

**JOURNEYING
WITH CHRIST
IN HOPE AND TRUST**

Ursuline Newsletter

4045 Indian Road, Toledo, OH • Vol. 47 No. 4 • April 2023

Leadership Corner by Sr. Joy

“ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN!”

In less than two weeks we will be proclaiming **“Alleluia! He is Risen!”** as we celebrate Christ’s resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 9th. The Resurrection is a signal for me to rejoice in so many ways as I remember all that Christ gave for my life: he chose to freely follow the Father’s will; he gave of himself as a teacher to people longing for his coming; he suffered through Holy Week with trust in his Father’ love for him and for each of us; he rose from the dead and shared himself with his followers; and he rejoined his heavenly Father after he did all the Father asked of him. WOW!

Have you noticed that flowers are beginning to poke through the earth, the grass is turning green, farmers are beginning to plant their crops, and the trees will soon be in bloom and/or budding forth? Each of these things proclaims NEW LIFE and reminds me of the meaning of Easter. The birds are coming back and starting their nests, too. Spring brings so many signs of NEW LIFE. Look for them!

The joy of the Resurrection comes from believing that Christ is the son of God and our Savior. Without his love we would not be able to look forward to our heavenly life. As Christ taught while on this earth, the Father and he have unlimited love for each of us. God (Father, Son, and Spirit) are present in our lives daily, lifting us up, showing us the way to our heavenly home, giving us the grace to make the journey that leads us there for eternity. Do you take time each day to give thanks for all they do for you?

As we prepare to take part in the services during Holy Week and Easter Sunday, let’s take time each day to remember and give thanks for the generosity of the Father in offering his only Son for our salvation, all that Christ has given for us in his life and death, and all that we have to look forward to once our earthly journey is finished. A BLESSED EASTER TO ALL!



URSULINE SISTERS WELCOME LAURIE TOTH

The Ursuline Sisters are pleased to welcome Laurie Toth as our Health Care Coordinator. In this newly created position, Laurie will be responsible for supporting the Sisters with their overall health care needs, including making wellness visits, accompanying them to appointments and being an advocate and liaison with their care facility. Laurie also collaborates with others on the health care team to ensure all of our Sisters’ health and wellness needs are being met.



Laurie is a natural fit for this role, as she worked as a nurse at the Ursuline Center prior to the facility closing in 2021. An RN, Laurie also holds a BA in Health and Wellness from Lourdes University.

In her spare time, Laurie enjoys mountain hiking and camping, taking road trips to shrines and sacred places, cooking ethnic food, art, all genres of music, and animals. She and her husband, Kirk, are a blended family with eight adult children and 14 grandchildren. She attends Little Flower Parish.

A fun fact about Laurie: she and her husband and daughter, Kaelie, traveled to Midlothian, Texas to appear in the TV show “The Chosen” as extras in Season 3 Episode 8’s “Feeding the 5,000” scene. “It was a special blessing to be there,” Laurie says. “It gave me a greater appreciation for the sacrifices those back then made to see the Lord.”

Welcome, Laurie!



Rest In Peace

Anna Hillabrand, SUA '63; sister of Mary Hillabrand, SUA '61 and Barbara Hillabrand Fangman, SUA '60 ~ January 27

George Baho, brother of Associate Eric Baho ~ March 7

Sr. Elizabeth "Betty" Foos, RSM; MMC Alum ~ March 7

Diane Marciniak Hannon, SUA '64; MMC '68 ~ March 7

Norbert Hamernik, father of Elizabeth Hamernik Wray, SUA '82 ~ March 7

Mary Danisovszky, mother of Associate Louis (Patricia) Torda; grandmother of Associate Jessica Torda Gamby, SUA '00 ~ March 10

