

Bread Broken

SISTERS OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY — WILMETTE, ILLINOIS



“

Haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!

“What Child is This?”

aa

Around the Table

I enjoyed reading the past two issues of BREAD BROKEN. They are so good and give so much important information. Thank you very much. My congratulations for all your professional work.

Sr. Cecilia Poblete — Chile (South America)

As soon as I saw BREAD BROKEN in my mail box, I said to myself—no pictures of Sr. Carolyn—and lo and behold not one but two pictures—what a delight. And the whole issue was a delight. I sat down and read it all straight through.

Fr. Tom Westhoven, SCJ — Franklin, WI

Thank you so much for each issue of BREAD BROKEN. We greatly enjoy each article and all the pictures! You and your staff keep us well informed of events and activities not only in the Western Region but other provinces where SCCs have missions! We are proud to be a part of the SCC community as Companions! Keep up your outstanding and professional work with BREAD BROKEN!

Bob and Betty Hartman — Balwin, MO

Just to let you know how much I enjoy your magazine. I look forward to each one. The covers are just beautiful. You can cut them off and frame them. They make beautiful scenery pictures for the wall.

Betty Tolentino — Hamtramck, MI

As a most grateful alum of Josephinum in Chicago, I enjoy BREAD BROKEN and search for any mention of Chicago and the "Jo".

Connie Dymek — Chicago, IL

Thank you for another great issue of BREAD BROKEN. Congratulations to Sr. Caroline on her retirement. She made history come alive for me when I attended "M" college. Such a vital and inspiring teacher! Job well done.

Judy Hemesath — Mundelein, IL

I love your magazine. It brings back many memories of my childhood. My family always came every summer to visit my aunt, Sr. Adeline Schneider. Thanks.

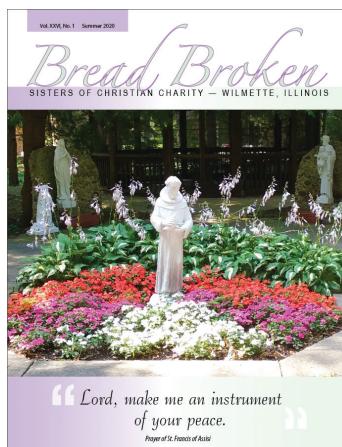
Dianne Cook — Pewamo, MI

Excellent issue! Keep up the good work. You all are remembered in my Masses and prayers. God bless you!

Fr. Augustine Moore — Orange Beach, AL

Thank you for my issue of BREAD BROKEN. As per the usual, it is really superb and oh so beautiful. Recalls so many wonderful days at the "Jo" and keeping in touch with all you Sisters of Christian Charity.

Peggy Gibbons McLean — Tinley Park, IL



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Have you seen our website?

For current events and items not published in BREAD BROKEN, and to see your favorite Sisters, please visit

www.sccwilmette.org

A Note from the Publisher



Bread Broken

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Bread Broken Magazine is published twice a year by the Sisters of Christian Charity — Wilmette, IL. The publication aims to be a source of information for the Sisters, their families, friends and benefactors on the presence and ministry of the Sisters of Christian Charity.



SCC - USA Mission Statement

The Eucharistic love of Christ
impels us
to receive and give God's love
daily
for the life of the world.

*We should have
an inexpressibly great heart
with nothing in it but love.*
MPvM - 1849



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Dear Readers,

This issue gives Mary, the Mother of God, a central place. The main article recounts the story of the re-publishing of the book THE WOMAN IN ORBIT. It is quite a story that extends over a period of time. Sr. Mary Joseph Schultz has written a reflection on the influence of Mary in the life of Mother Pauline, our foundress. Also featured is a paper-cutting of Mary done by Dan Paulos, who devoted himself to producing works of art depicting Our Lady.

In this issue are some articles that remind us that COVID19 is still impacting our lives in many ways. Yet, ministry and life go on. God bless all of us as we continue to cope with and battle this virus.

Oh God,
help, embrace, listen, walk with us.

--continued on p.10

Cover: This art piece (paper cutting) "The Madonna and Child of the Sisters of Christian Charity" is the work of Dan Paulos. Dan has been a friend of the SCCs during his entire life—beginning with Sr. Paulita Borelli (dec.) his first-grade teacher. Dan writes that "while other young students were out playing this or that, I had the privilege of running errands for the nuns. Having them as friends is the only reason I made it through my young years. And I never forget it".

Dan credits Sr. Amalia Voegli (dec.) for his feeling for the poor. He recalls Sr. Amalia making sandwiches for the "hobos" that came to the convent door in Sioux City, IA. The men "were never turned away and always greeted with kindness".

Sr. De Lourdes Bragg (dec.) was Dan's high school art teacher and it was she who introduced him to the art of paper cutting. Dan remembers her as "one of the dearest and most even-tempered nuns I know".

Dan visited our motherhouse and Sacred Heart Convent on occasion to see his many Sister friends. Several of his art works are on display at Sacred Heart Convent (Wilmette).

Page 2: One of the many flowerbeds around Sacred Heart Convent | photo by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

The Woman in Orbit

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

As with many good stories, this story began with a phone call. At some point in 2016, Sr. Janice Boyer, then regional leader of the Western Unit, received a phone call from Angelina Girard who lives in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Angelina was asking permission to reprint THE WOMAN IN ORBIT written by Sr. Manetta Lamberty, SCC and published on February 1, 1966. After a second call from Angelina, Sr. Mary Clement offered to do some follow-up.

Sr. Mary Clement contacted Angelina and asked that she put in writing her request to reprint this book. On June 30, 2016, Sister received a reply. Along with the request, Angelina gave Sister some background on her life and that of her husband, Dennis. Both had made their consecration to Jesus through Mary and had since then experienced her great power in their lives.

Angelina had also come across a website that had information about a feast of Mary for every day of the year. (This information turned out to be taken directly from Sr. Manetta's book.)

