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# *UPDATE* rscj

Society of the Sacred Heart, United States-Canada Province

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November 2017  
No. 394



## Regional Gatherings

November 10-12, 2017

Sprout Creek Farm  
Poughkeepsie, New York

### WEST

Oakwood and Vallombrosa  
Conference Center  
Menlo Park, California

### CCS

Our Lady of the Snows  
Belleville, Illinois

### EAST

Hampton Inn  
Albany, New York

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### INSERTS:

- ◆ October Death Notice from Rome
- ◆ Circulars: Rosemary “Wickie” Sheehan, RSCJ

The spirit of our government is drawn from the interior dispositions of Jesus  
who came to serve and to give His life for the world.

In Him, we enter into a new relationship with one another in faith and love.

*Constitutions #139*

The October meetings of the provincial team were the first since Sheila Hammond returned from the new provincials' meeting in Joigny in September. Fittingly, after flying in from the far corners of the province, we began our time together with an evening of lively conversation and good food, a true French meal lovingly prepared by Sheila. The mutual support and camaraderie of the team is important in continually building the prayerful trust and confidence needed for this challenging provincial service. It is, as the Constitutions call it, that ever new relationship with one another, the simplicity and love to which Jesus calls us in mission.

The provincial team meetings are well organized, tightly scheduled, involving various kinds of processes and deep discernments, connecting in person and by Vidyo with many RSCJ, staff and collaborators. The team is also committed to praying together in community and in the chapel at the office, sometimes taking a period of extended prayer and sharing in the condo. It is important to return to the Constitutions regularly, to remind ourselves of our common mission and specific calls. The beauty and simplicity of the texts take our thoughts and prayer wider and deeper.

To some is entrusted the service of authority,  
which they exercise to further communion with simplicity and love,  
aware of life in all its aspects and obedient to the Spirit.

They have the responsibility to facilitate discernment of God's calls  
and the concrete way of responding to them.

They take the final decision in view of the common good,  
and give leadership and direction for our mission.

*Constitutions §142*

Throughout all our monthly meetings we return frequently to the agenda item: Members. This sharing and discernment of God's calls in mission occupies much of the team meetings. We are attentive to succession planning for the services to the province and the Sacred Heart family, to members' health and wellness issues, eldercare and the challenges of ageing, for initial and ongoing formation and study, for new members and potential members, moves and housing.... We keep our focus on serving RSCJ in living the mission. If you remember the puzzle pieces in our graphic at Assembly 2017, you will recall that there are many pieces of mission being lived by so many RSCJ and collaborators. We attempt to ensure that all are part of provincial team meetings so that there may be a clearer view of the common good for all who share in the mission. Some of those meetings are described below.

Every month the team meets by Vidyo with Imma De Stefanis for updates on the Stuart Center and the many ministries it hosts. This month we received the Stuart Center's

2017-2018 goals, the focus or theme of which is “Witnesses of Love: Making the Link–Bridging the Gap,” a focus on outreach to youth and young adults; and we discussed Imma’s personal goals for the year as executive director of Stuart Center.

Jane Steinfelds and Cathy Knapik entered into dialogue with the team about how the Associates engage in the mission: goals, planning, hopes....

The Initial Formation Team (Kathy McGrath, Ellen Collesano, Mary Charlotte Chandler and Mary Finlayson) meets monthly with the provincial team to talk about the formation program for the women in initial formation and ways we can support their formation and life in mission. The IFT shared something of the plans for its face-to-face meeting at the Villa cottage in late October.

We met with Kathleen Hughes to talk about the many aspects of planning and implementing the Bicentennial celebrations. In November, all are invited to begin a journey, the Bicentennial Year of Prayer, when RSCJ and the whole Sacred Heart family may enter deeply into the Bicentennial year through weekly prayer reflections and journaling. What a gift to us all! We are so grateful to Kathleen and her many collaborators for this huge undertaking, the fruits of which will touch the lives of so many.

Suzanne Cooke always has much to share with the provincial team about areas for engagement in planning and discernment re the Conference on Sacred Heart Education, the Network of Sacred Heart Schools and SHCOG.

