
UPDATE rscj

Society of the Sacred Heart, United States-Canada Province



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Feast of Mater

October 20th

RSCJ International.org

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INSERTS:

September Death Notice from Rome Circulars:

- * Mary Lou Guillory, RSCJ
- * Mildred Barbara Kearins, RSCJ
- * Alice Louise Mills, RSCJ

Provincial Team Report | September 2017

Our new fiscal year commenced with the provincial team meeting in St. Louis to pray together and catch up on where we have been since the Provincial Assembly 2017. In general, each team member had much needed down time, time for personal prayer, quality time with family and friends – and just taking care of herself: mind, body and spirit. We then moved into a space of envisioning how we wanted to use our final year together. This led directly to creating our priorities for finishing our provincial leadership term, and identifying those key priorities we wanted to complete. We all agreed we would not be a “lame duck” team during this year of transition; rather, we recognized and affirmed that it was our responsibility to offer our best selves to the province until our term concludes on July 31, 2018. Our dear sisters, we are “all in” ... until then.

Over the next week and a half, we turned our full attention to receiving the updated reports from our different departments. We are pleased to note the following highlights:

Eldercare. We have **successfully made a transition in eldercare at Abba House** with **Judy Garson** and **Gwen Hoeffel** coordinating our house there. We thank them for their “yes” to serving our sisters in Abba and **Marie Buonato** for her many years of eldercare service in Albany. Marie, please enjoy your sabbatical year; it is well-deserved! We are thankful as well for **Joan Gannon’s** many years of service to our sisters at **Teresian House** and for being our primary contact there since our relationship began in approximately 2007 with transition from our beloved Kenwood. Joan has been busily introducing her successor, **Natalie Runfola**, to all of our relationships there. We are most appreciative of each one’s “yes” to this important province service. *Très Bien!*

Health and Wellness. We are pleased to **have finalized the hiring of Marguerite Callahan, RN, MSN, ANP**, who will be joining the province staff **as the CCS Regional Health and Wellness Professional** in keeping with the recommendations from the 2016-2017 Provincial Health and Wellness Report.

Information Technology. Jeff Daggett reported to the team that he had concluded the upgrading and installation of Oakwood’s internet, network and wireless server for our sisters with the intent of coming off the Sacred Heart Schools Atherton’s system, giving Oakwood wireless stability throughout the day and evenings. As well, we finalized the shutdown of the rscjph.org domain. Finally, Jeff reported that our new servers and back-up systems in the provincial offices and archives are working very well, and the transition was seamless and smooth.

Regional Planning. Anne-Marie reported that the Regional Planning Committee had met several times over the summer via teleconference to plan the November Regional Meetings. Please ensure that you have these dates on your calendar; more to follow in the next month.

Provincial Assembly 2017 follow-up. Imma De Stefanis **presented the team with the final report on the Assembly for our review and discernment.** Many thanks to the Assembly Steering Committee: **Imma De Stefanis, Chair; Bridget Bearss; Meg Causey, Provincial Team Liaison; Irma Dillard; Mary Finlayson; Sheila Smith and our facilitator, Lorraine Ste. Marie**, for their many hours of thoughtful planning, organizing and running of the Assembly in July. *Très Bien!* Indeed, the steering committee shepherded the province through this important work of the province. Moving forward, the provincial team will make sure that the whole province is involved in this important event in the life of the province

and our implementation of the outcomes of the Assembly – *for the life* of our province.

Slavery, Accountability, and Reconciliation. We received a report from the committee: **Lyn Osiek, Chair; Maureen Chicoine, Irma Dillard, Marilyn McMorrow, Cathy Mooney and Emory Webre**, on their important work of identifying the involvement in slavery in the United States portion of our province. Their research led some of them to make contact with several families who are descended from former slaves. They have identified various means of acknowledging our part in this aspect of the country's history. We await their final report and recommendations.

Members. As always, we spent much time discussing how we can help with transitions in various members' lives. This reflection always forms the central part of our time together, and we never know what comes before us – as life unfolds....

Finance. We spent a day receiving our Fiscal Year 2016-2017 year-end financial reports and reviewing and approving the 2017-2018 budget. Kudos to the finance office for achieving an approved budget at the beginning of the fiscal year – a first!

JPIC and UN/NGO. As you know, **Sheila Smith** has begun her work at the UN as the Society's UN-NGO representative; she is enthusiastic about what this holds for our province and the international Society. Over the summer, she and Cecile moved the UN-NGO office from Portchester to 120th Street in New York and spent time together ensuring a smooth transition of leadership. We want to thank **Cecile Meijer** for her many years of tireless service to the international Society. She is taking a well-deserved sabbatical to study in Belgium. Enjoy your time, Cecile. *Très Bien!*

As well, we responded to the international JPIC Office's direction for more coordination and collaboration between the UN office in New York and the JPIC office in Rome. We asked **Diane Roche** to coordinate this effort as JPIC was a recommendation of the General Chapter, along with the calls of almost every other province, district and area. This made sense, since Diane is our provincial director of JPIC.

