

**THE WORKER SISTERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**



# **BULLETIN**



**THE WORKER BROTHERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**



**WHERE HAVE YOU  
EXPERIENCED COMPASSION?  
February 2023**

**Bulletin Cover - photo from a past WSHS/WBHS Retreat**

Oh how we long to meet in person to show compassion to one another. Those healing hugs given and received mean so much and can be fondly remembered for years.

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**Community Communication Contacts:**

**Prayer Requests and News Notes for the monthly Bulletin** - email Br. Ephrem, etcocles148@gmail.com or see green sheets for his mailing address.

**Changes of address, phone numbers, email addresses** - email Sr. Shirley Evangeline at sr.shirleyevangelinpace@gmail.com or Sr. Christine at casturges@gmail.com or see green sheets for mailing addresses.

**Urgent Community Prayer Requests for email distribution** – email or call Sr. LaVerne Peter (callaghan@aol.com), Sr. Kathleen Rachel (srkathleenrachel@gmail.com) or Sr. Wendy Samuel (srwendysamuel@gmail.com)

**Financial Contributions –**

Members residing in the U.S., make checks payable to WSHS/WBHS and mail to:  
Sr. Nancy Teresa, WSHS, Treasurer, United States, 12900 Glenwood Street, Apt. 108, Overland Park, KS 66209

If you pay any bills through your bank, you can easily send your contributions to WSHS the same way. Use the address above to send your check. You can make a one-time payment or a recurring payment. If you have questions, your bank will be happy to help you. And - you don't need any postage!

Members residing in Canada, make cheques payable to WSHS/WBHS and mail to Br. David, WBHS, Treasurer, Canada. 2170 Preston Road, Cavan Monaghan, Ontario, K9J 0G5 Canada

**Contributions to Haiti Clean Water Project – This project has been discontinued until the situation in Haiti is resolved.**

**Problems Receiving your Bulletin** - If you are not receiving the monthly Bulletin (by regular mail or by email), please email or call **Sr. Shirley Evangeline, *not Trina***. Thank you.

**If a friend expresses interest in WSHS/WBHS, remember to direct them to our website, [www.workersisters.org](http://www.workersisters.org), [www.workerbrothers.org](http://www.workerbrothers.org)**

<b>THE WORKER SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT</b>	
Web Addresses: <a href="http://workersisters.org">workersisters.org</a> <a href="http://workerbrothers.org">workerbrothers.org</a>	
Trina Avedisian, Friend, WSHS	Layout & Design WSHS/WBHS Bulletin
Sr. Shirley Evangeline, WSHS	Proof Reader
Contributing Staff	
Br. Ephrem, WBHS	News Notes and Prayer List
Sr. Kathleen Rachel, WSHS	Co-Director
Sr. Wendy Samuel, WSHS	Co-Director
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**CALENDAR**

**CORPORATE COMMUNIONS  
REGIONAL GATHERINGS  
February 2023**

Below is a list of the monthly Regional Gatherings and Corporate Communion. Meetings are open to all members (Sisters, Brothers, Workers, Companions, Friends and Applicants). If you are interested in attending an online Regional Gathering, please contact the Zoom Host and she/he will add you to the group's email list.

**Regional Zoom Gatherings**

**February 25, 2023**

Eastern Regional USA & Southern Regional USA	Br. David, WBHS, brdavidwbhs1@gmail.com	12:30 PM ET
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Central Regional USA	Sr. Catherine Marie, WSHS, sr.catherine.marie@gmail.com	2:00 PM CT
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Western Regional USA	Sr. Wendy Martha, WSHS, wguyton17@gmail.com	10:00 AM MT
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**In-person Corporate Communion**

Pleasant Hill, Tennessee	Sr. Janeen Julian, WSHS	TBD
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**REGIONAL GATHERING/CORPORATE COMMUNION DATES**

**February 25 • March 25 • April 29 • May 20 • June 24 • July 22 • August 26  
September 23 • October 28 • November 18 • December 16**

***WORKER SISTERS/WORKER BROTHERS RETREAT***  
***April 27-30, 2023***  
***Compassion***  
***Mercy Center, St. Louis, MO***

**Call to Prayer.** Please remember our Community in prayer twice a day 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM in your time zone and pray for World Peace at Noon.



