

Community Notes & News

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE ATONEMENT
Summer Newsletter ~ May, June & July 2018



Jubilee Joy 2018!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement**

St. Francis Convent (Graymoor)
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Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/Graymoor.Sisters>

This Newsletter is created Quarterly and distributed at the end of these months:
January, April, July and October

A word from your Minister General ...

Recently I was blessed with a retreat experience ~ such a gift! As we know, some are called to the *mountains* to perhaps climb new heights ... some are drawn to the trails of *wooded areas* to perhaps walk in new directions ... some thirst for the vast openness of the *ocean* to perhaps experience the refreshment of living waters! The awesomeness of the ocean accentuates our continued need to *put out into the deep!*



Our Spring Regional Meetings in May, as facilitated by *Sr. Lynn Jarrell, OSU*, provided for us a *reality check* for our 'now moment'. The State of the Community Report, which I shared with you on July 9th, allowed an opportunity to literally *check in* on that reality! It is within that context that I found myself on retreat at the ocean seeking the gift of refreshment.

Reflecting on these recent three months it seems our prevalent experience has been one of delving ever more *into the deep*. The Leadership Team has truly invested much time, dialogue, discernment, and thought in order to make decisions that really have surfaced *from the deep!* As we face the actual reality of our present census at 99 Professed Sisters with a median age of 82, along with five Sisters in our formation programs, we recognize our need to 'think outside the box' as we move forward to fill certain roles of importance!

In early June we implemented a new paradigm at our *Lurana Health Care Residence* with our first lay person as Administrator. Certainly *Janice Selfridge* is not a new face to us, but we now entrust this important role to Janice as we transition components of the Medical Finance Office to staff from Brenner, McDonagh & Tortolani Financial Advisory firm.

In late June the Leadership Team was at our mission in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada for meetings. At our *Lurana Shelter* where we provide a safe haven to women and children fleeing domestic violence we have phenomenal staff, volunteers and Board Members; we welcome *Sarah Cornett* to the Executive Director role at the Shelter!

We are extremely cognizant of the blessing of all of our staff who minister with us at our various ministerial programs and within our Graymoor departments. Within this newsletter you will see some photos and tidbits of information about some of the staff who are partners with us in these diverse areas. We are ever grateful for the gift of these amazing women as they journey with us in ministry!



*Continuing to put out into the deep
with your Leadership Team ...*

~ Motherhouse Coordinator ~

by Sr. Leila Spaulding, *Motherhouse Coordinator*

~ St. Francis Convent, Graymoor



Hello to All our Sisters, wherever you live the Gospel!

Greetings and prayers from our Mother House to your abode. The month of May saw two of this year's Jubilarians doing the Mother's Day honor of 'crowning our Blessed Mother in our beautiful chapel. Sr. Lucinda accompanied Sr. Consiline Flynn down the aisle for the simple, touching ceremony. Sr. Mavis, our Golden Jubilarian, had not yet arrived from Japan. Mavis flew into Newark via Toronto on the last day of May. Sr. Lucinda Patterson was our last Silver Jubilarian for a while to come.

So one Jubilarian came to us from near the 'Land of the Mid-Night Sun,' while another arrived from the 'Land of the Rising Sun,' and our Diamond Jubilarian, Sr. Consiline, approaches her time of the 'Setting Sun!' (As do we all!!)

Our Sisters' Jubilee on Saturday, June 16, 2018 went well. Our Friars' Minister General, Brian Terry, was with us to celebrate the Jubilee Liturgy in our Chapel. The Sister Jubilarians and their guests enjoyed a meal in the Motherhouse dining room following the Mass. Later in the afternoon, the Jubilarians had time for sharing with their relatives and friends in designated locations within the Motherhouse. God blessed us with a beautiful blue-skies day! All were safe and well.