Initial Formation Team (IFT). We met via Vidyo with the formation team: **Kathy McGrath** (Initial Formation), **Mary Charlotte Chandler** (PTVs) and **Ellen Collesano** (Novitiate), who reported on those women they are accompanying and with whom they are discerning. We also heard from Mary Finlayson about an interested woman whom we met over the weekend. Let's keep her and all those in formation in our prayers, as they and we discern together. I am heartened to report that our formation program is alive and well.

Spirituality Centers. We discussed each of our spirituality centers: virtual and physical. We are aware that there is still a great desire and need for this important work. Of note, we have approved the exploration of placing solar panels on the roof of the Spirituality Center in San Diego. A feasibility report will be generated.

Carl Harshman. We met with Carl Harshman of Harshman & Associates, a business management consultant, to continue our discussions on how best to

organize our provincial offices, workflow and personnel.

Investment Report. We met with our Outsources Chief Investment Officer (**OCIO**), **Kathleen Hegenbart**, Principal, The Hegenbart Group with Bank of America Merrill Lynch, who **reported on our return on investments for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017** and the performance on each of our ten managers. All-in-all, our investments did well, as did the new OCIO Model for managing our investments in the United States. Thank you, Kathleen, to you and your team. **We affirmed to our OCIO our desire to move out of all fossil fuels and big oil.** We plan to do this in parallel tracking incrementally and prudently.

Stuart Center. **Imma De Stefanis** reported on the operations of **the Stuart Center** and various changes planned for 2017-2018. Of note, after much due diligence, we approved the Stuart Center's **engaging the solar firm Blue Source** for the installation of solar panels on the roof of the Stuart Center. We affirmed that this move reflects social, environmental and fiscal responsibility – and is in line with our Chapter Calls.

Conference of Sacred Heart Education. **Suzanne Cooke** reported on the **various schools** in the Network and the plans for the upcoming (October) Network Membership Meeting. Of note, we discussed the Society's responsibilities, e.g., reserve powers of the Society in each school, various board structures, and the need to fill our RSCJ board seats. We discussed our limited pool of RSCJ to do so, and then discussed having RSCJ agents act on our behalf. This model has been tried and is working well with Joe Ciancaglini as our RSCJ agent in the Sacred Heart School of Halifax.

Bicentennial. **Kathleen Hughes** reported on the many activities planned for the **Bicentennial Year** commencing November 18, 2017, and concluding with a Mass on November 18, 2018, for which Michael Joncas has been commissioned to compose the music. Please look at the website to check out the various activities planned in which you can participate. On November 20, 2017, we will commence a year of prayer together to honor the anniversary of Philippine's arrival.

Mission Advancement. **Shirley Miller** reported on the year-end results from the mission advancement efforts, and once again, **the fundraising results surpassed the objectives.** We thank and acknowledge the many donors and those who have left bequests to the Society.

Communications. Linda Behrens agreed to become our new director of communications, and Annette Schmeling is our new part-time social media specialist to help enhance and drive our many social media efforts. Thank you both for your "yes"! We will be actively pursuing hiring an assistant communications coordinator. If you know of anyone, please share his or her name. During this time, Linda has moved from her cubicle into the communications office.

Associates. We met via Vidyo with **Cathy Knapik and Jane Steinfels**, co-chairs for the Associates, to hear about their desire to connect with the RSCJ more directly. They would like us to tell them **how they can engage with us in mission, collaboratively and dialogically.**

Staff Meeting and celebration of September birthdays. All work and no play

make for a dull office, so we celebrated the life of Diana and Lisa at a birthday luncheon following our monthly staff meeting.

Mass at Villa for Carol. Later that day, we all went to a memorial Mass for Carol Haggarty at Villa Duchesne, where we found many of our colleagues in mission, from Carol's family to her friends to Associates to board members, from both Villa and St. Charles and other organizations, to many RSCJ. Indeed, the love for Carol and appreciation of her life's work were palpable.

As we had begun our time together, so we concluded with prayer and reflection in our chapel, led by Mary Finlayson. And a sending of Sheila to new provincials' school in Joigny: "Voyagez en toute sécurité et sachez que nous sommes toutes sur la *Rebecca* avec vous!" With loving gratitude for each person's gift of time and talent in making our province function at the level at which it does.

One in the Heart of Christ, I am

Diana Wall, for the Provincial Team



NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Provincial Team of the Society of the Sacred Heart, United States-Canada Province, is pleased to announce that Linda Behrens has accepted the position of director of communications and public relations for the United States-Canada Province, effective September 18, 2017.

In September 2015, Linda came to the Society of the Sacred Heart as a consultant to serve as interim communications director for three months, then was asked to coordinate bicentennial communications with Kathleen Hughes, RSCJ, which she has done since December 2015.