Of course, the provincial team is attentive to the many essential and practical aspects of the maintenance of the province, meeting with Kim Pecoraro on changes to the database, with Jeff Daggett on IT, with Linda Behrens on communications (even looking ahead to this year’s Christmas card!), with Lisa Terneus on the new, more individualized province directory. Anne-Marie Conn updated the team on the work of the Duchesne Fund committee.

This month, Shirley Miller gave the provincial team the mission advancement report, which followed up on the discernment of a proposal for a USC Province Crisis Fund. A decision was taken to establish a Crisis Fund **“to help alleviate the suffering and devastation caused by hurricanes, earthquakes and wild fires in our province and beyond.”** This action will allow our friends and collaborators to donate to a specific fund that we will send to RSCJ provinces for aid in times of disasters. We have begun by sending significant donations from the USC Crisis Fund to the Antilles Province for those suffering in Puerto Rico after the hurricane and to the Province of Mexico for the people suffering after earthquakes. Anne Wiehagen and Ron Bruns joined the meeting to look at gift allocation. The province has donated funds that have been designated by the giver to a specific use; other funds are allocated by the provincial team to meet specific needs.

The team met with Ron Bruns and Danielle Dunleavy (by Vidyo from Ottawa) to review the year-end August 2017 financial statements and to review the 2018 Budget now that all the specific information has arrived. Ron always brings other items to the

table, such as exploring an Identity Protection Program for RSCJ and staff, investment policy review, historical expense review, property review....

The team has worked hard this year on the process that led us to decide to hire a COO – Chief Operating Officer – for the provincial office. The provincial team works with the provincial office staff to maintain so many vital services in the province: finance, communications, mission advancement, medical benefits, database and record keeping, technology, archives.... Imma De Stefanis and Reyna Gonzalez have been helping the team and staff do strategic planning; they will return in November to continue this process with the staff and early in 2018 with the team. Carl Harshman of the Institute for Work Attitude & Motivation has also been working with team and staff on “best practice.” As we RSCJ grow fewer in number and the calls to mission ever stronger, and as the need for technical and business expertise increases, we find it necessary to hire more lay collaborators qualified to maintain our services, always with the spirit of our Sacred Heart mission. It became clear that if the provincial team members are to have the time to focus on membership and mission, we needed a COO to help oversee the provincial office. It was a joyful moment when we called an impromptu staff meeting and announced the decision to hire a COO. As this is a specialized sort of employee search, the team also met with a representative of an executive recruiting company to explore possibilities.

Finally, the provincial team invited Pat Kozak, CSJ, to spend Saturday and half of Monday with us. Pat always brings prayer, questions, videos and materials that help us review the evolution of our service as team and engage in wider thinking on leadership and visioning. I invite you to explore William Ury’s theory of the Third Side as a way to peace in our world. Brilliant! We also went back to something we had done last winter with Pat: what song do I sing repeatedly about the province? (Maybe something about what is impossible or a hope or a question...) What are the messages I repeat to myself and the world? What song do the RSCJ of the province sing? And we moved to: What song do I want to sing? Want us to sing? If we look back at our original story, how and why the Society began (to be the Heart of Jesus and educate girls in a post-Revolution world), what is the story of our moment now, and to what does it call us? What would that look like?

Let us end by returning to the *Constitutions* §141, which impels us to continue to move forward together in mission:

Our co-responsibility in government is expressed in a common search for the will of God to fulfil our mission in the world.



## **Sheila Hammond, RSCJ Named First Recipient of the Sr. Carol A. Haggarty, RSCJ ASH '59 Leadership Award**



Nat Wilburn presenting the Sr. Carol Haggarty, RSCJ ASH '59 Leadership Award to Sheila Hammond, RSCJ, who was the first recipient of the award.

Nat Wilburn, head of school at Sacred Heart School, Sheridan Road, has sent the following announcement to all the school's constituents.

Sacred Heart Schools in Chicago, Illinois, is honored to bestow its newly inaugurated Sr. Carol A. Haggarty, RSCJ, ASH'59, Leadership Award on Sheila Hammond, RSCJ, ASH'61. The award honors an RSCJ, a Sheridan Road alumna or alumnus, or a former Sacred Heart Schools faculty or staff member who best exemplifies the leadership and commitment to Sacred Heart education demonstrated by Sr. Haggarty. Recipients of the award must also embody the call from St. John's Gospel—beloved by Sr. Haggarty—to “love one another as I have loved you” by providing leadership that propels Sacred Heart education into the future.

