



Partners on the Journey

Sisters of the Most Precious Blood Partners in Mission Newsletter

SPRING 2018

IMPORTANT DATES:

April 20-23

Partners Directed Silent Scripture Retreat with Sr. Carol and Sr. Ginny

June 1

CPPS Night at Busch Stadium

June 3

60th, 70th, & 75th Jubilees

June 29 & 30

Community Days

July 1

CPPS Feast Day

September 8

CPPS Feast Day

September 9

CPPS Partners in Mission Assembly Day

INSIDE THIS

Lori Spieker 2

Sr. Renée Brinker 2

Save the Dates 2

For Your Spiritual Journey 3

Best Trivia Night Ever 3

Winter Gathering continued 4

Catholic Sisters Library Exhibit 4

Spring Community Day 4

Response to Human Needs—In Giving We Receive

Partners and Sisters Winter Gathering



The second annual Partners and Sisters Winter Gathering held Saturday, February 3, in Singler Hall at St. Pius V, was as promised jam-packed and spiritually-enriching. The 67 attendees, about evenly divided between Sisters and Partners, was filled with wonderful information and delicious food. Sr. Janice Bader

gave an update from the leadership team, and Sr. Barbara Payne shared a fabulous presentation of the CPPS Sisters and their immigrant lives that eventually landed them in O'Fallon, Missouri. The food provided was a multi-cultural delight that was enjoyed by all.

The Partners theme of Response to Human Needs – In Giving We Receive was beautifully illustrated when Sr.

Paulette Weindel introduced Lucrecia DaSilva and Ciang Lun Man who then told their stories of how they came to St. Louis as refugees and their relationship with Sr. Paulette. Their stories were a great segue to Sr. Rosemary Russell who provided an update from the Immigrant and Refugee Bold Action Committee.

Our spiritual side was fed as well when attendees were encouraged to share from their blessing boxes (provided during the fall assembly day) with others at their table. The

—continued on p. 4

Small Faith Communities--the  of Partners in Mission

Vincent's Friends

We are Vincent's Friends. As we reviewed this year's theme of Response to Human Needs – In Giving We Receive, we found many ways we are responding.

The Ladies of Charity operate a Food Pantry in our parish, and Sr. Marilyn, Jean, and I help there--conversing with clients, distributing and sorting food, and packaging bread. Sr. Marilyn also helps to deliver Meals on Wheels in Perry County.

Brenda, Jean, and Elaine take Holy Communion to patients in the local hospital and to the homebound. Brenda also leads a monthly small group discussion on one of

Joyce Rupp's books.

Each morning before 8:00 a.m. Mass, Elaine meets with the altar servers to pray and ask them about their activities for the day. Sr. Marilyn plays the music for the weekly Mass at one of the nursing homes and the music for the student Masses for our school.

Elaine sends out sympathy cards, signed by our Pastor, to the relatives of parishioners who have lost loved ones.

Mary composes the prayer intentions for the Ministry of Praise members. These are listed monthly in the parish bulletin.

At each of our gatherings we do faith sharing on the Mass



Sr. Marilyn Schneider, Mary Zoellner, Elaine Pinar, Jean Welker, Sr. Delores Schilli, Brenda Schmidt

readings for the coming Sunday. We are grateful for the opportunities we have to be Christ's reconciling presence and to respond to the needs of God's people.

—Sr. Delores Schilli



Like and Follow us on Facebook

CPPS Partners in Mission

"Our Precious Blood..."

Lori Spieker



Lori Spieker

Sr. Renée Brinker

From Hermann, Missouri, Bonny (Sr. Renée) Brinker's first trip was to O'Fallon to become a Precious Blood Sister. They were teachers, and she wanted to teach!

Sr. Renée's career began in 1952 in Quincy, IL, and continued in Columbia, Charleston and St. Louis. While at St. John the Baptist School, in the 60's, she not only taught lively Social Studies and Music classes, but started a student run newspaper, coached Bellamine trophy winners, and conducted remarkable choirs.

Asked to serve half a world away, Sr. Renée began teaching at the English School in

Lori was the youngest in a family of four. The first religious influence in her life was her mother's "Irish Catholic" ways and prayerful life. Lori attended St. Francis De Sales grade school until the age of nine. Her family then moved to Lemay where she attended St. Andrew's. It was there that she met a Notre Dame sister named Sr. Bernadelle. Lori credits Sr. Bernadelle with deepening her spirituality and eventually her desire

for religious life.

