

Holy Name Province

August 2018

AROUND THE PROVINCE



S. Candice Tucci, OSF has two items recently published.



◆ Her painting, "Prairie Grasses" is published in the current edition of *Presence, An international Journal of Spiritual Direction*, Vol. 24, No.3, September 2018 edition.

◆ She also co-authored with four nursing faculty an article for *Jesuit Higher Education: A Journal Volume 7/Number 1, May 2018: Integrating a Spiritual Care Model within an Accelerated Nursing Curriculum*.

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FINAL FAREWELL TO MOM AND DAD... by S. Christine Diensberg

Mom had a very large hernia when she died on November 4, 2016. She willed it to the University of Buffalo, Science Department. After two years, her body was cremated and returned to me.

May 29, 2018 was the day that our family lawyer, Richard Slisz, chose to bury Mom's cremains atop Dad's grave in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Cheektowaga. It was a beautiful day...warm and sunny!

It was Richard's idea to reunite them in death, since they had been united in life. I planned a simple, but meaningful service. While I sang "Holy Ground", our good friend, Bishop Edward Grosz, sprinkled holy water atop the grave. Then I briefly mentioned my parents' birth and death dates. Both were born in Germany, but met in Buffalo where Mom worked as a waitress in a German restaurant.

There were 2 readings from Genesis...chapter 13, vs. 19-20 and Genesis 4:9-31. The closing song was "With All the Saints."

Two members of my "crowd", Sisters Marygrace Polino and Mara Walton, were able to attend along with Chris McCarthy (then Activity Leader in the Health Center) and Sr. Joan Nelson, my 5th grade teacher. When the service was over, Richard treated us all to a cold drink in honor of Mom and Dad!



FRACTALS: A *fractal* is a non-regular geometric shape that has the same degree of non-regularity on all scales. It comes from the Latin *fractus*, meaning an irregular surface like that of a broken stone.

Fractals are the kind of shapes we see in nature.



SNEP Summer Program "It's Our Nature"



Celebrating 25 years walking together with the Sisters and Associates of Saint Francis of Penance and Christian Charity



Ana Toledo, Miriam Chong, Esther and in the background Eddy and Martha Alcazar with Sr. Ann McDermott.

For the past 25 years, I have been blessed with the experience and knowledge of the Franciscan Spirituality.

Journeying with other Associates and Sisters have enriched my life. The exposure to the lives of Mother Magdalen and Saint Francis has shaped the way I look at life. The daily call to become an Instrument of Peace resonate within me, and although difficult, God's grace makes it possible.

I am forever grateful for this journey, with the Sisters, Associates and for many ways in which the Franciscan Spirituality has shaped my life and my faith.

This great experience that Ana Toledo, Martha and Eddy Alcazar, Miriam Chong along with Flora Toledo shared with us on May 26, 2018. That same day, four new associates were commissioned.

Commissioning Celebration of the New Associates from South Florida



They are from the group of San Bernard of Quintavalle in Hollywood Florida (Carmen Salcedo and Christian Pesca, Ivette and Ricardo Fernandez). They experienced a joyful and emotional moment that afternoon and proudly showed the polo shirt that they designed and made for this occasion. Originally the new associates wanted to participate at the Associate Retreat in Stella, but their plans get interrupted by the hurricane Irma and wasn't possible for them to attend. These couple were very touched that afternoon. Carmen expressed: "having Sisters from Stella that afternoon there

was very moving, especially Sr. Nancy who came to commission them." Ana Toledo also commented: "Today I am witnessing the fruit of 25 year as associate and I know that more will come..."

Also during our Assembly this year we had the commissioning of Raquel Padron who wanted to be commissioning at Stella and have the opportunity to share her joy with the Sisters. She felt privilege to be there, "The day of my commission as an associate was very significant in my life. Unofficially as a pre-associate I was part of the Franciscan Sisters for quite a while but, that day in the chapel with the ceremony, it became a reality. What a great message is for me that day I Authored my Life with them as associate."