July came upon us in a rush! Sisters were going off to vacation or retreats, or just up to the swimming pool at the Mother Lurana House. On July 9th, the Feast of Our Lady of the Atonement, we celebrated by having our Friars join us for Mass and dinner. Even Brother Benny (Benedict Terasawa, SA, born 2/25/1925 in Japan), our oldest Friar, joined us for Mass and dinner, gliding along with his walker! Our Sisters' Choir, as usual, sang beautifully ~ sounding really superb!

My days, besides doing the ordinary-have-to-do things, also contained time for shredding old files, filing, sorting, documenting and packing. I am trusting that in 2 weeks time, all will be in order for the arrival of the new Motherhouse Coordinator, Sr. Laurie Jeanne MacDonald when she walks in the office door in mid-August. During the last weeks before July 31, I was blessed with not just two, but three men assigned for convent maintenance from the Inn. So Robert, Brian and Raymond were a wonderful help, lifting, washing walls, etc. I was so grateful to have them help us. Please keep the men at St. Christopher's Inn in your prayers. Thanks!

One last thought: Last week, we shipped off by FedEx two packages of summer brown habit material to our mission in the Philippines. We had heard, "do not send by regular mail, it may not arrive." In my imagination I could see a little Filipino mother with 10 children all wrapped in our



Franciscan brown!! But thankfully, the material arrived safely at the door of our Sisters' convent in the Philippines! Actually, we could say it was received in record time. So my Sisters, if you send packages to our Sisters in the Philippines, send by FedEx — that is what our Sr. Susan Boyle did!

I pray that our God of Unconditional Love hold each of you daily. Thank you for your support to me during these past three years. ~ Sr. Leila

INTRODUCING STAFF & THEIR NEW POSITIONS



Janice Selfridge

Administrator,
Lurana Health Care Residence
at St. Francis Convent, Graymoor



< *Kathy Tappen RN &
Luann Brown LPN* >

Nurse Coordinator Team,
Lurana Health Care Residence



< *Sarah Cornett*

Executive Director,
Lurana Shelter
Edmonton, AB, Canada



UPCOMING in SEPTEMBER 2018 ~

Sr. Laurie MacDonald >

Motherhouse Coordinator,
St. Francis Convent
Graymoor, Garrison, NY



Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation

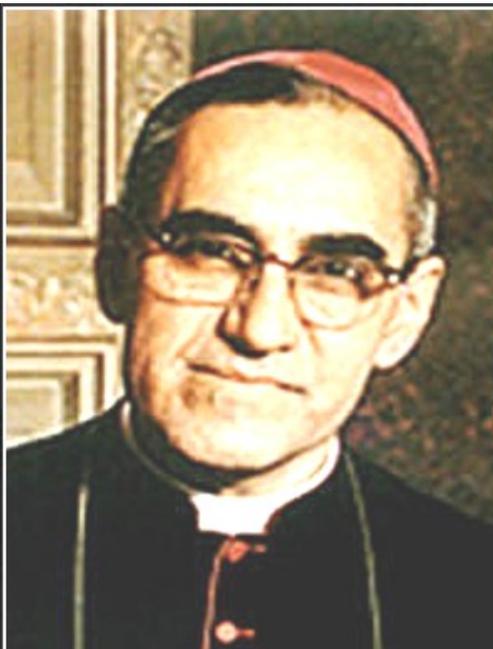
by Sr. Margaret Sikora, Director of JPIC



The church must be reminded that it is not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state. It must be the guide and the critic of the state, and never its tool.

(Martin Luther King, Jr.)

izquotes.com



A church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed — what gospel is that?

— Oscar Romero —

AZ QUOTES

Celebrations at Lurana Health Care Residence



Jubilee ~
June 16, 2018

Sr. Consiline
celebrates 75 years
in Religious Life



100th Birthday Celebration!

Sr. Louis Marie celebrates a
milestone of 100 years of
life and living!
August 13, 2018



Flynn Sisters ~
Betty, Sr. Consiline & Sr. Frances



Congratulations!