On July 13, 2016, Sr. Mary Clement acknowledged Angelina's letter and the materials that she had included and said that the leadership team of the Sisters of Christian Charity had given her request a "first reading" and felt there were a couple of matters that needed to be checked out. One of these was the question of copyright.

The World of Copyrights

Sr. Mary Clement met with Susan Barrett, the SCC business officer, on several occasions and together they entered the world of copyrights. Sister had already googled Lamberty Publishing, Incorporated but after looking

through five pages of related material and finding that there were 800,000 related entries, she had stopped. Susan checked to see if the Lamberty Company was still listed among Corporations in the State of Illinois. It was not. A few other issues were discussed at this time and

Susan said that she would check with a lawyer who might have some insights into copyright laws. Sr. Anastasia Sanford, SCC archivist, was asked to gather any pertinent information that there might be in the archives concerning this book.

Archival documents did provide information about the application for a copyright claim (letter dated January 21, 1966 from Lamberty Co, Inc.); the obtaining of copyright certification from the Library of Congress (letter dated May 26, 1966 from same company); the merging of the Lamberty Co. with the Alfred Mossner Co. which would take over the sale of Sr. Manetta's book with the royalty agreement staying the same (letter Dated August 14, 1973 to Alfred Mossner Company from Mother Annamarie Cook, SCC).

Another archival letter (dated October 29, 1965) was from Reverend John R. Keating, Assistant Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Chicago. The content was brief: "We have received your manuscript, The Woman In Orbit, and have given it to an Archdiocesan Censor for his judgment. We shall advise you as soon as we have received his report." The report came quickly (November 12, 1965) and stated in part: "The Archdiocesan Censor has examined the text and has given a favorable



The original book jacket.



Sr. Manetta Lamberty and paragraph from her death letter referring to the book.

If any one thing were to be singled out as characteristic of Sister Manetta, it would have to be her great devotion to our Blessed Mother. This began already as a child. During the earlier years of her religious life, she researched and collected information on Mary's feasts. Although unintended for the eyes of others, she was finally convinced to have this material published and thus to share it with many others. In this way she did much to spread knowledge and devotion to The Woman in Orbit, as her book was entitled. Truly a daughter of this great Mother throughout her life, it is our hope that she will continue to intercede for our Congregation, at Mary's throne in Heaven.



Sr. Virginia Seabert, SCC wrote the preface for THE WOMAN IN ORBIT in which she commented: "In a number of these stories, fact is mingled with legend and fancy; yet the predominant theme in each is the same, namely, a simple faith in the motherly protection and the singular power of God's Mother. ... Devotees of Mary will find in this unpretentious volume a wealth of inspiration to rocket their thoughts into space, straight to the heart of their Queen, the Woman in Orbit."

judgment. In light of his judgment, the permission of the Ordinary is hereby granted for its publication."

This permission was given in the form of the NIHIL OBSTAT and the IMPRIMATUR. The following was to appear under the imprimatur: "The Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur are official declarations that a book or pamphlet is free of doctrinal or moral error. No implication is contained therein that those who have granted the Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions, or statements expressed."

There were a number of interesting tidbits found along the way. Regarding the duration of a copyright: "Statutory copyright in published books lasts for 28 years from the date of first publication, and may be renewed for a second 28-year term." Regarding royalties: The Sisters of Christian Charity would receive \$1.00 per book sold by the company and \$1.50 per book sold by the community. THE WOMAN IN ORBIT originally sold for \$5.00 and was advertised by the Lamberty Company. It was included in their new catalog and they had prepared "20M circulars to the Catholic Schools and High Schools throughout the United States" where our Sisters were teaching. (Letter May 26, 1966 to SCC provincial) In the summer of 1973, the SCCs were informed that the Lamberty Company had merged with the Alfred Mossner Company. This new company would take over the sale of the book on August 1; the royalty agreement would remain the same.

On the Internet

In July 2016, Sr. Mary Clement had asked for and been given permission to look through provincialate minutes (1965-67) to see if there was any mention of THE WOMAN IN ORBIT in these documents. The minutes for September 17, 1965 mentioned that permission was given to publish in book from the information that Sr. Manetta had collected about Mary. Prices, royalties and discounts were agreed upon. The archives also yielded a letter from Sr. Mary Laboure (Sisters of Charity of Our Lady Mother of the Church) who was requesting "to copy all or part of some of the Feast Day information" for a booklet that she was putting together for some of the Sisters in her

community. The provincialate minutes for November 20, 1993 note that permission to copy was given. A condition for this permission was that the material be restricted to use by the Sisters only.

Work on the copyright slowed down a bit. Susan and Sr. Mary Clement met again on October 27. Someone had suggested that McGraw Hill might be the company they should contact. A call was put in, a message left, but no return call ever came. Then, Angelina called Sr. Mary Clement on November 8 to find out how things were going. She mentioned to Sister that there was a website that was already using the book and putting weekly excerpts from it in their online newsletter. Angelina sent the address of the website by email. Sister attempted to contact the producer of the website but met with no success. She shared this information with Susan and they later met in mid-November. The possibility was then considered that the SCCS had probably not renewed the copyright and that the book was now in the public domain. Susan and Sister relayed to leadership that in their opinion "the SCCS should go ahead and give Angelina the permission to have this book reprinted. Some information about Sr. Manetta Lamberty should be included in the reprinted edition. Possibly also something about the SCCs might be added." Angelina called again a couple of times and Sister told her that her request would again be put on the agenda for the leadership meeting in February, 2017.



Sr. Mary Sakowski, SCC, contributed twelve simple sketches of Mary, one to introduce each month of daily feasts.

The Woman in Orbit (*continued from page 5*)

After this February meeting, Sr. Mary Clement spoke with Sr. Janice and asked if any decision had been made. Sr. Janice told her that permission had been given for the reprinting with the stipulation that some biographical information about Sr. Manetta Lamberty and the Sisters of Christian Charity would be added. No royalties would be requested; the permission to reprint would be the SCC's contribution to the ministry of Dennis and Angelina. Sr. Mary Clement phoned Angelina with this news. Angelina was delighted.