Kenneth Kujawa, father of Heather Kujawa Langendorfer, SUA '92 ~ March 10

Edward "Chip" Sulier, husband of Sandy Grems Sulier, SUA '72 ~ March 11

Sr. Rebecca LaPoint, OSF/S; MMC '68 ~ March 15

Margaret Brennan Shimman, SUA '47 ~ March 19

Ruth Hart Zakrzewski, SUA '51; MMC Associate ~ March 23

Garden Thoughts

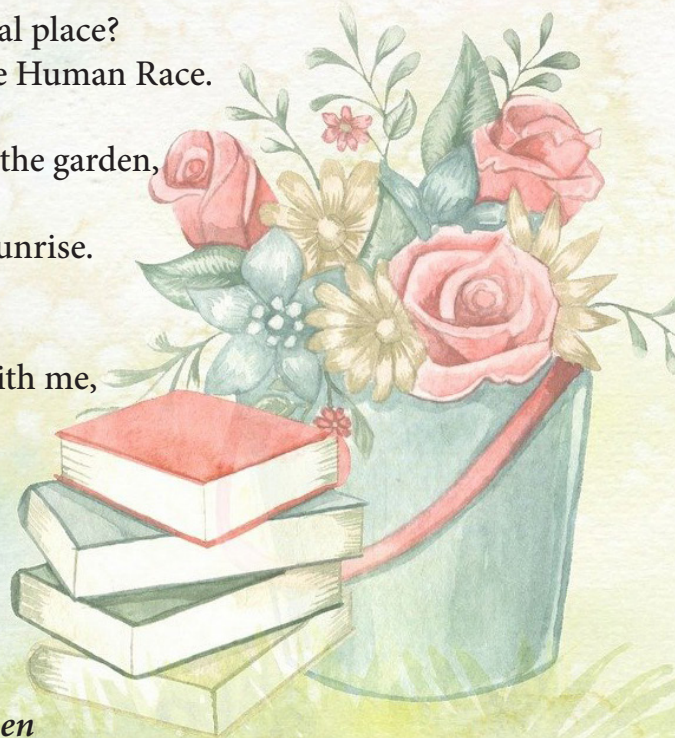
Have you ever thought of a garden as a very special place?
Well, God chose a beautiful garden to astound the Human Race.

On Easter Sunday morning, when Jesus walked in the garden,
He took Mary Magdalene by surprise.
Little did she realize Jesus rose from the dead at sunrise.

There is a song called "In the Garden."
The lyrics say, "He walks with me, and He talks with me,
and He tells me I am His own."

So ---
The next time you're in a garden,
remember, with Jesus,
you're never alone.

~ Sr. Margaret Anne Carstensen





Catholic Sisters Week Food Drive a **SUCCESS!**

The Catholic religious Sisters in the Toledo Diocese once again collaborated to sponsor the 3rd annual **Catholic Sisters Week Food Drive** on March 10, 2023 at Walt Churchill's Market in Maumee. In addition, the Ursuline Sisters collected non-perishable food items and monetary donations at the Convent Offices for the month prior for those who could not make it to Walt Churchill's the day of the event.

The response to the Catholic Sisters Week Food Drive was overwhelming! In all, Sisters, Associates and friends of the area women religious communities collected 4,861 pounds of food and \$1,475.15 that will be given to the Toledo Seagate Food Bank to benefit families in need throughout Northwest Ohio.

The collection of food items was a combined effort to serve persons in need and bring much needed awareness to the current increase in food insecurity and underlying causes, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, poverty, unemployment/under-



employment, and inconsistent access to healthy food.

Sponsors of the food drive were the Ursuline Sisters, Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Mercy of Alma, Sylvania Franciscan Sisters, Tiffin Franciscan Sisters, and the Sisters of the Visitation.

Thank you to all who helped make Catholic Sisters Week a success!

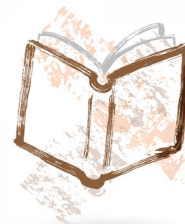


First a howling blizzard woke us,
And then the rain came down to soak us.
And now before our eye can focus.
CROCUS!

~ by Macrina Wiederkehr

For Your Reading Enjoyment and Ongoing Education...

A pastoral letter
by Most Reverend
John C. Wester,
Archbishop
of Santa Fe, titled, "Living in
the Light of Christ's Peace, a
Conversation Toward Nuclear
Disarmament," is now available
to borrow from the Ursuline
Convent Offices.



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the May 2023 newsletter is
Thursday, April 20, 2023.
Please send your stories to Michelle at
mscazero@ursulinecenter.org.





by Mūmbi Kīgūtha, CPPS
President
president@solidarityfriends.org

My name is Mūmbi Kīgūtha CPPS, a Sister of the Precious Blood and the new president of Friends in Solidarity (FIS). My tenure began in February in South Sudan for Pope Francis' ecumenical visit. Being a Kenyan and having visited the other countries that make up the East African community, I thought I knew what to expect when I arrived in South Sudan but none of my previous experiences had prepared me for this.