(Left)
Sr. Louis Marie
celebrating her
100th birthday
with our
dedicated
staff: Kathy,
Luann, Linda,
Veronica,
Maria & Blanca.



(Right) A visit
from niece, Eileen
and husband, Joe

Jubilee Joy in June 2018!



~ Sr. Consiline ~
Celebrating 75 Years



Above: Sr. Frances, Sr. Consiline & Sr. Catherine



~ Sr. Mavis ~
Celebrating 50 Years



Jubilee 2018

DIAMOND JUBILARIAN
Sr. Consiline Flynn, SA

GOLDEN JUBILARIAN
Sr. Mavis DeMan, SA

SILVER JUBILARIAN
Sr. Lucinda May Patterson, SA

~ **JUBILEE CELEBRATION** ~

June 16, 2018 – Saturday
11:00 A.M. LITURGY CELEBRATION
IN THE MOTHERHOUSE CHAPEL
AT ST. FRANCIS CONVENT

DINNER FOR ALL SISTERS & GUESTS
FOLLOWS IN THE MOTHERHOUSE DINING ROOM
ST. FRANCIS CONVENT
GRAYMOOR, GARRISON, NEW YORK

INFORMATION: Sr. Lisa, (845) 239-8234 ext. Sr. Denise, (845) 608-3297

Offertory
Procession:
Nieces of
Sr. Consiline
bring up the
gifts with
Sr. Josephine
and
Sr. Frances

Below: Sr. Lucinda May, her sister,
Cindy, and Sr. Joanne



~ Sr. Lucinda May ~
Celebrating 25 Years



Celebrating 75, 50 & 25 years of Religious Life

More ... Jubilee Joy ... with Sisters, Family & Friends!



Above:
Design for
Jubilee 2018
by Sr. Joanne



Above (L-R):
Sr. Nancy
&
Sr. Hope Marie



Above: Br. Joe, Sr. Nancy, Sr. Hope Marie, Sr. Eilish,
Sr. Lucinda May, Sr. Consiline, Fr. Martin Carroll,
Sr. Mavis, Fr. Brian SA, Sr. Mary Pat



Above: Sr. Mavis
with some of her gifts.

Below (L-R):
'Red', RJ, Sr. Lucinda
May & Rowena



Above (L-R):
Sr. Esther,
Sr. Mary Pat &
Sr. Laurie

Right:
Sr. Consiline with
longtime friend,
Sr. Catherine



Above:
Sr. Mary Pat, Minister
General with our
Jubilarians:
Sr. Consiline,
Sr. Lucinda May &
Sr. Mavis



Above: Sr. Nancy,
Sr. Lucinda May & Sr. Joanne
Below: Sr. Hope Marie,
Theresa Doucet &
her sister, Suzy



Above: Sr. Consiline & her
family: Betty, 2 nieces,
nephew & Sr. Frances

Washington Retreat House



On Thursday, April 26, 2018, Sisters from the Washington Retreat House attended the "Nuns Appreciation Night" ~ serving over 100 nuns from the Archdiocese of Washington & Montgomery County, MD.

This was the 46th consecutive year that Council #2169 has hosted this event honoring Sisters for their dedication to religious life & years of service to God, our churches, schools and the community. A delicious home-cooked dinner, with entertainment and dancing with the stars was held by the Knights of Columbus.



Mission & Ministry experience in Washington, DC



In May & early June 2018, Sisters Babylyn and Concepcion (both from the Philippines), experienced life & ministry with our Sisters at the Washington Retreat House.

Besides gaining retreat ministry experiences while there, the two Sisters also learned more about the history of the United States & Washington, DC. In these photos, the Sisters are pictured in our Nation's Capitol; and on left, with Sr. Ellen.



~ Community Regional Meetings: May 10-13 & May 14-17, 2018 ~



Two Regional Meetings were held at Graymoor and offered to all our Sisters in Community.