Financial Sponsors

Angelina and Sr. Mary Clement remained in communication. Angelina and her husband were now trying to get financial sponsors for the reprinting of the book. Angelina called several times to remind Sr. Mary Clement that the information about Sr. Manetta and the SCCs was still needed. This prodding finally got Sister to compile the information, get it approved and send it to Angelina in late September (2017). Two years later, on October 11, 2019, Angelina sent an email saying that "a wonderful lady" had paid for the reprinting of the book and that she (Angelina) would like to send a copy to the Sisters. The address was sent and a copy was received—a beautiful conclusion to the work of several years.

Angelina Gives Witness

As a convert to the Catholic Church, I had no idea I could have a personal relationship with Mary our Mother as I have with Jesus our Savior. . . . One of the most incredible gifts that Mary gave to me was discovering the book entitled, THE WOMAN IN ORBIT. I was so excited



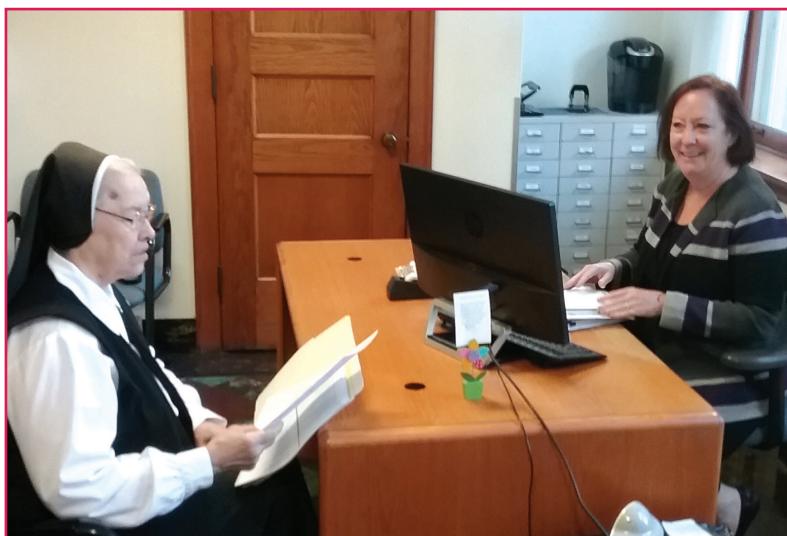
Sr. Anastasia replaces the "Woman in Orbit" files.

to read these incredible stories about our Blessed Mother—stories of visiting her children over the centuries; stories of rescue, compassion, love, healing and miracles!

I searched online for the book but the few remaining copies were expensive as it was out of print. I contacted Fr. Terry Donahue from the Companions of the Cross and asked if they might have a copy in their library. They didn't, but later he contacted me to say he had found a copy elsewhere. I was ecstatic! I met with him and he blessed us with the book. Thanks be to God and Mother Mary!

The idea came to me to ask the Sisters of Christian Charity if the Marian Devotional Movement might be able to re-publish the book. After months of wonderful correspondence with Sr. Mary Clement we received the permission! Oh, how amazing was the news! I had been praying for the repose of the souls of Sr. Manetta Lamberty and Sr. Mary Sakowski and was asking for their intercession.

Now we needed funding to go ahead. I met with a beautiful soul who would like to remain anonymous who offered the funding. How I love our Catholic faith! Thank you, Jesus and Mother Mary, for this precious treasure! Thank you Sr. Manetta and Sr. Mary for your prayers! Thank you Sr. Mary Clement for arranging permission.

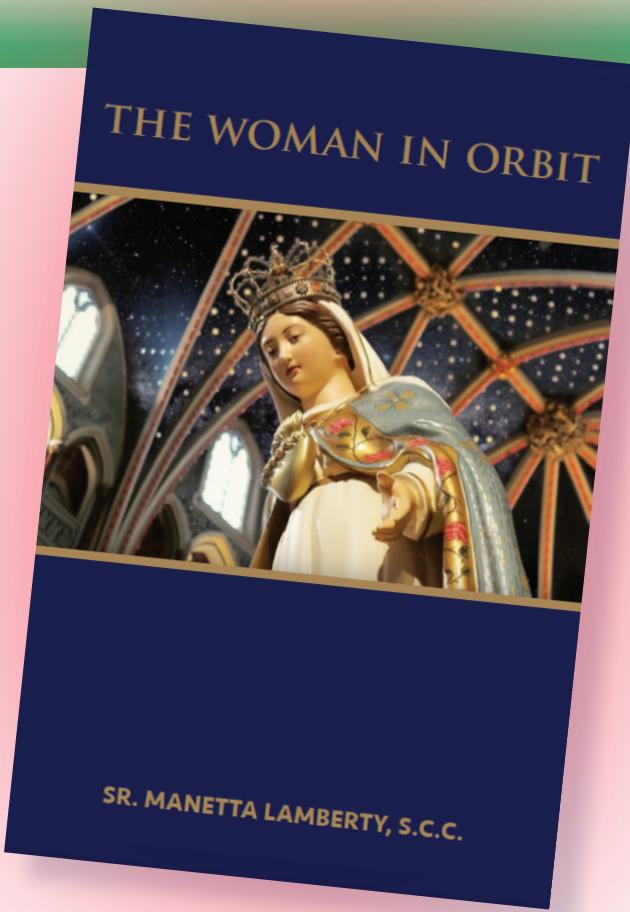


Sr. Mary Clement and Susan Barrett check copyright information.

[At the end of the newly-published THE WOMAN IN ORBIT, Angelina has included a personal reflection on Mary, a Marian reflection by St. Alphonsus Liguori and some resources in terms of Marian devotion.] 