When war has been a reality of almost every individual above the age of nine, it affects so many aspects of society and its people. "We are all traumatized," is a refrain I heard in many iterations from women and men, young and old alike. How does one attend to such trauma while struggling to access basic needs like food, water, shelter, and healthcare was the question before me? The economic hardships experienced by all in the world due to the pandemic and ongoing war, hit vulnerable countries especially hard as there are no social safety nets.

A significant number of the country's people are still living in Protection of Civilian (POC) and Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps within the country or in refugee camps located in neighboring countries. Their ability to return to their homes and stay in South Sudan lies squarely within their ability to provide for themselves and their families. This means education even when peace is guaranteed.

Solidarity members continue to respond to this need by preparing primary school teachers, forming nurses and midwives, inculcating better farming practices, and creating spaces of healing through trauma workshops. We need both [donations](#) to continue this ministry and qualified personnel interested in [direct service](#) to South Sudan. We are grateful for your faithful and prayerful support for FIS.



Associate News by Jess Gamby

Associates, change is never easy, whether positive or negative. However, it is unavoidable as we grow and develop throughout our lives, and we must be open to it. God brings changes into our lives for a reason. We may not understand why at the time, but we must welcome them with open arms and trust that God always has our best interest at heart. We pray for all of you and the many changes you encounter daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly and that you may embrace them with grace. Let us reflect on the prayer below and the changes in our lives now and in the future.

With an open heart,
Jess Gamby



Dear God:

Spring is a metaphor for change. Some changes we eagerly await, and some we abhor. Some changes we plan and others arrive uninvited. To all these changes we ask the gift of Your perspective beckoning us to expectation, hope, and rebirth.

May the sunlight and the rain be reminders that You are at work renewing the earth. As a God of renewal, You are ever at work in our lives, too.

Open our eyes and lives to the needed changes in our lives this Spring. Awaken us to new life and perspective, for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Submitted by Rev. Mark Bekkedahl at:

<https://www.chausa.org/prayers/cha-prayer-library/prayer/spring-prayer#:~:text=May%20the%20sunlight%20and%20the,we%20pray%20in%20Jesus%27%20name.>

Associate Updates

1. Easter Notes and Cards – Please write a note or card to those Sisters and Associates you are thinking about. Your kindness will remind them of the beginning of spring and the joyous Easter Season.
2. New Associates - If you know someone who has expressed an interest in exploring the prayer experience of becoming an Ursuline Associate, be sure to stay in touch with the individual and invite him/her to join us.
3. Share A Memory – Do you have a memory about an experience with either an Ursuline Sister or another Associate that warms your heart? Please jot it down and share it with us so we can put it in the newsletter to share with all.
4. Newsletter Writers – If you have some thoughts you would like to share we always welcome new or previous authors. Your story can be a simple reflection on your personal experience with the Ursuline Sisters, your spiritual experience as an Ursuline Associate, or your personal reflection on St. Angela. We ask that articles are no longer than one page.

Debbie and Jess

ursulineassociates@ursulinecenter.org

*God has designed that those who commit
themselves to one another in God's name
to do good will experience fulfillment
in every way.*

(Taken from the Ninth Counsel of St. Angela)

Sophomores - On the Mission of St. Angela



"In the Company of Saint Angela, our mission is to educate young women who will go out into the world and demonstrate the values of compassion and empathy that will bring hope to all. Everyone the company encounters will see God's incredible grace through their service."

~ Claire, Class of 2024



From the LCWR Presidency

'Turn, Turn, Turn'

Maureen Geary, OP — LCWR President-Elect

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." This bible verse is familiar to each of us. The songwriter Pete Seeger used the text of Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, rearranged some verses, added the refrain "turn, turn, turn" and wrote a folk song which became a hit recording by The Byrds in 1965. Other artists, and Seeger himself, also recorded "Turn! Turn! Turn!" As the bible verses and lyrics remind us, there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven. The complicated era of the mid-1960s led to a yearning for change, for a new perspective, and especially for peace, and Seeger added the conviction that it is not too late for peace.

Seasons are a part of our lives. If you live in Michigan, as I do, you are lucky enough to experience four seasons of weather: winter, spring, summer, and fall. If I had a vote, winter would be one month long, spring would get two months, summer would be six months, and fall would carry us around the calendar turn with three months. But I digress.

Seasons may also be understood in terms of the growing cycle: dormancy, budding, growing/ flourishing, and harvesting. Seasons reflect a life cycle, and affirm that always, there is life, and death, and new life.

