

On The Journey

Sisters of the Most Precious Blood

"For all that has been, thanks"



"For all that will be, yes!"

SUMMER 2018

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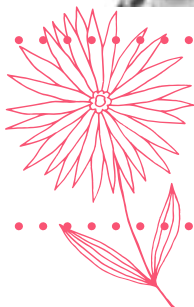
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www.cpps-ofallon.org.

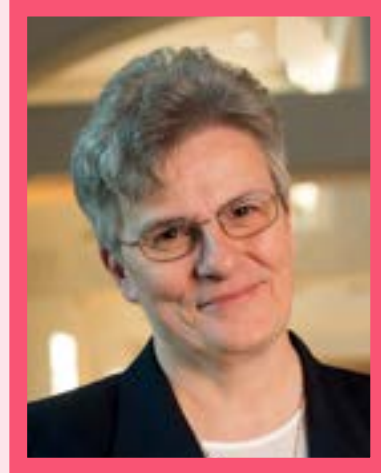
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Send your email to Marcia at
mschmitz@cpps-ofallon.org.

Cover photo: The top photo is of our Sisters in St. Joseph Chapel
in 1952. The bottom photo is of our Sisters and Partners in
Mission in St. Joseph Chapel in 2018.

*“For all that has
been, thanks.
For all that will
be, yes!”*

Dag Hammarskjöld



In this issue of *On the Journey* we look back with gratitude and we look forward with energy, hope and trust.

For all that has been -- We give thanks for our 148 years of ministry here in the United States. That service was highlighted as part of a recent exhibit held at the main branch of the St. Louis Public Library. This exhibit was a celebration of the contribution of Catholic Sisters to the St. Louis area over the past 200 years.

For all that has been -- We celebrate with and give thanks for our jubilarians who are marking 60, 70 and 75 years of religious life. Our community Constitutions call our Sisters to be a sign of Christ's continuing presence in the world, and our jubilarians have been faithful to this call. We thank God for these women and their many talents which they have shared so generously over a combined 470 years of service.

For all that has been -- We give thanks for our seven Sisters who completed their earthly journey and are now interceding for us and for you from their heavenly home.

For all that will be -- Our 2016 Chapter (a meeting held every six years to set direction for the community) called us to "take bold action that transforms us, gives us energy and unites us in working and praying for peace and justice in our suffering world." We have chosen to focus our "bold action" on service to immigrants and refugees. This choice is rooted in our community's own experience as refugees who came to the United States after being driven out of Switzerland, France and Germany because of political unrest and religious persecution.

For all that will be -- To make practical our choice of "bold action," we are trying to educate ourselves about the complexities of the current global migration crisis. We also are reaching out through accompaniment, advocacy and prayer. As Pope Francis reminds us, "Every refugee who knocks on our door bears the face of God. . ." We seek to respond to these manifestations of the face of God in whatever small ways we can.

For all that has been and all that will be -- We are deeply grateful for your support at this year's auction, and we look forward to seeing many of you at our "Night at Busch Stadium" on June 1. We count your encouragement and support among our greatest blessings. Be assured of our continued prayers for you and your intentions.

Gratefully,

Sr. Janice

Sr. Janice Bader

Catholic Sisters: The Spirit of St. Louis

The Sisters of the Most Precious Blood were delighted to be one of 15 religious communities featured at a recent exhibit at the St. Louis Public Library, entitled **"Catholic Sisters: The Spirit of St. Louis."** The exhibit, which celebrated 200 years of Catholic Sisters' presence in St. Louis, ran March 3 through April 28, 2018.

The exhibit featured the work of Sisters through photos and displays. A few examples of the items exhibited were habits, a German prayer book, a bell used to keep people at a distance when a patient suffered from smallpox, a trunk used while traveling on missions and much more. The Sisters of the Most Precious Blood were represented by a fluting iron, a Bishop's mitre from our Ecclesiastical Art Department, a nurse's cap from St. Mary's College, and three photos throughout the exhibit.



A Mass at the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of O'Fallon's St. Joseph Chapel, January 1952, with Rev. Gerald Poelker as celebrant.



Eric Comici, Ned Tucker, and Barbara Johnson help Sr. Gregory Heggemann decorate a cake at St. Domenico's Home in 1960.

Catholic Sisters first arrived in the St. Louis area in 1818. Over the past two centuries Sisters have devoted their lives to God through a host of ministries.



This Bishop's mitre was made in the 1860s in Gurtweil, Germany, and brought to the United States when the Sisters immigrated in the 1870s.