Submitted by: Ana Toledo and S. Maria Elena.



ACTIVITIES AT SHA *by S. Mara Walton*

Students and faculty have many exciting events to share with each other as the school year begins on September 5. They have traveled many places including Australia, New Zealand, Zambia and the Dominican Republic. Flight delays and other travel challenges were part of their excursions too! Pictures can be found on the SHA Facebook page and will be a part of future publications. Each of these trips provided an unforgettable adventure.

The Art Department added new creations to the “bridge” area of the Academy last May. The title of the exhibit is “What Are You Saying?” Over twenty young artists have added water color, acrylic and ceramic pieces to the show that reflect their voices in their individual expression of the theme. The exhibit will remain up until March 2019 and you are welcome to visit at any time.

The summer also brought the usual repairs of the roof and “big” cleaning of all the classroom areas. A few offices have been rearranged and teachers will adjust to different classrooms. The year 2019 is the 90th anniversary of the groundbreaking of the building at 3860 Main St. This was a monumental challenge to begin construction of a school in the “country,” outside the city limits. The faculty and staff will begin this year with a retreat day at Stella on September 4 that will give them the opportunity to learn more about the history of the sisters in the Buffalo area and their commitment and dedication to Catholic education.

As classes begin so do the fall sports and plans for the annual Open House for girls in 6 – 8 grade. This is held the last weekend of September. The feast of St. Francis brings a special Mass and day of celebration followed by the annual Walkathon on October 5. The cycle of the academic year begins again. You can always check out the latest on the SHA website, www.sacredheartacademy.org.

From the Advancement Office *by Barbara Johnson*

We’re not all about fundraising in the Advancement Office. Most importantly, we focus on FRIENDraising. Every day there are people across the globe who ask for our prayers via our website, stellaosf.org. If they provide their email, I always personally respond and have gotten to know some of the people over the years.

For example, Charles in Nigeria asks us to remember his children in prayer. He sends photos – most recently of his daughter’s first communion. Then there is Chrissy, who lives in the United States. Her mother is suffering from stage 3 anal cancer. Chrissy who is also her caregiver, is scared and worried. She emails me daily. Priyanthi lives in India and sends long, detailed requests for prayers for each of her family members – especially for her teenage daughter, and a brother who lives in Australia.

As you say your daily prayers, please ask God to hold dear the many people who turn to us for support.



ENTERED NEW LIFE

All praise be Yours, my Lord, through Sister Death, from whose embrace no mortal can escape.



Thank you for your prayers said for the peace of the soul of our beloved **Sister M. Prisca Kemidjem**, who died on July 24, 2018. She born on November 22, 1935 and was professed on February 5, 1960 in Semarang, Indonesia. Sister Prisca was a member of the San Damiano Community. Rest in Peace.

Please join us in a prayer of gratitude for the life our **Sister Margaret Bannan** who died on July 24, 2018 at Marian Convent. She was born on September 9, 1925 and was professed on August 29, 1945. Sister Margaret served as the Provincial Minister of St. Francis Province from June 1978 to June 1985. May she rest peacefully in the arms of our loving God.



Your prayers are kindly requested for the repose of the soul of our beloved **Sister M. Leonarda Djorijah** who died on August 5, 2018. She was a member of the San Damiano Community. Sister Leonarda was born on March 27, 1927 and was professed on August 20, 1951. Thank you for your prayers said for the peace of the world of our beloved sister.

Since December of 2012, silent holy hour for World Peace has been held in the chapel at Stella Niagara each Monday evening from 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. The group is generally comprised of 6-8 sisters and lay persons. This special time of prayer is an expression of our personal commitment to peace. You may not be able to join us at Stella, but you might wish to gather in "*your neck of the woods*" on a day and time that is convenient for you and others. In Jessica Powers book, Selected Poems, a poem entitled The Little Nation (pg. 39) reads, "*Who doubts that love is an effective weapon may meet with a surprise.*" May God surprise our nation and our world with peace!