Linda has 36 years experience in communications, public relations and marketing. In 2015, she began her own company, LK Photography +, offering photography, writing and graphic design services. Linda previously worked for the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Central Pacific Province; the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Louis Province; St. Anthony's Medical Center; St. Alexius Hospital; and Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. She earned a journalism degree with an emphasis in magazines from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She has a 23-year-old daughter and lives in south St. Louis County.

Linda can be reached at lbehrens@rscj.org or 314-880-0555

NEWS FROM THE STUART CENTER

by Clare Callahan, Conference Director

Throughout the summer months, the Conference Center welcomed many current and new partners, including, the *Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach*, *Michigan Park Baptist Church Women's Group*, *InnerLight Ministries*, *Far Southeast Family Strengthening*, the *Greater Washington DC Bar Association*, the *DC Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta*, *Catholic Charities*, *Catholic Mobilizing Network*, *Neocatchmental Way* retreat attendees, and the *San Francisco Bayview Black Newspaper* gathering.

The *Conference Center* renewed our partnership with *Generation Hope* as they conducted their Summer Bridge workshop. Over twenty-five *Generation Hope* scholarship awardees and their mentors attended two full-day training sessions to help the students – who are also parents of young children – gain study and parenting skills. The *Conference Center* is also looking forward to welcoming several organizers and supporters of the September 23rd **World Beyond War** protest. Working in conjunction with the *Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation* office, the Stuart Center will provide hospitality to protest participants.

With October upon us, we are already thinking ahead to the Christmas holidays. The Stuart Center provides a beautiful setting for Advent retreats, Christmas parties, etc. and the CEDC's graphic design department offers Christmas and holiday card design and event announcements. **Please consider referring colleagues, collaborators and friends to the Stuart Center.**

In early August, the Stuart Center *Office of Educational Initiatives and Leadership* conducted the Global Citizen Project at the Stuart Center. There were twelve participants hailing from Texas, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Mexico and Haiti. They were all young adults and/or early career professionals in the not-for-profit sector. This program helps move leadership and service beyond the "volunteer" model to formation and training in leadership as young professionals committed to social justice.



From the *Office of Finance and Operations*, we are pleased to report that we have completed the vetting process and are ready to move forward with Blue Source for the installation of solar panels on the roof of the Stuart Center, moving to solar energy. This decision reflects social, environmental and fiscal responsibility, and puts a concrete action behind our verbal commitments. As a result of this decision, we will produce enough energy to cover and exceed our consumption. We encourage you to take a look at Blue Source to understand its commitment to environmental justice, as well: www.bluesource.com

**ASSOCIATES COMMITTEE
FOCUS GOALS 2017-18**

by Cathy Knapik

The Associates Committee was created in 2007 to serve the Associates in the province. The Committee's mandate from 2007 outlines the responsibilities of the Committee:

- Offer services to help the Associates live the purpose described in Chapter 2000
- Facilitate communication among the Associates groups
- Provide information/suggestions/insights and resources to Associates groups
- Develop committees as needed
- Provide mentoring for new groups as well as support for ongoing ones
- Coordinate the meetings of Associates Coordinators and Associates
- Interface with other congregations about Associates groups
- Plan for the financial viability of the Associates program
- Oversee the Associates website
- Suggest other ways of developing the program.

Additionally, the Associates Committee sets annual "Focus Goals" with our prioritized initiatives for the coming year. Our Focus Goals for 2017-18 were very much inspired by the 2016 Chapter Calls.

To create silence, we will more carefully plan our shared time together including a commitment to generative listening and generative speaking. We will encourage this practice at the local level as well.

To be one Body, we are committed to strengthening bonds with the larger Sacred Heart community, among Associates, between Associates and RSCJ, and to engaging with the larger Sacred Heart community. Additionally, the Spirituality Committee will seek to engage RSCJ in a survey similar to our survey of Associates considering how we are "breathing together" currently as well as opportunities for the future. The regional representatives (Lori Wilson: Albany, Boston, Fairchester, Washington, DC; Julie Siderfin: Grand Coteau, New Orleans, Omaha, St. Louis; Peggy Gorman: Chicago, Detroit, Halifax, Houston; and Kristi Laughlin: Menlo, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle) are committed to collaborating with one another and to strengthening their roles with the local groups in their areas.

To cross new frontiers, we look forward to gathering the co-coordinators from across the province in July 2018. Additionally, the Sower Committee will work to develop new groups including a possible virtual group as well as to provide resources for growth and leadership development. Finally, we hope to sponsor a Justice Gathering with the JPIC office for the larger Sacred Heart community.

To live more humanly, we are working to improve communications to better serve the Associates in the province, including moving from our current blog to an actual website, improving our social media presence, and using technology to bring us closer together.

We are grateful to all of our collaborators, who serve on our subcommittees and to all who support the Associates movement throughout the province.

