

On The **Journey**

Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of O'Fallon

Response to Human Needs



Fall 2014

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Cover: Sr. Ruth Eggering, OSF, poses with two participants from the St. Elizabeth Adult Day Care Center in Olivette.

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



Sr. Virginia Volkerding,
June 22, 2014



Sr. Helen Keeven,
July 27, 2014

To make a donation in memory of these Sisters please visit
www.cpps-ofallon.org.

On The **Journey**

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For more information about the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood and their mission, please visit, www.cpps-ofallon.org.

Response to Human Needs



Dear Friends,

We are learning every day of the needs in our world, in our city, in our neighborhoods, in our families, in our communities. Sometimes it feels overwhelming but we don't have the luxury of ignoring the pain and suffering we experience, read or hear about. We are all one body as St. Paul tells us and when one part of the body is suffering the whole body suffers. So, we need to stay aware of those who suffer because of their race, sex, class, background or physical appearance and respond in whatever way we can. Certainly, we can raise our hearts and voices in prayer that our loving, just, compassionate God will be with us to show us the way.

Blessings of peace to each of you,

Sr. Fran

Sr. Fran Raia

Sr. Christine John Amaa Visits from Juba

Monsignor Francis X. Blood, Director of the St. Louis Archdiocese Mission Office, called the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood in May and asked if we would be willing to host Sr. Christine John Amaa, a Sister of the Sacred Heart of Jesus from Juba in the South Sudan, for an extended stay. Sr. Christine was in the United States visiting various parishes asking for support for her work with orphans and displaced persons in Juba and Uganda. Our Sisters were moved when Sr. Christine gave her mission talk to us, inspiring several Sisters to make individual donations as well as a donation made in the name of the congregation to support her work.

During her three-week visit, Sr. Christine spent time visiting with our elderly Sisters who live in Villa Theresa Haven, making several friends. She also met with Sr. Paulette Weindel, CPPS, and a woman from Uganda who is living in the US and shared stories of their homeland. Sr. Christine even managed to have a small taste of attractions in St. Louis by visiting Steak 'n Shake, the Zoo, Botanical Gardens, and, of course, Ted Drewes.



Sisters Fran Raia, Cecile Gunelson, and Ellen Orf, members of the Leadership Team, stand with Sr. Christine John Amaa after her mission presentation.

We are very grateful for our time with Sr. Christine. Here is an excerpt from a letter that she wrote to our Sisters after she returned to her home:

I am very grateful to you and all the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood for practicing the true love, care and hospitality in the entire Congregation. I really experienced peace and tranquility while with you. May God reward you and all the sisters, the staff and the senior persons that are in your care.

The World's Greatest Needs

What are our world's greatest needs? & How is your ministry meeting those needs?

Sr. Helene Rueffer -
Association
on Aging with
Developmental
Disabilities



Sr. Donna Olson -
Hospital Chaplain
and art therapy at
St. Joseph Hospital
West



Sr. Esther Hogan -
Emmaus Homes



◆ I believe our world needs lots of love from unselfish people who accept others as worthy of dignity and respect regardless of their race, color, creed, or disability, and where our world's resources are shared so that everyone may live a happy, fulfilled and peaceful life.

◆ In my ministry, the purpose of all the activities we engage in is to assist physically or mentally challenged seniors to live happy, productive lives. Since our clients often do not feel understood or accepted by society, we provide opportunities for them to socialize with their peers and to be part of a warm, loving, community.

◆ Perhaps the greatest need I see is for people to come to know their own worth in the eyes of God. The presence of pain and suffering makes this extremely challenging, and reliance on Faith can seem irrational at times.

◆ A key factor, in both areas I minister, is being genuine and being as present as possible with others. Some exchanges can be challenging, and these provide opportunities for growth in patience with myself and with others. Communicating Christ's presence may be accomplished in tiny steps by attempting to be with others in these ways.

◆ One of today's greatest needs is Presence. We live in a world where people are invisible, forgotten, unrecognized and unnoticed. Most people live their lives among these invisible or hidden people, who are pleading to be seen, asking people to recognize them.

◆ I experience these forgotten or lost people through my ministries. In my life I have tried to make them noticed and seen for who they are - the beloved of God. Each person shares a story, telling me of their needs, hopes and dreams of life. Through Presence we can move toward a greater world of compassion and love.

LOVE FAITH
Presence PEACE
Reconciliation Respect

Sr. Patricia Ann
Knobbe –
Chaplain at SSM
DePaul Health
Center



Sr. Joanne K.
Reuter -
works in Hospice
and at Regina
Cleri



Sr. Nadine Flott –
Community Life
Co-Coordinator
for Villa Theresa
Haven



◆ Peace, racial healing, economic stability, respect for life, sensitivity to the needs of the poor, conservation of the world's natural resources, terrorism, and gang violence.

◆ We are all called to help transform the world through love and service. I accomplish this by offering prayer, calming fears, providing love and support, and sincerely listening to the needs of staff and patients. When people are treated with dignity, respect, and love, they are more likely to treat others the same way, making the world a better place for all.