Sr. Carolyn Pozarich tutors students with the English Tutoring Project (ETP). ETP provides on-site assistance to children from refugee and immigrant families to acquire English language skills.



The Sisters wore a bonnet beginning in 1897. A frill which was fluted with a fluting iron was fastened around the bonnet.

Photos submitted, but not chosen for the exhibit.



St. Elizabeth Academy, a private Catholic girls' college preparatory high school located in the city of St. Louis. Founded in 1882, it was open for 131 years.

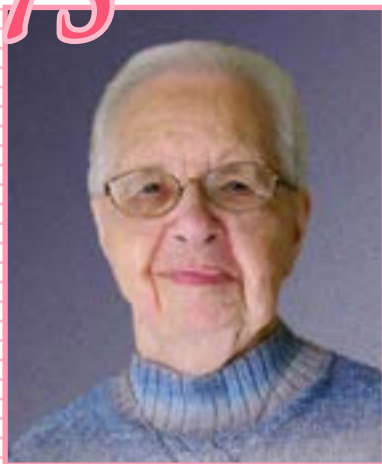
The Ecclesiastical Art Department has been making liturgical fabric art for use in divine worship since 1858. Its work is locally, nationally, and internationally known.



Sr. Mary Honoria Buscher plays on the playground with students from St. Nicholas School, located in downtown St. Louis, in 1952.

Congratulations to the 2018 Jubilarians

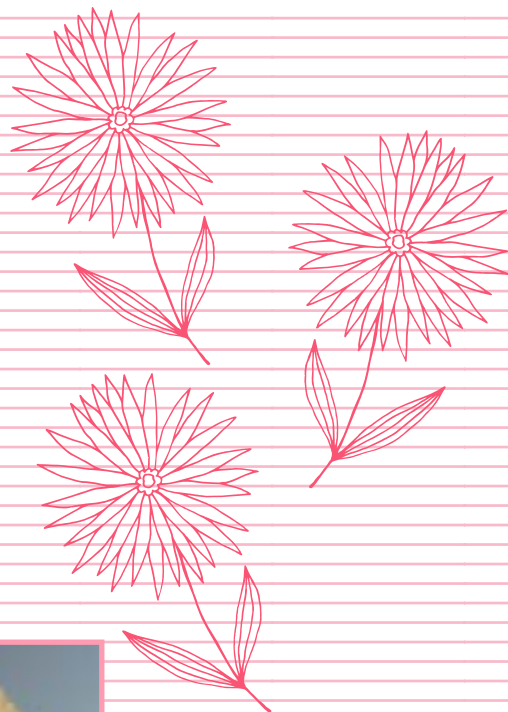
75TH



Sr. Bernadette Kleine



Sr. Marie Loeffler



70TH



Sr. Betty Jean Korte



Sr. Marie Frances Wiederholt

60TH



Sr. Jean Rachel Brown



Sr. Nadine Flott



Sr. Monica Marie Toenjes

Jubilarian Ministries:

Teacher ♦ **Tutor** ♦ *Religious Education*
Volunteer ♦ **Prayer & Presence** ♦ Homemaker
Caregiver ♦ **Driver** ♦ *Needlework* ♦ Professor
Massage Therapist ♦ *Artist* ♦ **Principal**
Librarian ♦ Ministry to the Poor
Pastoral Minister ♦ Prison Ministry

A combined 470
years of service to
the Sisters of the
Most Precious Blood.

BOLD ACTION FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Our General Chapter in March 2016 resulted in a Future Direction Statement which called us “to take bold action that transforms us, gives us energy, and unites us in working for peace and justice in our suffering world.” To determine what this action might be, we entered a period of research and discernment. The action needed not only to lead us to those three goals (transform, energize and unite us) but also to involve all Sisters and Partners in Mission. We considered many of the pressing needs of our world, and at our October 2017 Community Day, we selected **Immigrants and Refugees** as the focus for our efforts.



