

COMMUNITY NOTES & NEWS

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE ATONEMENT
Winter Newsletter
November & December 2017 & January 2018

"Our Well - a Spring ...



... of Living Water!"

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

St. Francis Convent (Graymoor)
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Garrison, New York 10524 U.S.A.
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Website: www.graymoor.org

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 ...



Reflection on these winter months draws me to think of an especially significant winter reality for our *Society of the Atonement* as it was then that our Foundress, Mother Lurana White, first ventured forth from her home in Warwick, New York to the small church in the wilderness at Graymoor.

Truly our Foundation Day holds a special place in the minds and hearts of each Sister and Friar of the Atonement. As noted on page 44 of Mother Lurana's biography, *A Woman of Unity*, written by Sr. Mary Celine Fleming, SA, "Everything worked out as planned and on the morning of December 15, 1898, the Mother Foundress bade a final goodbye to the Terrace. Accompanied by her sister and her godchild, Viola Carr, she set out for her destination. The journey was made by train to Newburgh, thence by ferry to Beacon; from Beacon to Garrison again by train. From Garrison to the Dimond house, which had been rented to serve as a convent for the time, the trip was made by horse and sleigh, for the snow lay deep on the ground. Under the loving guidance of God, on the Octave of His Mother's own feast, which has since been designated as Feast of the Queen of the Franciscan Order, Mother Lurana came into the hill country to *St. John's in the Wilderness*. Graymoor was at last a reality!"

This year we celebrate 120 years as a congregation! Over these years, the reality of Graymoor has drawn many women to our community in response to God's call to live the vowed life in the Franciscan-Atonement lifestyle. Many of you continue to respond to the needs of the times in various mission locations. How blessed we are to note that presently, *Sisters of the Atonement* can be found in Brazil, Canada, Italy, Japan, Philippines, and USA. With Graymoor as our international headquarters, it is a truly a hub of activity in so many ways! Graymoor is also home to many of our Sisters who have given their 'all' for the sake of the mission. Some now engage in a slower, more contemplative stage of life; this 'powerhouse of prayer' is truly foundational to our Franciscan-Atonement congregation!

Some fearfully speak of the concept of 'diminishment' as our census is now 101 Professed Sisters, with 3 Novices and 2 Sisters in the Transfer Process. From my perspective I acknowledge we are in a time of 'transition' ... but I do not experience fear or see it as 'diminishment'! I remind you of the words in my Advent 2017 letter speaking of our Canonical Visitation process which is presently underway! "... As we heed the words of our Holy Father Pope Francis ~ *"I know the future has a name ~ its name is hope"* ~ we have selected **hope** as the theme of our Visitation process! As we continue to 'put out into the deep', we do so with steadfast hope! The pope said that hope is both an anchor that keeps us safe in turbulent waves and a sail that allows us to glide above the water. Hope "collects the wind of the Spirit and transforms it into energy that pushes the boat toward the open sea ..." I ask that you prayerfully reflect on the concept of 'hope' and consider what gives you 'hope'? ~ what nurtures and sustains your 'hope'? ~ are you a 'hopeful' person!?" Trust in the Spirit who guides us and give thanks for the abundant blessings that have been gifted to us over these 120 years!

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



~ Motherhouse Coordinator ~

by Sr. Leila Spaulding, *Motherhouse Coordinator*



Already, it is February 2018 at Graymoor. Yesterday, the 7th, we had a small snow & ice storm. And as the weather reminds us of the season we now live in here in the Eastern U.S., the calendar reminds us that next week on Wednesday the 14th, Lent begins and we journey towards Easter, April 1, 2018.

However, some of the Sisters here at St. Francis Convent have been on a Hawaiian “Cruise” with Sr. Mary Electa coordinating the activities. Sister has been showing beautiful videos of the Hawaiian Islands. She organized a “shipboard bingo,” and we had “Tea at Sea” in the old infirmary dining room on the third floor of the Motherhouse. The weather prevented the Luau that was planned for February 7th in the Solarium on the roof, thus, the rain check was on Friday, February 10th at the same time and in the same place with a special Evening Prayer!



In late December 2017 and early January 2018, we said, “good-bye for now” to two of our Sisters: Sr. Margaret Ann Ryan & Sr. Eileen Waldron ~ both were North Country, Ogdensburg vocations. They are missed. The favorite color for each Sister was **red**, so, our Christmas poinsettias in the Motherhouse chapel were splendid to reflect their favorite color!