◆ I think the world's greatest need is RECONCILIATION - related to ethnic hatred, racism, materialism, consumerism, and inequality among people ... strong/weak, rich/poor.

◆ I try in my ministry, to be a welcoming presence, a listening person to each and every person with whom I interact; JESUS is my/our model. My strength comes from the Eucharist and openness to the Spirit, in daily prayer/ reflection.

◆ I see respect for all, including myself, as due to each person for we are all made in God's image and likeness.

◆ How does care of the aged, infirm, and confused fit in with this respect? Each of them is a person, as precious as the Precious Blood of Jesus. Each is still an individual, still worthwhile, still deserving of love, care and respect. Often our respect life concerns are focused on anti-abortion. I think we are called to respect life at all stages and ages and working with our residents in Villa Theresa Haven has reinforced that belief.



SEA Alumnae and Friends are invited to Mass & Brunch with the Sisters on **The Feast of St. Elizabeth**

Sunday, November 16, 2014

11:00 a.m. at Villa Theresa

(formerly the CPPS Motherhouse)

204 North Main Street,

O'Fallon, MO 63366

For more information or to
RSVP, please contact
Joann Augsburg Jana at
314-892-2544 or
joannaugie@aol.com.

Cost is \$35.00

Make checks payable to: SEA Alumnae & Friends
Mail to: 3476 Forest Dale Dr., St. Louis, MO 63125.

Reservations are required by Nov. 11, 2014.

St. Elizabeth Adult Day Care Centers



ARNOLD

On September 13, 2014, employees of the eight St. Elizabeth Adult Day Care Centers (SEADCC) came together for a retreat morning centered on the core values of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood: Hospitality, Presence, Reconciliation, and Response to Human Needs.

Debra Walker, one of the retreat participants, gave her account of the day: “The tone of the day was set when Ms. Stella offered a prayer that allowed us to reflect on the job God calls us to do. Not everyone answers this call because you have to have a genuine heart to serve in this capacity.

“During the retreat, we talked about how to treat the people we serve and we had some great answers. From our drivers to those who serve the food, the staff at SEADCC understands that service means living the values of Reconciliation, Hospitality, and Presence. The overall meeting was a true inward reflection to me of how God wants me to serve and respect those who depend on me, to service their needs with a pure and servant heart.



COOK

“Jesus came on earth to be an example for us to know how to be servants. As we read in Isaiah, Chapter 53: ‘He came not to be served but to serve.’ Knowing this about Jesus and his great sacrifice and being a child of God makes me want to serve as Jesus did and I believe the care givers at SEADCC carry the same values as well.”

The employees were asked to share concrete examples that demonstrate how they live the core values as they interact with the participants and other staff at the Centers:



FLORISSANT



LEMAY



- ◆ *Smile*
- ◆ *Be positive*
- ◆ *Don't ignore participants' needs*
- ◆ *Acknowledge each person by name*
- ◆ *Be patient*
- ◆ *Recognize when a coworker needs help*
- ◆ *Be fair, impartial, and don't assume*
- ◆ *Give encouragement*
- ◆ *Redirect bad behavior*
- ◆ *Don't embarrass*



OVERLAND



OLIVETTE



ST. CHARLES



STE. GENEVIEVE

SEADCC has eight locations. Please visit their website, www.seadcc.org, to find a location near you.

New Partners

The 13th Annual Partners in Mission Assembly Day was held on Sunday, September 7, 2014. A beautiful induction ceremony following the Mass welcomed our new partners: Denis Wilhelm, Helen Brown, Bernie Donnelly, Mary Donnelly, Julie Schlichting, Mary Mann, Patricia Belmont, Jim Baur, Connie Visnack and Jean Welker. The CPPS Partners in Mission program is a relationship with the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood that provides an opportunity for others to share in the mission of the Sisters. CPPS Partners seek a deeper relationship with God while striving to be a reconciling presence in a world broken and in need of healing.



Back Row: Mary Mann, Helen Brown, Mary Donnelly, Bernie Donnelly, Denis Wilhelm
Front Row: Connie Visnack, Jean Welker, Patricia Belmont, Jim Baur, Julie Schlichting.

Junior Partners in Mission

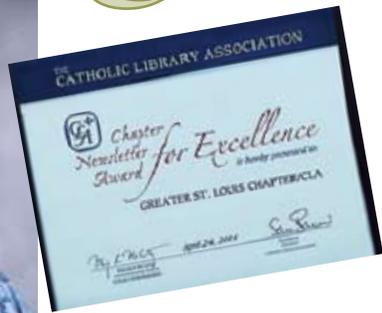


Sr. Julia Wolf is pictured with the newly committed Jr. Partners in Mission and their commitment cards..

Monday, September 8, 2014, 18 children from Sica Sica, Bolivia were inducted in the first ever Jr. Partner in Mission Program. Sr. Julia Wolf works with children from the Parish of San Pedro in the library. Children come to the library to read, do puzzles, work on their homework, and sometime to get tutoring. Every visit, the children spend time in quiet listening to God. When she was telling them about our Partners in Mission program in the United States, she asked them to raise their hands if they wanted to be associated with her community and all of their hands went up in the air.



