



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

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

Editors: *Sr. Diane Bernier, SA ~ Sr. Kristine Koba, SA*

[developmentoffice@graymoor.org](mailto:developmentoffice@graymoor.org)

October 2021

Issue #10



## ***DIAMOND JUBILARIANS***

***Sr. Margaret Sikora***

***Sr. Mary Longtin***

***with Sr. Mary Patricia Galvin, Minister General***



Dear Friends,

**CELEBRATE WITH US:** This issue is first of all a celebration of Sisters Mary and Margaret who are celebrating 75 years of religious life, and of Sister Lynde who made her perpetual profession of vows in August. We also want you to know of five of our Sisters who joined our “community in heaven” in recent months. All have helped form who we are as Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement and have extended our ministries to many people throughout the United States and the world. It is very touching to hear from those whose lives they touched even many years ago.

**PLEASE ASSIST US:** We are also using this opportunity to seek your assistance with the aftermath of Hurricane Ida. We were in her path as she lashed across the Northeast at the beginning of September. Our septic system was struck by lightning, knocking out the electronic control panel of the pumping station for all the buildings on the Sisters’ property here at Graymoor. This pumping system links to a waste treatment facility. Our Sisters are doing their part to limit our use of water until new equipment is ordered and installed. Our property insurance will cover some of the costs such as the electronic control panel, and the twice-daily pumping by an environmental company, but will not cover replacement of two pumps that will cost about \$15,000 each, and other necessary labor expenses. Though not very pleasant to discuss, this system is obviously extremely necessary for our daily life. Our Sisters are extremely grateful for whatever you are able to contribute to its replacement. God bless you.



*Sister Elaine Bernice, SA*

Fund Development Director

On August 11, 2021 - the Feast Day of St. Clare - Sister Lynde Ates made her Perpetual Profession of Vows in our community. The ceremony took place in St. Francis Convent, Graymoor. Sister Lynde was born in the Philippines and met our Sisters in Assisi, Italy. She presently ministers at the Washington Retreat House in Washington, DC. Congratulations and Blessings, Sister Lynde.



**SISTER MARY LONGTIN**, born in Ogdensburg, NY entered the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement in 1946. She was missioned in New York State for over 40 years; and in Arizona and Nevada for 18 years. Returning east to serve in Connecticut in 1996, she then moved to Graymoor in 2014, where she now resides in our health care residence. She spent most of her years of active ministry in pastoral work and faith formation of children and adults. She was an outstanding religious educator and pastoral minister. We join in congratulating and thanking her for 75 years of religious life. When asked, "How are you a sign of hope?" Sister Mary answered: "I am a sign of hope because I gave my life to Jesus." She also claimed, "I like to be funny." We still enjoy the twinkle in her eye and her wry humor.



*Sr. Mary Longtin*  
*1996 Golden Jubilee*



*Sr. Margaret Sikora*  
*1996 Golden Jubilee*

**SISTER MARGARET SIKORA** was born in Atco, New Jersey, but the Sikora family moved to Camden, NJ when she was 4. In 1941 the Sisters of the Atonement began ministering in Camden, where they were known for their work among the poor, and were called simply the "brown Sisters." Impressed with their mission, Margaret joined the community at age 16. After ministering in Canajoharie, New York for 14 years. Sister Margaret was fortunate to be assigned back to Camden where, for 27 years, she became an advocate for poor and underserved people. Her efforts led to the establishment of a model child care center for the families of the area.

In 1990 she moved to the Motherhouse at Graymoor. Many will recall that she was Director of our Development Department for several years. Her experience in social justice concerns in Camden led to her becoming director of our Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office (JPIC), a ministry which she continues even today. She is still passionate about social justice and care for creation, daily keeping our Sisters and the public informed about current concerns. We congratulate her for 75 years of untiring zeal for God's people.







Sr. Mary Kathleen Murray  
May 20, 1934 - March 27, 2021



Sr. Lorelei Francis Fuchs  
June 20, 1950 - June 17, 2021



Sr. Ann Kathleen Clancy  
Feb. 23, 1925 - June 17, 2021



Sr. Edward Marie Tesiero  
Oct. 15, 1935 - July 25, 2021

*The souls  
of the just are in  
the hands of  
God.*

Wisdom 3:1



Sr. Jacinta Mullin  
Sept. 21, 1931 - Sept. 17, 2021

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (October 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*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SISTERS AND OUR MISSIONS, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

[WWW.GRAYMOOR.ORG](http://WWW.GRAYMOOR.ORG)