

Newsletter of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius

Spotlight on Our Master Baker: Sister M. Brigid

by Sister Bernadette Marie, SS.C.M.

What's in a name? In the case of Sister M. Brigid, both her baptismal name, Martha, and her last name, Fasiang, have special significance. No doubt her parents, Barbara and Frank, of Whiting, Indiana, did not realize the prophetic name they had selected for their daughter, Martha. Like Martha in the New Testament, Sister Brigid during her entire religious life has taken care of the needs of others. Imagine how happy Jesus was to visit Martha's home after his tiring travels and his dealings with troublesome people. Sister Brigid's warm hospitality in her culinary and housekeeping expertise are similar to those of Martha in the Bible, both having brought great contentment to those they served.

At the age of 89, Sister Brigid has boundless energy and spreads good cheer wherever she goes. Her last name, Fasiang, provides a glimpse into her personality and work. The Slovak verb "fasiangovat" translates "to celebrate carnival." A synonym for a carnival is "festival" and the Sisters have hosted an annual Summer Festival the second Saturday in July for the past 44 years. For the past four years, Sister Brigid has contributed delectable baked goods to the event which raises funds to support the Sisters and their mission. With the help of her baking assistants including Sister Jana Polakova and Wilma Samorajczyk, Sister Brigid is capable of producing remarkable amounts of baked goods for the Summer Festival. This year, she and her team made approximately 90 nut and poppy seed rolls, 90 raisin bread loaves and 200 boxes of nut, apricot, prune and poppy seed kolačky, all of which sold out before noon!

The talent is in her genes. Sister Brigid's mother, Barbara, was a great cook and baker. Of Slovak descent, she turned out the best pirohy, droby and goulash. Sister Brigid said her siblings and she especially delighted in savoring her mother's nut rolls, banana cream pies and strawberry shortcake. Barbara was a woman of great faith, a virtue that enabled her to surmount the difficult circumstances she encountered in life throughout her 87 years. Sister Brigid used the talent passed down by her mother. After her profession, she spent nearly 20 years cooking and baking for 144 students and 50 Sisters at St. Cyril Academy and the Motherhouse.

Sister Brigid's hospitality extends further than her baking skills. After two decades serving the



From left: An avid Community-person, Sister Brigid enjoys a light moment with Sisters Canice and Susan at Convocation.



From left: Sisters Brigid and Jana work as a well-oiled team in the days before the Summer Festival to ensure that there will be enough containers of kolač for fans of Slovak pastry.

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Motherhouse, her next mission took her to Villa St. Cyril in Highland Park, Illinois, where she cared for elders. Sister Brigid later ministered at St. Benedict Nursing and Rehab Center as the Director of Environmental Services. When she was 81, she again served briefly at the Motherhouse as a cook until she was missioned for a year to Binghamton, New York, where she visited nursing homes. She is currently in her seventh year living at the Andean High School convent in Merrillville, Indiana. Her days are filled with sewing for the gift shop at Maria Hall and making baked goods for holidays, or whenever anyone wants a tasty homemade delicacy.

To try Sister Brigid's scrumptious baked goods, be sure to come early to our Summer Festival on July 14, 2018!



Above: Sister Brigid and Wilma Samorajczyk see to it that the nut and poppy seed rolls are crafted and baked to perfection in the Motherhouse bakery for the Summer Festival.



Left: A woman of many talents, Sister Brigid has created much more than edible delights--her creations as a seamstress grace many convent rooms in many far-flung places.

Left: In the Andean kitchen, Sister Brigid prepares her boxes of kolač to sell at local parish events. Her fame as a celebrated baker is widespread in Northwest Indiana.

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Celebrating a Novice
**Introducing
Sister Mary Kate**

We experienced a day of great rejoicing on September 2 when Mary Mensch was received as a novice. Before beginning her journey in religious life, Mary resided in Elysburg where she attended Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish and sang in the choir. She graduated from Lourdes Regional High School and Bloomsburg University with a B.S. in Anthropology. Mary worked for the U.S. Postal Service in Harrisburg before becoming an Affiliate and then a Candidate to discern her vocation.



SSCM Formation Director and Novice: Sister Jean Marie and Sister Mary Kate.