Congratulations



Sr. Barbara Payne received the 2014 award for best chapter newsletter from the Greater St. Louis Chapter of the Catholic Library Association. She is the editor of the newsletter called LibraryLink.

Sr. Paulette Weindel retired after 35 years of service to St. Pius V Parish: 11 years with homebound neighbors/parishioners and 24 years with refugees from many countries.



Sr. Janice Bader has recently been named to serve on the Board of the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA).



On Sept. 15, **St. Vincent High School**, Perryville, MO, was named a 2014 Catholic School of Excellence out of 71 schools across the nation being honored. Sr. Rosemary Oellermann, Sr. Marilyn Schneider, Sr. Delores Schilli, and Sr. Pat Muller minister at the school and in that parish.

Sr. Pat Knobbe received a certificate of Achievement from SSM Health Care at DePaul Health Center in Bridgeton for five years commitment and dedication to the patients and staff in Ambulatory Surgery and Endoscopy.



Sr. Rosemary Russell retired from her ministry with the English Tutoring Project after 13 years of service.



On Sunday, September 21, 2014, **Dorothy Arnold** received the Sanguis Christi Award because she exemplifies the charism of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood by being a reconciling presence to those around her.

Statement of Accountability



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood I want to extend my sincerest gratitude for your contributions during the last fiscal year, July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014. “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much,” was a phrase used by Helen Keller and it rings true of the correlation between your donations and the great works of the Sisters. They need your continued support in order to work on healing our broken world.

On this page you will see our statement of accountability to you, our donors. We hope you will consider giving again in 2014 and 2015 and we would love for you to join us at one of our events.

Gratefully,

Leah Wand

Leah Wand,
Mission Advancement Director

*“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.”
– Helen Keller*



- 58%** Bequest
- 20%** South American Missions
- 13%** Individuals
- 9%** Annual Events



- 9%** Administration
- 3%** Annual Events
- 54%** Invested for Future Needs
- 14%** Retirement
- 20%** South American Missions

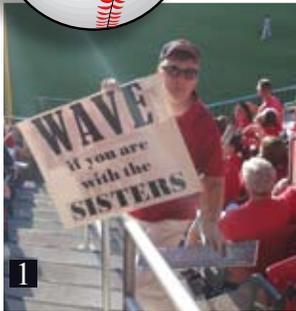
Income

Bequests	\$586,589.30
South American Missions	\$200,748.92
Individuals	\$132,677.32
Annual Events	\$ 95,824.00
Total	\$1,015,839.54

Expenses

Administration	\$90,453.56
Annual Events	\$30,616.32
Invested for Future Needs	\$548,118.54
Retirement	\$145,902.20
South American Missions	\$200,748.92
Total	\$1,015,839.54

Thank you to all of our friends who attended the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood's Night at Busch Stadium Fundraiser on Friday, June 13, 2014.



1. Sr. Lucy Meissen holds up a sign for our guests to wave so we can recognize who is there with the Sisters. 2. Guests of the Sisters wave back to Sr. Lucy Meissen. 3. Ethan, Steve, Jenny, and Elisa Lloyd. 4. David & Marilyn Renaud enjoying the game. 5. CPPS Sisters Rose Marie Mersinger, Michaleen Vomund, and Clara Therese Ziegler smile for the camera. 6. Will Gephart and his grandfather Jesse Contino cheer on the Cardinals with Sr. Ellen Orf and her sister Grace Orf. 7. One of the charter buses that took our guests from O'Fallon to Busch Stadium.



Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us for our
Dinner Auction on
Saturday, March 28, 2015
at Old Hickory Country Club (new venue)
Celebrating the
Sisters of the Most Precious Blood's
170th Birthday!

On The Journey

Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of O'Fallon

204 North Main

O'Fallon, MO 63366-2299

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please call Marcia at 636-240-6010 or email her at
mschmitz@cpps-ofallon.org.

Dinner Auction Wish List:

We hope that you can join us for our **Dinner Auction on Saturday, March 28, 2015**, where we will be celebrating the Sisters' 170th Birthday! Please consider donating items to help make this year's auction the biggest one yet.

The following is a wish list of items we would love to have for our auction:

- ✱ Tickets to sporting events
- ✱ Signed sports memorabilia
- ✱ Golf gift-certificates
- ✱ Flat Screen TV
- ✱ i-Pad
- ✱ Kindle Fire
- ✱ Vacation Home rentals, Time Share, Bed & Breakfasts, Travel Opportunities
- ✱ Airline Tickets (Frequent Flyer Miles)
- ✱ Tickets to the Fox, Muny, or Peabody Opera House
- ✱ Restaurant gift- certificates - \$25 and up
- ✱ Retail gift cards
- ✱ Wine
- ✱ Cash Donations for auction expenses



If you have any questions or are not sure if what you have fits our needs please call Leah Wand at 636-240-6010. Thank you for your consideration!