Dennis and Angelina Gerard



Past Reviews & Current Reflections

Devotees of our Blessed Lady will find in this book an inspirational message for three hundred and sixty five days of the year. They will learn of the wonderful ways Our Heavenly Mother watches over each individual and grants the graces which she receives from her Divine Son to all who call upon her. (*Immaculate Heart Crusader*, July-August 1966)

This volume which tells something about Marian devotion for each day of the year, is worth more than ordinary notice from the lovers of Our Lady. ...The title is well chosen, for these stories circle all the Christian centuries and have their locale in every part of the globe. (*The Register*, October 16, 1966)

Every morning we read a page of The Woman in Orbit. We come to know and understand how our Blessed Mother has appeared to our brothers and sisters in the past, and the readings bring us closer to Our Mother and the amazing love she pours out on so many. The stories daily teach us how we can keep our minds and hearts open to Mary's suggestions as she faithfully does the perfect Will of God and unites us with God's calling for each of us all around the world. (Deacon Chris and Julia Moffat, 2020)

We begin our daily family prayer together with the reading of the day from The Woman in Orbit. The stories capture the heart in their simplicity or profoundness. The accounts are intimate in their communication of the perfect motherly love that Mary has for her children. As the faith in communities has wavered through the decades and centuries, Mary has always found a way to remind her children that she is always with them and wants to draw them back to her Son. Our family bought 10 copies of this book when it was republished recently . . . and we have given them to close friends because we want them to read, experience and be reminded of our Mother's loving, constant presence with us! May this book continue to inspire all readers to take Mary into their hearts and homes. (Ann Alphonso, 2020)

Potpourri



Sr. Mary Amata Reifsnyder is shown preparing to test patients in the Coronavirus drive-up tent at the clinic.

Sr. Mary Amata

Text and photo contributed by Sr. Mary Amata Reifsnyder, SCC

One of the “hot spots” of New Jersey’s COVID-19 outbreak is Paterson, NJ. Sr. Mary Amata, SCC, BSN, RN-BC, Charge Nurse at the DePaul Ambulatory Clinic at St. Joseph University Medical Center, Paterson, has been serving patients throughout the duration of the pandemic.

Because of the generosity of so many people, such as Sisters of Christian Charity, Companions of Pauline, co-workers of SCC’s, and a large group of mask makers from the Metuchen Diocese, Sr. Mary Amata was able to distribute thousands of fabric face masks to her patients and co-workers.

August held many significant celebrations for our Sisters of the Eastern Province. Through live-stream, we of the Western Region were able to be “One Heart and One Soul” with them. †



On August 15 the Sisters watched Sr. Mary Amata as she pronounced her perpetual vows in the motherhouse in Mendham, NJ. “It was like being there” commented one Sister. (Photo by Rochelle Mercado)

Our Lady of the Snows

Photo contributed by Dan Paulos

The focus of Dan Paulos’ art work is very often Our Lady. When Sr. Mary Clement asked Dan why his work so often focused on Our Lady, he explained *One thing I learned early on was that women (especially in the Church) were unappreciated and even ignored. Even as a child, I realized this—and did everything in my little ways to broadcast the power of womankind. And the only woman who actually perfected womankind is Our Lady. I dedicated my art to women of the world. . . Years ago, I wrote and compiled a book entitled, BEHOLD THE WOMEN. It was a labor of love and honored women religious of many congregations for building America into what it has become—all without notice and without any recognition. The nuns were silent warriors. . . There is no question in my mind that without women, the Church would not have made it through these centuries. Women are the cornerstone of Christianity.* †



Beautiful Hands

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

Sr. Mary Ann Warwick

In this issue of BREAD BROKEN, we present the beautiful hands of Sr. Mary Ann Warwick. Sr. Mary Ann is a quiet person who goes about her ministry with a cheerful, ready and willing disposition.

Probably the first ministry that comes to mind when Sr. Mary Ann is mentioned is her ministry of music. Since 1999, Sister has been the liturgy planner and organist at Sacred Heart Convent, and all the Sisters are most appreciative of her gifts in this regard. For every day of every week all through the years, there has been a prepared music program for the eucharistic liturgy. This enhances the Sisters' participation at Mass. The songs are always chosen with the feast or the theme of the liturgy in mind. It is often remarked how fitting the songs are for a particular day. Any Sister can request special hymns for her birthday. Sr. Mary Ann remarked: "I have loved and really enjoyed being able to accompany the Sisters during liturgy. I am very grateful for the opportunity to do this." With all the song numbers and page numbers that Sister has to type, there might be an occasional error. Sr. Mary Ann says that "the Sisters continue to always be patient and understanding with my mistakes". On these programs, Sister also includes the name days and birthdays of the Sisters in the Western Region and of late those of the Sisters in the Eastern Province.

Sr. Mary Ann conducts regular rehearsals at Sacred Heart Convent in the dining room on Saturday afternoons. She comes early with her little cart to put out all the books and music sheets that will be needed for the 30 minutes of practice. Sister is very encouraging as we

Sr. Mary Ann's cheerfulness brings a smile to the faces of all who meet her.



learn new songs ("My, you are very good sight readers!") and go over known songs ("That sounds good.") When the singers have "trouble", Sr. Mary Ann is likely to say: "Oops. That was my fault. I was playing in the wrong key." or "Sorry, my timing was off in that section."

Special liturgies (e.g. assembly days, jubilee celebrations) are also the responsibility of Sr. Mary Ann. She usually recruits a small committee to help her with these programs and is always open to suggestions.

Another very full-time and hands-on ministry of Sr. Mary Ann's is her work as provincial/regional secretary which she has done since 1992. Who can imagine how many minutes Sister has typed; how many documents and letters and other information she has filed—and then pulled out when they were requested; how many forms she has filled out!

Sr. Mary Ann has also been the coordinator of the Illinois Companions of Pauline for the last 28 years. This involves correspondence, organizing materials for meetings, making calls. More recently (2018), Sister started the Pauline Reading Circle for which she prepares specific selections from the writings of Mother Pauline. Because of COVID 19, Sister arranged for the group to get together through a conference call.

Sister Mary Ann helps with BREAD BROKEN, takes part in the Family Promise Ministry, is a Minister of Care at Ss. Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish, is a Eucharistic Minister. Sister also cooks, waters plants indoors and outdoors, washes dishes, answers phones and doorbells.

