



Our Times

Newsletter of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius



SSCM at QMHR

by Sheila Olsheskie

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Church located in Elysburg, PA, is a thriving parish offering many forms of liturgy, spiritual development, and various activities. To say the least, we are busy and blessed. One of the reasons for our success is our dedicated staff and volunteers. We are blessed to have two Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius on our staff.

Sister Jeanne Ambre has been with us the longest. She works as a Parish Visitor and also assists with the Spiritual Development of parishioners. Quite often Sister Jeanne lends us a hand with her artistic talents as well. In her capacity as a Parish Visitor, she pays weekly visits to the sick and homebound, bringing

them the Eucharist and checking on their overall well-being. Often in addition to Communion, she takes food, spiritual materials, and words of encouragement and kindness. You could say that Sr. Jeanne provides nourishment for the body, mind, and soul! Her "people" look forward to her visits and phone calls and form a special bond with her. Many times, those who are in the final stages of their journey here on earth request that she read for their funeral Mass. She forms a comforting bond with these individuals and their families. This part of her ministry with Holy Rosary is indispensable to the parish. Sister Jeanne also conducts a weekly Faith Sharing group focusing on the upcoming weekend readings and how they connect with our daily lives. The group share their own thoughts and insights with each other. Sessions always open and end with beautiful singing (one of Sister's other talents). Usually following the sessions everyone will stay for lunch and fellowship. Her development of this ministry has opened the door for many individuals socially and spiritually.

"We are graced to have the presence of Sisters Jeanne and Joseph Therese here at our parish. The people absolutely love them, and they both do an excellent job!" Fr. Joe Scanlin, Pastor

"Sr. Jeanne is a God-Send, a true angel on earth! I feel like she is a true friend that is always welcome in my home. After her visits I always feel so much better." MZ

"Sr. Joseph Therese is a ball of fire! She gives 110% and truly has the children and their families in her best interest." PS



Top and Left: Wood and red paint are a theme in Sr. Jeanne's contribution to Christmas and Lobsterfest at QMHR.

Above: An Easter amaryllis delights Addie Zyla, one of Sr. Jeanne's Wednesday afternoon communicants.

Right: Sr. Jeanne applies personalized embroidery to a baptismal white garment.

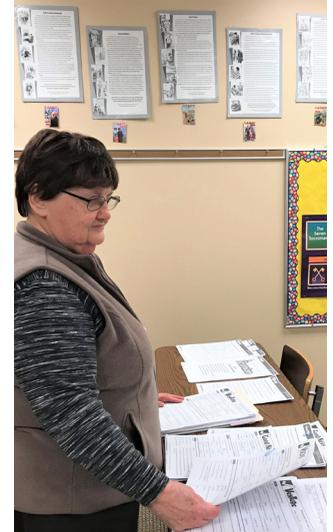


What's Inside?

2021 Jubilarians.....7	Leave a Legacy.....10
Sister Michael Ann.....3	+Sister Noel.....8
Servant Leaders.....3	+Sister John Vianney.....8
Ministries in South Carolina..4	+Sister Cyrilline.....9
More Ministries.....5	+Sister Mary Paul.....9
Sister Immigrants.....6	WhenWeWish.....10
	Defending Life and Celebrations.....11
	Christmas and Easter in Bloom.....12
	Save the Date.....12

Over the years this group has not only strengthened spiritual growth for participants, but has been a refuge for those who are suffering from health issues, a loss of a loved one, and personal difficulties. Never does an event at the parish go by without our tapping into Sister's artistic talents or liturgical knowledge. To say she is an asset to Holy Rosary is an understatement!

Sister Joseph Therese (lovingly referred to as Sister JT) joined us just a few years ago when we were in search of a Religious Education Coordinator. Our program was much like that of many other parishes. We provided what our young people needed to complete the program and receive their sacraments. Sister's arrival certainly added a breath of fresh air! Her vast knowledge of religious education and years of experience have brought our program to a new level. Students and their parents are held more accountable, not only for their studies, but also for attending Mass and other liturgies, volunteering within the parish, and being very well-prepared for the sacraments. The past 16 months have been especially challenging for Sister JT. She has successfully coordinated home-study for our entire program, set up online instruction, devised a folder pick-up & drop-off system, and held safe parent meetings for those receiving sacraments. Although she has been a bit frustrated at times, she has weathered the storm remarkably! Her years of experience have also brought new techniques and special additions to the program, especially for those preparing for sacraments. Sister Joseph Therese is invaluable to our parish and our team.