Years passed and Lori married and had three children. When her children grew into adulthood, Lori realized something was missing in her life. She began working at the St. Anthony Food Pantry. The director of the Pantry, Sr. Mary Ann Haefner introduced her to the Partners in Mission program. Lori has found that joining the Partners has provided an opportunity to live a more religious

life. Lori believes God has also provided opportunities for her to go back to college and to become a PSR catechist.

Sometimes Lori has struggled with the fact that she did not follow through with her desire for the religious life but when she does, she feels God's presence and believes that "it's not the habit that you wear but the habit you live by."

—Nancy Haselhorst

Helsinki, Finland, in 1966; serving as principal from 1977 to 1984. The school received much acclaim for its progressive curriculum.

Granted a sabbatical, "Renée" decided to teach English in China. In a Communist country, she couldn't wear the habit, and she even lived through the Tiananmen Square Uprising. Returning to Finland, Sr. Renée worked as a curriculum consultant.

From Finland, Sr. Renée journeyed to South America, teaching at the Dominican Center in Peru. Wherever she taught, her students were challenged to become lifetime learners and active in

service to others. Even when it wasn't a Catholic School, she influenced many lives along the way.

While officially retired in Finland, Sr. Renée busies herself as sacristan at the Helsinki Cathedral and in community activities. Sr. Renée was my teacher back in 1966, and she has kept in contact with me all these years. She saw me graduate and become a teacher and now I challenge my students to become lifetime learners who are active in their community. I am honored to be her friend and now a Partner in Mission.

—Mary Jane Matejka



Sr. Renée Brinker

Save the Dates

Partners Directed Silent Scripture Retreat

Friday, April 20, 7 p.m. to Sunday April 22, 3 p.m., at Meadowlark in Warrenton.

For more information contact Sr. Carol Orf at corf@cpps-ofallon.org or 314-560-1028.

CPPS Night at Busch Stadium

Friday, June 1, 7:15 p.m. St. Louis Cardinals vs Pittsburgh Pirates. Watch your mailbox or email for more information or contact Leah Wand, Mission Advancement Director, lwand@cpps-ofallon.org or 636-240-6010.

60th, 70th, and 75th Jubilees

Sunday, June 3, 11 a.m., St. Joseph Chapel. Come, celebrate Mass with Srs. Jean Rachel Brown, Nadine Flott, Monica Marie Toenjes, Betty Jean Korte, Marie Frances Wiederholt, Bernadette Kleine, and Marie Loeffler.



Srs. Janet Dohr, Fran Raia, and Janice Bader enjoying last years night at Busch Stadium.

For Your Spiritual Journey...



Nancy Haselhorst

For six years, between 1987 and 1993, I lived in a Chicago suburb. During that time, Cardinal Bernadin was Archbishop of Chicago. I was always impressed with his concern for people who were marginalized, his gentleness and deep spirituality. I was saddened by his diagnosis of pancreatic cancer in 1995

and even sadder when he died in 1996. Knowing he was going to die, he wrote his personal reflections on how he survived very difficult times in his life and how he coped with pain and suffering. He also wrote about the joy he felt in serving others and the knowledge that with his impending death he would

The Gift of Peace Personal Reflections

by Joseph Cardinal Bernadin

meet the Lord. Cardinal Bernadin was considered controversial by some but there is nothing controversial about this book. It is the Cardinal's invitation to walk with him on the final miles of his jour-

ney. It is an opportunity to learn about true peace.

—Nancy Haselhorst

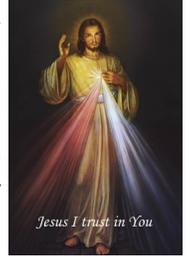


Sr. Eileen Schieber

On April 8 the Church will celebrate the Solemnity of Divine Mercy. While it is always observed on the first Sunday after Easter, there is a novena that begins on Good Friday in preparation for the day. The prayers for

each day are not for personal needs but for different groups of persons that they may realize the gift of God's mercy. It is closely related to our dedication to the Precious

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 8



Blood, which won for us this guarantee of mercy. St. Pope John Paul II, in instituting the feast, said: "This is the Easter gift the Church receives from the Risen Christ and offers to humanity." You can find the Divine Mercy Novena at www.ewtn.com/devotionals/mercy/novena.

—Sr. Eileen Schieber

Partners in Mission Trivia Night the Best Ever



Partners Patti Belmont and Sandy Hosack with Bruce Buerkle, husband of Partner Susan Buerkle.