Mary's reception into the Novitiate took place during Midmorning Prayer. Sister Michael Ann, General Superior, asked the Sisters to promise to provide the assistance Mary needs while learning to dedicate herself to building the Kingdom. Sister Mary Kate was formally welcomed into the Novitiate when she was presented with the crucifix and white veil blessed by Father Heintzelman. With great fervor, Sister Mary Kate spoke the words, "I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me." Sister Jean Marie, Novice Director, lit a candle from the Paschal Candle during the hymn "Christ Is the Heart" written by Joreen Kelly of Harrisburg, an SS.C.M. Associate. Sister Jean Marie presented Sister Mary Kate with a candle to signify her baptismal commitment, and the two Sisters presented their candles at the statue of the Sacred Heart, enthroned in the sanctuary.

Sister Mary Kate referred to the candle, a symbol of her new life in formation, in a letter to the Sisters printed in the ceremonial booklet. Colorful ribbons tied around the candle represented her birth month, as well as the birth months of her parents and grandparents. "I have been blessed with an abundance of love and guidance throughout my life... As I continue my formation in community, I hope to bring all that I have learned throughout my life and offer all that I am to community: my gifts, talents and treasures." The blessing of the Novice Director was followed by the hymn "O Holy Patrons," a closing prayer and the *Salve Regina*.

Following the Midmorning Prayer and reception, Father Heintzelman celebrated a Eucharistic Liturgy, the Mass for Religious, with Father James Lease, concelebrant and pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Danville. In his homily, Father Heintzelman spoke of Sister Mary Kate's joy when she returned to Danville after experiencing SS.C.M. ministries in San Antonio and Charleston. "You witnessed there the life to which you were called," Father Heintzelman said. "God's grace will always be with you as you embrace your call during these special years of formation."

The liturgy participants were close to Sister Mary Kate during her initial steps in religious life. Sister Jean Marie was cross bearer and Sisters Jana and Denise Marie carried the candles. Sister Susan Pontz, missioned in San Antonio, proclaimed the first reading. The cantor was Sister Linda Marie, who accompanied Sister Mary Kate as a Candidate in San Antonio. Sister Marcine, missioned at St. Francis Center in South Carolina, proclaimed the second reading, and Sister Deborah Marie read the intercessions. Sister Mary Kate's parents brought the gifts to the altar.

Welcome, Sister Mary Kate!

from the General Superior



**It's All
About
Perspective**

by Sister
Michael Ann
Orlik, SS.C.M.

I have had a life-long love affair with photography. I think it is a family trait. We had attic trunks filled with photos of relatives we knew and those we only thought we knew. We filled numerous scrapbooks with pictures long before scrapbooking became a popular pastime. Today we have excellent digital cameras on our phone and can shoot pictures at almost any time. Still, no matter how good a camera might be, the beauty of a picture is still reliant on distance, lighting and angles. It is all about perspective.

It is the same with our perspectives on life. We can choose to view the world around us from only one angle and continually refuse to change our perspective. If we do not look at other possibilities, we can become inflexible and unable to adapt to new ideas or plans. We like things to go our way because it feels comfortable.

We can also choose to take risks and broaden our perspectives, stand in different places, look high or low, and see the bigger picture of a vast horizon stretching before us; or we can choose a close-up, focusing in on the beauty that lies below the surface of our lives. Changing our perspective allows us to see with new eyes, embrace change and move in new directions. We become more flexible, allowing us to reach out in love to others and to tolerate our differences. Indeed, standing in new and different places can transform our lives and leave us with peaceful hearts, open and flexible, so that we can be molded and shaped by our loving God.

May your heart always be open to the stirrings of the Spirit.

Summer Convocation Days

"The more we get together, the happier we'll be," is not just lyrics from an old song but a truism that played out for the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in the days from July 2 through 5. Enriched by the presentation on Transformation given by Dr. Ted Dunn (*at the far right, surrounded by Sister table facilitators*), the Sisters talked, shared and listened to each other and to the reports given by Sister Michael Ann (*right*) and the Committees working to implement the directions set by the 2016 General Chapter and the Strategic Plan that flowed from it.