Our Motherhouse Christmas was gratefully blessed with donations of flowers, candy, cookies, food, and of course, money. Our Christmas dinner and supper, gifted to us for a number of years now, was donated by a very generous man named, Kevin, and he seeks out generous friends who help him in his kindnesses to us. It is his way of saying, “Thanks” to God for the blessings in his life. Our supper is held in the Community Room with special holiday foods and some surprises while the Christmas music is playing.

It has been a tradition for the first night’s prayer service of the annual Week of Prayer to be held here in our chapel. Our guest speaker was Pastor Melissa Hinnen of the United Methodist Church in Croton-on-Hudson, New York. A number of Sisters, Friars & local friends took part in the service as we prayed to be freed of the ‘chains’ that binds us ~ preventing true ecumenism between all peoples. The theme as you know, was “The Right Hand of God, Glorious in Power.” *Exodus 15.6*

Next Tuesday, February 13, 2018, will be Shrove Tuesday. We are planning a Mardi Gras Supper during which we will also receive our Valentine Prayer Cards. So, know that each of our Sisters and Friars will be prayed for all year long by one or more of the Sisters here at Graymoor. So, if you feel lots of grace this coming year, you will know you got one of the ‘good prayers!’ Then again, we are all good ‘prayers’! That’s our life and being! Thanks be to God!

May all of you be
blessed into the 2018
Lent & Easter
seasons!



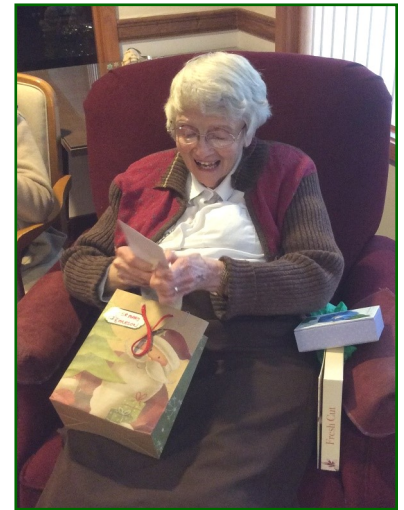
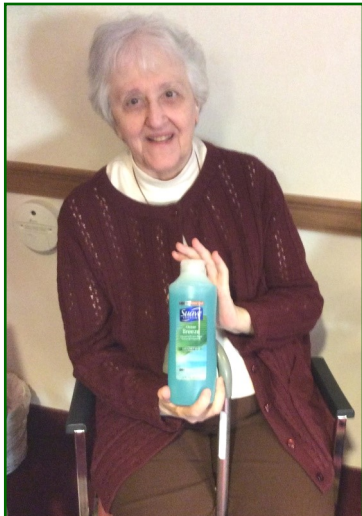
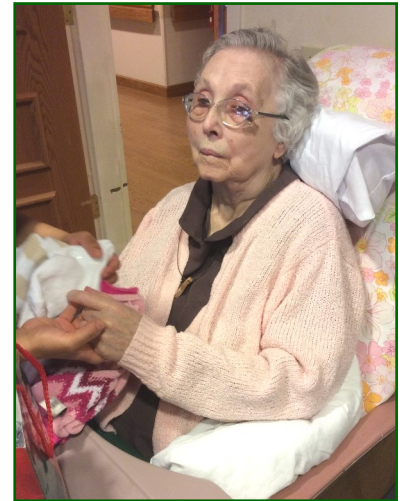
Walk
in the
Light
of the
Lord
see John 5:21-22

Lurana Health Care Residence

~ Photos courtesy of Sr. Diane Bernier ~



Some happy faces from Christmas in the Residence!



Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation



by Sr. Margaret Sikora, Director of JPIC



In the months of January and February, we were asked to focus on *Migration, Refugees, Trafficking* and *Racism*. This reminded me of the need to examine my attitudes in relation to the ‘stranger’ – and the story of the Good Samaritan, as retold by a pastor friend titled: “*Are You a Good Samaritan?*”

“We all know the familiar Gospel about the Good Samaritan, which relates to the sin of practicing selective Christianity. The interesting cast of characters in that Gospel includes a lawyer, a Levite (one born into the house of Levi and therefore a priest by birth) and a Samaritan. To define a Samaritan for this message, imagine the person you dislike the most in your life – that is a Samaritan.