**8:00 AM - Prayer for our Community  
12:00 Noon - Prayer for World Peace  
5:00 PM - Prayer for our Community**




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**COMMUNITY CHANGES**

*Please make the following alterations to your Green Sheets:*

To view the online Green Sheets, go to [www.workersisters.org](http://www.workersisters.org). Click on MORE, then on MEMBER PAGES. To sign in, use the email [WSHS.WBHS@gmail.com](mailto:WSHS.WBHS@gmail.com). If you don't remember the password contact Sr. Christine or Sr. Shirley Evangeline.

**Sr. Joanna** has a new cell phone number:  
469-928-3792

**Sr. Arnitta Monica** has moved.

Her address is:

725 24th Street NW, Apt 501,

Washington, DC 20037.

Her new cell number is: 202-297-9219

**Sr. Pam Raphael** has a new cell number:  
342-400-9172

**Liz Foster** was invested as a Sister (Sr. Agnes) at our 2022 online Retreat.

Her name is being moved to the Sister section of the Green Sheets.

**Ginny Berkey** has been accepted into our Novice program.

Her address information is being moved to the Novice section of the Green Sheets.

**Kaelynn Judd** has moved.

Her new address is:

600 E Walnut Street

Palmyra, PA 17078

**Br. Ephrem** has a new email address: [eteocles148@gmail.com](mailto:eteocles148@gmail.com)

Remember to send your prayer requests and news notes to him at his new email address.

**Peter Brook** has been accepted as a Companion.

His address information is being moved to the Companion section of the Green Sheets.

**Glenn Risse** has moved.

His new address is:

2110 Leonard Street NE, Heron Woods Apt #A310

Grand Rapids, MI 49505



The Worker Sisters of the Holy Spirit

The Worker Brothers of the Holy Spirit

**JOIN US FOR RETREAT 2023**  
**April 27-30**  
**MERCY CENTER – ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**



Please join us at the Mercy Center in St. Louis for our 51st Annual Retreat. It promises to be a very special time of spiritual renewal with Christ and reconnection with the Community as we celebrate Christ's compassion for us through our joy, laughter and tears. May we gather once again in person or via Zoom after surviving the last 3 years of the pandemic. Retreat specifics including Registration and Accommodation forms will be sent to you soon.



## FROM YOUR DIRECTORS

### NEW WSHS/WBHS INTERCESSORY PRAYER TEAM

At our last Chapter meeting, we agreed to create an Intercessory Prayer Team. Its main focus will be to pray for our Community's protection. No one needs to be reminded of the importance of prayer, especially remembering 1 Thessalonians 5:13, which simply says: "pray without ceasing". In these times of turbulence, war and abuse (of people and of our planet), and remembering our theme of "compassion" this year, we recognize that prayer is needed now more than ever. There is such power in Prayer!

Our hope is that this prayer team will meet via Zoom on a regular basis to pray as one. The team will decide when to meet online: once a week, bi-weekly or once a month. Our expectation is that the prayer team will develop a specific prayer for protection and pray that prayer at each session. The team members will also be encouraged to include this prayer for protection, along with their own individual prayers during their personal prayer time.

In addition to the prayer for protection, the list of prayer requests from the monthly Bulletin may also be included in what the prayer team prays. Prayer is one of the key ingredients, along with Faith and Commitment to a healthy and beneficial prayer life.

Philippians 4:6: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

If you would like to contribute to the Community by being a member of this WSHS/WBHS Intercessory Prayer Team, please email Sr. Wendy Martha (Prayer Team Leader) at [wguyton17@gmail.com](mailto:wguyton17@gmail.com) or call her at (520) 404-5712. Thank you!



### YOUR OPINION MATTERS

A WSHS/WBHS survey will soon be sent to all members of our Community requesting your opinions and/or comments on the Worker Sisters/Brothers of the Holy Spirit and your journey with us. The survey will arrive via email. Complete it and then submit it for analysis and report. For those who do not have email, the survey will arrive through the regular postal service.

Your copy of the survey, when submitted, is completely confidential and anonymous. We ask that you answer all questions honestly. What the future will look like depends on all of us working together with our ideas, communication, hard work and most of all, God's help. We look forward to moving together united in God's love and will.