Our guest speaker & presenter, was Canon Lawyer, SR. LYNN JARRELL, OSU



Sr. Rosanne, Co-Area Manager



Sr. Lynn speaking to the Sisters



Sr. Mary, Sr. Diane, Sr. Ellen, Sr. Nancy & Sr. Mary Pat



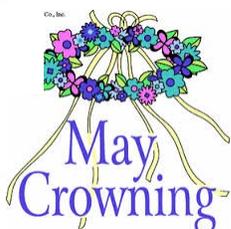
A 'Brother Gregory' Serenade!

~ by Sr. Mary Electa Barber, Activities Coordinator

We were happy to see our Br. Gregory who was visiting us from Assisi. On the Feast of Our Lady of the Atonement, Brother said, "Not only do I want to visit the Sisters at the Motherhouse, but I would also like to play my accordion for them." True to his word, Brother spent time with the Sisters on Sunday afternoon, July 15, 2018. *Thank you, Br. Gregory!*



May Crowning at Graymoor



A floral crown was placed upon the statue of Our Lady of the Atonement by Sr. Lucinda May and Sr. Consiline ~ this year's Jubilarians, along with Sr. Mavis (who was in Japan at the time). Sisters Consiline & Lucinda May were present at Graymoor together for the Regional Meetings.



In Center Top Photo (L-R):
Sr. Consiline Flynn, Sr. Lucinda May Patterson & Sr. Frances Flynn.



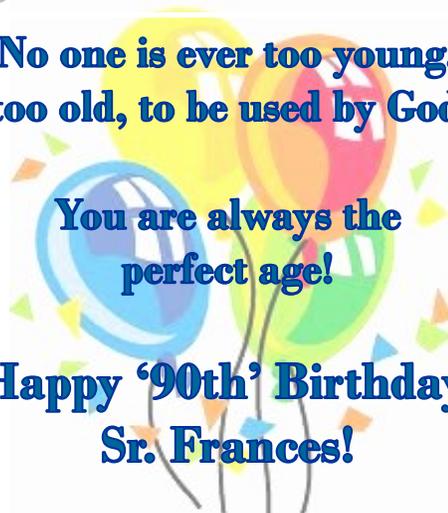
Celebrating 'Joy' in June!



No one is ever too young,
or too old, to be used by God ...

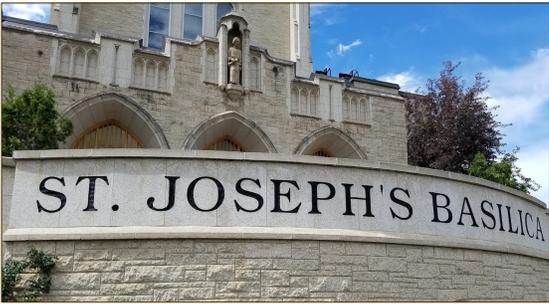
You are always the
perfect age!

Happy '90th' Birthday,
Sr. Frances!



A Double Silver Jubilee!

~ Edmonton News ~





Lurana Shelter Society



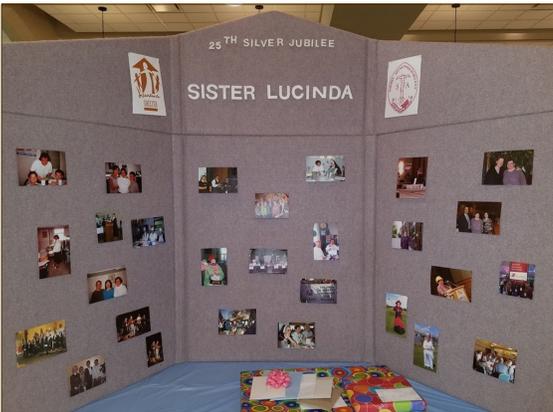
St Joseph's Basilica

Tuesday 26th June 2018



**The Silver Jubilee Celebrations of
Lurana Shelter's presence in Edmonton &
Sr Lucinda May Patterson S.A.'s Religious Profession**

Welcome to St Joseph's Basilica, the cathedral of the Archdiocese of Edmonton.