There are two elements to this message. The *first* requires an admission that there are people we do not like. It is not uncommon for someone to tell me that they do not like me. I respond by telling them they have to go to the back of the line behind all the others who dislike me and who are in front of them. Once we make this admission, then, like the lawyer who approached Jesus, we want to justify our actions and thoughts. Many people believe that it is acceptable to exclude strangers, outsiders, and those we do not like from the center of our Christian practice.

If Jesus had that same thinking, He would have remained in Bethlehem and would have been a contradiction to the message of “*loving our neighbor.*” *Secondly*, we pose the question: “From what spiritual source can we receive spiritual energy enough to love neighbor, especially as Jesus defines “neighbor?” One answer is found in the Book of Deuteronomy, where Moses tells the Israelites that God’s command is to love God and to love neighbor.

But there are those who believe that this spiritual source to accomplish this command is up in the heavens and across the seas. Moses tells the Israelites that the answer is in the statues and commandments found in the Book of the Law and also written within their own hearts. What is amazing about this source of spiritual energy is that there is nothing mysterious about it. And there is nothing magical about it. This spiritual energy is within our very hearts and within the Word of God. Neither is far away.

Imagine, if while you are driving or walking along like the story of the Good Samaritan, and you saw someone lying in a ditch by the side of the road, badly beaten. Like me, you may think of one of the following responses: my family needs me at home now; I’m on my way to church; I don’t know what to do; someone else will come after me and help this person; I don’t want to get involved. These attitudes are common in our society, even among ‘good’ Christians. Of course, these attitudes fall far short of God’s expectations of our role in “*loving our neighbor.*”

Jesus told this parable because there is no such thing as selective service in practicing Christianity – the following of Christ. Our faith is to reach to the world – the entire world. And it is our baptismal duty to live that faith, even for the Samaritans in our lives.

Louis Mann states: “*Brotherhood, once a dream and vision, has become a dire necessity.*”

~ Fr. Walter Norris, V.F., sjwpastor@comcast.net, reprinted with permission

'TEA' AT MOTHER LURANA HOUSE



“Tea” at Mother Lurana House was held on the feast of St. Elizabeth, November 17, 2017. It was a beautiful day, however, a bit chilly. However, this did not stop our Motherhouse Sisters from venturing out to Mother Lurana House where they were welcomed by Sisters Carmel Finelli, Jacinta Mullin, Jean Beyette and Loretta Bezner to a Tea Party.



On display in the dining room were pictures of past activities that took place at Mother Lurana House over the years, as well as a listing of all the Sisters who were assigned to Mother Lurana House, and various dates from the blessing of the house up to and including the date when the program was terminated. The Sisters had time to view this history while waiting for everyone to arrive.



Sr. Jean made certain that each Sister, upon arriving, placed her name in a basket for the drawing of the door prizes. Sr. Theresa Ann Clarizio was the lucky winner of a 2018 Date Book and Sr. Rosanne McDonald received an envelope with \$5.00 cash.



The Sisters were served tea or coffee and an assortment of Irish bread baked by Sr. Carmel. Delicious cookies, brownies, Christmas cake, and cup cakes were also served. For those Sisters who were unable to attend, orders for Irish Bread were taken and delivered for their enjoyment! Thank you, Sr. Carmel!



Many of the Sisters returned to the Motherhouse in time for the First Friday Holy Hour. There was, however, much conversation, food and fun during the afternoon before most left. The “Tea Party” was enjoyed by all!



~ Submitted by Sister Loretta Bezner, SA ~



Dear Sisters,

Thank you, sincerely, for your kind expressions of sympathy and thoughtfulness. It is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered by my family.

~ Gratefully, Sr. Esther Garcia



Dear Sisters,

I want to extend my deepest gratitude and thanks to each of you who sent Mass cards, sympathy cards and prayers upon the death of my sister, Lucy Suttle and my brother-in-law, Maurice Pike. Your thoughts and prayers helped me with my losses. Be assured of my prayers for each of you.

~ Fondly, Sr. Kathleen Bogue

Dear Sisters,

Thank you so much for your kindness and sympathetic words regarding my brother Fred's death. It has been a beautiful experience to hear from you. I will never forget this experience. This was my first death of a family member (other than my parents so long ago) and it made me feel supported by the members of my community. I have been prompted by your reaching-out to me to make a change in my own life and try to do the same for others. God bless each one and you have my grateful prayers. ~ Sr. Dolores Fenzel



Dear Sisters,

Thank you ~ to all for your loving support at the time of the death of my sister, Phyllis. The O'Connor/Mayer family send their gratitude.