"Beautiful hands are they that do deeds that are noble, good and true." †



Sr. Campion Breske collects her sheet music for rehearsal as Sr. Mary Ann puts out the hymnals.

Summer in Winter

Text and photos by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

When I first envisioned this center page (which Sr. Anastasia Sanford has so artfully laid out), I had in the back of my mind some quotation that dealt with summer in the midst of winter. With internet, it did not take me long to find that quotation. I hadn't realized, however, that the single-line quotation I was recalling was surrounded by other lines of hope.

(Excerpt from a letter written by Albert Camus)

*"...In the midst of hate I found there was,
within me, an invincible love.*

*In the midst of tears, I found there was,
within me, an invincible smile.*

*In the midst of chaos, I found there was,
within me, an invincible calm.*

I realized, through it all, that...

*In the midst of winter, I found there was,
within me, an invincible summer.*

*And that makes me happy. For it says that
no matter how hard the world pushes against
me, within me, there's something stronger—
something better, pushing right back."*



I reflected on these words for quite some time. How awesome! How strengthening! How grace-filled! During these times may we all draw from within us an invincible love, an invincible smile, an invincible calm, an invincible summer. **+**

Sister Mary Clement



Sr. Dolores brightens the east side of the building
...including the area around the holly bushes.





Sr. Maria Martin diligently waters the flowers around the Sacred Heart statue, the freshly-painted Peace Pole and the hanging baskets in the courtyard.



Sr. Theresa Marie enjoys being outdoors on a bright, warm day, tending the gardens in the kitchen courtyard.



In & Around the Region

Changing of the Guard

Text by Sr. Dolores Bozif, SCC

From 1992 through 2019, Sr. Pauline Schafer was our Director of the Companions of Pauline (originally called the Lay Associate Program). At age 93, Sister resigned this position. On July 16, 2020, Sr. Dolores Bozif was officially introduced as the new director. Sr. Dolores has worked with the Companions in St. Louis and in Fulton, MO as well as in New Orleans, LA. Sister is and will remain Coordinator of the Fulton Companions. Many Companions already know Sister because she was missioned in Chaska and Waconia, MN, St. Louis and New Orleans in past years. Sister became acquainted with Companions in Michigan through the Sisters and since Sister now lives and works at Sacred Heart Convent, she has become acquainted with the Companions in the Chicago area.



Sr. Pauline proudly shows the Sisters her basket of cards. Photo by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig, SCC

Sr. Dolores is currently serving on the Task Force for the Companions of Pauline and has a vision for the future of this group.

A celebration for Mother Pauline on April 30 was the “cover” for a surprise party of gratitude for Sr. Pauline; indeed, Sister was very surprised. One of the highlights of the gathering was a prayer service. When Sr. Pauline was appointed, she was told that her appointment was temporary (“probably about one year”). So, the response “and the year never ended” was repeated after each of eleven statements that spoke of the major accomplishments of her years in service. Songs to Mother Pauline and the reading of her maxims were also a part of the prayer service. Sister was then presented with a basket of cards and notes sent from the Companions of Pauline. There were hanging displays in the dining room, and various pictures of Sr. Pauline and the Companions were affixed to the pillars. Of course, the party ended with refreshments! †



Sr. Dolores is hard at work in her new office. Photo by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC

A Little Business Continues

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC | Photo contributed by Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen, SCC

Sr. Maria Martin continues her ministry (business) of mask-making. Her sewing room (factory) is one of the former bedrooms on the second floor at Sacred Heart Convent. Sister has many customers and has made over 800 masks! Sally, our head nurse, and her daughter who is a teacher, requested many masks from Sr. Maria Martin. Sister has made masks for St. Thomas of Canterbury school children at a request made through Fr. Wayne Watts, pastor of Ss. Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish. Sister's clients also include funeral directors, nursing homes and other individuals and groups. At the outset of the coronavirus, Sister made masks for the Sisters and staff at Sacred Heart Convent. Sr. Maria Martin is a small business entrepreneur! †



Forward Courageously

Text by SCC Collective: Sr. Mary Clement Eiden,
Sr. Juliana Miska, Sr. Theresa Marie Tran /
Photo by Sr. Anastasia Sanford, SCC

As a Congregation, the Sisters of Christian Charity continue to move forward on the implementation of the 2019 general chapter decisions. That chapter would “invite each Sister to make a personal discernment to know how God is calling her to support this mission [the Philippines].” The chapter further stated that “to help the Congregational discernment”, there would be research into other possible ministries in the Philippines in which our Sisters could be involved. There was also hope expressed that two to three other Sisters would join the Philippine mission.

In December/January of 2019/2020, Sr. Mary Joseph Schultz (Generalate) and Sr. Theresa Marie Tran (Western Region) made an exploratory visit to the Philippines and Vietnam to look for concrete mission possibilities. They reported back to the enlarged council in early May. Sr. Juliana Miska, regional leader, explained that this was to have been done in early April, but COVID-19 prevented an in-person meeting and it took time to set up ZOOM capabilities and a time schedule (five different time zones) for the later meeting.

On March 6, Sr. Juliana announced to the Sisters of the Western Region that Sr. Theresa Marie had volunteered for the Philippines for one year. Sister had been offered the opportunity to do the same ministry as she had been doing for the past 14 years—working with seminarians. On July 21, the Sisters heard further news that two Sisters from the Eastern Province had also volunteered for the Philippines.

Plans for formation for this mission were made, but as Sr. Theresa Marie reflected: “Although our plan has changed many times [COVID-19] and has taken different turns, I continue to have the inner freedom to let go of our plans and choose to accept things as they unfold.” On August 28, Sr. Theresa Marie headed East to join Sr. Lucianna Le and Sr. Marie Jose de la Rosa

for “immersion studies”. Throughout September, the three Sisters lived together at Villa Pauline and studied LIVING MISSION INTERCULTURALLY by Anthony Gittens, CSSp. Sr. Joanne Bednar was the facilitator for sharing and discussion.