On June 26, 2018 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, we celebrated a DOUBLE Silver Jubilee by rejoicing in the 25 years of Religious Profession of Sr. Lucinda May AND 25 years since the foundation of Lurana Shelter. Congratulations to all!



Right: The Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement gather for a group photo in St. Joseph's Basilica. Sarah Cornett, Executive Director of Lurana Shelter, joins the Sisters on this festive occasion.



Below are two photos from the 1993 ground-breaking ceremony to begin the building of Lurana Shelter. **From L-R:** Sr. Christina Marie, Rosa, Debbie, Pat, Sr. Kristine, Sr. Mary Eileen, Sr. Alexis Joseph, Sr. Margaret, Sr. Mary Kathleen, Sr. Mary Pat, Sr. Irene & Sr. Jerome.



Caring for the Needs of the Women & Children at Lurana Shelter

~ Edmonton News ~



I am your new Friend.
Give me a name and
take me with you.



In-Kind Donations Program for Lurana Shelter

While in Edmonton for Corporation Meetings, the Leadership Team, along with Sr. Diane, Sr. Connie & Sr. Babylyn were given a tour of the In-Kind Donations storage area by Sr. Marianne.

Sr. Marianne's organizational skills are phenomenal! When women & children enter the shelter, they often have little to nothing for their personal care and needs. Donations are given to the Sisters for the purpose of aiding the women & children who come to Lurana Shelter fleeing domestic violence.

Sr. Marianne has transformed the In-Kind Donations space by organizing all like items in bins on the shelving units and has also done computerized inventory! Thank you, Sr. Marianne!



~ Farewell to the Archdiocese of Boston ~ ... and a tribute to Sisters Esther & Laurie



“Perhaps one of the greatest gifts ever given to us by the Anglican Church was the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement. Their religious order was founded in 1898 as an Anglican Communion. In 1909, they were corporately received into the Roman Catholic Church and received definitive approval as a congregation of Pontifical right on June 13, 1935. That notwithstanding, it should be noted that the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement are a, “Missionary Congregation of Women Religious,” following in the footsteps of that great Saint of humility, none other than Francis of Assisi himself. These women are so subtly impactful that they even influenced a Jesuit priest, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, to take the name ‘Francis’ as he was elected Pope on March 13, 2013. However, the charism of the Atonement Sisters is defined by the following words of St. Francis:

“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console, to be understood, as to understand, to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

“As missionaries, Atonement Sisters go where they are sent. Since coming to Boston in 1987, it’s hard for me to remember a time when my life has not been affected by the Sisters. It seems as though I have known them all my life. Their legacy of leadership, prayer and service stands as a model for us all as we carry their work into the future. Like your predecessors and contemporaries, you, Sister Esther & Sister Laurie, have followed the lead of your founders, Mother Lurana & Father Paul. Service to the poor has been and will continue to be your life’s vocation. Again, as missionaries, the Sisters obediently go where they are sent with humility.

We may be sad at their departure, but fear not, their spirit will remain.

“Sister Esther, Sister Laurie, we, your Boston Family, salute you & wish you well as you embark on this next phase of your Franciscan journey. May your work both fulfill and further the mission of Jesus’ prayer, “that all may be one ... that the world may believe that you have sent me.” We have witnessed your commitment and have benefitted from your service. Thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do in your next assignments.” ~ *written by Meyer Chambers, Campus Minister, Boston College*



BIDDING FAREWELL to “*their Sisters!*” ~ June 2018
The local firemen went to the Yawkey Center in Dorchester, Massachusetts four times a year. Lieutenant MacDonald and his firemen enjoyed their visits at the Center and had a special fondness for “*their sisters*” ~ who, in turn, called them “*my brothers*.” When Sr. Esther told them that both Sisters were being transferred, the firemen stopped by on the Sisters’ last day of work and brought cookies and their well wishes.