*With prayer and love, Sr. LaVerne, Sr. Kathleen Rachel and Sr. Wendy Samuel*



## FORMATION AND TRAINING

## Where Have You Experienced Compassion

By

Peter Brook, Companion



*Peter lives in Tucker, Georgia. He was admitted as a Friend in 2017 and accepted as a Companion in 2022.*

Compassion, as defined by Wikipedia, is *sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others*. The word, itself, feels like what it is and can refer to innumerable situations on many levels both in the Bible and in our everyday lives.

What comes to mind first, to me, are the multiple instances of the Bible verses showing compassion in both the Old and New Testaments such as Ephesians 4:32, Galatians 6:2 and of course Matthew 7:12. The compassion that Jesus has shown in all of the books of the New Testament never tire of inspiring us in many ways, but these verses have no meaning until we follow them in our every-day lives.

There are many non-profit organizations which provide food and a warm place to spend the night. These are perfect examples of compassion on a grand scale but we, as individuals, can and should show compassion by providing rides to the doctor for those who have no transportation or taking someone to a food pantry to name a couple.

Compassion should be an integral part of any religion; without that, religion is not providing the principals and integrity of the Bible, Torah, Quran or Bhagavad Gita. Compassion does not judge, preach nor exclude.

When you think about extraordinary leaders of the 20th and 21st centuries, several come to mind who have shown compassion above and beyond. Leaders such as Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Theresa, Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu, Jimmy Carter (especially in his post-presidency), and Eleanor Roosevelt were among many who have proven to be extraordinary leaders of the people. During the time when President Carter was doing his Sunday morning talks at his Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains, Georgia, I was fortunate to have gone to hear him speak twice. It was not a sermon, it was always a lesson on how to be a good person, to care about others and not to judge anyone. Only God is our ultimate judge. Experiencing these talks from someone I respect more than practically anyone, were experiences I will always remember and try to live by.

When I think about compassion in people at the present time, Lee Asher comes to mind. You probably have never heard the name, however he established The Asher House a couple of years ago because he has great love and compassion for all animals who have been abandoned, abused, or neglected. Lee originally took a limited number of animals, especially dogs, into his home to cure and rehabilitate them. When he no longer had the room to do his work, he bought a 25-acre farm and started rescuing not only dogs but farm animals, llamas, and any other domesticated animals. Soon that was not enough room so he bought a property in Oregon that was ten times the size of the previous farm - a real sanctuary.

Lee Asher has a blog on Facebook and I follow his posts practically every day to learn about what new needy animal he has taken in and the procedures he uses to allow them to trust him. Needless to say, a lot of the animals who have not been treated humanely are quite frightened of people. On many occasions I have been in tears watching him show the complete love he has for these animals. Some are adopted out and others live permanently in the sanctuary. Lee Asher is the definition of compassion.

I believe that compassion is a God-given quality. Some people practice and glory in it while others ignore and vilify it. I am extremely fortunate to be among members of the Worker Sisters and Brothers of the Holy Spirit, who not only glory in compassion but dare to pray for those who don't. Thanks be to God!

### Questions for Reflection

*Please remember it is not necessary to answer all of the questions  
Choose one or two that speak to you and perhaps you would like to share.*

Peter Brook, Companion, in his article tells us that "Compassion is *sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings of or misfortunes of others.*" This is an excellent explanation of the word, and encourages us to explore what "Compassion" really is for each of us. Please take some time to answer these questions for yourself.

1. As you look at the word "Compassion" how does it make you feel? What does the word Compassion mean to you?
2. Change the direction of the words and ask what does "Compassion" not mean to you? Again, take time to think about the words and write down your thoughts.
3. Compassion does not need to be seen in earth-shaking events, but can be experienced in small acts like, "letting someone go first" or "opening doors for others before us." In your life where have you seen Compassion? Take time to pray and reflect on those words. Consider writing about a situation that comes to mind and share if you are comfortable.
4. I am reminded of the man who was crucified with Our Lord. Even as he was dying, Jesus reached out to the man beside him and comforted him, saying: "...today you will be with me in Paradise." Jesus felt the man's pain along with his own. Reflect on how you have reached out to others and to walk the road with.

Compassion is indeed a “feeling word” but it is also a door which we can open to embrace and share in the sufferings of others.

*Sr. LaVerne Peter, WSHS*