FROM THE MEDICAL BENEFITS OFFICE

by Debbie Vespa-Schutz
Medical Benefits Manager

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Is Coming October 15th

The Open Enrollment period for Medicare Part D plans is quickly approaching. The enrollment period is **October 15th through December 7th**. Shortly, you will begin receiving information from your current Part D plan with changes in premium, deductible and formulary. Now is the time to review the changes and let Debbie Vespa-Schutz know if you want her to do plan comparisons for the 2018 year. If you wish to stay with your current plan please forward a copy of the page in the Plan Renewal Book that shows the new premium and deductible for 2017 to the Medical Benefits Office. If you want to pursue changes in your current plan please contact Debbie Vespa-Schutz by phone at (314-880-0563) or email at dvespa-schutz@rscj.org or Kim Pecoraro by phone (314-880-0565) or email at kpecoraro@rscj.org.

Social Security and Medicare

Address Updates: We have had many sisters move over the past few months and as a reminder addresses need to be updated with Social Security/Medicare. Please contact Debbie Vespa-Schutz by phone at (314-880-0563) or by email at dvespa-schutz@rscj.org for details on making these updates. Addresses with Part D plans also need to be updated but can be a little more delicate and it is best to contact Debbie Vespa-Schutz before making that call for tips on a smooth transition.

Medicare and Part D Summary Notices: I have received many questions regarding the necessity of keeping the Summary Notices that are received from Medicare and Part D Plans. It is important to keep these Summaries as they contain important information regarding your coverage and benefits. If you do not want to keep them or do not have the space to store them, please forward them to the Medical Benefits Office to be kept in your Medical Benefits file. These are useful to Kim and myself when there are questions regarding your prescriptions and if there is a discrepancy in balances due to providers.

Thank you.

REGIONS

WEST

REDWOODS & OAKWOOD

by **Mary B. Flaherty**

The Palo Alto and Oakwood communities were delighted to welcome **Lucie Nordmann** this week. She and her brother Bill drove from St. Louis. They enjoyed a few days exploring the area before he flew home. Lucie will live in Redwood City and will be Oakwood's new Pastoral Minister.

Earlier we were delight to welcome **Isabelle Lagneau** of the Central Team. She was with us briefly en route to India. **Barb Dawson**, being in the area, spent an afternoon among us, which included a delightful reunion. She shared the experience of becoming acclimated to Rome, learning to know her new team and planning "first steps" with her council. Shortly after, **Margaret Phelan**, home for vacation, came for an afternoon. It was also good to see **Shell Olson** en route to Japan. **Elizabeth le Jariel** spent time among us before ultimately returning to France. **Sharon Karam** and **Jane McKinlay** arrived to make their retreats and **El MacLellan** for her vacation.

Helen Rosenthal, **Lyn Mouton**, **Mary B. Flaherty** and others welcomed visiting family members. **Agnes Chimbayo** and **Emma Fernandez** left for an extended time with their families in Malawi, Africa, and Colombia, respectively. **Park Yeong Ja** was back home with the Vera Community for a few days. She has been in Southern California caring for her nephew's young children during his extended illness.

This campus never sleeps! No sooner had the summer activities: campers, sports team practices, maintenance and special projects come to an end, than it was time to think about the new school year. Teachers began returning, and school leaders arrived to plan opening activities.

Each group began by coming to Oakwood for a Mass to bless its work in the year ahead.

The freshmen will never forget their first day this year! They were welcomed by the eclipse of the sun (about 70 percent in this area). The students and the Oakwood community were all located in prime viewing spots on the campus, wearing school-provided special glasses. Patty Creedon, director of Oakwood, with Laura Beeson, our activities director, planned the event; and our chef supplied us with sparkling cider and homemade chocolate chip cookies as we enjoyed the phenomenon. What amazed me was how quickly the eclipse passed through the sky! When our necks were quite "crimped," many continued watching on TV until total blackout occurred.

We were glued to our televisions and united in prayer for the battered areas, all our families and RSCJ sisters, as hurricane Irma ravaged the Caribbean and Florida. We also have been praying for Texas, Louisiana and the other places that have experienced such terrible rains, flooding and earthquakes. So many have lost all. Such disasters may bring out the bad in some, but truly much more, the good in people. One cannot but be touched by their heroic efforts for one another, as neighbors and perfect strangers, at great personal risk, have stayed or rushed to the area from afar and have united to help one another. I know we are all united in prayer and in whatever other small ways may become available to us.

CCS

CHICAGO

by **Martha Curry**

We have welcomed two RSCJ for the Institute of Religious Formation at CTU for the new academic year: **Mariko Watanabe** from Japan and **Marie Pascaline Ekosoni** from Congo. It was a delight having them in the Cornell

Community before their program started on August 30.

Martha Curry left on September 6 for a four-day trip through the Rocky Mountains on her way to her new home in the Gatehouse Community at Oakwood.