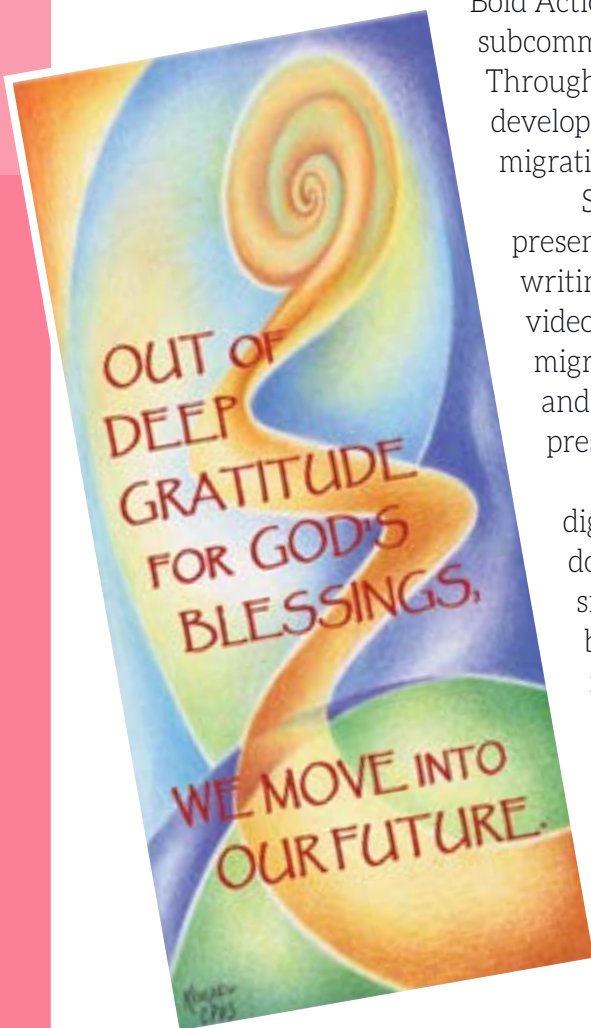
Pictured with Senator Jamilah Nasheed (center) are Sisters Lucy Meissen, Ginny Jaskiewicz, Rosemary Russell, Carol Orf and Partner in Mission Terry Sheinfield. The group traveled to Jefferson City to advocate for Immigrants and Refugees with MIRA (Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates).

To coordinate the efforts, the Leadership Team appointed a Bold Action Committee. The committee organized itself into four subcommittees: accompaniment, advocacy, education and prayer. Through activities in these areas, we hope to change the narrative, develop awareness, and work toward caring solutions to the migration crisis in the United States and around the world.

Some of the activities organized by the committee include presentations by local experts, advocating in person, calling and writing letters to our senators and representatives, watching videos and reading materials to learn about the struggles migrants face, patronizing businesses run by immigrants and refugees, serving as interpreters, providing a supportive presence to those in need, and praying for all.

Welcoming refugees, advocating respectful and dignified treatment of immigrants, and providing services and donations to assist immigrants and refugees in their everyday situations flow from our mission of reconciliation – our call to be signs of Christ’s presence in our world. These actions also flow from our 2013 Corporate Stance for Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

Many years ago, St. Benedict instructed that all guests, the poor and the pilgrim should be welcomed because in them God is received. In our day, Pope Francis constantly calls all countries to approach migrants with a generous openness rather than with a fear of loss of local identity (*Evangelii Gaudium*). For more information or to follow us along this journey, please visit www.cpps-ofallon.org and click on the Immigrants and Refugees tab.



Immigration Myths & Facts:

MYTH: Jobs filled by Immigrants are jobs that could be filled by unemployed Americans.

FACT: Immigrants typically do not compete for jobs with native-born workers, and immigrants create jobs as entrepreneurs, consumers, and taxpayers.

MYTH: Immigrants drive down the wages of American workers.

FACT: Immigrants give a slight boost to the average wages of Americans by increasing their productivity and stimulating investment.

MYTH: The sluggish U.S. economy doesn't need more immigrant workers.

FACT: Immigrants will replenish the U.S. labor force as millions of Baby Boomers retire.

MYTH: During periods of high unemployment, the U.S. economy does not need temporary foreign workers.

FACT: Temporary workers from abroad fill specialized needs in specific sectors of the U.S. economy.

MYTH: Immigrants hurt communities that are struggling economically.

FACT: Immigrants have economically revitalized many communities throughout the country.

MYTH: Undocumented immigrants do not pay taxes.

FACT: Undocumented immigrants pay billions of dollars in taxes each year.

MYTH: Immigrants come to the United States for welfare benefits.

FACT: Undocumented immigrants are not eligible for federal public benefit programs, and even legal immigrants face stringent eligibility restrictions.

MYTH: Today's immigrants are not assimilating into U.S. society.

FACT: Today's immigrants are buying homes, becoming U.S. citizens, and learning English.

MYTH: Immigrants are more likely to commit crimes than native-born Americans.