Top Right: Working the pandemic-adjusted Confirmation preparation, Sr. Joseph Therese collects assignments, moderates in-person sessions and prepares for the celebration.

Above: Communication by e-mail keeps Sr. JT busy at the computer.

"Sr. J.T. has so much to give, and we are certainly glad that she is sharing her experience and knowledge with Holy Rosary." DB

"Sr. Jeanne has a soothing way of presenting things. She is a wealth of knowledge. When discussing Scripture, she is able to give historical and factual information to help us better understand. She is such an asset to our parish." AR

The amazing part of having religious on staff at Holy Rosary is that they have very much become a part of the parish family. They are present and help at various activities; they participate and have formed lasting relationships within the parish. We sometimes joke that all of the Sisters are part of our parish because so many of them attend activities and liturgies here. The current situation in the United States and the world has us trying to rejuvenate the Catholic Church and the Catholic faith, especially among the younger generation. Many churches throughout our country have lost a "presence," a presence of faith, tradition, and ownership. Having Sister Jeanne Ambre and Sister Joseph Therese on staff, and the entire SS.C.M. community just a few miles away, helps Holy Rosary to maintain our traditions, reinforce our faith, and have our parish family take ownership of the title Catholic.

Sheila Olsheskie is Parish Manager at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Elysburg, PA.

Our Times is published twice a year by the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Villa Sacred Heart, Danville PA 17821 Phone: 570-275-3581 Fax: 570-275-5997

See pdf of *Our Times* at www.sscm.org
SS.C.M. Mission Advancement Office:
 570-275-3581 ext 153
SS.C.M. Development Office:
 570-275-3581 ext 101

Acknowledgements

With gratitude to those who contributed articles, photographs, advice and suggestions, especially Sister Michael Ann, Sister Barbara Sable, Sheila Olsheskie and the Sisters in Bluffton.

Editor: Sister Bernadette Marie, SS.C.M.

Graphics and Layout: Sister Jeanne Ambre, SS.C.M.

from the General Superior

*And behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of time.* (Matt 28:20)

When I picked up a draft copy of the 2021 "Our Times" newsletter of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, I was struck by the title and how appropriate it is right

now. The worldwide pandemic has significantly changed our lives and our times together. We have all suffered the loss of friends and family as we held and supported one another in

prayer. We reduced our in-person interactions and we worked at creating virtual gatherings in order to stay connected. Now, as our country begins to re-open, we are all slowly and carefully returning to our regular activities equipped with new insights into our need for one another and our reliance on God.

Those times were also graced with ever advancing technology and the role it played in enriching our lives. I believe that this new way of communication and outreach will continue even after in-person activities fully resume. We have learned to view the world and one another through a different lens.

Now we are filled with the promise of a new vision and an expanded outreach that will lead us to explore new pathways and creative ideas as we move into the future. As we explore these new insights, we can be certain of only one thing, we can always rely on our God who has promised to always be with us in our times.

Blessings and peace,
Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M.



Servant Leadership in a Virtual Time

Due to the pandemic, the Danville October 25, 2020, award ceremony to honor Servant Leaders was held virtually on Facebook Live. The Sisters gathered safely in the Basilica for the ritual at which the 27 high school Senior awardees' names were read. Each student's certificate, towel, mentor certificate and pin were mailed to them following the event. (Top left)

Of the four adults named as Father Jankola Lifetime Achievement Award recipients, only Sister Seton Marie was onsite to receive her award for Ecumenism. (Top right) The other awardees were presented with their pitcher, towel and certificate in individual encounters pictured here: Sr. Margaret (Peg) Spindler, CSA, for Evangelization (Right) presented in Indiana by Sr. Joanne Marie; Father Ron Rolheiser, OMI, for Education (Far right) presented in Texas by Sister Linda Marie; Susan Smith, RN, for Eldercare (Bottom right) given by Sisters Jeanne Ambre, Barbara Sable and Michael Ann.

In the Diocese of Gary, IN, 21 high school Seniors singled out as Servant Leaders were mailed their awards in February (Right). Not even a pandemic can stop us from recognizing young people who imitate Jesus.