As part of the activities of Convocation Days, a Prayer Outside the Walls was held on July 4. Joined by members of the surrounding community, the group (*right*) prayed for our country, for peace and for an end to those injustices that hurt the most vulnerable among us.



Aladdin On Stage

Young Actors Learn Their Craft

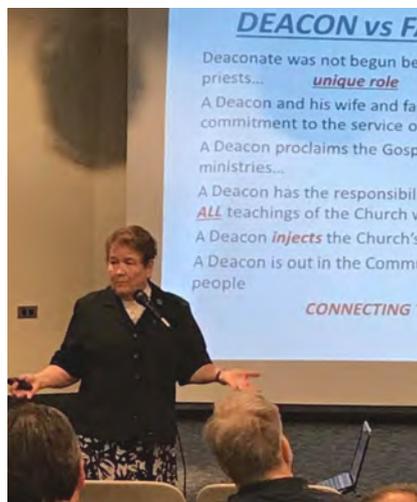
In less than 10 days, a 7- to 12-year old cast of thousands (slight exaggeration) was directed by Sister Donna Marie to present two performances of the musical Aladdin. On June 23 and 24, the acting students (*full cast pictured at the left*) amazed their parents and friends with their skills in memorization, characterization, singing and staging.

In the two weeks previous to this show, Sister Donna Marie (*far left*) worked with 5 through 7 year olds, giving them a crash course in acting which culminated in two Friday evening performances for their parents and friends. Sister Michaelaette (*left*) provided their keyboard accompaniment. Kudos!



Among You As One Who Serves

On April 22, in a nearly full Maria Hall auditorium, Sister Seton Marie gave an afternoon reflection to the men studying to be permanent Deacons for the Diocese of Harrisburg. Herself a hospital chaplain and the sister of Father Gerard Connolly, TOR, of happy memory, Sister Seton Marie was well-qualified to challenge the deacon candidates to be all the Church needs them to be.



Much Going on in Bluffton, South Carolina



Eleven women were welcomed into the SS.C.M. Associates at a ceremony in Bluffton on May 7. Sharing prayer and mission with the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, these women represent the extension of our spirituality and charism in the Church today.

The Sisters ministering in Bluffton have multiple stories to tell of surviving hurricanes (images left to the imagination), celebrating the welcoming of new Associates (*posing happily at the left*), and providing assistance through the St. Francis Center for the many migrant families that work in the South Carolina fields (*pictured below with Sister Canice and Sister Jacqueline*).



On October 28, the Sisters from Bluffton were joined by the Sisters from San Antonio and held a Day of Reflection on "Women Facing the Future." Three women joined the Sisters to discuss who Jesus is for them, call and response, states of life and discernment. A day well spent!

And Elsewhere...



In Chicago, Sister Paraclita (*second from the left*) poses in the July 14 graduation photo of the Presence Health chaplain interns she trained from January to June, 2017. They were a richly diverse group who contributed to each other's growth as they developed the pastoral skills needed to relate meaningfully to patients, family and staff in the six different hospitals to which they were sent. Congratulations!



On October 14, the bus carrying pilgrims from St. André Bessette Parish in Wilkes-Barre on their way to the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg MD stopped in Danville long enough to pick up 6 additional pilgrims. It paid to have Sister Madonna (*far right*) running the trip.

1977 - 2017

St. Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten

40 Years and Counting

Right: Gowned and ready to graduate from Kindergarten, the Class of 2016 lines up for the procession.

Below: With a big response to a big need, the students pose with their donation to a big need, the young victims of Hurricane Harvey.



Right: The annual wedding of Q and U takes the study of the alphabet to its logical conclusion. This much-celebrated occasion lives long in the memories of the students.

Right: May brings the students into Assumption Court for the crowning of the Blessed Mother and their presentation of flowers to her image.



The dream of Mother M. Valeria Romanchek, General Superior, 1976-1980, to establish a school for young learners came to fruition in 1977 when Villa Preschool opened on the campus of Villa Sacred Heart, Danville. A year later, the school opened its kindergarten. After four decades and a number of changes, including a new name and location, St. Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten continues to provide a vibrant education for children beginning their academic journey.