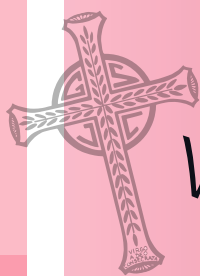
FACT: Immigration does not cause crime rates to rise, and immigrants are actually less likely to commit crimes or be behind bars than native-born Americans.

MYTH: Reforming the legal immigration system will not help secure the border.

FACT: Immigration reform is an integral part of any effective border security strategy.



Source: "Immigration Myths & Facts" 2016 Report from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce:
https://www.uschamber.com/sites/default/files/documents/files/022851_mythsfacts_2016_report_final.pdf



*We Remember . . .
We Celebrate . . .
We Believe . . .*



Sister Ann Clare Hendel
October 28, 2017



Sister Mary Ann Averbeck
November 25, 2017



Sister Teresa Reichmuth
December 24, 2017



Sister Sheila Prendeville
January 8, 2018



Sister Loretta Sigler
March 3, 2018



Sister Alice Regine Zipfel
March 3, 2018



Sister Mary Hubert McQuinn
April 17, 2018

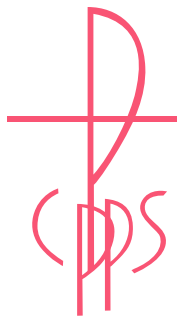
Cheers to 25 Years

Thank you to all our guests who joined us in celebrating 25 years of our Dinner Auction on Saturday, February 17, 2018, and to all who contributed to make it a successful evening. We are truly grateful for the continuous love and support of all our donors.



Thank you to our Sponsors for this event:

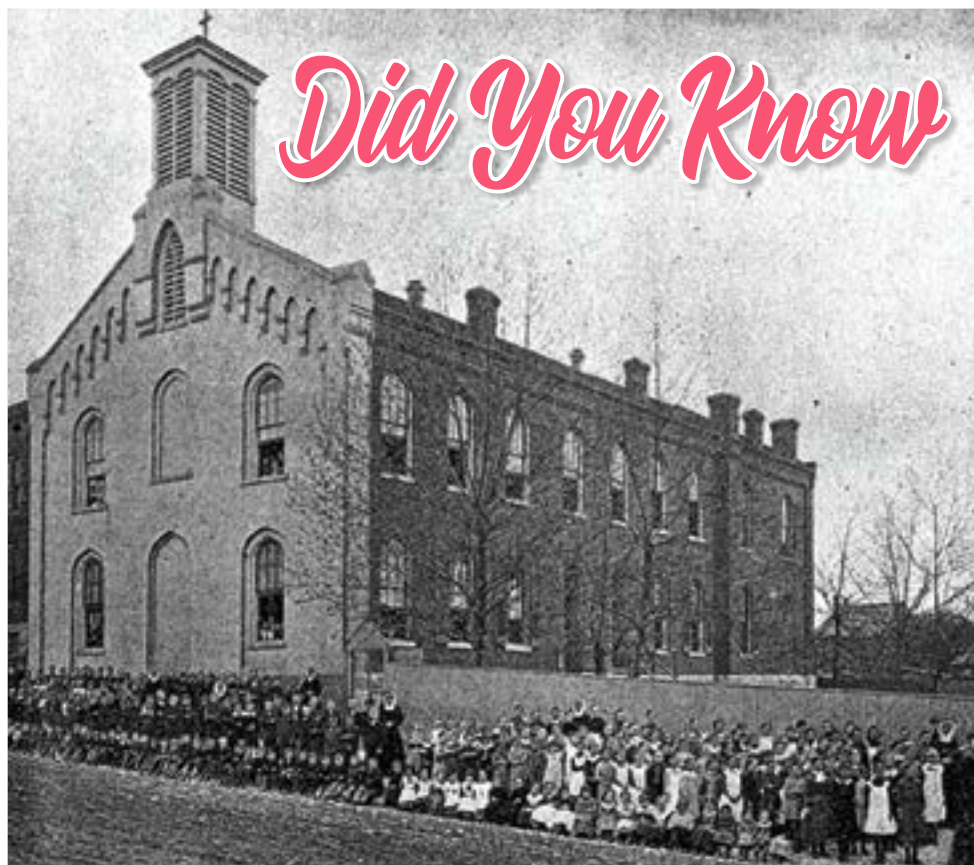




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Phone: 636-240-6010.



Did you know that St. Agatha Parish in St. Louis is considered our first motherhouse in America? That was in 1873 and we still have Sisters ministering in that parish today through St. Agatha Food Pantry.