The Leadership Award was presented to Sr. Hammond at the Alumni Weekend Reunion Liturgy on October 22, 2017. Sr. Hammond attended Sacred Heart Schools graduating in 1961. She has spent most of her life in service and leadership roles. After taking first

vows in 1968, she was assigned a teaching position at Sacred Heart Schools. She taught English, French and religion, and also coached volleyball for six years. Sr. Hammond served on the Sacred Heart Schools Board of Trustees from 1980-81 and from 1999-2005. Currently, Sr. Hammond is the Provincial for the United States - Canada (USC) Province of the Society of the Sacred Heart. She joined the provincial leadership team in August of 2012 after seven years as the director of pastoral care at Saint Louis University Hospital. Her previous roles have included director of chaplaincy services at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, director of formation for the U.S. Province and chaplain for hospitals in Detroit and Lansing, Michigan. Whether leading a team of clinical pastoral educators or holding the office of Provincial, Sr. Hammond said, "It's all about developing relationships"—wherever she is called to serve.

The service of Carol Haggarty, RSCJ, inspired the creation of the Leadership Award. Sr. Haggarty served Sacred Heart Schools on Sheridan Road in several capacities—as a faculty member, principal of the Academy and a member of the Board of Trustees. Upon celebrating her 50th Jubilee, Sr. Haggarty said, “I have a commitment to the Society because I’ve taken vows, yes, but also because of my relationship with God. How do we glorify God in daily life? In the Society, we help each other down the path to holiness.” Sr. Haggarty passed away in June 2017.

**ASSOCIATES**  
**Eastern Region**

**by Lori Wilson**  
**Eastern Region Representative**

The Albany Associates are focusing on Philippine's Bicentennial and the 2016 Chapter Calls this year. Their meetings typically consist of prayer and conversation. Their September gathering focused on the Chapter Calls. Mary Jane Sullivan led a presentation on meditation for their October meeting. The group has been happy to welcome four new interested people and shared Mater with them. Typically, one Associate from the group plans and leads the month's meeting. They are looking forward to a November meeting focused on Sophie and the Calls.

The Boston Associates look forward to gathering in October. Their meeting will focus on sharing from the Spirituality Forum this summer. They are looking forward to getting together to plan for the year and catching up with each other.

The Fairchester Associates gathered in September to catch up and to hear reflections on the Spirituality Forum. They also remembered their dear friend, Wickie Sheehan, RSCJ, as they gathered for the first time without her. At the meeting, Associate Lucy Van Atta led their prayer with a liturgical dance, and they welcomed two area RSCJ to the group. The group is growing with a dedicated number of people who seek to make known God's heart in a wounded world. Their calendar is laid out for the year, and they look forward to meeting next on October 29.

The Washington, D.C., group had their first formal meeting of the year at Stone Ridge. The theme for that meeting was "Beginning the Journey, Igniting the Flame." Two additional members made their Associates commitment at that time. The themes for the year are the Bicentennial and Responding to the Chapter Calls. Their October meeting will focus on some of the issues and questions from the Spirituality Forum. Meetings alternate between Stone Ridge and the Stuart Center.

**Western Region**

**by Kristi Laughlin**  
**Western Region Representative**

The South Bay/Menlo Associates have met twice this year. The first meeting focused on the Bicentennial and on the Associates handbook, and the second one involved reflections and conversations sparked by the theme of new frontiers and the talk/paper given by Catherine Mooney at the Spirituality Forum. The year will focus on the Philippine Bicentennial and continued use of the Associates Handbook. They invite all to visit their blog: <http://oakwoodareaassociates.blogspot.com/> They typically meet on the third Thursday evening of the month at Oakwood.

The San Francisco Associates have had two meetings this year. They began their September meeting with an informal sharing from summer and their experience of the Spirituality Forum, with an invitation for the whole group to watch the videos and read the transcripts of the keynote addresses over the next month for sharing at our October meeting. In October, they spent most of the meeting bidding farewell to their beloved fellow Associate, Sergio Vasquez, and offering him a blessing in his transition to serving at Duchesne House. They are also planning a day of reflection for November with the South Bay group.