~ Blessings, Sr. Mary Trinitas Mayer

Dear Sisters,

On behalf of the Ryan family, I wish to express our gratitude for your kindness, and I thank all the Sisters for the Masses, prayers and sympathy cards at the time of death of my sister, Doreen. A Mass will be said for your intentions.

~ In gratitude, Sr. Mary Mulligan



Dear Sisters,

I wish to thank all of you for your prayerful support, greetings and Mass cards for my brother, James Dullaghan. Your kindness and concern meant a great deal to me and my family. God bless you!

~Sr. Josephine Dullaghan



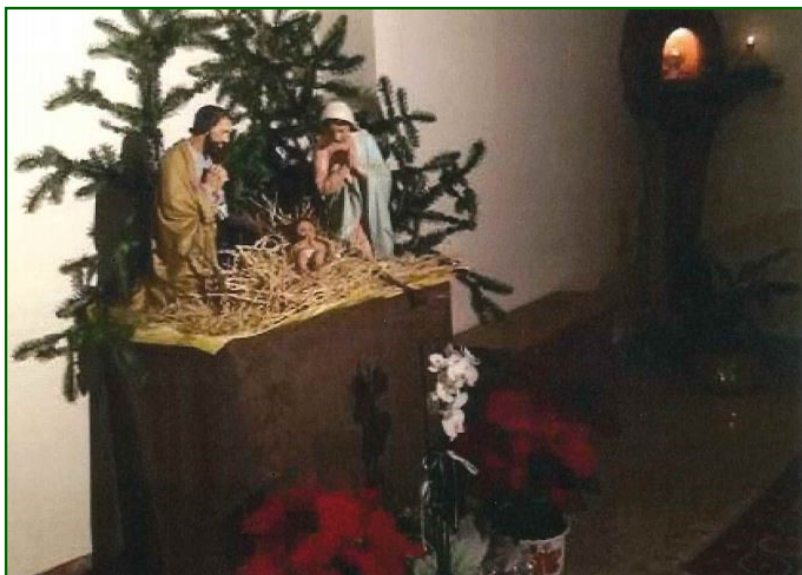
Dear Sisters,

My sincere thanks for your prayers and Mass cards for my niece, Deborah Rooney, who died suddenly on February 9, 2018. Her dad, my brother Vincent, was suffering terribly and your prayers brought some peace & consolation to him & his family. Our thanks to our Sisters who brought us needed spiritual help in our journey forward in life.

~ Sr. Agnes Rooney



Christmas from Assisi, Italy!



“The real spirit of Christmas is the beauty of being loved by God.”
~ Pope Francis



Christmas 2017 in Assisi

(Right) In Assisi, Sr. Alessandra shares Christmas joy with our Friar Novices (Br. Ugo, Br. Gregorio & Br. Giovanni) and Santa Claus (who is really Br. Gregory Lucrezia, SA).

Jesus Weeps

As He came near and saw the city, He wept over it, saying,
“If you had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace!” ~ Luke 19:41

WHAT HASN'T MADE FOR PEACE:

- *Wars, drone strikes, Special Ops strikes.
- *Arming militants in proxy wars.
- *Support for repressive regimes around the world.
- *Disdain for domestic and international law.
- *Bloated spending on “defense” and “homeland security.”
- A world bristling with nuclear weapons, and plans to “modernize” them.
- *Scapegoating immigrants and refugees.
- *Systems of domination over peoples and the earth.

WHAT WOULD MAKE FOR PEACE:

- *Halt to violent interventions, use of JUST peace practices.
- *Negotiated arms embargoes.
- *Support for human rights & self-determination for all people.
- *Respect for the rule of law, diplomacy, and multilateral cooperation.
- *Increased spending on peace-building, human needs at home, humanitarian & development assistance.
- *Abolition of all nuclear weapons.
- *Welcoming immigrants and refugees.
- *Economic, racial and environmental justice.

We urge the U.S. Catholic Church at all levels ~ bishops, priests, deacons, religious & laity:

***Reject failed policies of endless war and preparation for war!**

Work for the things that make PEACE!

For more information, please visit: www.PaxChristiMetroOC.org

~ News from our new Port Chester, NY mission ~



Our first Christmas in our new parish of St. John Bosco was celebrated with much festivity and joy among all the parishioners. As you know by now, we now reside and minister in a wonderful Salesian parish. There are eight Salesian priests in residence at Our Lady of Mercy Rectory and four Salesian Sisters at the Corpus Christi-Holy Rosary School. We were blessed to share a beautiful Christmas dinner together at the Rectory. Fr. Patrick Angelucci, Pastor, and Fr. Manny Gallo, Coordinator of Youth Ministry, were the chefs. What a superb meal we shared! Thank you to our Salesian brothers in Christ!

