

**JOURNEYING
WITH CHRIST
IN HOPE AND TRUST**

Ursuline Newsletter

4045 Indian Road, Toledo, OH • Vol. 47 No. 11 • December 2023

Leadership Corner by Sr. Donna

Many themes run through the beautiful Advent readings: hope, light, patience, waiting, love, journey, emptiness, birthing, and more. Advent invites us to look into our hearts and ponder the love that is there. Love takes many different forms and provides us with many challenges and opportunities.

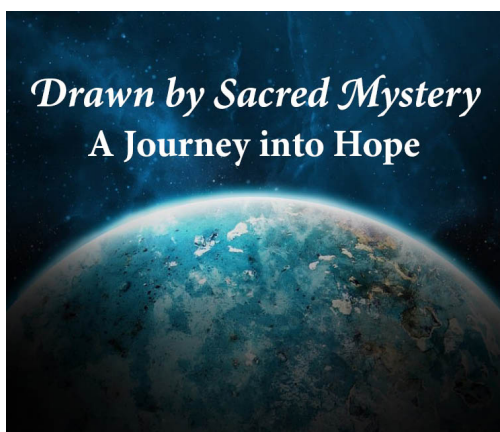
There is always room for improvement in our lives to deepen our love for others, those we know, those who are strangers to us, and those who are in need of our love in a special way. The season of Advent is a time for us to reach out in compassion, charity and hope.

As we move through this holy season, let us reflect on the light and darkness in our hearts, how open and closed our hearts may be, and the strength and willingness that rest in our hearts. Hearts that have experienced brokenness and are fragile are often the hearts that can speak loudest to another.

Whatever the condition of our hearts, may we always have room for God and others. May the Christ Child of this season teach us to be passionate lovers of life and one another.



Foundation Day Vespers Service



**Tuesday, December 12, 2023
4:30 p.m. Vespers followed by Supper
Ursuline Convent Offices**

Sisters and Associates are invited.

**Please RSVP to Val at
vmyers@ursulinecenter.org or
419-536-9587 by Friday, December 8.**

**The location of the
Christmas Luncheon
for Sisters and Associates
on December 6th
has been changed
to the
Ursuline Convent Offices!**





Rest In Peace

Patricia Powers Wade, SUA '56; Mary Manse College Associate ~ October 22

Richard Vernier, husband of Dr. Pat McCutchan-Vernier, SUA '75 ~ October 22

James Silk, Sr., former Trustee of Mary Manse College ~ October 23

Eileen Hausknecht Dayton, sister of Joan Hausknecht, SUA '71 ~ October 23

Audrey Boicey Berlacher, SUA '48 ~ October 25

Sr. Marie Cecile Bauers, Ursuline Sister of Cleveland ~ October 28

Joy Armstrong, mother of Veronica Rensch Bashaw, SUA '86 ~ October 31

Christopher McDonnell, father of Ursula McDonnell, SUA '79; Sonya McDonnell, SUA '81; Paula McDonnell Suter, SUA '82 and Deidre McDonnell Kennedy, SUA '86 ~ October 31

Fr. James Cryan, OSFS, brother of Associate Patricia Cryan, SUA '57; MMC '66 and Mary Cryan Sulier, SUA '69 ~ November 3

Suzanne Dey, SUA '61; MMC '66 ~ November 3

Margaret Westmeyer Knicely, MMC '60 ~ November 4

Leo Maher, father of Elizabeth Maher Danicke, SUA '88 ~ November 8

Beth Ann Adams Hoffer, SUA '66 ~ November 8

Keith Millinger, husband of Nancy Mauk Millinger, SUA '67 ~ November 9

Fr. Thomas Gorman III, retired priest of the Diocese of Toledo ~ November 12

Michael Lora, husband of Patricia Hirons Lora, SUA '65; MMC '69 ~ November 15

Mary Kassmann Fromme, MMC '53 ~ November 16

Sr. Martha Buser, Ursuline Sister of Louisville ~ November 18

Rev. Raymond Ensmann, Senior Status Priest of the Diocese of Toledo ~ November 25

Sister Update

Sr. Beth Hemminger
Rosary Care Center
6832 Convent Blvd., #225
Sylvania, OH 43560



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the January 2024 newsletter is Wednesday, December 20. Please send your stories to Michelle at [mscazero@ursulinecenter.org](mailto:mscazzero@ursulinecenter.org).



"Just as you never abandoned your Son as he was brought to a safe place by Mary and Joseph, so now be close to these, your sons and daughters, through our tenderness and protection."