The San Diego Associates expressed gratitude for being including in the Feast of the Sacred Heart and Opening of the Bicentennial. In September, Mary Jane Tiernan and Sally Hoban shared experiences of the Spirituality Forum. They used Kristi Laughlin's homily at the Spirituality Forum as the substance of the meeting, both for their opening prayer and discussion launch. They typically meet the second Wednesday of each month, from 4 to 6 p.m., at the RSCJ Spiritual Ministry Center.

**A Report from the JPIC Office at *The Stuart Center***

by Diane Roche

The Stuart Center staff gathered at the Stuart Center on Wednesday, October 4, for the first face-to-face meeting of the year. Each year, Imma De Stefanis, the executive director of the Center, chooses a theme to inspire and guide the work of all members of the group throughout the year. This year's theme is *"Witnesses of Love: Make the Link-Bridge the Gap: A year focused on youth and young adults."*

As director of the Office of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation for our province and as someone who lives in one of the five province "Welcoming Communities for Young Adults," this theme is the common denominator of all the events that have crowded my calendar over the past few months.

On August 6, there was the commemorative prayer with the Catholic Worker and other groups in front of the White House to remember the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Sixtine Schieber, the young French volunteer who spent a month at Kearny Street this summer, went with me and helped to hold up one end of the big banner, which said: "Remembering the Pain, Repenting the Sin, Reclaiming the Future." (In New York, Gwen Hoeffel was gathering



Diane Roche, RSCJ with Andrea Ulrich and Sixtine Schieber



l-r: Tamae Wong, Lauren Brownlee and Diane Roche, RSCJ

with a group doing the same thing). August 15 found Sixtine and three other members of the extended Kearny Street community joining in a candlelight vigil in response to the violence in Charlottesville. On August 18, a large group of young adults crowded into the living room at Kearny Street to watch the documentary "Thirteenth," about mass incarceration. The next day, a smaller group of young adults joined in the march against the practice of forcing prisoners to manufacture goods for private companies for as little as \$3.45 a day.

September 10 found the members of the Kearny Street community joining with the Young Democrat Club from Catholic University at a DACA support rally in front of the White House and joining with several RSCJ Associates and other Catholic groups to demand racial justice on September 30.

While it is important for the Society of the Sacred Heart to be represented at all of these events in DC, it is also very heartening when RSCJ and Associates send me emails letting me know that they, too, are showing up wearing our symbol, tee shirt or profession cross and networking with the other groups working for social justice at the local level.



Members of Kearny Street community with the Young Democrat Club from Catholic University at the DACA support rally.



Diane Roche and Derek Dissel

## **BICENTENNIAL**

### **Online Year of Prayer Begins November 20**

*by Kathleen Hughes, RSCJ, Bicentennial Committee Chair*

*(adapted from a letter that was sent to all provincials in the congregation)*

The Bicentennial Year of Prayer will begin in a few weeks. Every Monday from November 20, 2017, to November 19, 2018, the worldwide family of the Sacred Heart will be united in prayer and reflection.

Thanks to regional editors, Françoise Greffe, RSCJ (France); Kim King, RSCJ (Canada); Elizabeth Nakayiza, RSCJ (Uganda); and Park Jeong Mi, RSCJ (Korea), the collection of reflections represents nearly all the countries where we are located. The subjects of these reflections are as varied as the background of the writers: friendship, suffering, loss, courage, boundaries, perseverance, and hope. The styles include prose, poetry and prayer; and each reflection is accompanied by an image.

Shortly before the Year of Prayer begins, Barbara Dawson and her Council will invite us to enter the Year of Prayer, to be and to act as one Body, and to create space and silence to listen to the heartbeat of God. What a wonderful way to celebrate Philippine, known affectionately as “the woman who prays always.”

Keeping a journal is a spiritual practice that helps us become ever more attentive to the inner stirrings of our hearts. Before the Year of Prayer begins, a pdf journal will be provided on [www.RSCJ.org/bicentennial2018](http://www.RSCJ.org/bicentennial2018) for those who wish to either download it or complete it online. The use of social media will also be encouraged throughout the world so that insights may be shared among us across our geographic frontiers.