We, the Sisters, live in a large convent ~ Holy Rosary Convent. The parish of St. John Bosco was created in August 2017 ~ four parishes were combined to make 'one' parish. There are three active churches in this one parish: Our Lady of Mercy Church (the main church), Corpus Christi Church & Holy Rosary Church. Sr. Maruja Causa is the full-time Pastoral Associate and has been in this Port Chester area since September 2010. Sr. Nancy Conboy ministers in the parish by visiting the local nursing home, bringing Communion to them and offering a prayer service every Monday. Sister also teaches a second-grade religious education class on Saturdays. Sr. Nancy also attends the parish Bible study on the Gospel of Mark and will be giving one of the presentations in March.

The convent has as total of 15 bedrooms, a community room, a large kitchen & dining room, two classrooms and an office at the main entrance for Sr. Maruja's evening work. There are numerous activities always happening in the parish. On Wednesday evenings in the convent, the Marriage Preparation Group Leaders meet in the two classroom areas, sometimes using the dining room area, as they meet with couples who will be married in the Church. On occasion, other small groups meet in the front classrooms of the convent.

The Adoration Chapel (photo on right), often has someone praying there at all hours during the day. It is open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sr. Nancy Conboy attends to the chapel ~ exposing the Blessed Sacrament daily each morning and either she, or Deacon Bill, close the adoration session at 9:00 p.m. each evening. Many people come here to pray. This is truly a holy place where God's presence waits for all those who come.

Through the kindness of our Sisters at the Washington Retreat House, we received two beautiful 18" x 38" hanging pictures of Saints Francis & Clare. Thank you, Sisters! At Christmastime, new drapes were donated to us from a very generous Friary employee. These now hang in our dining room, gracing Saints Francis & Clare (*see photo—above right corner*).



Franciscans Celebrate the Feast of St. John Bosco

The Parish of ST. JOHN BOSCO in Port Chester, New York, celebrated the Feast of St. John Bosco on January 31. How could we, Franciscans, 'not' celebrate this blessed and wonderful Saint while living in a Salesian parish?

The celebration of St. John Bosco began at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, January 28, in Our Lady of Mercy Church. A new statue of St. John Bosco and Bartholomew Garalli, (*the boy who became a starting point for Fr. Bosco to work with young people who are in need of material, emotional, intellectual and spiritual help*) was blessed by Fr. Patrick Angelucci, Pastor. This beautifully carved wood statue was made in Italy and had just arrived at the airport ~ and went through Customs ~ the night before the Mass! Divine intervention, clearly! *Thank you, Lord & St. John Bosco!*

During the time of the Homily, youth from the Parish reenacted this scene of St. John Bosco and Bartholomew Garalli. See photo (*lower right*).



Our celebrations with the Salesians continued as we attended the Mass at the Corpus-Christi-Holy Rosary grammar school with the Salesian Sisters.

Sr. Lise Parent, FMA, is the President of the School. She is in the photo to the right. Grades K-8 attended the school Mass in honor of St. John Bosco. God bless you, Salesian Fathers & Sisters from your Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement!



News from the Philippines!



Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement Philippines

~ Images taken from our Sisters' FACEBOOK page ~



(Top) Sisters & Staff attend the closing Mass for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, January 18-25, 2018



(Right) Our community of Sisters in Cavite, Philippines: (L-R/Bottom to Top): Sr. Yna, Sr. Helen, Sr. Connie, Sr. Cynthia, Sr. Rosa, Sr. Babylyn and Sr. Virginia.

(Below Left & Right) **"A Day of Search"** ~ Youth visiting our mission. Facilitated by: Sr. Connie and Sr. Babylyn.



News from the Philippines!



Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement Philippines

~ Images taken from our Sisters' FACEBOOK page ~



(Left)

Our good Kuya transporting children to our center in our newly purchased service van.

These children will each receive a delicious and nutritious meal to help sustain them through the day.



Later, the children attend classes to help them to read, write and develop early learning skills.

(Right)

Children, many of them brothers and sisters, are playing a game of Patintero in our yard.



Washington Retreat House

Website: <http://www.graymoor.org/washington-retreat-house/>

As you will recall in the Autumn Newsletter of 2017, the Sisters at the **Washington Retreat House** obtained a new sign placed on the front lawn (see insert photo from last Newsletter with Kristine & Josephine).