Under the direction of Sister Donna Marie Ivanko, Principal, the school is celebrating 40 years of providing quality education. Home to a diverse student population, the school welcomes all denominations including those of Catholic, Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and Protestant faiths. A variety of cultural backgrounds have been represented at the school, including Japanese, Hispanic, Chinese, Indian, African, Irish and Costa Rican.

"Throughout the years, one thing has always remained the same," said Sister Donna Marie, who has been principal since 2003 and served on the leadership team for 12 years. "We always maintain an academic, student-focused, child-friendly curriculum."

Opening a school on the grounds of Villa Sacred Heart was not a new endeavor for the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, whose roots in education run deep. The First Catholic Slovak Girls Academy opened in 1922 as an all-girls boarding and day school that brought young women from all over the U.S. and abroad to experience a superb Catholic high school education. The school was established at the Grove mansion, a Tuscan villa built by iron barons Michael and Joseph Grove circa 1870. It later moved to the west wing of the stone building constructed in 1929 and was renamed St. Cyril Academy in 1955, continuing to serve as a high school through 1999. The stone building is also home to the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius, a pilgrimage site.

Mother Valeria's vision was a response to the need for early childhood education since very few preschools and no Catholic preschools existed in the Danville area. Through the four decades of its operation the school has served over 1,200 students and continues to be a trusted leader in education in the Danville community.

"In a Catholic environment, we concentrate on teaching children self-confidence, strong articulation skills and the ability to have healthy interpersonal relationships," said Sister Donna Marie. "We foster a real love for learning that we hope students carry throughout their lives, and we strive to expose them to a variety of experiences that enhance their individual growth."

With teachers Betsy Finn (a former student of the Academy), Bliss Fallon (St. Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten alumna) and Stephanie Yoder, the school offers abundant learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. Each class takes two field trips per year. Favorite destinations include PPL Montour Preserve, Pumpkinville, Ashland Mine

Through the four decades of its operation the school has served over 1,200 students and continues to be a trusted leader in education in the Danville community.

Tunnel, Penn's Cave, Bloomsburg and Lewisburg Children's Museums, Zoo America and Reptileland.

"Family is very important to us," said Sister Donna Marie regarding parents' involvement in the school. In addition to field trips, special nights for parents to enjoy the classroom environment with their children are held in October and December. Family Fun Night offers stations with crafts, charades, games and refreshments. Santa Express brings the opportunity to visit Santa, decorate cookies with Mrs. Claus and make reindeer food for Christmas Eve. Each spring, parents help with special activities like Field Day. They also have an open invitation to educate students about their families' unique cultures. Presentations have included Hanukkah, Chinese New Year and Ramadan.

This year is a particularly important year for the school, as 2017 marks its 40th anniversary. In addition to the ruby-themed 14th annual Mothers' Tea and Dads' Hike held in September, teachers and their students are planning special events for the months of January, February and March. A cake social in October and Thanksgiving Feast at Pine Barn Inn provided additional opportunities to celebrate four decades of success. The annual Christmas Pageant, an event which draws a large crowd of family and friends, and the special alumni Mass and social to be held in March will be highlights of the commemoration of the school's anniversary. May our next 40 years be just as fruitful as the first 40!

Keep up to date with the most recent news and upcoming events by finding and 'liking' the official "St. Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten" page on Facebook.



Left and below: On September 17, the girls and their mothers and grandmothers attended a Tea in the Villa solarium, while the boys and their fathers and grandfathers enjoyed a hike and a cook-out complete with grilled hotdogs.



Left: There's nothing like a sack race to inspire some energetic competition and maximize the exercise expended during the annual Field Day. A beautiful spring day is a bonus.



Left: On Young Authors' Day, the Kindergarten students read the books they have written to the Sisters at Maria Hall.



Above: At the annual Thanksgiving dinner, the parents and guests are serenaded by the little Pilgrims and Native Americans before the feast begins.

Left: An indoor parade of costumed students delights the Sisters at Maria Hall just before their Halloween party in the Motherhouse Dining Room.