Each Monday, a new reflection will be posted on the USC website and sent to everyone who currently receives First Friday reflections. You may invite others to join our mailing list at [rscj.org/connect](http://rscj.org/connect).

The weekly reflections will be sent also by email to every provincial and provincial secretary with the hope that they will resend the reflection to all of their constituencies: RSCJ, colleagues in ministry, Associates, Children of Mary, donors, friends, and so on. We will make a similar request of heads of schools in order to reach board members, faculty, parents, students and alumni/ae.

We hope we will find the Year of Prayer a time of grace for all of us.



## **REGIONS**

### **WEST**

#### **OAKWOOD**

**by Mary B. Flaherty**

With apologies to Chaucer, "I wondered and the wonder grew when I considered all the things we do!

**Be Mardel** and **Nancy Morris** attended the Broadway-Stuart Hall Mass of the Holy Spirit at St. Mary's Cathedral. The combined 1190 students filled the church!

**Lucie Nordmann** made herself at home quickly and engaged in her pastoral care duties here at Oakwood, and **Martha Curry** went right to work helping those who need assistance (or a prod) to prepare their personal bios.

Early in the month, **Diana Wall** spent a week with us seeing each one and, at reunion, sharing news of the many key projects on which the provincial team and their advisors have been spending a great deal of time and effort. Their long-range view into the future, concern for us now and for the continuing vitality of present or as yet unknown ministerial calls, was astounding. How blest we are!

**Deanna Rose Von Barga**n vacationed in Washington State. She enjoyed a few days with **Rody Dobler** and **Sandy Tuohy**, and visiting former RSCJ Pat Cannon Willis, who recently lost her husband. She took several of Puget Sound's "fun ferry rides" and enjoyed many wonderful spots on the Olympic Peninsula.

**Pat Shaffer** and **Nancy Morris** attended the USD Homecoming and Family Weekend, October 13-15. They thoroughly enjoyed being back on campus, seeing the many alums who returned, and participating in multiple activities, which closed with the Sunday Mass in Founders Hall.

**Joan Gannon** spent several days of her sabbatical with us. We enjoyed a reunion with her, at which she brought us up to date on our many friends and life in the Albany Area.

Our wonderful, multi-talented nurses and other staff surprised the administration with a delightful party in appreciation for their goodness to them. We all enjoyed the music, dancing, singing, fun and laughter that filled the dining room.

**Kaye Cherry's** niece and her husband, Justine and Andrew Cherry Macklin, travelled from England for a visit and enjoyed sight-seeing in San Francisco as well. And **Mary Ann Foy** had the joy of welcoming members of her family to Oakwood for a few days visit.

We are also mindful of our troubled world and the many recent hurricanes, tragedies, disasters, loss of life, home and livelihood that have recently struck everywhere. Closest to home is the horror of devastating fires just north and east of San Francisco. Diana has kept you informed of the ruin of towns burned into oblivion, homes, churches, hospitals, businesses, farms and vineyards now just ashes. So many victims are family, alums, friends, employees and colleagues. Individually and together, Oakwood's administrators, residents and staff have donated clothes, toiletries, other necessities plus gift certificates and money.

#### **SAN FRANCISCO BAY**

**by Mary McGann**

Maureen Aggeler joined the Sophia House community for lunch on the feast of Mater. It was a delight to spend time together on a Society feast. A few weeks prior, Maureen, **Mary McGann**, and **Myoung Lee** were given tickets to a concert of Korean traditional and contemporary music by the director of the Korean Cultural Institute, San Francisco. The tickets were in honor of Marnie Dilling.

It is with sadness but much gratitude that the Sophia House community bids farewell to **Myoung Lee** who will return to the Korean province on October 31. Myoung Lee has been a wonderful part of the community and its outreach this past year, and they will miss her very much! Blessings and Godspeed as she travels home!