Also obtained, and placed near the driveway is a new sign with an arrow and the Retreat House number, indicating the entrance. Good work, Sisters!

**4000 Harewood Road, NE
Washington, DC 20017**



ASSOCIATE NEWS ...

California Associates from Seaside, along with their Mentor Sr. Carmelita Heredia, and from San Juan Bautista, with their Mentor Sr. Dolores Fenzel met on Sunday, January 21, 2018 in Guadalupe Chapel of Mission San Juan Bautista to pray for Christian Unity.

The prayers from the Ecumenical Celebration of the Word of God, published by the Friars of the Atonement for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2018**, were recited in union with those who were meeting during this Week of Prayer from all over the world.

We were blessed to have two Franciscan Friars from St. Francis Retreat House in San Juan Bautista come and pray with us for Christian Unity. It was a joyous occasion and we met afterwards to share delicious desserts and punch.

~ Submitted by Sr. Dolores Fenzel

“That they all May Be One” - Coming together with other Faiths to Minister to the Poor

The Associates of the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement known as “the Foothill Franciscans” in the Placerville California area shared an evening of Thanksgiving with the homeless sheltered for the night at the Solid Rock Faith Center providing the nourishment of body with a wonderful thanksgiving dinner and nourishment of the soul with smiles and hugs on Thanksgiving Evening November 23, 2017.

Those who participated in providing this gift to our own “Brothers & Sisters Christopher” were: Maria Allen, Rosemary Authier, Sally Avery (her husband, Bruce and Sister, Joni), Maureen Ellis, Cathy Flores, Pat Maher, Frank & Maria Mindt, Don & Doris Morley, Renee Murdoch, Gilda Puglisi, Jo Slowey, and Mary Taylor either through providing a dish and/or sharing together in serving the homeless this wonderful dinner.



***Happy Thanksgiving everyone
Becky SRFC - evening host coordinator***

Dear Pat,
I heard the fabulous job
your ladies & men did
with the dinner!

May God richly bless
each of you a hundred
fold for your kindness
and generosity!

In Him we serve,
Cindy Eilhardt
SRFC dinner coordinator

The Thanksgiving Dinner was great and the guests even got to snack on the meal later in the evening. The group of ladies & men who are Associates of the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement brought, served and cleaned up dinner, they are awesome!

Thanksgiving Prayer said at the shelter:

Dear Father God of all Creation:

We your family are gathered here tonight in Thanksgiving & Remembrance.

Tonight as we all have shelter from the night, we remember those who have none.

Tonight as we share this dinner made by human hands from the bounty of the earth, we remember those who are hungry.

Tonight as we share together in fellowship, we remember all who are lonely and suffering.

Tonight as we look at each other, we know your great love for each of us as we see you in eyes & smiles, and we remember that you love all people you have created.

Tonight dear Lord, we give you praise & thanksgiving for life on this beautiful earth, food to eat, a place to sleep, friends to share & care, and always surrounded by your everlasting Love, In Jesus name we thank you. Amen



ASSOCIATE NEWS ...

At our first Saturday Placerville area **Foothill Franciscan Associate** gathering on January 6, 2018 following our time of community prayer, we continued our study of Bishop Robert Barron's book and DVD series on Catholicism. All are finding this series to bring us deeper into our Catholic Faith with enlightened understanding.

(Right/Seated):

Maria Allen, Doris & Don
Morley and Mary Taylor;

(Standing):

Pat Shields Maher,
Cathy Flores, Gilda Puglisi,
Gloria Merjil, Rene
Murdoch and Maureen Ellis



FOOTHILL FRANCISCAN ASSOCIATES GATHER FOR WEEK OF CHRISTIAN UNITY



The following Associates gathered at Pat Maher's home to share in prayer for Christian Unity on January 21 (Day 4 of the Octave), 2018. The theme for the day is HOPE & HEALING which is so needed in our divisive and negative dialogue today and our hope for healing by entering more deeply into the call for Christian Unity and Unity with all brothers and sisters of all Faith traditions to celebrate our Oneness in God.

Attending this prayerful event were: Pat Shields Maher, Cathy Flores, Maria Allen, Jo Slowey, Mary Taylor (holding sign), and Gilda Puglisi. Following the poignant & beautiful prayer service we had a wonderful shared reflection using the GEII document about the Caribbean origin of the 2018 theme about overcoming oppression and division and the true call of Unity with our brothers and sisters to recognize the difficult journey of the other. We reflected that we must be a voice of hope and love as we enter into relationship and action for those who have no voice.



