



# Graymoor's Well ...

## a spring of living water!

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

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September 2018

Issue #2

Dear Friends,

These recent summer months surely produced occasions for us to come together to enjoy some real celebratory gatherings as a community. In mid-June we gathered with three of our Sisters in recognition of their vowed commitment! We celebrated 75 years for *Sr. Consiline Flynn* as our Diamond Jubilarian, 50 years for *Sr. Mavis DeMan* as our Golden Jubilarian and 25 years for *Sr. Lucinda May Patterson* as our Silver Jubilarian. Jubilee was an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the vowed life and the amazing number of lives that are touched over so many years through such commitment.

August brought other 'special' celebrations of gratitude! On August 13, 2018 one of our dear elder Sisters turned 100! *Sr. Louis Marie Diebner* is an example to me of a totally committed consecrated woman who may have diminished hearing and some loss of eyesight, but she is ever-steadfast in her focus on her Lord! August also brought us the joy of "new life" by way of the reception of *Martha Nguyen* into our Postulancy Program. Martha was born and raised in Vietnam and is now residing with our Sisters at our House of Formation in the Cavite, Philippines mission.

This draws me to also reflect on your presence in our lives; from our oldest Sister to our newest postulant, we clearly realize that without your gracious assistance, our mission and ministry would not be complete. Through your partnership with us for the sake of the mission we are enabled to assist those in need! Our Sisters have a rich history of service and commitment over a span of 120 years ~ we are present in six countries ... your generosity allows us to literally 'be there' for the sake of the mission ... for this we are deeply grateful!

Simply walking into any store that sells greeting cards gives a hint of how many occasions have been the focus of creating a card to express a thought ~ typically a thought of *gratitude*! Gratitude for a gift ~ a birthday ~ an anniversary ~ a healing ~ a birth ~ a jubilee ... the list goes on and on for sure. The whole concept of gratitude is so very present within and yet at the same time, so very elusive when we strive to capture it and articulate it in words! For the blessing you are in our missionary life of at-one-ment, we are ever grateful to you as we daily lift you in prayer.

*"A saint is only one who yielded himself or herself freely to do the Will of God."*

*Mother Lurana*

With sincere gratitude,

Sr. Mary Patricia Galvin, SA  
Minister General



# Joy in God moments...

**Jubilee Joy** was abundantly present in celebration of three Sisters who have given so many years of service as *Franciscan Atonement Missionaries* ~ and there's still no stopping them!

The number of lives that have been touched are innumerable! **Sister Consiline Flynn**, a native of County Leitrim, Ireland has ministered over 75 years from coast to coast in the USA, in Western Canada, in Ireland, and in Italy too! **Sister Mavis DeMan**, of Cranbrook, BC, Canada, celebrating 50 years, has served in New York, Oregon and most notably, almost forty years in Japan. **Sister Lucinda May Patterson**, from Grand Rapids, Michigan, recognizing 25 years of dedication, has given these recent twenty-two years to our mission in Edmonton, AB, Canada in various roles after earlier assignments in Georgia, New York and California.



Year 2018 Jubilarians



Throughout **75** years of consecrated life **Sr. Consiline Flynn** has given witness to a deeply rooted joy in her heart! When asked “what is your greatest joy as a Sister?”, she responded: *“My greatest joy is that I was called by God to be a Franciscan Sister of the Atonement. I have spent these years sharing this joy of Jesus with my Sisters in community.”* Sister shared her ‘legacy’ as *“knowing I have made every effort to be what God called me to be and to do! I leave behind a spirit of gratitude to my family and my community for their love and support over the years of my Religious Life.”* Sr. Consiline continues in her ministry of prayer and presence while residing at Graymoor ~ her spirit of joy is gift to all.

When asked “what was the most meaningful part of Jubilee day?”, **Sr. Mavis DeMan** responded: *“Jubilee Day was perfect from beginning to end. Even the weather cooperated. It was hot but dry. In preparation for the Liturgy, the choir spent hours practicing, but the time paid off as the music was well done. Dinner took place in our Dining Room. For me to see so many of our Sisters was a great blessing as I come back to Graymoor infrequently because of being stationed in Japan. The opportunity to see and visit with so many Sisters was a blessing.”* Sister continues to give her all to those she meets daily ~ her gifts are abundantly shared! This *Golden Jubilee* for **50** dedicated years surely was a blessing for all.



When sharing her greatest joy, **Sr. Lucinda May Patterson** reflects that it *“is sharing our charism and being gifted to see God’s gentle actions working to repair breaches with individuals.”* Celebrating **25** years of vowed life, Sister says the most meaningful part of Jubilee Day was: *“the brief encounters with our Sisters and their words of wisdom and challenge. Such as ... to live in community well is done through and with God’s grace.”* Sr. Lucinda shares her own words of wisdom to *remember to play and pray ...* Sister’s gentle and light-hearted connections are gift!

# Joy in God moments...

**Joys of new life** were clearly evident when **Martha Nguyen** was received into the Postulancy Program at our House of Formation in the Philippines on August 22, 2018! The Feast of the *Queenship of Mary* was an especially blessed day for all at our Cavite mission, and throughout our international congregation as we “*Joy in God*” for such blessings!



Our Postulant Directress, **Sr. Helen Hadcock, SA** with **Martha**



Local Coordinator and Program Director, **Sr. Virginia Santiago, SA** with **Sr. Helen** and **Martha** sharing a moment of gratitude after the reception ritual



Our Second-Year Novices, **Sr. Yna** and **Sr. Rosa**, sharing in a spirit of welcoming joy with **Martha**

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ (September 2018)  
(Please Print)

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
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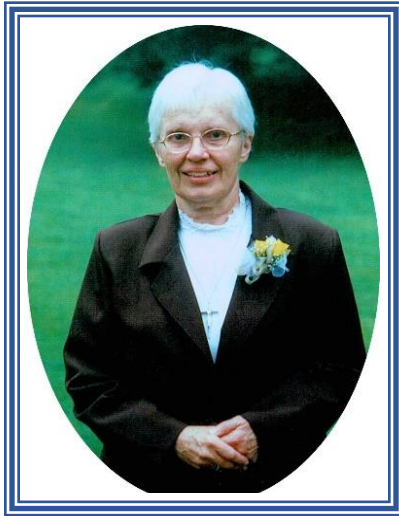
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***Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement ... 41 Old Highland Turnpike Graymoor Garrison, NY 10524***

**We remember ...**

**We Joy in God ...**

**We celebrate ...**



**Sister Mary Kinsinger**

*July 3, 1934 ~ April 29, 2018*

*"We joy in God through our Lord,  
Jesus Christ, by whom we have  
now received the Atonement."*

Romans 5:11

*Eternal Rest Grant  
Unto Her, O Lord!*



**Sister Louis Marie Diebner**  
*celebrated 100 years of life  
on August 13, 2018 ~  
what a blessing for all!*



*We appreciate your support ~ if you are in the area,  
stop by Graymoor and spend some quiet time on  
our 'holy mountain' ~ All are welcome!*



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*Sr. Ann and Sr. Mary Trinitas*

**Please visit our website ([www.graymoor.org](http://www.graymoor.org)) for further information about our Sisters and our Missions.**

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