#### **CCS**

#### **CANADA**

**by Theresa Chu**

Theresa attended a book launch in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. *Powered by Love* by Joanna Henry tells stories of grandmothers in Kenya and Mozambique during the last two decades of the twentieth century. Philister Aoko Andiego from Pendeza, in Kenya, spoke of her

experience during the horrible years when her village was infected by AIDS. Philister nursed her children and grandchildren till every single one of her large family died. Then she dedicated her service to helping neighbors. When asked to autograph the book, Philister gave her finger print. She is illiterate. Looking at her deeply wrinkled face, I asked her how old she is, sixty-seven was her answer. Humbled, I further realized that Philister was only one of many who have dedicated their lives nursing and demanding changes in the socio-political fabric of their society. Beginning with their immediate families, these women have raised challenging questions. What an example of following one's instinct to save one's beloved while opening a new horizon onto how things could be different.

## CHICAGO

by Fran Gimber

At a faculty convocation of the Catholic Theological Union, on October 15, Mary Frohlich was promoted to full professorship with the title, Professor of Spirituality. She addressed the convocation on "Dissertating Saint Teresa: Then and Now." Saint Teresa and Carmelite spirituality have long been Mary's specialties, so it was fortunate that the convocation was held on what would have been Saint Teresa's feast, had it not been a Sunday. Mary shared the dais with Dr. Malka Zeiger Simkovich, who was appointed to the Crown Ryan Chair of Jewish Studies at CTU. She gave a moving address on "Sacred Time versus Sacred Space: How Holy Times Democratize the Religious Experience and Help Us Find Avenues for Dialogue." Both presentations were made in the context of prayer and song in both traditions.

A reception followed the program at which the many Chicago RSCJ and some visitors, along with her faculty colleagues, were able to congratulate Mary. She left the next day to give a paper at an academic conference in Rennes, France, after which she is visiting communities of the BFN province.

## HALIFAX

by Anne Wachter

We were grateful to have **Marie Buonato** was with us for a month of her sabbatical; on October 18, after much rest and relaxation, she

returned to Bloomfield.

**Nancy Kehoe** was in town to speak to a full house at the Barat Spirituality Centre on the themes in her book *Wrestling with Our Inner Angels: Faith, Mental Illness, and the Journey to Wholeness*.

The Canadian Association of Sacred Heart alumnae/i (CASHA) held a national conference in Halifax over the weekend of Mater's feast; several alums from other countries joined us. We look forward to November 11 when Atlantic Canada solemnly observes Remembrance Day with special ceremonies, prayer services, and family gatherings.

## HOUSTON

by Pat Munch

The weather could not have been more beautiful on Saturday, September 30. That day **Ann Caire, Sharon Karam, Pat Munch** and **Carolyn Siy** set out for Grand Coteau to attend the Memorial Mass and burial for **Alice Mills** and **Tippy Guillory**. The chapel was filled with their friends and relatives and RSCJ. The Mass was deeply moving. Alice and Tippy seemed to be so present. After the burial in the holy ground of Coteau's cemetery, we enjoyed a delicious lunch of gumbo and had the opportunity to visit with the relatives who had come to honor Alice and Tippy. As we drove home, we continued to talk about all that we had experienced and agreed that Alice and Tippy would have been very pleased.

We were happy to have **Lynne Lieux** with us for a few days as she put in long hours interviewing people for her doctoral thesis. We look forward to her return as she continues the hard work connected with reaching her goal.

Betty Ogiel Rubanga, author of *Against All Odds* is visiting both Regis and Duchesne at present. She has been sharing the story of her life and the obstacles she had to overcome to receive an education. The students loved her and perhaps have a new appreciation of how fortunate they are in obtaining an education.

## NEW ORLEANS

by Maureen Chicoine

At the end of September Duchesne House for Volunteers and New Orleans received the happy news of a welcome new resident: **Sergio Vasquez**, Associate and Network educator, who will be joining the Duchesne

House community and working with **Bonnie Kearney** and **Maureen Chicoine** in the ministry there. In early October, Sergio arrived in the wake of hurricane Nate, just in time to welcome Creighton University volunteers who arrived October 14 for a week of service and cultural learning.

New Orleans continues its custom of bimonthly liturgies followed by a meal for RSCJ, friends and Associates. The communities rotate the Mass and meal between Carondelet, Sophie Barat and Duchesne House. Associates help with providing part of the meal.