From "A Pope's Prayer for Immigrants"

Pray with the Ursulines:
Communication Tape
It is recorded Mondays, Wednesdays
and Fridays.
Call 419-536-9375.



Feast of St. Angela

Sunday, January 28, 2024

11 a.m. Liturgy

followed by Dinner.

Location to be determined.

**Sisters and Associates
are invited.**

*Please RSVP to Val at
vmyers@ursulinecenter.org or
419-536-9587 by January 21.*

**June 2023 -
June 2024:**

The Parish Year Eucharistic Revival



Ever since I was little, I dreamed of receiving the Holy Eucharist. As I grew older I was taught about how Jesus died for us through his passion and my heart was filled with grace and love. The more I went to his table the more grace I received from God.

When the Eucharist is absent from my life, I am lost, knowing I am not getting my grace, hope, and love from God. I will go to the altar of God, the God of my joy and my Lord.

~ by Sr. Ann Marie McManus



A year-long initiative from LCWR entitled *Transforming Grace: The Work of Transformative Justice* will be held between November 29, 2023 and November, 2024.

The Ursuline Leadership Team will periodically share prayers as we receive them.

It begins November 29 with four segments leading up to the November 2024 elections:

November 29 - Christmas

January 15 – March 31

Easter thru Pentecost

June – November

We will share something from each segment through the newsletter, website and communication tape.

Prayer:

God of this new venture, we are walking into mystery. We face the future not knowing what the days and months will bring us or how we will respond. Be love in us as we journey. May we welcome all who come our way.

Questions:

Considering the image of a table, who might need an invitation to our “table?” What might we need to do so that they might feel welcome?

Sometimes love takes us where we have refused to go. Think of a table where you have not felt welcome and imagine what it would take for you to say “yes.”

Associate Updates

Afternoon Reflection - An Afternoon Reflection entitled "The Doors In Angela's Life" by Sr. Donna Frey was held on November 12 and attended by both Sisters and Associates. It was a very prayerful, spiritual experience and a wonderful opportunity to take time to reflect on St. Angela and the many doors and thresholds she passed through during her life on her path to sainthood. Another afternoon of reflection is being planned for spring. Please watch the newsletter and Communication Tape for details on date and time.

Christmas Luncheon – This year's Christmas luncheon for Sisters and Associates will be held on Wednesday, December 6 in the Ursuline Convent Offices. We will be serving Panera soup and salad. There currently are enough people bringing desserts; however, we can always use more help for set up, serving and clean up. Please RSVP to Val by Thursday, November 30 at vmyers@ursulinecenter.org or 419-536-9587. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Foundation Day – Just a reminder that Vespers will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12 followed by supper. Please RSVP to Val at vmyers@ursulinecenter.org or 419-536-9587 by December 8.

New Associates - We currently have one new Associate candidate beginning her mentoring. Do you know someone who has expressed an interest in the ministries of the Ursuline Sisters? Please encourage them to check out our website, stay in touch with them and encourage them to join us. As our numbers grow so can our ministry as Associates. A new flyer is complete and available from the Convent Offices.

Newsletter Writers –WE STILL NEED YOU!! Please consider helping us out with this. Your story can be as simple as a one or two line 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. Consider sharing your experiences with all of us.

We wish all of you a very blessed and merry holiday season!

Debbie and Jess

ursulineassociates@ursulinecenter.org

St. Angela, help us in our struggle to put aside anything that would hinder God's will in our lives. Help us respond to the needs of our times, to put on anew the Lord Jesus and to do this with boundless confidence in the loving Providence of God, the Source of our being.

(Taken from "Invocations to St. Angela,"
The Song of Our Heart)



Associate News
by Marcia Kolbeck

FINDING JESUS IN EVERYONE

In his book PRAYER, Our Deepest Longing,
Fr. Ronald Rolheiser writes,
"Nobody wants to live and die
unnoticed, insignificant, forgotten."

By living the guiding principles of
St. Angela and the Ursuline Sisters,
may every person we encounter
feel noticed, significant, remembered.
A simple smile, a kind word, a gentle touch
convey so much.

At a time when we
acutely feel the seemingly
insurmountable division and
brokenness in our world, **how**
do we not lose our way?

Steady at the Center of the Storm

Saturday, January 13, 2024
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Lial Renewal Center
5908 Davis Road
Whitehouse, OH 43571



You are invited to join us for a day of reflection as we experience the sacredness of what it means to be fully human and fully alive. Explore what it means to hold both hope and despair, joy and sorrow, light and darkness – as we reclaim our shared humanity and recall our connection and place in the wholeness of life.