In early October, the three Sisters traveled to Wilmette where they continued their preparation. A five-session course taught by Fr. Roger Schroeder, SVD at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago was ZOOMed for the three Sisters in Wilmette and also for the two Sisters already in the Philippines. The group also ZOOMed with Julie Worsch and the Children of Light program which sponsors retreats for the blind.



COVID restrictions didn't affect study plans. Sr. Lucianna, Sr. Marie Jose and Sr. Theresa Marie are diligently doing their discussion in the library at the Center.

Other cultural experiences and practical preparation for their mission work included continuing their study of Tagalog with Rochelle Mercado and learning how to make Pancit. The Sisters at the Center all enjoyed this delicious dish! They also had a day of practical preparation with Sr. Carol Welp, SSPS who had spent many years as a missionary in different countries. Sr. Teresa Marie, Sr. Maria Jose and Sr. Lucianna frequently attended Mass and had meals with the Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent.

Our three missionaries hope to travel to the Philippines in January. We pray that COVID-19 will not continue to be an obstacle. Please join us in prayer for the success of this mission. +

Sharing Pauline's Vision



Mother Pauline & the Blessed Mother

Text by
Sr. Mary Joseph Schultz, SCC

There are innumerable facets to the life and spirituality of our Foundress, Blessed Pauline von Mallinckrodt. I offer here a mere glimpse into her deep relationship with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

After the death of her father in 1842, Pauline felt free to explore her pull toward religious life. She searched in vain for a Congregation that would accept her blind charges as well as herself. Finally, at the suggestion and with the support of her childhood confessor, teacher, and friend, Bishop Anton Claessen, she began to discern founding her own Congregation. Her spiritual director, Pastor Franz Joseph Tewes, knowing well the open heart of Pauline, advised her to pray daily, after Communion, the prayer of Mary at the Annunciation: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to your word." Very faithfully did Pauline pray, and she grew in grace and the clarity needed to take such a gigantic step into her future.

Pauline wrote in her retreat notes of 1842: "Mary performed no extraordinary external works; she lived in quiet seclusion; her adornment was humility; and it was humility that made her worthy to be God's Mother." "Mary! With what attention and friendliness, she performs her duties toward Joseph and Jesus! In the house she, Queen of Heaven, does the most menial tasks: she mends the clothes, sets the table, cooks, sweeps." Mother Pauline herself was often seen tending to the household tasks of sweeping, cooking, and setting the tables to assist her Sisters. More than once she traveled to one of the convents to relieve the Sisters so they could make a retreat while she took care of daily duties. Steadily she deepened the Marian virtues of humility, simplicity and charity.

The years leading up to the founding of the Congregation in 1849 were filled with challenges. Mother Pauline continued to keep Mary before her eyes as she worked with officials to establish the Blind School while writing her Rule for the Sisters of Christian Charity and establishing relationships with the other three founding Sisters. The Congregation grew and numerous works of charity began. Woven throughout her prayers, letters and reflections is her clear desire to remain "the handmaid of the Lord". Discovery of God's Will and loving surrender to it was the keynote of her life.

When Mother Pauline began to realize and experience the heartbreak of the *Kulturkampf*, she never uttered a word of complaint to her Sisters or spoke ill of the forces of destruction. Instead, she welcomed to the Motherhouse her now homeless Sisters and sought ways to care for them. In her, the Sisters saw Mary at the foot of the Cross.

In 1876 Mother Pauline and several companions made a pilgrimage to Rome. At the Basilica of St. Mary Major they had the great privilege of praying before the miraculous picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Her companion wrote: "Reverend Mother confidently placed into the hands of our heavenly protectress all her cares, needs and anxieties; undoubtedly she recommended to our Blessed Lady . . . the entire Congregation and each individual Sister, imploring her blessing for each and every one...." (Chronicles, Vol. 2, by Sister Adalberta Legendre).

Fast forward now to March 27, 1945. It was near the end of World War II. Paderborn was bombarded and the Motherhouse and Retreat Center of the Congregation destroyed. Miraculously, no lives were lost as all there took refuge in the Motherhouse basement. Later, as the Sisters sifted through the smoldering ruins of the chapel, they discovered the intact and undamaged picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. It had come through the bombing unscathed, and it still hangs today in the chapel of the Paderborn Motherhouse.

The steadfast devotion to our Heavenly Mother that Mother Pauline held in her heart has been passed on intact to all her daughters as her legacy. We, Daughters of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Immaculate Conception, hold fast to the hand of Mary who never fails to lead us to her Son. +

Companions of Pauline

"Gatherings" During COVID-19

Text gathered by Sr. Dolores Bozif, SCC

Because of COVID-19, the Companions of Pauline are not having their regular meetings. However, the area coordinators are being creative in keeping the Companions in contact with one another.

From [Fulton, MO](#) Brenda Kempker remarked how helpful and encouraging were the words of Mother Pauline quoted in the summer 2020 issue of BREAD BROKEN. Brenda was inspired to write her own prayer/poem which she shared with the other Fulton Companions. The group also received a copy of the NACAR (North American Conference of Associates and Religious) August newsletter. They were asked to reflect on this letter as well as Brenda's prayer. They were challenged to think about what Mother Pauline would do at this coronavirus time.

In [St. Louis](#), Darlene Johnson put together quite a remarkable meeting of the Companions via phone. Each Companion received issue #19 of WE CONNECT (the Companions' newsletter) and nine questions based on that newsletter. Each also received four quotes from Mother Pauline and accompanying reflection questions/activities. Darlene had paired up the 12 Companions and the plan was for each set of partners to choose a day to connect for a discussion. Prayers for before and after these meetings were provided. One of each pair was to act as secretary to record answers and comments. On the lighter side, there was a Biblical Books Search to be done individually. The completed search was to be sent ASAP back to Darlene who would award first and second place prizes.

Sr. Mary Ann Warwick had a conference call meeting with the [Illinois](#) group of Companions on August 29, 2020. The call lasted an hour; prayer was shared and there was a discussion about Mother Pauline's life as featured in the most recent WE CONNECT.

