



**Fund Development Office**

**Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement**

*St. Francis Convent ~ Graymoor ♦ 41 Old Highland Turnpike ♦ Garrison, NY 10524*

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Dear Friend,

June 2022

During the 50 days between Easter and Pentecost (on June 5 this year), the readings at Mass from the Acts of the Apostles, relate the events following Jesus' Resurrection. We see how the apostles and other disciples lived out Jesus' invitation to "Go into the whole world and proclaim the good news to all creation." (Mark 16:15) The knowledge and faith in Christ that we receive even today, comes to us from these first followers of Jesus who took his invitation literally and enthusiastically. Through them, the Good News did in fact spread throughout the world.

Those of us who follow the Franciscan way of life learned from St. Francis that it is not necessary to deliver great sermons or write theological books in order to proclaim the Gospel. Once he invited a young friar to go preach with him. After walking throughout the town all day, the disappointed young man asked Francis why he hadn't gathered the crowds to listen to him preach. Francis replied: "It is no use walking anywhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching." We may be more familiar with a similar quotation attributed to Francis: "Preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary use words."

In these times when many people feel that they cannot believe everything that they read or hear in the daily news, we can be certain that the Gospel is true and is indeed Good News. We commit our lives to preaching this Good News wherever we are, with whomever we meet, whatever our age or stage in life. We rely on your support to help us continue to "proclaim the good news to all creation," by our lives and our witness, with or without words.

Sincerely in Christ,

Sister Diane Bernier, SA  
*Development Director*

**Please remember the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement in your Will**

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