GRAND COTEAU

by **Margaret Caire**

Many people are asking us if we have moved to the town of Grand Coteau, yet. The answer is not yet. We are measuring spaces and trying to decide where we can put furniture and what furniture we shall give to needy families or Good Will. Please pray as we continue this process, which will allow us to move into the town of Grand Coteau. We shall let everyone know when the move will take place.

Thank you for your continued interest.

HALIFAX

by **Anne Wachter**

For the first time ever, our Sacred Heart School opened with over 500 students.

In September, **Kathy Conan** joined the Board of our school, and for her first meeting she spent three days in Halifax to orient herself to our current reality and new frontiers.

We look forward to hosting in Halifax, October 20-22, the CASHA Conference, a gathering of Canadian Alumnae/i of the Sacred Heart Association; alums from Mexico, Spain, USA and several other countries will also attend.

Recently, a local forum on "Beyond Truth & Reconciliation," convoked by the Conference of Religious Congregations, brought new attention to the present-day needs of our First Nation sisters and brothers.

HOUSTON

by **Pat Munch**

Carolyn Siy traveled to the Philippines to attend the funeral of her

sister, Flora Chow, just a day or so before Hurricane Harvey's arrival. She had to change her return reservations three times, thanks to Harvey.

We at the White House decided to have a Communion Service on Saturday evening as Harvey approached, as it was evident that it would not be safe to go out on Sunday. Over the next couple of days we carefully monitored the Buffalo Bayou, which thankfully never rose to flood level. We took cover during a number of tornado alerts but nothing ever came of them. We experienced two power outages for a few hours but were so blessed, and we are so grateful. We were mindful of so many who had lost so much. We felt helpless, restless and were unable to focus on anything. And we had survivor guilt. We surely felt the care and support of the entire province and the Society across the world. We truly experienced the truth that we are One Body.

One afternoon we went to the home of one of the parents who had rounded up some neighbors and the Girl Scout Troop she headed. We were able to help sort and pack clothes, toiletries, shoes, toys, bedding etc. for the hurricane victims. It was good to be able to do a little something for those who were so unfortunate. Once all was finished, another group of volunteers took everything to a church that was being used as a shelter.

Gradually we learned about members of the Duchesne faculty, staff and families who had lost everything. Our hearts and prayers have gone out to them and continue to do so.

Duchesne's Alumnae Reunion weekend scheduled for September 15 and 16 had to be rescheduled, but the class of 1967 decided to have its dinner at the White House on Saturday evening, the 16th, as planned. **Lil Conaghan, Sis Flynn** and **Mary Pat Rives** had come for the weekend, and **Diane Roche** was here overnight. The RSCJ were wined and dined all weekend. The seven members of the class of 1967 were outnumbered by the

RSCJ at the dinner. While they dined in the dining room, four alum husbands feasted in the living room. Thanks to modern technology everyone was able to communicate via Skype with one member of the class who has ALS. It was a lovely evening with lots of laughter, good food, and reminiscing about those blessed school days at Duchesne.

Rose Quilter travels to the Rio Grande Valley each month as ARISE and MACC, the Mexican-American Catholic College, work together to build an educational bridge of hope between their organizations. Rose facilitates the implementation of PUENTEC, a program for mutual distance learning. Through a Duchesne Fund grant, ARISE will soon install “Zoom,” the electronic equipment that undergirds PUENTEC. Please pray for this new venture. **Reyna Gonzalez** and **Diane Roche** are visiting Dr. Arturo Chavez and others at MACC on September 17 and 18 to explore further collaboration between RSCJ and the ministries of MACC and ARISE.

NEW ORLEANS

by **Maureen Chicoine**

Duchesne House for Volunteers hosted a thank you party for all who helped out last year. Flat Philippine came and also three Ursuline Sisters. Our first group of the new school year is from Houston! Their environmental science class is working on coastal restoration. We are so grateful to those who sent funds to help with the house rebuild we hope to begin with the Ursulines at Nuns Build in honor of the bicentennial of the Society’s arrival in the New World, landing in New Orleans.

Anne Sturges was remembered at the Serenity Hospice annual memorial service on September 10. Anne had been a chaplain with that hospice and had continued contact after her retirement.

Judy Vollbrecht and **Jane McKinlay** went to the service and were able to speak to the guests about Anne.

Irma Dillard came to New Orleans to accompany Maureen Chicoine on a **research trip** to Grand Coteau to explore the possibility of descendants of the enslaved persons who worked at the Convent of the Sacred Heart there. They are combining research in historical records with interviews of the elders of the African American community there. So far no one living in Grand Coteau has been identified as a descendant. Living descendants of the Hawkins and Jacobs families have been found but in Georgia, other sections of Louisiana, California and Texas.

