



# *Graymoor's Well ... a spring of living water!*

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE ATONEMENT ~ GRAYMOOR ~ 845-424-3625

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**Lurana Mary White**

**1870 - 1935**



Dear Friends,

It is especially appropriate to feature Mother Lurana in April. She was born in New York City on Tuesday in Holy Week, April 12, 1870. She died at Graymoor on Monday of Holy Week, April 15, 1935.

Graymoor's Well symbolizes the deep faith that Mother Lurana exhibited in founding our community here at Graymoor. But before her experience of finally striking water in that well, came the story of her call to religious life. In this issue we share with you some highlights from her Memoirs in which she describes her journey of faith and her call.

The countries of birth of Sisters mentioned in this issue give a glimpse of the world-wide spread of Lurana's vision and influence through the Sisters of the Atonement: Sister Babylyn Dulfo was born in the Philippines; Sister Mary Laetitia Toyoda was from Japan, and Sister Margaret Marie Berarducci from Western Canada. Our members have come from North and South America, Europe and Asia. In the future will Australia and Africa also be represented? I invite you to share Lurana's story with a young person you know who is praying to know God's will in their life.



With the support of our friends we are able to dream of that spread of our mission "that all may be one." (Jn 17:21).

*Sister Diane Bernier, SA*

Fund Development Director

On December 15, 2020 - the Foundation Day of the Society of the Atonement - Sister Babylyn Dulfo made her Perpetual Profession of Vows in our community. The ceremony took place in St. Rufino Cathedral in Assisi, Italy where Sister Babylyn ministers at our St. Anthony Guest House. Congratulation and Blessings, Sister Babylyn.



## Excerpts from the Memoirs of Mother Lurana Mary White



### THE UNFOLDING OF HER CALL

“ I have referred...to my mother’s mother, Grandmother Wheeler; I should mention her again, for she was the greatest religious factor, practically the only one of my childhood, and I was named Mary for her; the first name, Lurana, being for my father’s mother. She was a woman of intense spirituality, and I may truthfully say it, of continued prayer, for she set forth to me the injunction, ‘*Pray always.*’”

“I was conscious continually of the realization of the existence of God (I cannot say I felt a conscious objective presence), and of my responsibility for the account which I should one day have to render to Him.

“The first clear intimation which I had of my religious vocation was on May 29, 1893, the Feast of the Blessed Trinity. [She was then 23 years old, the age at which the cover photo was taken.] I was visiting my Grandfather White and my Aunt...and had gone to an evening service in the parish church... “

“The preacher concluded with an appeal to those present...I remember distinctly his saying, “*There may be before me a young woman, or a young man, who secretly and half-fearfully is worshipping the ideal of a wholly dedicated life, the oblation of herself or himself to God. I adjure you, be brave and bring that beautiful thing to the light and acknowledge it before God, to yourself and to others.*”

“I knew at that instant that God wanted me to be a Religious; but my reaction when I returned to the house that night and knelt down to recite my prayers, was to say to God: “*If you wish me to be a Sister I will be one, but I am not sure that I want to be.*”

“A very short time after this experience I knew that God was speaking to my soul more clearly than ever before; desires and ideals that I can best summarize in the word “sacrifice” began to form somewhat chaotically, but notwithstanding, with partially definite shape and I became conscious of two things: first, that my life was to be different from that of my girlfriends, for I knew that I should not marry, and secondly that I wished to do and suffer something worthwhile for God and for others.”

To be continued...



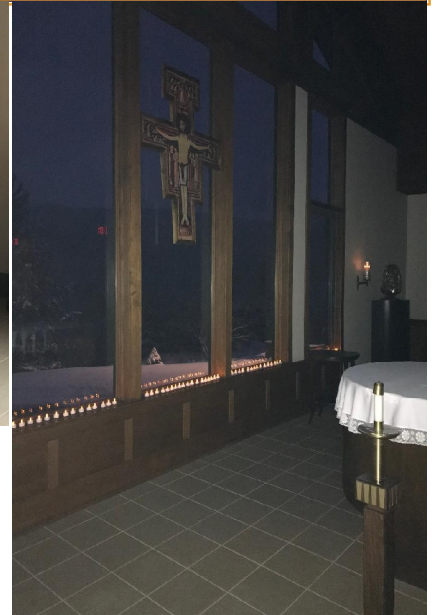
Sister Mary Laetitia Toyoda  
10/19/30 - 02/02/21



Sister Margaret Marie Berarducci  
09/17/27 - 03/17/21

***Surrounded by Light***

Beginning February 14, candles were lit for donors who responded each day. By March 19, a total of 608 tea lights graced our chapel. Our Sisters remembered you each day, especially during Evening Prayer. Sisters remarked: "We have so many friends!" and "As I help light the candles, I say a prayer for each one." We thank each of you who participated.



Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (April 2021)

(Please Print)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all applicable lines:

- Please add my name to your monthly mailing list.
- Please use the enclosed donation wherever most needed.
- The Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement are included in my Will.
- Please include the following intentions in the *Monthly OLA Novena*:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Please cut this section and return it to:* **Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement,  
41 Old Highland Turnpike, Garrison, New York 10524**

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