Forever Busy in South Carolina

As peoples' needs become greater, the necessity to help increases. Throughout the pandemic, the Sisters at St. Francis Center on St. Helena Island have been busy distributing food and household items needed by the people who depend on the Center for assistance. The resources the Sisters use to provide these things are given by a variety of generous donors. A local food collection from stores and markets delivers

produce and perishable foods weekly and helps fill bags for those who come to the Center, as well as the more dramatic food distributions at Thanksgiving (*Top right*), Christmas and Easter.

Church and civic groups and other organizations generously donate funds for buying staples and non-perishable items. One such group is 100 Women Who Care (*Right*) who donated \$11,600 to the St. Francis Center in February.

At the Easter food pick-up (*Top left*) the people were greeted by two Easter bunnies happy to help spread the joy of the season.

Hands in the freezer (*Center right*), Sister Marcine checks the supply of donated protein on hand for the February 6th food pick up at which the Sisters tried to grant the "favorite food" wishes expressed the week before by 34 regular customers at the food pantry.

In Danville, Sister Jacqueline (*Right*) spent hours fashioning a large box of yarn dolls for the Christmas food and gift give away at the St. Francis Center. Satisfying needs is a life-long commitment.



On December 19, 2020, Sister Pamela Smith (*Above*) took part in "Winter Holy Days," an interfaith event which showcased 100 minutes of music celebrating Hannukah, Advent, Christmas and Kwanzaa customs at the Congregation Beth Yam in Hilton Head.

In late January, Sister Pamela Smith chaired a USCCB webinar (*Right*) on the new publication, Ecumenical and Interreligious Guidebook: Care for our Common Home. Sister Pamela facilitated the discussion on Catholic-Orthodox stewardship between the Vatican's specialist in this area and the archdeacon to Patriarch Bartholomew. The webinar was attended by people from all over the United States and 13 nations!





Sacraments Received



At St. Augustine Parish in Larchmont, NY, where Sister Suzanne Duzen serves as the Director of Religious Education, 53 Sophomores were confirmed on November 1, 2020, at two Masses. (Left) The June 7th date had been postponed because of the pandemic. Bishop Dominick Lagonegro was the celebrant.

With 85 children delayed since May from receiving their First Communion, six Masses on three Saturdays in November of 2020 (Far left) and one in April of 2021 saw their first-time reception of Jesus' sacramental presence.



Who Might God Be Calling?

Sister Deborah Marie, Director of Mission Integration for the National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC), (Left) coordinated the NRVC's Virtual Convocation, October 28-31, 2020. Over 300 participants took part in the convocation's days of communal prayer, keynote presentations, breakout rooms and shared conversations. The convocation theme was "Focus on Hope" and that is what each speaker tried to exhibit: hope, not just for religious congregations, but hope for the life of the world. The convocation came right before National Vocation Awareness Week, November 1-7, 2020. For more information on vocation awareness, see the NRVC website at: nrvc.net

Danville Drive-By Dinner



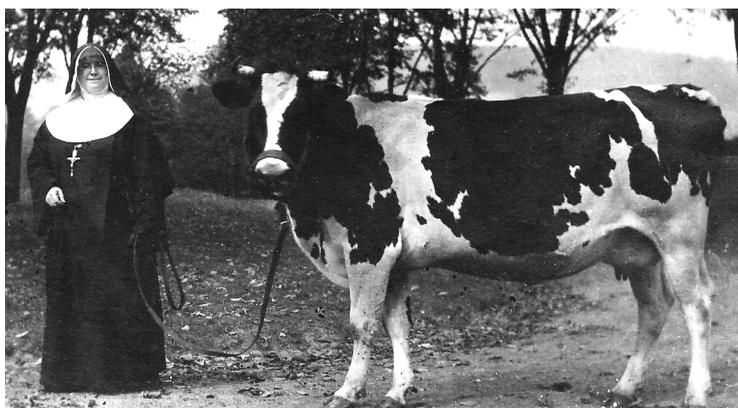
Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Associates and friends of the Sisters served lunch on Halloween 2020 at the Danville Jubilee Kitchen. The Jubilee Kitchen offers a simple, free lunch for persons of all ages and families every Saturday, September through June. The Sisters packed the hot entrée, (Above) ready to add to the bag of food items distributed as the cars drove past Trinity Lutheran Church. (Above right) COVID-19 has changed the way in which the meal is served, but not the need in Danville.



St. Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten students held their 15th annual Pay-for-Play fundraiser on February 24, 2021. Students collected \$2,500.00 this year for the Central PA Center of the Pennsylvania SPCA in Danville. A special visitor from the SPCA came to the event to encourage the students--and took center stage! St. Cyril's tries to fund local charities as much as possible, and with the support and generosity of the parents, this activity is always a great success.

In Praise of Our Immigrant Sisters

by Sister Bernadette Marie



Top: Trimming cancelled stamps was a favorite pastime of Sister Albina Maria.

Middle: The grounds of Jednota in Middletown offered space for Mother Emmanuel to exercise the community cow.

Above: Baby Johnny was blessed to have the gentle attentions of Sister Emerita and the prayers of all the Sisters during his long and difficult stay in the hospital in Danville.

When I grew tired of hearing derogatory comments about immigrants coming to the United States, I decided to count up how many of our Sisters have come from Europe and do research on their lives. I wanted to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that their lives were a blessing to their new country and to the people living there, but especially to the persons to whom they ministered in their apostolates. One by one, the stories of the Sisters I researched are being published in the **Jednota** newspaper. A short sampling follows:

Mother Emmanuel came from Kahanovce, Slovakia. She entered the newly-formed congregation of Sisters founded by Father Matthew Jankola, an immigrant himself. He wanted to make certain that those who arrived in a new land became productive citizens. Since he believed education was the key, he decided to establish a religious congregation of Sisters to achieve that end. When the first General Superior, Mother Mary became ill, Mother Emmanuel, who was not yet 30 and without leadership experience, succeeded her, assuming office on March 25, 1916. Recognizing that the convent in Middletown was much too small for all the Sisters, it fell to her to find a larger place. Thus after much prayer and negotiation, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius purchased Castle Grove in Danville which became their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart.

Sister Albina Maria was well-known for collecting cancelled stamps for the benefit of the missions and the congregation, but she also provided spiritual reading for prisoners and collected religious pictures from Christmas and Easter cards which she sent to Slovakia and to the St. Jude Ranch for Boys and Girls. Birthright became the beneficiary of her skill at crocheting baby sets.

Sister Maria Baran was missioned to the SSCM convent in Wilkes-Barre where she fed the Sisters nutritious meals and inspired a young girl to embrace religious life. When Mrs. Godlewski baked bread on Fridays, she sent her daughter Mary Anne over to the convent with a loaf. Sister invited Mary Anne to the chapel where she let her pray. When Mary Anne turned 16, she became a postulant in Danville with the SSCM's, and is now Sister Christopher.

Sister Emerita and the Motherhouse Sisters engaged in a special ministry twenty years ago when the Caines family of Olyphant needed their special support.

Johnny Caines was 87 days old when he was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia—chance of survival 25%. His mother Ellen spent 14 months with him at the Janet Weis Children's Hospital and she and her family enjoyed the hospitality of the Sisters. It was Sister Emerita who helped Ellen keep her sanity. Baby Johnny is now 21 years old and attending Keystone College, studying Sports Management and Business.

Sister Mary Anna Pavelka was from Vieska, Slovakia. With her helpers, she kept Villa Sacred Heart beautiful: working in the barn, the greenhouses, the vegetable and flower gardens and orchards, decorating the altars with poinsettias and Easter lilies, making corsages for the Academy girls, providing flower arrangements and cultivating live plants for the Summer Festival. Photos of her truck and tractor occasionally appeared in the local newspaper.

Many other Sisters came from central Europe to grace our shores with their presence and ministries. They all deserve to have their lives and accomplishments held up for special commendation. Their merits, we hope, will be extolled in a special Hall of Fame in heaven.

Right: No stranger to farm equipment, Sister Mary Anna Pavelka steers the tractor confidently through the pear trees in the orchard.





How can I
make a
return
for all the
goodness
God has
shown?

Jubilee 2021

70 Years



Sister M. Jacqueline
Ziobro



Sister M. Paracleta
Amrich

60 Years



Sister Bernice Marie
Balint



Sister Catherine Ann
Morris

50 Years



Sister Jean Marie
Holup



Sister Linda Marie
Bolinski

45 Years



Sister M. Carol Ann
Terlicher



Sister M. Carol Therese
Stofka

40 Years



Sister M. Marcine
Klocko



25 Years



Sister M. Canice
Adams



In Memory of

Sister M.
Noel
Stasko,
SS.C.M.