On Friday, August 25, the Rosary school community celebrated the Mass of the Holy Spirit. In attendance were RSCJ who live locally as well as those visiting from other parts of the country. During this liturgy **Melanie Guste** introduced the theme for the year, a wonderful quote from Philippine, “Strength in us, O God, the work You have begun is us”. On the back of a

lovely prayer card is one of Philippine’s prayers, which begins, “I am where God wills me to be, and...” At the end of Mass, the girls were

introduced to “Flat Philippine,” learning that they would be receiving their own personal prayer card and “Flat Philippine” later in the day. One focus of the school’s community outreach person has been to work with one of our local book stores in developing a literary series that highlights authors of special interest for educators, parents and friends both within and outside of Sacred Heart. On September 8 the Women’s National Book Association of New Orleans presented the Diana Pinckley Prizes for Crime Fiction by honoring Louise Penny’s *Glass Houses* and Trudy



A student at the Rosary embracing Flat Philippine.

Nan Boyce's *Out of the Blues*. Trudy met with three sections of upper school students to explore how to create and develop a story. On Friday, October 6, Rick Riordan, author of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard* and his final book of the Norse Mythology Series, *Magnus Chase: The Ship of the Dead*, is the visiting author. If you are in New Orleans for our Bicentennial Mass and reception you might want to attend the presentation by author Isabel Allende on Friday, November 17.

ST. LOUIS / ST. CHARLES

by Mary Lou Gavan

On the First Friday of September several RSCJ joined the school community of the Academy of the Sacred Heart in St. Charles for their Mass of the Holy Spirit, after which Dr. Susan Dempf was installed as the new head of the Academy by **Sheila Hammond** and Bill Dulle, chair of the school's Board of Trustees.

In the late afternoon of September 13, the St. Louis/St. Charles RSCJ gathered in the Villa Duchesne chapel with many of our Associates for a beautiful memorial liturgy for **Carol Haggarty**. Her sister, Joan, and two of her nieces came from Chicago and joined Madeleine Ortman and others from our Network schools, Carol's co-workers at the province office and many friends and colleagues. The liturgy was beautifully organized by her community, Shirley Miller, Mary Lou Gavan and Sally Rude. Carol's good friend, Kevin Cullen, SJ, presided at the liturgy, which ended with a recording of Dolly Parton's rendition of a hymn requested by Carol, "In the Garden," with its beautiful refrain:

And he walks with me and he talks with me
 And he tells me I am his own
 And the joy we share as we tarry there
 None other has ever known.

EAST REGION

ALBANY

by Meg Canty

After so many visitors this summer, we were sad to say good-bye (hopefully au revoir) to **Marie Buonato** and **Joan Gannon**. There were many ways of thanking them, and so many in the area who had worked with them came to wish them safe travels and good arrivals. **Natalie Runfola** gathered all the RSCJ at the Avila community for a simple prayer and blessing. Marie and Joan are deeply missed here.

On August 25, **Marie Buonato** departed for Detroit, driving with **Meg Canty**. The next day, August 26, **Judy Garson** and **Gwen Hoeffel** arrived from New York to move in, with the help of Gwen's brother and sister. They are living at Abba House.

Barbara Kearins' nephew Mike and his wife Colleen came from Detroit for Bebe's funeral. It was their wedding anniversary, and they remarked on how Bebe would want to celebrate their day not hers.

Karen Olson will be arriving at Avila later this month.

In August two novices, **Chihiro Yamamoto** and **Miriam Yu** stayed at Abba and the experience was mutually wonderful.

On September 4 **Joan Gannon** set off for her sabbatical in St. Charles, her new community.

FAIRCHESTER

by Stephany Veluz

On September 9 Rebecca House had its open house and blessing as a new welcoming community. Guests included RSCJ, friends and colleagues as well as old and new neighbors.

Kathy Conan prepared a lovely blessing



Lorena Cordova

linked both to the Chapter calls and this bicentennial year of Philippine.

Rebecca House is happy to welcome its first volunteer/intern, **Lorena Cordova**, from San Luis Potosí, Mexico. Lore, a Sacred Heart alumna, is studying for her Masters in Human Rights and will serve as volunteer/intern with an immigration lawyer in White Plains. She will be with us from early October through early January.

In late August, **Margie Strom** and **Sherry Smith** joined **Joan Magnetti** and **Grace Butler** at the tragic, deeply moving triple funeral of the Dym family from our school in Greenwich, in an overflowing church in Bedford. Joan delivered a magnificent call to worship and the remaining twenty year old son, Will Dym, gave a heroic eulogy. On happier notes, Margie and Sherry were guests of Deirdre Cryor, headmistress at our school in Bryn Mawr; they gave a faculty in-service morning on Philippine and Crossing Frontiers.

The month of September brought some transitions to the 120th Street Community in New York. As you all know, **Lanxiu Li** left for probation on the 4th. Her presence was a gift that brought joy to the community. **Sheila Smith** continues to be busy at the United Nations as the General Assembly prepares for its annual session. In early September, Sheila went to Vienna to participate in a United Nations meeting on the topic of Migration, Human Trafficking and Smuggling.