The Companions in [Michigan](#) memorialized an historical event. The Congregational Chronicles relate that "On June 1, 1880 Mother Pauline von Mallinckrodt and her companion, Sr. Chrysostoma, arrived to visit the Sisters in Westphalia, Michigan. The closest train stop was in Fowler, a village eight miles northeast of Westphalia. Here, the German people welcomed them and later took them on to their destination." The Companions of Pauline agreed to purchase a paver at this depot (though not the original depot!).

Other Communication

The six members of the Companions Task Force made "Care Calls" to the Companions in each of the geographical areas. The Companions were delighted to receive these calls. +

Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig makes a care call to one of the Companions of Pauline in New Orleans.



Usually, people point out things with their fingers. Here the Companions use their feet! Also, although the paver reads "St. Pauline von Mallinckrodt", Mother Pauline is "Blessed". Photo Courtesy of the Companions in Michigan.



Our Future

International Communion

Text by Sr. Monica Cormier, SCC and Sr. Juliana Miska, SCC | Photo courtesy of the Western Region Archives

"To strengthen our mission for the life of the Church, for the life of the Congregation and for the life of each Sister, we seek new ways of relating in order to deepen our international communion." (This was a decision of the 2019 General Chapter.)

In this issue of BREAD BROKEN, the vocation team would like to share with you, our readers, a summary time-line that shows the slow and steady steps of our new approach for vocation ministry and the shift from a *Regional* effort to a *Congregational* effort.

The international experiences of the *Pauline 200* programs of 2015, 2016 and 2017 (all covered in issues of BREAD BROKEN) served to strengthen the bonds of mission, spirituality, ministry and communion among the 32 Sisters who participated in these events in three different Units of the Congregation. A greater sense of internationality was created not only among the 32, but by the gatherings between these Sisters and the Sisters of the Units to which they came.

The regional chapter of the Western Unit was held in 2018. In terms of vocation ministry, four mandates were given. One of these mandates was to explore available options of a residence in a multi-cultural parish where discerners could study/work and live the SCC lifestyle. At this same time, the NRVC (National Religious Vocation Conference) had released data showing that vocation ministers were promoting vocations where the poor can't go; i.e. college campuses, Catholic high schools. This was meant to be a wake-up call to

... to explore available options of a residence in a multi-cultural parish where discerners could study/work and live the SCC lifestyle.

vocation ministers to "be where the poor are—nurture vocations to the religious life among the poor."

The experience of *Pauline 200* at Our Lady of Mercy Parish opened up the possibility of doing just that. The vocation team spoke with Fr. Nick Desmond, pastor, and plans began to develop. It was intended that Sisters—as available—be present in the parish for such activities as Sunday Mass, cultural events, ethnic devotions; help parishioners form a parish vocation committee; do family visiting. Understandably all of these plans had to be put on hold because of the ramifications of COVID-19. However, this did not dampen efforts to go forward in any way possible.

When the general chapter of 2019 encouraged intentional-internationality, the vocation team realized that these two visions (presence and internationality) could come together. In 2020, the superior general and her enlarged council unanimously endorsed the proposal to establish an SCC International Convent in Chicago.

Future developments will be shared in the summer issue of BREAD BROKEN. +

This photo shows the Sisters who participated in *Pauline 200* in 2017. They worked in various ways at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Chicago. The parish is multi-cultural and has parishioners from 14 countries and counting. The Sisters were from five countries. Love speaks all languages.



SCCs Around the

Text and photos contributed by
Sr. María del Socorro

Coming Together

In January of this year, as Sisters of the Uruguay-Argentina Region, we had the privilege of receiving eight Chilean Sisters who wanted to share with us the annual retreat and a few days for visiting our communities. The conclusion of this first experience of communion on the way to a South American unity was that we all had felt at home, like sisters who already knew each other and who were open to understanding the reality of one another. As a result of this meeting, we planned to meet again in 2021 for the annual retreat, but this time in Chile. Likewise, we all came together in a WhatsApp group [similar to Facebook] as one way of continuing to share our prayer and our mission. Later, in February, with great joy we received Sr. Ma. Lourdes Azócar and Sr. María Bernardita Núñez [both from Chile] who returned to our communities for another school year.

However, as it has happened with the whole world, everything changed due to COVID-19 and many projects had to be put on hold. Among them was the coming of another Chilean Sister, Sr. Ma. del Rosario Castillo, to our Region.



The Sister retreatants gather in the chapel of the Retreat House of the Good Shepherd in Uruguay. Since the motherhouse was sold, this is the site where the Sisters go for their annual retreat. It is located in the countryside, about five or six acres, and is a really beautiful and peaceful place.



After the retreat, the Sisters made a visit to the Marian Sanctuary and the school in Santa Lucia. They also saw some of the sights of Montevideo.

Quarantines

The quarantines in our two countries have followed quite different paths. Both began in March with a one-week time difference, but the degrees of restriction and evolution of each have not been the same. From the beginning, Uruguayan authorities appealed to the responsibility of its citizens and established a non-mandatory quarantine. The infection rate remained low, the health system was never compromised, and education was provided through virtual platforms.

Right from start, the communities of Montevideo and Saint Lucia developed their protocols and followed them. The hardest part was suffered by the Sisters of Casa María Inmaculada, because some of our elderly Sisters, stricken by their own illnesses, had to spend periods of confinement and complete isolation, either in our house or where they were hospitalized. But by the end of June, with the restarting of classes, our schools in Montevideo, Santa Lucia and Mother Pauline

School reopened their doors for a progressive and cautious “new normality” in education, with new protocols.

Sadly, the situation in Argentina is entirely different, since it is currently undergoing the longest uninterrupted quarantine in the world, with social, preventive and obligatory isolation. For our four Sisters and the two educational communities, it has been and still is a very painful scenario and the government is not planning to start classes this year. However, our Sisters, as well as the teachers, did not allow themselves to be discouraged by the circumstances. They have been and continue to be very creative in the use of technological means to further encourage and animate the pastoral ministry in the schools through Pauline and Missionary groups. They also stay in permanent communication with school families.