Informed by the Courage and Renewal approach and through time in silence, reflective writing, and creative expression, this offering invites you to connect with yourself in solitude and others in large and small circles.

Cost: \$30
Includes lunch and retreat material.

Register online at
www.lialrenewalcenter.org or by calling
Sr. Rosemary at **419.877.0432**.



Sophia Lloyd, MSW
Ursuline Associate

Retreat Facilitator:

Sophia Lloyd brings over 30 years of executive-level experience in the nonprofit, faith-based, and public sectors, most recently as Executive Director of Sylvania Community Services. In addition to her executive experience, Sophia has developed and facilitated multi-generational, interfaith, and cross-disciple programs for a faith-based system. Genuine in her approach, Sophia brings a passion for and strong conviction about the power of individuals to make a difference when they stand in their integrity and authenticity. Her commitment to and experience in this integrity has deepened as she has gained extensive experience with Circles of Trust® and the various ways they are offered. She holds a Masters in Social Work from the University of Michigan.

From the LCWR Presidency Wisdom's Perspective

Sue Ernster, FSPA — LCWR President-Elect

While in Baltimore attending the meetings of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as an observer with the other LCWR presidents and executive director, I was given the opportunity to see and think outside of my normal perspective, putting aside my preconceived notions of how something needs to go or be, or how someone is.

This is challenging as I am comfortable with my perspective, hoping others share it. When the perspective or experience is different than mine, I need time to process and keep myself from arguing my viewpoint, allowing the other to share theirs.

Part of the Wisdom reading for the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time offers me some insight and willingness to see the other perspective or try something outside my comfort zone.

"Resplendent and unfading is wisdom. And she is readily perceived by those who love her. And found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known in anticipation of their desire. Whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed for she shall find her sitting by her gate." -- Wisdom 6:12-14

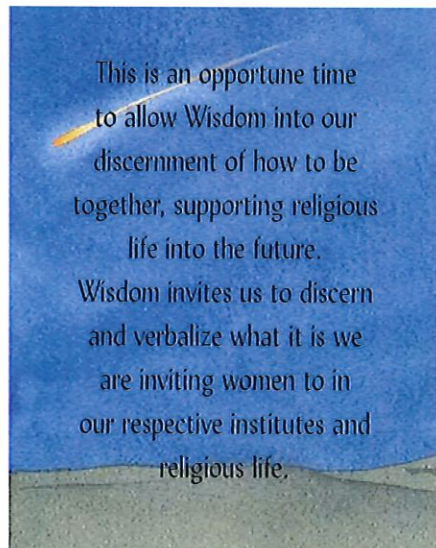
Trust in Wisdom's presence is needed today more than ever. Wisdom's presence is known as we open ourselves to her and another perspective or way. Wisdom may be inviting us into viewing and engaging more fully into *encuentro* -- seeing through the stance of and engaging with whomever the other may be. Might Wisdom be inviting us to see differently how we can be together living our lives fully, no matter our stage in life?



Now may be the time for us to lean into our solidarity with one another as our current individual structures may no longer be sustainable. Where is Wisdom leading us as we discern how to approach our religious life in a hopeful, realistic way?

How we move is one of the wonderings from the November 13 LCWR Zoom meeting. We recognize we need to move – and perhaps move in a way that may be unfamiliar, uncomfortable to some, and requiring different ways of thinking as well as different ways of collaborating as women religious and as a conference. LCWR is offering opportunities to support the journey of moving forward.

This is an opportune time to allow Wisdom into our discernment of how to be together, supporting religious life into the future. Wisdom invites us to discern and verbalize what it is we are inviting women to in our respective institutes and religious life. Wisdom is waiting to journey with us, sharing her perspective if we only look.



Trusting she is waiting with us through the uncertainty, we can embrace that now is the time for movement. Where is Wisdom leading, and are we willing to follow?

As we continue our conversations, we don't know where we are being led. We know we are going together, and we will get there. Wisdom has the answers if we know where to look. Where we look and dream requires us to see outside the box. That is where we will find wisdom.

LCWR Attends White House Dialogue on Climate Change

by Carol Zinn, SSJ

On November 17, three bishops and I participated in a dialogue with senior White House policy advisors. This meeting was arranged with the help of Lonnie Ellis from In Solidarity: Amplifying the Catholic Voice for Justice.