Associate News from British Columbia, Canada



On June 8, 2018, a few of the Associates in Vancouver met at a Filipino restaurant in Vancouver to share some time together. It was just a nice way to keep in-touch and share time with each other. That day, however, it was raining cats and dogs, but it was well worth dodging the raindrops to see each other! Peace and blessings to everyone from us:
(L-R): Santa Pureza, Vi Colob, Lin Barker and Zeny Talusan.



Calendar

Important vocation ministry dates



NRVC Convocation

November 1-5

National Vocation Awareness Week

November 4-10

World Day for Consecrated Life

February 2, 2019

National Catholic Sisters Week

March 8-14, 2019

News from Cavite, Philippines!

Receiving Medical, Dental & Optical Care

On June 24, 2018, a medical mission was held at Mother Lurana Ministries & Community Development Center in Pingtong Gubat, Cavite, Philippines.

To locate patients, staff members surveyed the local households in the Paliparan area to determine which people would best be served by the Medical Mission. The dentists, optometrist, pediatricians, family doctors, and nurses, members of the Indian Filipino Doctors Association, seek to provide medical and dental treatment to men, women and children who cannot afford or have little access to medical care. Approximately 500 people received medical and/or dental treatment.

Before the medical personnel arrived, the Sisters and staff were busy preparing the building as a clinic. Areas designated for registration, clinic, pharmacy & waiting areas were prepared. Along with other volunteers, Sr. Yna registered the patients, while Sr. Rosa was present to take blood pressures for the dental patients. Sr. Virginia acted as traffic director, comforter and supporter throughout the day.

The dentists were the busiest. Due to the lack of preventative dental care, many people needed extractions. The optometrist provided eye exams and single vision glasses. The pediatrician examined each child and prescribed medication if needed. The family doctor was busy caring for the adults. The pharmacy not only provided medication, but also vitamins and dental hygiene kits as well.



Top Right: Martha, our new Postulant, distributes a meal to a child.
Right: Dental team works on the teeth of a youngster.
Left: Registration desk for admission.



Sr. Helen, Sr. Rosa, Sr. Cynthia, and Martha (our Postulant), rose early to make 800 sandwiches. Mary Grace, Jade, and Vicky also joined the sandwich making project. The sandwiches & juice pouches were shared with the people as they left. Sandwiches and juice were also given to those who arrived early and had not eaten breakfast. Sr. Cynthia, Martha & Sr. Helen had the rewarding duty of distributing the food and hearing many words of gratitude.



The medical and dental mission was a success, especially due to the many dedicated volunteers and staff. A second mission is being planned for October 4th ~ which will coincide with the second anniversary of foundation of the Mother Lurana Ministries and Community Development Center in Cavite, Philippines!



News from the Parish of St. John Bosco



Greetings from the Parish of St. John Bosco, Port Chester, NY!

The summer days are upon us and everyone has been quite busy with all the activities in the new parish of St. John Bosco in Port Chester, New York. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, the Parish of St. John Bosco is a new mission & ministry site for us. On **July 9, 2018**, the Feast of Our Lady of the Atonement, (see photo below) the three Sisters on that mission were invited by the Salesian Fathers to share in evening prayer for the feast day, as well as a festive dinner, prepared by the Salesians ~ who are so thoughtful and amicable to minister with. Thank you, Salesian Fathers! We are ever grateful for your kindnesses to us!

Pictured in the photo below (L-R): Sr. Denise, Fr. Manny, Fr. Patrick (Pastor), Sr. Nancy, Sr. Maruja, Fr. Jacek and Fr. John.

As of September 2018, the Sisters residing in the Port Chester convent will be:
Sr. Esther (House Coordinator), Sr. Ellen, Sr. Leila & Sr. Maruja.

God bless each of you!