In Memory of

**Sister
Maria Isidore
Tomašćak,
SS.C.M.**

April 17, 1928 -
May 9, 2017

Professed:
August 10, 1950



Agnes Tomašćak was born in New Milford, CT. She was the oldest daughter of Andrew and Veronica (Piskura) Tomašćak and was followed by five sisters and eight brothers.

Agnes' elementary school education was completed in Brookfield public schools. Later she attended Saints Cyril and Methodius Commercial School in Bridgeport, CT, and in 1947 graduated from St. Cyril Academy, Danville, PA.

On February 1, 1948, Agnes entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and was received as a novice

on August 11 of that year as Sister Maria Isidore. She made her first profession of vows on August 10, 1950.

During her entire religious life, Sister Maria Isidore lived on the Motherhouse complex: at the Villa, St. Methodius Convent and Maria Hall, and was involved in horticulture. From 1950 until only recently she engaged in the cultivation of vegetables and flowers. For many years she worked alongside Sister Mary Anna Pavelka who died in 1994. Sister's next co-worker was Sandy McCloughan whose attention and care for Sister allowed her to remain active long beyond expectations. Sister gave special attention to the fruit trees in the orchards, pruning the apple, peach, plum and pear trees in early spring and gathering the ripe fruit in the fall. She was frequently helped in this endeavor by her faithful family members.

Sister Maria Isidore was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers William and Methodius. She is survived by her brothers, Andrew, Southbury, CT; Albert, New Milford, CT; Cyril, Bradenton, FL and New Milford, CT; Robert, Port Charlotte, FL; James, Southbury, CT; Peter, Bradenton, FL; and sisters, Margaret DeLuca, Boynton, FL; Barbara Carmignani, Danbury, CT; Marion White, Bristol, CT; Cecilia Hungerford, New Milford, CT and Christina Richards, Woodbury, CT.

Sister Isidore is greatly missed by her family, all the Sisters and every tree and flowering plant at Villa Sacred Heart. May she rest in peace!

A Reflection for Graduates

It's Nice to Know We Are Loved

Sister Suzanne Duzen was asked to give the reflection at the Interfaith Baccalaureate Service for high school graduates on June 13, at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Mamaroneck. Ministers from local churches, Rabbi Sirkman and Sister Suzanne (*pictured at the far right*) were present to offer prayers and a blessing. Jack Jamieson from St. Augustine's, where Sister Suzanne ministers, (*pictured above*) read the St. Francis Peace Prayer. The following is Sister Suzanne's reflection:



In 1964 the original production of *Fiddler on the Roof* opened on Broadway. This delightful musical ran for over 3,000 performances. One of the popular songs dealt with the father of the Jewish family, Tevye, asking his wife Golde whether she loved him. Golde found it a foolish question, for had she not been his wife for 25 years, washed his clothes, fed him and their daughters day after day? But Tevye persisted again and again until Golde said, "I suppose I do." To which Tevye responded, "It's nice to know."

It's nice to know that we are loved. It's nice to hear the words, "I love you." True, doing good to others



and serving their needs is a witness of love, but the words confirm the unspoken. Unfortunately, millions of people go through life without ever hearing those glorious words. Yet the "common good" is at the heart of every faith tradition, in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and also in our Constitution, "for the welfare of ALL."

Pope Francis writes, "Certain silences are oppressive," and "The right words spoken at the right time, daily protect and nurture love." May we be fiddlers on the roof singing our song of love and joy for all people. My bumper sticker says it best, "God bless the whole world, no exceptions." And in the words of Jean Valjean from the musical, *Les Miserables*, when he says, "To love another person is to see the face of God."

So my prayer for you, dear graduates, is that you would be the face of God to the world and in the words of Dorothy Day, "All my life I have been haunted by God," that you would be haunted by our loving God (followed by the song, "Every Beat of My Heart" by David Kauffman).

Fond Memories of the Summer Festival

Each July draws a crowd of our friends, family and members of the Danville community to enjoy a day of fun in the sun at Villa Sacred Heart. Our 44th annual Summer Festival, held on July 8, received overwhelming support this year as evidenced by a large turnout. Here's a rundown of the Top 10 Festival offerings:

1. Bake Sale: Nut rolls and kolačky. Wheat, white and cinnamon raisin breads. Intricately decorated sugar cookies, lemon squares and coconut macaroons. In order to purchase these delectable creations made by Sister Brigid, Sister Kate Morris and Melissa Heeman, a Metz food service employee, it's necessary to arrive early. The baked goods sell faster than the proverbial "hot cakes" and as always, were all sold long before noon, thanks to our talented bakers.

