Sisters Visit Grey Nun Academy: Sr. Diane Bardol

On October 1 the Sisters at Lafayette and The Plaza were invited to be little kids again, at least for a morning! Grey Nun Academy Pre K through second grade hosted the opportunity. After being warmly greeted by three upper level students, we spent time in the kindergarten room with the Pre K and K children and their teachers learning our colors through song and dance and rhythm sticks. This also meant we had to carefully follow fun directions! When those lessons were learned, we were escorted to the Raphael Room where we were treated, not tricked, to Halloween Bingo with the first and second graders at our side. We discovered there that everyone is a winner so we all came home with a prize after having a lovely lunch and time to visit with each other. There was also time to visit the former Motherhouse chapel. While the events of the morning can be put into a few sentences, we all know that this delightful event took an enormous amount of planning and organizing, not to say disruption of schedules. We are most grateful to Mary Beth Flatley, Campus Minister for dreaming up and organizing this “Funday Monday” and for the PreK, Kindergarten, First and Second Grade Teachers and their assistants who orchestrated the day. While Deborah Kost, Head of School would say she had little to do with the event, her blessing was the wind beneath the sails that took us back to our teachings days.

Many thanks for all you do and may St. Marguerite d’Youville continue to be your inspiration. More pictures here!

Feast of St. Marguerite d’Youville October 16-Buffalo and Philadelphia: Sr. Donna Lord & Maryellen Glackin

Sometimes a simple celebration can be just right. Rev. Jan Mahle, Campus Minister at D’Youville College, and Mary Jane Key, Grey Nun Associate, planned the Mass for the feast day of St. Marguerite Mary Jane prepared a handout of prayers to St. Marguerite for attendees Rev. Gregory Gallagher, OMI, pastor of Holy Angels, Holy Cross, and Our Lady of Hope parishes, was the celebrant for the liturgy. The four young men beginning their formation as Oblates came with him. At the liturgy were a number of Grey Nuns, several Associates, and some staff members from the college. In an uncomplicated way, St. Marguerite was honored at the college named in her honor.

Philadelphia area Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart and our office staff were treated to a lovely luncheon buffet held at Holy Redeemer Lafayette on St. Marguerite’s Feast Day, October 16. Our staff members donated the beautiful cake as a token of their affection for the GNSH. After the luncheon, Mass was held in the RCR center. Sister Mary Elizabeth shared a reflection on the life of St. Marguerite, Sister Mary Lee Farrell led the congregational singing and Fr. O’Rourke, OSA was our celebrant.

Our office staff members were delighted with the opportunity to visit with so many of the Sisters they used to see on a daily basis at the Motherhouse. In general, it was a pleasant afternoon spent with good friends! Click here for Sr. Mary Elizabeth Looby’s reflection on St. Marguerite.
GNSHappenings...

GNSH Associate News: Angel Conicelli, GNSHA

On Saturday, October 13, 2018, Philadelphia Area GNSH Associates renewed their yearly Commitment. All present welcomed Terry Beam as she made her first Commitment. Thirteen Associates and thirty-three Sisters participated in this prayer service and social. We began with a welcome by Angel Conicelli, Maureen McElroy and Sr. Barbara Schiavoni. The ceremony consisted of singing the hymn, *Companions on the Journey*, followed by a prayer service. Associates Mary Ann Schneider and Peg Devaney and Sister Jean Liston recited readings about Marguerite. All present shared prayers of intercession. Associates then renewed their commitment, after which everyone enjoyed socializing and refreshments. Associates appreciate the support and companionship of the Sisters. We look forward to continuing long-standing relationships and forming new ones with each other. More photos here.

International Dinner: Sr. Mary Elizabeth Looby

Sister Anne Boyer worked with Welcoming the Stranger International as an ESL teacher. She and I (Sr. Mary E. Looby) attended their International Dinner at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. Sr. Anne was delighted to meet up with former colleagues and is pictured here with one of the women with whom she worked in this program that teaches English to immigrants. There was a delightful selection of homemade food that made for a “Full” evening.

Birthday Celebration: Maureen Goodall

Sister Donna Jean Tavernier celebrated her birthday on October 18. She is pictured here with Sister Eileen White and a beautiful flower cake (non-edible) and (edible) cupcakes. Happy birthday, Sister Donna Jean!

Holy Redeemer Lafayette: Sr. Bridget Connor

Sister Kathleen Marie Engers, SSND, a friend of the Grey Nuns, generously donated her budget money for “Art at Lafayette.” Sister Ann McKee graciously accepted the invitation to teach the first class of four watercolor classes. Joan Maher, Activities Director, and Amy, Assistant Director handled the logistics to make it all happen. One of the sisters at Magnificat suggested that they might like to paint also. As the saying goes “One picture is worth a thousand words,” in this case it is also true that pictures don’t need any words. More photos here.