"The best one yet!" exclaimed Dawn Boschert, event organizer, in describing the most recent PIM Trivia Night. The event held on Saturday, March 10, in the new St. Joseph Parish Hall in Cottleville, was attended by over 180 Partners, Sisters, and friends. The entire evening was packed with fun and friendly competition. Debbie

Whited, the emcee, kept the pace of the evening perfectly, and everyone was on the way home by 10 p.m. The highlight of the evening came when

Srs. Carol Orf and Ginny Jaskiewicz were auctioned off to help two teams complete the "It's All Catholic to Me" category.

The \$6,800 raised will be granted to many Sisters to support the work of their

ministries as they continue to seek to take Bold Action to heal our broken world.

A final comment from Dawn, "I want to thank all of those people who came and supported it by playing or working. It would not have been possible without all of you!"

And I would like to



Partner Mary Martin, Sr. Ginny Jaskiewicz, Jay Sheinfeld, husband of Partner Terry Sheinfeld, and Partner Lori Larkin

thank Dawn and all of those who organized, set up, provided drinks and auction items and cleaned up. Your efforts are much appreciated by all of us.

—Mary Reynolds



Winter Gathering

continued from p. 1



Sr. Paulette Weindel, Lucrecia DaSilva and Ciang Lun Man

room was buzzing with faith sharing for the entire time.

The day was a huge success and those who attended are very grateful to the

planning committee, speakers, and our host, St. Pius V. This new annual event is the perfect addition to our year, and we hope even more can attend in 2019.

—Mary Reynolds



Partners Susan Buerkle and Susan Bruker

Catholic Sisters Exhibit at St. Louis Public Library

St. Louis Public Library and the Communicators for St. Louis Sisters, a group representing 15 congregations of Sisters with a presence in St. Louis, have sponsored an amazing exhibit that celebrates the immense impact Catholic Sisters have had on the City of St. Louis. Photos, stories and artifacts from the last 200 years (and counting) tell of the love and spirit that the Sisters have shared with us. CPPS Sisters are among the congregations represented along with many of the ministries they support, thanks to Srs. Mary Cecile Gunelson and Barbara Payne who helped make this exhibit possible.

It is strongly recommended that you make the trip to the Central Branch of the St. Louis Public Library at 1301 Olive in downtown St. Louis. The exhibit, on the third floor, is accessible by elevator and will definitely be worth the trip. You can see it Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. through April 28th. It will take about an hour to view the entire, one-room exhibit.

It's high time that Catholic Sisters were recognized for the amazing work they do and have done for hundreds of years in our community and all over the world. This exhibit will not disappoint.

—Mary Reynolds

CPPS Partners in Mission

Partners in Mission strive to bring Christ's reconciling presence to those we encounter in our daily lives. We seek to carry on the legacy of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood by deepening our relationship with God, each other, and the Community to heal our broken world.

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Lori Larkin, Board Chair
Susan Buerkle, Secretary
Patti Belmont
Dawn Boschert
Mary Reynolds

Sr. Ginny Jaskiewicz, Sr. Advisor
Sr. Doris Rechiene, Sr. Advisor
Debbie Whited, Director
 debbie.whited.cppspim@gmail.com

204 North Main St.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636-542-9479

Partners on the Journey

Editors: Mary Reynolds and
 Sr. Mary Joan Dyer
 Publisher: Debbie Whited

Spring Community Day

On Saturday, March 17, the Sisters along with several Partners continued to unpack their 2016 Chapter Bold Action statement of responding to the needs of immigrants and refugees.

Using the Gospel message of Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan, several guest speakers provided information and opportunities for the CPPS community to become energized, transformed, and united while acting to improve the lives of those new to the St. Louis community from beyond the borders of the United States.

In the afternoon, several Sisters and Partners told of the Bold Action opportunities they have taken advantage to help immigrants and refugees and the blessings they have received by participating in these opportunities.

Fifteen Partners and one candidate attended this one day event held at Mercy Center on Geyer Rd. in St. Louis.

If you have any questions or would like more information from the Bold Action Committee, please email the committee chairperson Sr. Rosemary Russell (rrussell@cpps-ofallon.org)

—Debbie Whited



Partner Lori Larkin, Sr. LaVerne Wester, Sr. Nadine Flott, Sr. Marie Orf, Partner Mary Reynolds, Sr. Robert Ann Harper, and Partner Jeanne Palombo