Lydia Cho moved to the 52nd Street apartment. She continues to work with the Korean community doing counseling and crisis intervention.

The Fairchester and New York Area blessed **Judy Garson** and **Gwen Hoeffel** with prayer and a nice dinner at an Italian restaurant before they moved to Albany.



The Duchesne Mass

by Kathleen Hughes, RSCJ

Since late August, the choir of Saint Francis Xavier (College Church) has begun learning the new Duchesne Mass. Every few Sundays, a new part of the ordinary of the Mass has been taught to the congregation and then sung as part of the Eucharistic celebration. The composer, Father Michael Joncas, will visit the parish at the end of October to participate in the Eucharist, to dialogue with the choir and assembly, and to tweak parts of the composition as needed.

After the choir makes a professional recording of the Duchesne Mass, it will be available on the rscj.org/bicentennial2018 website as a teaching tool for the Sacred Heart family. Father Joncas also is offering a Network of Sacred Heart Schools workshop, "Singing Philippine's Song," at the end of November in which both the Mass and a new hymn in honor of Philippine will be introduced.

The formal premiere of the Duchesne Mass is on Philippine's Feast, November 18, 2018, at the bicentennial celebration Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis.

NEW BOOKS

Times Change: A History of the Network of Sacred Heart Schools

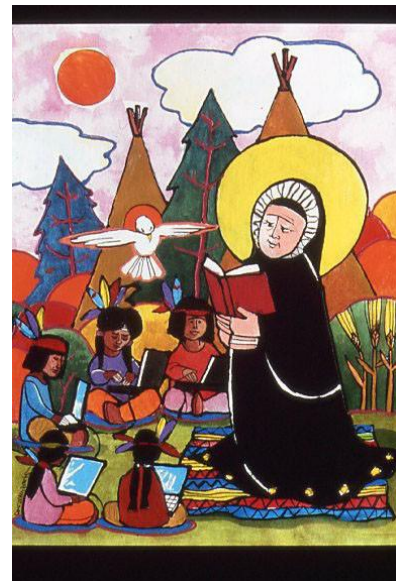
Times Change, written by **Susan Maxwell**, is an apt description of the developments in schools of the Network and other Catholic schools throughout the world in the era since the Second Vatican Council. In this book, Susan, who has played a significant role in these developments, offers her memoir of the turbulence and the triumphs of this piece of educational history. She traces the development of the vision statement of Sacred Heart education, the Goals and Criteria, against the background of the educational philosophy of the Society.

Anyone connected with the Society's educational mission and the Network, in particular, would enjoy this book. Please recommend it to your friends.

The book may be purchased from the publisher, [iUniverse](#), and [Amazon for](#) \$13.99.



Karen Olson has written a life of Philippine for middle school children. Entitled *Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne: a Dream Come True*, the book is liberally illustrated with photos taken by Karen during her travels to places where Philippine lived. The narrative is based on the standard biographies by Louise Callan and Catherine Mooney. It answers actual questions some middle school students posed to Karen about Philippine's life and personality and about canonization.



VIDYO CONFERENCE DATES

Please note that because of Province business in the fall, the teleconferences in September, November, and December will be for Province members only. Beginning in January other guests will be welcome if it is your custom or your wish. Save the dates.

Usual times **2:30 (Pacific), 4:30 (Central), 5:30 (Eastern), and 6:30 (Atlantic)**.
Please note, the October conference was cancelled and a November conference has been scheduled.

September 10, 2017 – Vidyo conference #1

November 5, 2017 – Vidyo conference #2

December 10, 2017 – Vidyo conference #3

January 21, 2018 – Vidyo conference #4

April 29, 2018 – Vidyo conference #5

June 24, 2018 – Vidyo conference #6



REGIONAL GATHERINGS November 10 – 12, 2017

WEST | Vallombrosa Center, Menlo Park, California

CCS | Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville, Illinois

EAST | Hampton Inn Albany, Albany, New York

REGIONAL GATHERINGS PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mary Bernstein (CCS)

Anne-Marie Conn (Team)

Maureen Glavin (CCS)

Mary Kay Hunyady (West)

Pat Kozak, CSJ (Facilitator)

Vicky Rajca (East)

Diane Roche (East)

Annette Schmeling (West)

Barbara Valuckas, SSND

(Facilitator)

BICENTENNIAL MASS AND RECEPTION IN NEW ORLEANS

Invitation & Reminder

*The Rosary will be Celebrating St. Philippine Duchesne's Landing in New Orleans and 200 years of Sacred Heart Education in the New World on **Saturday, November 18 with a Mass beginning at 3 p.m.***

The Mass will be celebrated at St. Louis Cathedral only blocks from the Ursuline Convent where Philippine and her companions spent their first weeks in the new world.

The Celebrant for this liturgy will be Archbishop Gregory Aymond and a beautiful reception will follow at Old Ursuline Convent.