For all of us here in the Argentina/Uruguay Unit, the challenge of this quarantine has invited us to be more aware in our daily lives of the words of our beloved Mother Pauline: “Forward with courage, even on rough roads.” We try to put all of our trust in the Lord as she did in the turbulent times she lived through. +

Connections

A Gift from Texas

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC | Photo by Sr. Anastasia Sanford, SCC

A large package was delivered to the SCC Center in August. No one there seemed to know to whom the package should be given. Susan Barrett, SCC business officer, brought the box to Sacred Heart Convent to make inquiries. Sr. Mary Clement happened to see the box and recognized the name on the sender label.

The box was opened with great anticipation. When the tissue paper was folded back there was an SCC doll from the Blessings Nun Doll Collection! A Certificate of Authenticity was included. The production date for "our" doll was April 1, 1999. On the back of the certificate was information about our history, purpose, training program, qualifications and habit. (Information in a couple of those categories had changed over the years!) Our habit is described as "a long simple black dress, a cape, an apron, a collar, cuffs, coif, a veil, and a mantle. The collar, cuff, and coif are of white linen". The buttons on the cape were counted and sure enough there were nine—in honor of the nine choirs of angels.

In the box was also a brief letter which read:

Dear Sister Mary Clement:

The SCC's taught me at St. Gregory in Chicago from 1945-1951. They gave me a great basis for college and for later life. I hope you can use this doll for some good purpose. I am very old and downsizing.

My best to you and all the sisters.

(signed: Joan Winandy Tamez)

Since here at Sacred Heart we have two such dolls, one in the archives and one in our front parlor, it was decided to check with our Sisters out east in Mendham, NJ to see if they might be interested in having such a doll. An email was sent to Sr. Joann Marie, the new provincial of our Eastern Province. A quick response let us know that they indeed would be interested in having the Blessings Doll.

There seemed to be a plan in readiness to get the doll eastward. Two Sisters were driving from the motherhouse in Mendham to Wilmette in October for further preparation for the mission to the Philippines. They could take "our Sister" back with them when they returned. Sr. Mary Clement called Joan and let her know where her doll was going. The two had a delightful conversation. +



The Sisters of Christian Charity doll from the Blessings Nun Doll Collection. The doll stands 18 inches tall.

A Letter from Missouri

Text by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC | Photo by Sr. Anastasia Sanford, SCC

The following excerpts are taken from a letter written by Sandy Ryan.

Dear Sisters of Christian Charity,

I so enjoy reading the BREAD BROKEN magazine and keeping up with the wonderful work you do for God's children.

Working with the Sisters at St. Vincent Home for Children [St. Louis, MO] remains one of my most beautiful experiences. I believe that it was part of God's plan for me. Knowing the Sisters and seeing their love and kindness and professionalism in their work increased my own faith in God.

When I worked there in the fund-raising department, Sr. Janice was the Director. I could go on and on, listing the names of all the wonderful Sisters I worked with every day. I also met Sisters when they came to visit at St. Vincent's. My husband was a child there with his siblings. As adults we were weekend visitors for one of the children.

My life has been blessed with so many good people and the Sisters of Christian Charity are part of that blessing.

I had a lengthy conversation with Sally on the phone and she could tell me about so many of the Sisters (most deceased) by name. They were all such positive memories. She said that her time at St. Vincent's was "a magical time" and that for her it "opened the door and let the sunshine in". Sandy still has a great devotion to Mother Pauline. She recalled a "miracle" that she received after praying to Mother Pauline. +

In Memoriam



Sr. Helen Kron walked into the gardens of heaven on October 5, 2020. She was 91 years old.

Elizabeth Kron was born in Chicago, IL on April 27, 1929. She had three sisters and a brother. Elizabeth attended St. Aloysius School and Josephinum High School. After graduation she worked for the Lamberty Company; Elizabeth entered the Community on August 28, 1947.

On August 21, 1948 Elizabeth was received into the novitiate and given the name Sr. Helen. She made her First Profession of Vows on August 21, 1950 and was sent to teach and serve

as sacristan at St. John School in Detroit, MI. During the eight years Sr. Helen was there, she pronounced her perpetual vows: August 20, 1956. Sister also taught at Resurrection School in St. Louis, MO and served as Registrar for Mallinckrodt College, Wilmette.

In 1981 Sr. Helen moved to Sacred Heart Convent in Wilmette. For the first three years Sister was portress. In 1984 Sr. Helen was assigned the task of supervising the housekeeping staff. She carried out this task and others (including distributing mail and serving breakfast to the chaplains) until 2017. During the last 17 years another ministry was added: taking care of the convent's birds and fish.

Words that often were used to describe Sr. Helen were: humble, grateful, generous, faithful, a sense of humor and integrity. For someone so small in stature, she will remain a giant in our memory. †



Some of the Sisters with whom Sandy was associated during her time at St. Vincent's: Sr. Pauline Schafer, S. M. Joanne Ladwig, Sr. Karen Zgutowicz, Sr. Dolores Bozif, Sr. Janice Boyer. Front: Sr. Bernadette Voss.

Sr. Helen Kron
October 5, 2020

Robert Ayles
Brother-in-law of Sr. Caroline Schafer
and Sr. Pauline Schafer

Paul Bredenkamp
Brother of Sr. Carol Bredenkamp

Tek Widmann Heminsley
Former SCC

Sally Nierenhausen
Sister of Sr. Phyllis Zierden

Mary Nocek
Former SCC

Barbara Parchuta
"M" alumna

Gerald Poppler
Brother of Sr. Mary Ann Poppler

Now is the time of trouble and toil. But precious will it be when, at the end of our life, the Master says, "I will give the laborers their pay." (Pauline von Mallinckrodt)

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On the Fence

Top left: "Oh God, help, embrace, listen, walk with us." There are six posters between the words. Inset: one of the posters in the line. The display was put up on August 24th by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig, Sally Turbov (Director of Nursing) and Sr. Karen Zgutowicz. At right: Sr. Karen admires the rosary created from pool noodles.

Photos by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig, SCC