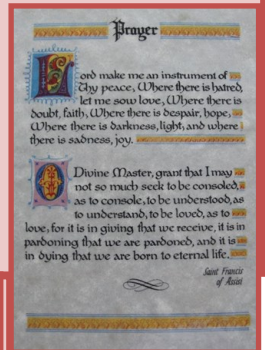


Mother Edna Ryan—Board of Directors-College / Councilor—Holy Family Convent



Mother Edna stuffed an envelope with numerous items she was pleased to donate: a Relic Crucifix, a Letter to the Sisters, a leaflet Litany of Humility, a Prayer of St. Francis .

This relic crucifix contained tiny relic pieces of Saints: Blaise, Benedict, Nolberg, Afrae, Casiae, Laudentiase, Reparata, Ursula, Clare, Olympia, Mansuella, Placida, Theodoret, and Victoria.

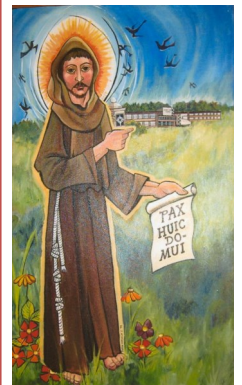
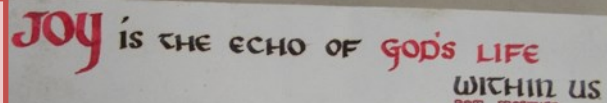


Mother Edna also sent the following letter dated July 24, 1959:

"My beloved Sisters of the Future. The Cornerstone is my well-wishing well today! Here is my contribution for you all! It is a strong prayerful desire that each and every Sister who enters the portals of this institution will be impregnated with the ideals and ideas of humility that will develop into Christ-like Franciscans, worthy branches of Christ's Mystical Body.

The enclosed Litany of our Cardinal Canali's friend, Cardinal Merry del Val, embodies ever desire and need of that virtue and the blessed Prayer of our Holy Father Francis is its fulfillment.

May these blessings be ours and yours as long as our Community lives on!



Sister Joseline Brennan—Councilor



A typed note by Sister Joseline identified a red/white twisted cotton cord as "Cord of St. Philomena" and four blessed medals that she had contributed: Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal; St. Joseph with the Child Jesus; combination medal of St. Francis and St. Anthony; combination medal of St. Philomena and St. John Vianney.

She also gave a medal of St. Michael the Archangel and the Guardian Angel....for protection of the new college

building and the spiritual and temporal welfare of the future occupants, as well as the workmen of the construction crews.

Blessed Medal of St. Michael the Archangel and the Guardian Angel for protection of the new College building and the spiritual and temporal welfare of the future occupants, as well as the workmen of the construction crews.
Given by.....
Sister M. Joseline Brennan, O.S.F.



Sister Mary Angela Wilson—ART Department

Two items are attributed to Sister Mary Angela: a bust of St. Martin coated with green mold and a heavy silver metal statue of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. The statue was dated 1930. Inside the base of the statue was found a folded up piece of paper which read: "This statue was found on the battle fields of France after the battle of Marne". A second line read: "This statue of Blessed Martin was made by Sister Mary Angela of Holy Family



Important Message



**Sister Rosamond Nugent—Faculty—
Latin and Dean of the College**

J. M. J. F. She wrote: *"This little book came out almost simultaneously with our Cornerstone Laying. Its publication would not have been possible without the constant support and kindly encouragement of Rev. Mother M. Agna. Its inspiration was the joyful Franciscan spirit of our*



Sisters. To both, this memento is lovingly and gratefully dedicated."

*Sister M. Rosamond, OSF
7/26/1959*

Poor Little Millionaires

Published January 1, 1959 by Pageant Press.

Sister Henriella Emde—Secretary General



Sister Henriella contributed her personal medal of St. Francis of Assisi, etched on the back with her name, Sr. Henriella - 1957

Sister Teresita Kittell—Faculty / Biology

Sister Teresita was true to her nature in her contributions to the cornerstone.



Here is a waxed, red maple leaf!! Then she added a copy of Saint Francis' Canticle

of the Sun. Last she added this holy card:

"I Belong to Jesus".



On the back was written:

To dear Sr. M. Teresita
Souvenir of July 3, 1918
Signed: *"Be faithful.
Mother E. "*

July 3, 1918 was Reception Day for Sister Teresita and the card was given her by Mother Edna who was on the Convent Administration at the time.

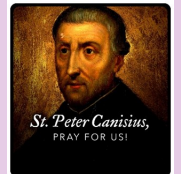
Sister Josepha Vander Hyden—College Librarian



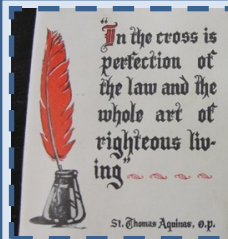
Sister Josepha wanted the library well represented. She wrote this message"

"On the Feast of St. Lawrence of Brindisi (July 21) we ask this saint of our Franciscan Family, declared a Doctor of the church in this year of 1959, and St. Peter Canisius and the holy librarian Pope Pius XI to help our staff and the future librarians of this college to fulfill the high purpose of our Profession." Signed Sister M. Joseph, Librarian, July 22, 1959.

Pope Pius XI, over the years, was Prefect of the Ambrosian Library in Milan and eventually Prefect of the Vatican Library 1914—1921. St. Peter Canisius is the Patron Saint of the Catholic Library Association.

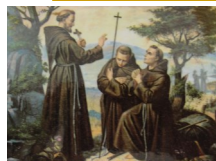


Sister Marina Scheu—Faculty—Philosophy



Inside this card, Sr. Marina quoted: *"Philosophy is in the strictest truth wisdom, for it is the province of wisdom to study the highest causes...It thus grasps the entire universe in a small number of principles and enriches the intellect without burdening it."* Jacques Maritain. She signed the card: July 23, 1959.

Sister Mary Ruth Steil—Treasurer General



Sr. Mary Ruth enclosed a card of St. Francis and then numerous black and white photos she had taken as the college was being constructed. (On display

in Heritage Room) Her message: "The first donation to the college building fund was given by Sr. Stella Flatley, OSF, \$2.00 she had received as a Jubilee gift on July 1954. Her photos included: May 3, 1959: site of the new well. This was the same day the Catholic Knights of WI gave a concert in the convent gym. It was also the day Sr. Philip Brower died. She was the first Sister to have charge of the Campaign Office at the Convent. April 3, 1959 photo shows smoke from burning grass and straw which were used to thaw the frozen ground to keep men working during the winter months. She also donated all these medals. (See Display)