October arrived at the Rosary, and so did the possible threat of Hurricane Nate. The entire school was spared any damage, but it was not without the usual last minute changes in schedule and activities. It was 130 years ago on October 3, 1887, that a second campus of the Academy of the Sacred Heart, The Rosary, was opened at its present location on St. Charles Avenue. **Melanie Guste**, together with her board chair, Neil Kling, and athletic director, Sara Reiss, blessed and dedicated the new outdoor sports track, soccer practice field, long jump pit and putting green donated by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Benson of the New Orleans Saints. Present for this occasion were Mrs. Benson and several members of the Saints football team organization. On Friday, October 20, the school community gathered to celebrate the Feast of Mater Admirabilis with an all-school Mass and the special traditional *gôûter* of white petit fours decorated with a pink flower.

## ST. LOUIS/ST. CHARLES

by Fran Gimber

**Lyn Osiek** spent several days in Rome during October. She led a group from the Buffalo Bible School to sites connected with the early history of the Church; they also attended a canonization. Lyn spent a day with the probanists deepening their knowledge of Philippine.

**Fran Gimber** spent a week at the novitiate giving talks on the history of the Society to the noviceship community; while in Chicago, she was able to attend the celebration of **Mary Frohlich's** promotion. Fran was invited to Woodlands to "spend an evening" with a group of major supporters of the school; she talked to them about Philippine and the

significance of the bicentennial.

**Elaine Abels** took part in the alumnae meeting in St. Joseph, Missouri, the weekend of October 21. Elaine is an alumna of our former school in St. Joseph.

The Philippine community in St. Charles welcomed new member, **Joan Gannon**, at the end of October.

## EAST

### BOSTON

by Gail O'Donnell

The community at 860 has a busy fall welcoming visitors. Four teachers from Halifax will stay there while attending a conference, and two theologians attending the theology conference will arrive in November. **Lisa Buscher**, **Helen O'Regan** and **Gina Rodee** will also come in October and November. And the community will welcome **Lolin Menéndez** for a few days before and after the regional meeting. It's a joy to see so many; may their stay in Boston be all they hope for!

**Jean Bartunek** and Jane **McKenzie** (Henley Business School, University of Reading in the UK) published their co-edited book, *Academic-Practitioner Relationships: Developments, Complexities and Opportunities* (Routledge). Jean was also elected dean of the Academy of Management Fellows.

Over the last few months the Heart of Oak Community has welcomed young adults to our home for prayer, dinner and sharing. In August we had a BBQ for those who were in Boston over the summer. In September we returned to our usual format of reflection, hors d'oeuvres, and pot luck supper followed by sharing on the opening reflection. **Mary Pat White** shared stories and insights on the life and spirituality of Philippine as suggested by the image of Philippine created by William Schickel at the time of her canonization. Because there is an oak leaf over Philippine's heart in this image we have chosen it as our special Heart of Oak community image. In October, **Barb Quinn** and one of our young adult participants will work together to facilitate a reflection on prophetic challenges for us today. Stay tuned next month for what surfaced!

**FAIRCHESTER-NEW YORK CITY AREAS**

**Submitted by members of the Fairchester-New York City areas**

The RSCJ are in the full swing of life and ministry: October 1 saw a gathering of the area at the new house in White Plains, New York. **Imma De Stefanis** and **Reyna González** hosted a potluck lunch where there was planning, and sharing, and more importantly a lot of bonding.

**Joan Magnetti** and **Grace Butler** attended a panel, “Asylum Seeker or Undocumented Immigrant, Labels with Life-Changing Consequences.” Presenters from Yale Law School and its Asylum Seekers Advocacy Project spoke about the US immigration system and its complexities. Legal representation can bring about a drastically more positive outcome for a person or a family. The panel was organized by “Building One Community, Stamford, Connecticut,” an agency of staff and volunteers who offer opportunities that help immigrant students, clients and families to succeed.

The 120th Street Community has welcomed guests: Among them was Betty Ogiel Rubanga, an alumna from Uganda, and



author of the book *Against All Odds*. She visited the United Nations and participated in several events for the “International Day of the Girl.” The Society of the Sacred Heart and the Loretto Community co-sponsored a panel presentation at the UN at which Betty was a presenter. Also on this UN panel presentation was Audrey Meloche, one of the Society’s UN 2017 summer interns, and the sixteen-year-old niece of **Sheila Smith**.