NUNS ON THE BUS: Buffalo, Bucks County, Philadelphia: Sr. Sheila Stone

Spirits were high as the brightly colored bus came into view in the parking lot at St. Joseph’ Parish on Main Street, Buffalo. The nuns from Network are here, bringing a town hall meeting on their *Tax Justice Truth Tour*. The Church was packed as the people of Buffalo welcomed them. Among those participating were several GNSH and a GNSHA.

US Representative, Brian Higgins, welcomed the sisters, acknowledged how the Catholic sisters were instrumental in supporting the Affordable Care Act, and how the recently passed tax policy increases income disparity in our city and country. Sister Simone Campbell, director of Network, spoke to the changes brought about by Reaganomics and the current tax law of 2017 that increased income inequality and the national debt. The town hall visualized for the participants who benefits and who loses starkly: showing that wealthy individuals and corporations gain overwhelmingly, while the lowest income brackets and middle class fall even farther behind. Participants were invited to discuss how the tax cuts impacted Buffalo and what some solutions are. Solutions suggested were to build relationships across neighborhoods to discuss these issues, to vote and support legislators that are working on behalf of the people and use the media to communicate priorities. The evening culminated in the opportunity to sign the bus and meet the sisters who are traveling on it. GNSH met the bus in Bucks County and some also went to St. Joseph University in Philadelphia for a Town Hall Meeting. More Photos HERE!
Thank you to everyone who helped with our recent sock drive in honor of St. Marguerite’s Feast Day (October 16). We collected **902 pairs of socks**, and over $**790** in donations to our partner organization, The Joy Of Sox. The organization partners with local shelters and outreach efforts to our local citizens who are homeless, as well as to others who call on them for help around the country. We are grateful to all of you for carrying on the mission of St. Marguerite d’Youville to create a Compassionate World.

**Sock Drive**

“**I recently attended Sandra M. Schneider’s Keynote on Experiencing the Risen Jesus: The Biblical Basis of Christian Mysticism. It was a great morning spent learning of the phenomenological rather than metaphysical understanding of religious experiences.**”

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

Mercy Housing Fund is one of the Grey Nuns’ socially responsible investments. Their mission is Gospel driven and they are incredibly successful. You can support them, too, through Amazon.smile every time you shop! Log on to [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/gp/merchRegistration.html?merchant=mercyloanfund&target=mercyloanfund), choose Mercy Loan Fund (CO) as the non-profit organization you wish to support, and 1% of your purchase will be donated to Mercy Loan Fund. Learn more about Mercy Housing Loan Fund [here](https://mercyloanfund.org/).

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**Thank You Note**

Dear Sisters, Associates, and Friends,

I thank each one of you. I appreciated your remembering my birthday with prayers, cards, and gifts. I ask God to bless each one of you.

Gratefully,

Sister Eileen Murray, GNSH

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**Saint Oscar Romero Canonization Celebration**

At the foot of the altar are some of the Offertory Gifts. In addition to the wine, water and hosts…a framed photo of an enlargement of the holy card we received, flowers from the backyard gardens of some parishioners as a sign of respect, folded newspapers to symbolize how the government controlled what was written during that time leading up to his death, a sandal symbolizing his travel among the people and a basket of voting ballots for November…

Christ the King Church, San Antonio

Outside Altar set up for the special Mass for the Canonization of Oscar Romero

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**Earth Charter Quote**

It is imperative that we, the peoples of the earth, declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

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Pray for an end to the death penalty,
for those scheduled for execution,
for the victims of these crimes and
all whose lives have been impacted by violence.

Scheduled Executions for November 2018
1: Edmund Zagorski, TN
14: Robert Moreno Ramos, TN

Death Penalty Information
National Catholic Pledge to End the Death Penalty
“All Christians and people of good will are thus called today to
fight not only for the abolition of the death penalty, whether
legal or illegal, and in all its forms, but also in order to improve
prison conditions, with respect for the human dignity of the
people deprived of their freedom” - Pope Francis
#Pledge4Mercy

Catholic Mobilizing Network wants YOU to take action and
ask for clemency for those scheduled to die by the death
penalty. They have recently updated their website with more
opportunities for advocacy. Be sure to take a look!
Current Death Penalty information is also available HERE

CALENDAR

November
1  All Saints Day
2  All Souls Day
3  Buffalo Area Meetings
8  Leadership Meeting
14  Philadelphia Area Meetings
20  GNA 55th Anniversary
21  Presentation of Mary
22-23  Thanksgiving Holiday (offices closed)
26  Leadership Meeting

FUTURE DATES

December
10  Leadership Meeting

NOTICE:

Photographs taken during an event will be for
the use of the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart and
may be published in the newsletter, annual
report, or posted on our website, social media, or other
communications media. If you do not wish for your
photograph to be used, please remove yourself from group
photographs, or notify the photographer. Thank you!

NewsNotes is published monthly, on the last Wednesday.