2. The Grounds: The festival spreads over all four corners of our campus. Stroll the grounds, study the architecture and relax on the benches under the shade of the ancient trees.

3. Ethnic Food: Halušky, holupky and potato pancakes are favorite traditional Eastern European dishes and staple foods at our festival.

4. The Crowd: We're sure we have the friendliest festival crowd around! Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones on festival day.

5. A Reason to Be Thankful: An abundance of fun, food and friendship that day serve as reminders of God's bountiful gifts.

6. Games: Sit down and cool off indoors with a game of bingo. Head to the children's games to crack open a plastic egg and win an instant prize, or the chance to win a larger prize. Try your luck at ring toss or ski ball. Pick a gift bag at random and check to see what you've won. So many fun surprises for all ages!

7. Flea Market: They say one person's trash is another person's treasure. That's definitely the case at our indoor flea market. You can find everything from modern kitchen appliances to antique china, vintage books and collectibles.

8. Food Trucks and More: This year we tried something new by inviting local food trucks to join us. The trucks offered American grilled favorites including hot dogs, hamburgers, hot sausage sandwiches and gourmet grilled cheese. Pair that with our fresh sweet corn, wash it down with fresh-squeezed lemonade and enjoy ice cream and waffles for dessert.

9. Tours: Want to learn about the Jankola Library and its treasures? Interested in the roots of the congregation and the architecture and windows of the Basilica? One of our resident historians will introduce you to the stone building constructed with the nickels and dimes of Slovak immigrants during the Great Depression.

10. Silent Auction: Step right up and try your luck! Some prizes this year included a Yeti cooler, carpet runner from Buckley's, gift certificates to local restaurants, LED garden lights from Cole's Hardware and many theme baskets. Thanks to all who donated auction prizes!

Whether you've joined us many years or you've never attended, we encourage you to mark your calendars for the 45th annual Summer Festival on **July 14, 2018!** Please save the date.

Have feedback or ideas regarding the festival? Please e-mail Jessica Pastuszek at jpastuszek@sscm.org.

Below from the top: Holupky dinners are served by generous volunteers; Bingo!; There was enough bread for all comers.



Above and left: The thrill of a prize every pick assures that these eggs will be empty at the end of the day; Linda Baranoski makes sure that all the prizes make it to the right booths for winning; always a favorite festival stop, the Flea Market is carefully laid out by Sister Loretta Marie and her helpers so that it is ready for those looking for just the right thing to take home.





Taking a Swing at Providing Benevolent Care

Maria Joseph Continuing Care Community, a ministry of Sisters of Saint Cyril and Methodius, hosted its 15th annual Golf Tournament on Friday, September 8, at Frosty Valley Country Club. The event brought friends, family and supporters of Maria Joseph together to enjoy 18 holes of golf, followed by a dinner and an awards ceremony.

The event raised funds for benevolent care of Maria Joseph residents who have outlived their financial means, providing daily necessities including food, medicine and care. A total of 245 individuals and businesses supported the event by golfing, sponsoring, donating and volunteering.

Together, we raised a total of \$56,170! Thank you so much for supporting our benevolent mission at Maria Joseph.



Golfers included the Sodexo team (above) and a team from H & P Construction from Kulpmont (below).



Diocese of Gary, Indiana

Midwestern Servant Leaders

This exuberant group (pictured at the right) received the SS.C.M. Servant Leadership Award at St. Mary's Church in Crown Point, IN on April 30. Sixty-five high school juniors and seniors were honored for being joyful witnesses, compassionate proclaimers and dedicated builders of God's Kingdom in their service to Church, school and community.

Nominated by their pastors, teachers and Youth Ministers, they each received a certificate and a towel, symbolic of their commitment to service, and were applauded by the Sisters and family members present for the event.