Betty Ogiel Rubanga is touring some of the Network Schools (Houston, California, St. Louis). She started in New York at 91st Street where she lead a fundraiser “Walk/Swim for Uganda” and gave a talk to the Parents Association and to all the students. She was also a presenter during the “Authors Night.” The RSCJ and the 91st Street Community welcomed her warmly and deeply appreciate her sharing of her life story. She continues to do her book tour on behalf of the Sacred Heart Schools in Uganda, as well as for her “Betty Ogiel Foundation,” which financially supports and advocates for girls’ education in Uganda.

**Kathy Conan** spent two weeks in Chicago giving a seminar to the novices.



## RSCJ Birthdays

November & December 2017

11/05 - Margo Morris

11/06 - Judith Brown

11/07 - Theresa Chu

11/10 - Frances Gimber

11/10 - Mary Finlayson

11/17 - Margaret Mary Munch

11/23 - Clare Pratt

11/24 - Maura Keleher

11/27 - Catherine Roche

11/29 - Kathleen Dolan

11/29 - Shirley Miller

11/30 - Mary Kay Hunyady

12/02 - Marianna Torrano

12/03 - Josephine Wright

12/05 - Dolores Copeland

12/05 - Mary Louise Gavan

12/05 - Nancy Kehoe

12/08 - Melanie Guste

12/10 - Anne Eppig

12/10 - Imma De Stefanis

12/10 - Marie Buonato

12/12 - Kathleen Sullivan

12/12 - Mary Bernstein

12/13 - Merle Pedersen

12/15 - Adele Schroeder

12/15 - Judith Roach

12/17 - Mary Louise Jenkins

12/21 - Patricia Munch

12/23 - Eve Kavanagh

12/24 - Patricia Geuting

12/24 - Rose Quilter

12/25 - Carol Burk

12/26 - Gail O'Donnell

12/26 - Stephany Veluz

12/27 - Betsy Hartson

12/27 - Lorraine Lawrence

12/27 - Marianne Ruggeri

12/31 - Diane Roche

12/31 - Mercedes Serna



***Please pray for...***

**Eloise Abadie**, sister of Anne Caire, RSCJ and Margaret Caire, RSCJ who died October 30, 2017 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Louise Renard**, sister of Betty Renard, RSCJ, who died on October 21, 2017.

**Irene Lawrence Conrady**, former RSCJ, who died on October 10th, 2017 in San Diego, California.

**THANK YOU**

I am touched by so many messages of love and sympathy at the death of my sister, Louise. She was much loved by her 8 children and a faithful friend to so many. Thank you.

Betty Renard

**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).**

**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



## PROVINCIAL TEAM CALENDAR

### **Meg Causey**

#### **November**

- 11/6-11/10: Albany area visit
- 11/10-11/12: Regional Meeting (Albany, New York)
- 11/13-11/21: Team Meetings (St. Louis)

### **Anne-Marie Conn**

#### **November**

- 11/11: SHSH Facilities Meeting—Team Call
- 11/5: Vidyo Call #2
- 11/8: Travel to STL
- 11/10-11/12: Regional Meeting (Belleville, Illinois)
- 11/14-11/21: Team Meetings (St. Louis)
- 11/22: Travel to Halifax
- 11/28-11/30: Visit of Isabel Lagneau to Halifax

### **Mary Finlayson**

#### **November**

- 11/10-11/12: West Regional Meeting (Oakwood)
- 11/13-11/21: Team Meetings (St. Louis)

### **Sheila Hammond**

#### **November**

- 11/10-11/12: Regional Meeting (Belleville, Illinois)
- 11/14-11/21: Team Meetings (St. Louis)
- 11/18-11/19: New Orleans, Philippine Celebration
- 11/27-11/29: Baton Rouge, Bishop's Meeting
- 11/29-12/1: Chicago

### **Diana Wall**

#### **November**

- 11/1-11/3: RCRI Conference (St. Louis)
- 11/09-11/12: West Regional Meeting (Oakwood)
- 11/14-11/21: Team Meetings (St. Louis)
- 11/17-11/27: Philippine Region Treasurer's Meeting  
(Brazil)