Santa Claus in July at Lurana Health Care Residence





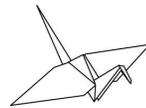
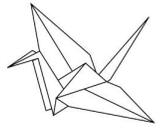
On Wednesday, July 18, 2018, it may have been very HOT outside, but our "COOL" nurses, Kathy and Luann, along with Elves, were busy keeping our Sisters "cool" inside by preparing a "CHRISTMAS IN JULY" event in the **Lurana Health Care Residence**. The experience was complete with none other than Santa Claus ~ who not only distributed gifts to everyone, but gifted us to some sing-along-songs on the piano music! The pictures are evidence that a good time was had by all! We look forward to Santa's next visit!



Creativity & Moments to Smile About



On a lovely afternoon in August, "Sensei" Sr. Mary Laetitia shared her expertise of Japanese Calligraphy with student, Cindy ~ who had asked to learn this ancient art of writing. Cindy was an "A+" student in the art ~ mastering the basic strokes on the first lesson!



Isn't she skillful?
jouzu desu nee
 じょうずです ねえ



New Ministerial & Communal Experiences for Sr. Babylyn & Sr. Connie



May 2018

A fabulous visit & tour of New York City with Sr. Eilish



June 2018 ~ Ministry experiences in Edmonton, AB, Canada! Meeting the Sisters & staff there, sharing in ministry & enjoying the scenic wonders of Canada's mountainous beauty on the way to Cochrane, AB for retreat.



As part of their Formation program, Sisters Babylyn & Connie lived on our mission in Edmonton, AB, Canada from June 19 to August 2, 2018. During this time, they assisted in the various ministries and then concluded their time in Edmonton with their retreat.



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord ...

Br. Leo Fulkco, OFM, 5/18/18 Brother of Sr. Hope Marie Fulkco
Br. Savio McNiece, SA 6/10/18 Franciscan Friar of the Atonement
Fr. Thomas Gumprecht, SA 6/19/18 Franciscan Friar of the Atonement
Edward Gormley, 6/22/18..... Cousin of Sr. Mary Sarah Dolan
Rosalie Gouthro, 6/29/18..... Sister-in-law of Sr. Paul Marie Gouthro
Margaret Walsh, 6/30/18..... Sister of Sr. Mary Agnes Rooney
Kathleen Maguire, 6/31/18 Cousin of Sr. Mary Emerson
Richard Butler, 8/04/18 Brother-in-law of Sr. Mavis DeMan
John O'Brien, 8/09/18 Cousin of Sr. Paul Marie Gouthro
Cornelius (Sonny) Drerup, 8/11/18..... Nephew of Sr. Loretta Bezner
Edward (Ned) Kelly, 8/20/18..... Brother of Sr. Mary Kelly



I would like to 'thank' our Leadership Team for the Mass they had celebrated for the repose of the soul of my sister, Margaret Walsh. Also, my deepest 'thanks' to the Sisters & Staff of the Lurana Health Care Residence for their Mass, and to each of you for your sympathy and Mass cards. I am very grateful to each of you for your support & prayers during my time of loss. Thank you to each of you who prayed for me. ~ Fondly, Sr. M. Agnes Rooney



Our Jubilee celebration on June 16, 2018 of "75", "50", & "25" years was a very special day! It really does not seem possible that this much time has elapsed, and yet it has. There are many shoulders within our community who have been supporting us through the years. Your love & support has been constant. Thank you for your "yes," because it assisted us with our "yes!" The weather was wonderful. Liturgy was beautiful. All your cards were such gifts! Thanking all of you again for making the day so special. We humbly ask for your prayers and please be assured of our prayers for you! ~ Gratefully, Sr. Consiline, Sr. Mavis & Sr. Lucinda May

SISTERS & ASSOCIATES:

The DEADLINE to submit articles & information for the next Community Notes & News Newsletter is October 18, 2018.

~~ It will be the AUTUMN Issue and will cover the months of: AUGUST, SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2018 ~~

No need to design your page!

Just email the text & photos directly to Sr. Denise (or via snail mail)!

Avoid using ALL CAPS when typing your articles or I cannot copy & paste.

No PDF pages, thank you!

Email to: secretarygeneral@graymoor.org