Archbishop John Wester (Sante Fe), Bishop Edward Weisenberger (Tucson), Bishop Joseph Tyson (Yakima) and I met with John Podesta, senior advisor to the president for Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation; Ali Zaidi, national climate advisor; and John McCarthy, senior advisor for political engagement. The dialogue was held in the approach of the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) and focused on the moral imperative outlined in *Laudato Si'* and *Laudato Deum*. We expressed gratitude for the work of the administration on issues related to creating a healthier environment here at home and around the world. We applauded the positive steps taken thus far and encouraged the continuation and intensification of bold and prophetic action. We also shared the newest challenges put forth by Pope Francis in *Laudato Deum* and affirmed the need for leadership, vision, implementation, and accountability across all sectors.

We experienced the importance of meaningful conversations over rhetoric, relationship-building over partisanship, and partnering over parallel practices all directed towards addressing the climate crisis, the intersectionality of current issues and challenges and the sacred responsibility we have to one another as members of the human family and Earth community.

LCWR Participates in Eucharistic Revival Congress

by Carol Zinn, SSJ

As ecclesial women, the LCWR members engage in the universal work of the Synod on Synodality and the United States church initiative of the Eucharistic Revival. Each of these initiatives point towards the full living of the gospel message in the spirit of encounter, deep listening, and discernment of the Spirit's call to the People of God in these contemporary times. The synod's theme, "Mission, Communion and Participation," provides the path to the source and summit of our faith. LCWR's presence at the Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, July 17-21, 2024, will bring the vocation of consecrated religious life to the event through participation of members, congregations, partners in ministry, and many others who journey with LCWR congregations. LCWR will have a booth at the congress.



by Mũmbi Kĩgũtha, CPPS
President
president@solidarityfriends.org

Solidarity with South Sudan, a partner organization of Friends in Solidarity, will celebrate its 15th anniversary November 30, 2023. The International Union of Superiors General and Union Superiors General came together in 2008 to respond to the needs of South Sudan, then an emerging new nation. Collaboratively the unions seek a new model to build the capacity of South Sudanese in key areas crucial to human development and the flourishing of society through education, healthcare, agriculture, and pastoral care. Many strides have been made since that vision was birthed and many individuals have benefitted from the care of dedicated lay and religious missionaries drawn from every continent.

CALENDAR

(ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

December 2023

- 2 Advent Day of Reflection for Religious - Sisters of the Diocese, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Rosary Cathedral
- 6 Associate-sponsored Christmas Luncheon for Sisters and Associates, 11:30 a.m., Ursuline Convent Offices
- 7 The Chosen clip, 3:30 p.m., Ursuline Convent Offices
- 12 Foundation Day, Vespers at 4:30 p.m. followed by Supper, Ursuline Convent Offices, Sisters and Associates are invited.
- 19 Council Meeting
- 21 Staff Christmas Lunch - 11 a.m.
- 22 - Jan. 2 Christmas Break - Convent Offices closed

January 2024

- 11 The Chosen clip, 3:30 p.m., Ursuline Convent Offices
- 15 Martin Luther King Day - Convent Offices closed
- 24 Council Meeting
- 28 Feast of St. Angela - 11 a.m. Liturgy followed by Luncheon

February 2024

- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 19 President's Day - Convent Offices closed
- 21 Council Meeting
- 22 Community Input/Update, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Sisters Only

March 2024

- 20 Council Meeting
- 28 - April 1 Easter Break - Convent Offices closed
- 31 Easter

April 2024

- 8 Day of Eclipse - Convent Offices closed
- 22 Council Meeting
- 23 Community Input/Update, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Sisters Only
- 24-25 LCWR Region 6 - Cincinnati
- 29 - May 1 NAULC - St. Louis
- 30 Feast of Marie of the Incarnation

May 2024

- 27 Memorial Day - Convent Offices closed
- 29 Council Meeting

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December

- 4 Pat Cryan
- 7 Shirley Persinger
- 10 Mary Obert
- 12 Joan Keavy
- 15 Ellen Bires
- 18 Sr. Claudia Holtz
- 20 Barb Torio
- 22 Janet Ellzey
- 27 BJ Stevens
- 28 Jovita Harrah
- 31 Mary Richard
Nancy Turski

January

- 1 Chris Soto
- 4 Bill Moore
- 5 Eric Baho
- 6 Eileen Simon
- 7 Sr. Mary Kay Garvin
- 14 Sr. Margaret Manion
- 27 Berta Folmar
- 31 Bonnie Tolles



FEAST DAY



January

- 27 Sr. Angela Gaietto
- 31 Sr. Sandy Sherman

Ursuline Convent Offices
4045 Indian Road, Toledo, OH 43606

(419) 536-9587

email: ursulines@ursulinecenter.org



Check out the
Ursuline Sisters of Toledo
Facebook page!