After nurturing our spirits and each other through the gift of Christian Unity we were treated to a lovely food offering by Cathy Flores to nurture our bodies.

When we parted all agreed that this was sacred time spent entering into the Atonement Charism of Christian Unity.

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 & INVITED GUESTS
FOLLOWS IN THE MOTHERHOUSE DINING ROOM
AT ST. FRANCIS CONVENT
GRAYMOOR, GARRISON, NEW YORK



INFORMATION:

SR. LEILA (845) 230-8234 OR SR. DENISE (845) 608-3397

We Remember Your Great Love



Sr. Margaret Ann Ryan, SA DOB ~ December 20, 2017

Sr. Margaret Ann Ryan, age 83, a Franciscan Sister of the Atonement from Graymoor, died on December 20, 2017 at NY/Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital, Cortlandt Manor, NY. Sister was born in **Lyon Mountain, NY** on August 21, 1934 and was the daughter of Myra Ida (Brusso) and Henry Ryan. Predeceased by her parents and siblings: Bernardette Golovach, Hildred Bartoa, Sr. Kathleen Ryan, SA, Eva Bacchini, Robert, Henry and Michael. Sister is survived by her Sisters in Community, and her siblings, Francis, Rita Woyewodzic, Bernice Sharkey, Patricia Stotler and nieces and nephews.



Entering the Community on September 8, 1955, Sister professed her first vows on May 1, 1957 and her final vows on September 1, 1962.

As an Atonement missionary, Sr. Margaret Ann served in: parish, catechetical, and pastoral ministries as well as in Congregational ministries. She served in ministries in the following places: **New York** (Cobleskill, Mechanicville, Graymoor, Motherhouse, Mother Lurana House, Secretary General of the Congregation (twice), Sisters Gift Shop at Graymoor); **Canada** (Cranbrook, British Columbia, East St. John's, New Brunswick, Smoky Lake, Alberta) and **Washington, DC** (Secretary at Catholic University of America). Sister returned to Graymoor in 2016.



The Reception of the Body prayer service was held on Thursday, December 28, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the Motherhouse Chapel and the Evening Prayer/Wake Service was held at 7:00 p.m. Sister's funeral Mass was held in the Motherhouse Chapel on Friday, December 29, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. Sister is buried aside her sister, Sr. Kathleen Ryan, SA, in the Sisters' Cemetery at Graymoor (St. Joseph's Cemetery).

We Remember Your Great Love

Sr. Eileen Waldron, SA

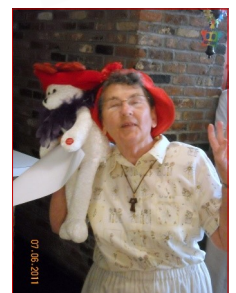
November 31, 1931 ~ January 3, 2018

Sr. Eileen Waldron, a Franciscan Sister of the Atonement from Graymoor, died on January 3, 2018 at Lurana Health Care Residence at St. Francis Convent, Garrison, NY. Sr. Eileen was born in Clayburg, New York on November 21, 1931 to Mary (Hanlon) and Michael Waldron. Survived by her Sisters in Community and her sister, Ursula, and nieces and nephews, Sister is pre-deceased by her parents and siblings: Margaret, Francis, Laurence, Raymond, Patrick, John and Harold.



Sister entered the Community on September 8, 1949, professed her first vows on May 10, 1951 and her final vows on September 1, 1956. As an Atonement missionary, she served in parish, catechetical, pastoral and retreat ministries as well as in vocation/formation ministry within the congregation. Sr. Eileen's ministry assignments included: **California** (San Juan Bautista and Placerville); **Pennsylvania** (Philadelphia); **Canada** (Vancouver and British Columbia); **Utah** (Copperton); **Georgia** (Douglas); **Italy** (Assisi); **New Hampshire** (North Conway); **New York** (Malone, Ogdensburg and Graymoor); **Vermont** (Burlington); and **Washington, DC** before finally returning to Graymoor in 2017. Through the years, Sr. Eileen lived at Graymoor at various times and her congregational ministries included: Vocation Directress, Coordinator of the House of Prayer, retreat ministry at Our Lady of the Atonement Retreat House, the Sisters' Gift Shop, our Pastoral Care Team, and at Mother Lurana House, well-known for her time in the Adult Daycare Program. Sr. Eileen was well-known for her joyful, Franciscan spirit, her kind demeanor and her gentle, caring personality. She was fun-loving and enjoyed entertaining others by wearing costumes, singing and being creative in skits and events with Sisters or the laity.