Seasons may include sports, such as the cycle of hockey,



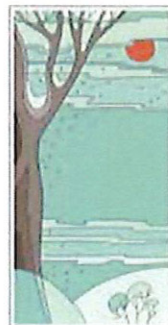
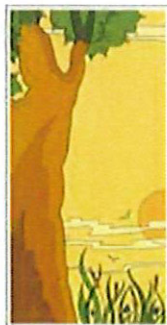
basketball, baseball, and football in the United States. If I had a vote, the baseball season would be eleven months long and all the others could share one month. But I digress.

We believe that religious life too has a seasonality about it, a certain time or age. We name the desert mothers and fathers, monasticism, apostolic configurations, charism families, and congregations. There is a turning as women and men religious respond to God's call in a particular era and place.

For me, a certain exercise helps name what has been, what is, and what will be; to see the turning and step into the new. A few years ago, as our congregation struggled with the sense that a new purpose would suit our motherhouse but did not know how to embrace a new season, we were invited by our facilitator to use the process of storytelling. She asked us to step into the future and write a narrative about life on our property, a life to be lived by new residents, 10 years hence. The result was the embrace of a new purpose, a new season for a grand centenarian motherhouse. And for our congregation, the conviction that it was not too late for something new.

A story has a beginning, a middle, and an end. And sometimes a sequel? I put the song into your head, didn't I? You're welcome! There is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven. "Turn! Turn! Turn!"

We pray for patience and trust – and joy and conviction - in the turning of the season.



CALENDAR

(ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

April 2023

- 6-10 Easter Break - office closed
- 9 Easter
- 13, 20, 27 "The Chosen" showing at 3:30 p.m. at the Convent Offices. Sisters and Associates are invited.
- 26 Council meeting
- 27 Community Input/Update, 1 - 3 p.m., Convent Office

May 2023

- 1-2 LCWR Region 6
- 5 Cherry Blossom Festa drawing, 2:30 p.m., Convent Office
- 30 Feast of St. Marie of the Incarnation
- 31 Council meeting

June 2023

- 1 Thanksgiving and Prayer, 1 - 2:30 p.m. followed by ice cream. Details to follow.



Check out the
Ursuline Sisters of Toledo
Facebook page!

What Could Be Wrong With A Chocolate Easter Bunny?

As Valentine's Day chocolates are cleared from shelves, those delicious hearts are replaced by seemingly innocent bunnies. What could be wrong with these delectable symbols of Easter? Read more about child labor and slavery in the chocolate industry at foodispower.org/human-labor-slavery/slavery-chocolate.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April

- 4 Mary Camp
Karole Sigg
- 7 Sr. Mary Angela Gaietto
Joanne Schwind
John Myers
- 8 Jan Michalak
- 16 Walter Palicki
Nanci Riddle
- 17 Diane Koebnick
Janet Helfrich
Larry Meyers
- 18 Mary VanderLinde
Marcie McCabe
- 21 Lois Manion
- 25 Sr. Mary Ellen Nagle
Jane Hagelin
Anna Lara
- 27 Carol Ann O'Reilly
Rose Alvarez

May

- 4 Rose Hubay
- 23 Roseann Jackson
- 25 Judy Polcyn
- 27 Jane Charette
- 28 Robin Bonfiglio



FEAST DAY



April

- 26 Sr. Donna Frey
- 29 Sr. Mary Kay Garvin

May

- 22 Sr. Rita Mae Johns

Ursuline Convent Offices
4045 Indian Road, Toledo, OH 43606

(419) 536-9587

email: ursulines@ursulinecenter.org



Prizes!

1st Prize \$2,500

2nd Prize \$1,000

3rd Prize \$500

URSULINE *Cherry Blossom* FESTA RAFFLE

Drawing:

May 5, 2023

(Winners need not be present to win.)

Donation:

\$1 each or \$10 for book of 12.

Because of your generosity,
we are able to maintain our ministries and to care for our retired Sisters.
Each Sister thanks you for your support.
God bless you abundantly.



Please fill in the information below and we will fill out your ticket stubs. Self-addressed labels are appreciated.

Name _____ Amount _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number _____

Payment

☐ Cash

☐ Check (payable to Ursuline Convent)

Mail to: Ursuline Convent, 4045 Indian Road, Toledo, OH 43606

Questions? Please call 419-536-9587

Thank you!