SS.C.M. Raffle Winners

Our grateful thanks to those who sold and/or bought raffle tickets for our annual raffle. The winners were drawn on August 15.

If your name was not drawn, know that we still consider you a winner!

\$500.00	Stanley Seliga, Shelton, CT
\$250.00	Steve Hronec South Lyon, MI
\$150.00	Helene Rapchick Mount Laurel, NJ
\$150.00	Dr. Magdalen Benish Plains, PA
\$100.00	Steve Krawczuk Pittston Twp, PA
\$100.00	Irene Gabriele Wilkes-Barre, PA
\$100.00	Tom DeGuzis Danville, PA
\$100.00	Liz Mahan Philadelphia, PA
\$100.00	Erin and Orlando Pimentel Chicago Heights, IL
\$100.00	Donna Grossman Perth Amboy, NJ

You Are Invited to Leave a Legacy

With a gift through your will, you can support the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and ensure that our mission of witnessing to, proclaiming and building the Kingdom of God will continue into the future.

An example of bequest wording:

I give, devise and bequeath to the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, a not-for-profit organization located in Danville PA, the sum of \$___ (or ___% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate) for the unrestricted use and general purposes of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius.

It is a good idea to let your heirs know about the charities to which you are donating.

If you would like more information about giving to the Community in your will, please contact: Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M.

General Superior
570-275-3581 ext 300
smaosscm@yahoo.com

Annual Report Coming Soon

Please look forward to receiving a new publication coming in 2018. We will be distributing an **annual report** that will feature the work of our ministries made possible through your generosity, as well as a complete list of our 2017 donors.

Help Needed!

We are beginning a renovation project at Maria Hall, converting tubs to walk-in showers. More of our elderly Sisters can no longer access a bathtub and handicap accessible showers are a necessity. At \$3,500 each for 20 showers, the project will cost about \$70,000. Can you help? Send donations for this project to:

Shower Project, Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius
Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821



Our Times Annual Development Report for 2016

CONTRIBUTIONS

For use as needed/For where the need is greatest	\$ 407,870
Estates and Bequests	808,587
Senior Sisters' Support	55,559
Mission to the Elderly at Maria Joseph Manor CCC	6,645
Adoration Chapel and Basilica	4,407
Jankola Library and Slovak Museum	575
TOTAL	\$1,283,643

Maria Joseph Manor Contributions	51,095
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USE OF GIFTS

Ministry to the Elderly at Maria Joseph Manor	\$ 6,645
Ministry in Parishes	22,000
Ministry to the Poor	33,657
Invested for Continuing Care of Senior Sisters	55,559
Renovations to Maria Hall	195,350
Capital Improvements at the Motherhouse	99,565
Education and Youth Ministry	22,410
For Future Use/Distribution	819,634
Development Department Expenses (staffed by Sisters-unsalaried)	21,911
Adoration Chapel and Basilica	4,407
Jankola Library and Slovak Museum	575
Disaster and Local Relief Contributions	1,930
TOTAL	1,283,643

Maria Joseph Manor Improvements, New Equipment and Programs	51,095
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Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius
Villa Sacred Heart
Danville PA 17821

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Fall 2017



Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius

Mission: *In the name of Jesus we teach and heal.*
Spirituality: *Christ centered and Mary-modeled.*
Motto: *Thy Kingdom Come!*



Trees Provide Beauty and Bounty

We extend our gratitude to Edd Raineri for contributing 142 hours of time and talent to trimming trees at Villa Sacred Heart, Danville. Throughout the past few months, Edd has continued his annual tradition of caring for our hundreds of trees and shrubs. Working for hours at a stretch,



Edd gave each tree his undivided attention. Thank you for your meticulous work and helping to keep our grounds beautiful, Edd!



Above: Before the deer could eat them all, several Sisters, including Sisters Jean Marie and Mary Kate, spent a few evenings gathering what remained of the apple harvest. Good enough for several days' worth of homemade applesauce and some cider, the effort did not go unnoticed by the Sisters at Maria Hall.



At the left: Sisters Susan Marie, Carol Therese and Mary Regina Long, RGS, peeled some of the apples so that Metz cook Melissa Heeman could work her magic on them and transform them into delicious apple pies!