The liturgy committee is hard at work these days on RSCJ attendance and reserved seating for RSCJ planning on attending the Mass and reception. We have a list of the RSCJ who live in New Orleans but the committee needs to know how many other RSCJ are planning on attending this wonderful celebration.

Please email Georgeann Parizek, at gparizek@rscj.org by **Monday, October 30th** if you are considering attending these events. The committee just needs to have a sense of other RSCJ who are hoping to attend this wonderful Mass and Reception. At the moment we've only heard from a few RSCJ from around the country. There is a Saints football home game on Sunday and because of limited guest space in the communities it would be important for those planning on coming to make their travel plans as soon as possible especially with respect to hotel reservations if needed.

RSCJ Birthdays

October & November 2017

10/02 - Irma Dillard	11/05 - Margo Morris
10/05 - Lisa Buscher	11/06 - Judith Brown
10/05 - Theresa Moser	11/07 - Theresa Chu
10/07 - Marie-Louise Wolfington	11/10 - Frances Gimber
10/07 - Rosemary Roney	11/10 - Mary Finlayson
10/09 - Anne Leonard	11/17 - Margaret Mary Munch
10/10 - Marghertia Cappelli	11/23 - Clare Pratt
10/11 - Barbara Carey	11/24 - Maura Keleher
10/11 - Katherine Cassidy	11/27 - Catherine Roche
10/11 - Raphaelle Cherry	11/29 - Kathleen Dolan
10/11 - Yeong-Ja Park	11/29 - Shirley Miller
10/12 - Agnes Hoormann	11/30 - Mary Kay Hunyady
10/12 - Mary Hotz	
10/13 - Eleanor Carr	
10/13 - Mary McGann	
10/15 - Rosemary Dobler	
10/17 - Eileen Bearss	
10/19 - Carol Campbell	
10/19 - Maria Schlömer	
10/20 - Jan Dunn	
10/22 - Clare Peckham	
10/23 - Agnes Chimbayo	
10/24 - Mary Ann Foy	
10/24 - Mary Elizabeth (Sally) McLean	
10/25 - Jean Bartunek	
10/29 - Rosemary Bearss	
10/30 - Mary Lyman	
10/30 - Myoung Lee	



Please pray for...

Cliff Collins, nephew of Fran Tobin, RSCJ who died September 14, 2017.

THANK YOU

I am deeply grateful for the prayers, love and support I received upon the death of my sister, Florence. Florence led a full life and was much loved by her siblings, children and grandchildren. She will be greatly missed.

With love and gratitude,

Carolyn Siy



New 2017-2018 RSCJ Directory

We are excited to let you know that a new RSCJ Directory is in the works and will have a different look! It will include a photo for each RSCJ in addition to the regular contact information for each listing. Also included, will be the information on the front and back pages. The size of the directory will be different too, and will be the same size as Update.

We would like to have the most up-to-date photo for each Sister in the directory, so we need your help! Please log in to the RSCJ only portion of the website and then click on the tab “Current Directory.” To use the link below, you first need to be logged in to the RSCJ portion of the website. <https://rscj.org/only/dir>.

Once you access the online directory, please check out your photo. If you like what you see, there is no need to respond back to us. If you would prefer to use another photo, please send your photo to **Linda Behrens at lbehrens@rscj by October 10th**. The print version of the directory is a snapshot of time. The online version of the directory is updated continuously as we receive changes from the Provincial Team. We will also continue to list changes and any corrections in Update.

The new directories will be mailed out in early November.

Thank you!

PROVINCIAL TEAM CALENDAR

Meg Causey

October

10/8-10/10: St. Louis
10/11-10/17: Team Meetings (St. Louis)
10/18-10/20: Board Meeting (Grand Coteau)
10/26-10/28: Network Membership Meeting
(St. Louis)
10/28-10/31: Washington, DC Area Visit

Anne-Marie Conn

October

10/4-10/9: Halifax
10/4: Team Call
10/10: Travel to St. Louis
10/11-10/17: Team Meetings (St. Louis)
10/18: Travel to Halifax
10/20-10/22: Casha
10/26-10/29: Network Meetings
10/29: Visit to Westminster Community
10/29: Visit to Jacquard Lane
10/30: CIIC Meeting
10/31: Travel to Halifax

Mary Finlayson

October

10/1-10/9 – Berkeley
10/11-10/17: Team Meetings (St. Louis)
10/20-10/22 – Initial Formation Team meetings
(St. Louis)
10/26-10/27 – St. Louis Network Meeting
10/28 – UCAL Berkeley Project (Berkeley)

Sheila Hammond

October

10/11-10/17: Team Meetings (St. Louis)
10/18-10/21: ACPE
10/22-10/23: Chicago

Diana Wall

October

10/1-10/2: California
10/3-10/17: St. Louis
10/11-10/17: Team Meetings (St. Louis)
10/18-10/20: Albany
10/21-10/23: TBD
10/24-10/31: St. Louis