On Sunday, January 7, 2018, the Reception of the Body prayer service was held at 4:00 p.m. in the Motherhouse Chapel and the Evening Prayer/Wake Service was held at 7:00 p.m. Sister's funeral Mass was in the Motherhouse Chapel on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Sister is buried in the Sisters' Cemetery at Graymoor. God rest her soul!



Reminders ...



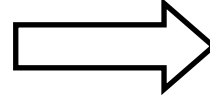
*February
is Black
History
Month!*

**Thank you* ~ to
Sr. Margaret Sikora
for all the
informative and
wonderfully created
bulletin boards on
topics of
Justice, Peace &
Integrity of Creation.*

~ Photo courtesy of Sr. Bianca



*Looking
Ahead*



jubilee June 16, 2018

Sr. Consiline Flynn, SA



Sr. Mavis DeMan, SA



*Sr. Lucinda May
Patterson, SA*



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord ...

Thomas Johnston, 10/01/2017.....	Father to Tara Taryn, Associate in NY
Henedina Castro Reyes, 10/19/2017	Mother to Daria, Associate in California
Joey Boutilier, 10/21/20178.....	Cousin to Sr. Paul Marie Gouthro
Fred Fenzel, 11/13/2017.....	Brother to Sr. Dolores Fenzel
Lucy Suttler, 11/21/2017	Sister to Sr. Kathleen Bogue
Mary Overfield, 11/23/2017	Sister to Sr. Margaret Connolly
Setsu Ishizaki, 11/23/2017.....	Sister to Sr. Mary Stella Ishizaki
Fr. John Kiesling, 11/23/2017	Franciscan Friar of the Atonement
Henry Miller, 11/23/2017	Brother to Sr. Jean Miller (RIP)
Denise A. Smart, 11/27/2017	Daughter to Phyllis Smart, Longtime Staff
Mary Whitten, 12/01/2017	Sister to Sr. Esther Garcia
Br. Francis Rene Papineau, 12/01/2017	Franciscan Friar of the Atonement
Albert Bernier, 12/03/2017.....	Uncle to Sr. Diane Bernier
Hemingway Lewis, 12/14/2017	Great-nephew of Sr. Mary Sarah Dolan
Fern Bernier, 12/17/2017	Aunt to Sr. Diane Bernier
Mary Cinelli, 12/14/2017.....	Friend of FSA & Former SA
Fr. Emmanuel Sullivan, 12/19/2017	Franciscan Friar of the Atonement
Sr. Margaret Ann Ryan, 12/20/2017	Franciscan Sister of the Atonement
Benjie Dulfo, 12/20/2017.....	Brother to Sr. Babylyn Dulfo
Doreen Ryan, 12/24/2017	Sister to Sr. Mary Mulligan
Edward Smith, 12/24/2017.....	Husband to our Associate, Betty Ann Ryan
Maurice Pike, 01/01/2018.....	Brother-in-Law to Sr. Kathleen Bogue
Sr. Eileen Waldron, 01/03/2018.....	Franciscan Sister of the Atonement
Fr. C. Donald Howard, 01/06/2018.....	Franciscan Friar of the Atonement
Phyllis O'Connor, 01/17/2018	Sister to Sr. Mary Trinitas Mayer
Norma Silva, 01/2018.....	Sister to Srs. Dorothy & Louis Silva (both RIP)
Jim Sweeney, 02/04/2018.....	Brother to Sr. Eilish Sweeney
Debra Rooney, 02/09/2018.....	Niece (46 yo) to Sr. Agnes Rooney
James Dullaghan, 02/14/2018	Brother to Sr. Josephine Dullaghan
Mary Pinckney, 02/14/2018	Sister to Fr. Sammy Taylor
Dorothy Ridley, 02/15/2018.....	Sister to Margaret Purves, Dev. Dept. Staff
Agnes Quinn, 02/18/2018.....	Sister to Sr. Catherine T. Ryan

... and let perpetual light shine upon them!

Reminder ~

If you would like the name of your loved one published in the list of memorials in a Newsletter (as in the list above), please be sure to give the name & date of death of your loved one to Sr. Denise for publication in our Newsletters.

***Information for the next Newsletter is due to Sr. Denise by:
~ April 20, 2018 ~
For the months of February, March & April 2018***