Born:

April 16, 1929

Professed:

August 10, 1950

Went Home to God:

October 20, 2020

Anna Stasko was born in Perth Amboy, NJ, the daughter of Paul and Anna (Mucha) Stasko on April 16, 1929. She attended Holy Trinity School in Perth Amboy and graduated from St. Cyril Academy, Danville, PA, in 1947.

Anna entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius on September 8, 1947, and was received as a novice in 1948 as Sister M. Noel. She was professed two years later. Sister Noel attended Marywood University, where she received a B. S. in Education and an

M.S. in Library Science.

Sister Noel taught Grades 1-8 in schools in Illinois, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She served as principal for four years in Hazleton and fifteen years in Wilkes-Barre.

At Sacred Heart School in Wilkes-Barre in January, 1992, Monsignor John W. Jordan, Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, wrote a letter to Sister Noel noting that he was most impressed by "the community formed among faculty and students." He remarked that the quality of education was improved by the methods used to present lessons, including computer education technology.

In June 1994, a letter from Gail Y. Gayeski, Ed. D., Assistant Professor of Education at King's College, thanked Sister for willingly accepting student teachers who were completing their "early field experience," and recognized Sacred Heart teachers for "quality teaching," allowing future teachers to assess the reading skills of students who have reading difficulties. Sister Noel was also asked to serve on King's College Teachers Education Committee.

Sister Noel was Director of Special Projects in Danville until 2012 when she took up residence at Maria Hall. In 2020, she moved to Emmanuel Center where her years of ministry completed well, Sister Noel went to be with Jesus, the Master Teacher on October 20, 2020.

In Memory of

Sister
John Vianney
Vranak,
SS.C.M.



Born:

March 5, 1932

Professed:

August 11, 1954

Went Home to God:

December 20, 2020

Born in Chicago, IL, the daughter of Frank and Mary (Duratinsky) Vranak, Frances Vranak had two sisters, Theresa and Dolores. Sister John Vianney believed her parents were the most powerful influence during her formative years, "laying the foundation of faith in our family and giving us a legacy of generosity and service."

Frances graduated from St. Simon parish school in Chicago, attended St. Cyril Academy in Danville for one year and graduated from St. Casimir Academy in Chicago. Increasing the number of her Sisters, Frances entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in 1954, and when she was received, she took the name Sister M. John Vianney. She received a B.S. in Home Economics from Marywood University, and a Master's from St. Louis University.

Sister John Vianney was missioned to parish elementary schools in Pittston and Bloomsburg, PA, and Gary, IN, and taught in the Home Economics Departments at Andean High School in Merrillville, IN, and St. Pius

X, Pottstown, PA. She described her Home Ec time as "memorable." No doubt her students felt the same!

When Sister was asked for her resumé, she often replied, "I have done every ministry in our congregation except gardening." After serving on the congregation's Leadership Team for eight years, Sister John Vianney was the Administrator of Villa Saint Cyril in Highland Park, IL, for four years, then General Superior for a term, during which she laid the groundwork for the Meadows at Maria Joseph Manor. Also, the Motherhouse chapel was named a Basilica and dedicated on November 26, 1989, the only Basilica in the world dedicated to Cyril and Methodius.

Next, Sister John Vianney took on the New Evangelization and ministered in a five-parish cluster in suburban Chicago. Sister became a member, and later chairperson, of the European-American Advisory Board for the Archdiocese of Chicago and served as National Consultant for the Slovak Apostolate for the USCCB Office for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees. She also served as the National Vice-President for the Midwest in the Slovak Catholic Federation.

Back to Danville, from 2007-2010, Sister John Vianney was Director of the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum and began writing the community history. She had exercised her writing skills earlier when she participated in a project to preserve the experiences of women religious in Slovakia whose convents were closed by the communists in 1950 and who had been imprisoned or subjected to hard labor until 1989. These interviews became a part of the documentary entitled "Interrupted Lives."

Having done it all, Sister John Vianney slowed to life at Maria Hall and then Emmanuel. Just before Christmas, God invited Sister to heaven where she may have an opportunity to take up gardening.



In Memory of

Sister M.
Cyrilline
Biel,
SS.C.M.

Born:
April 3, 1930
Professed:
August 13, 1953
Went Home to God:
January 25, 2021

Bernardine Biel was born in Whiting, IN, the daughter of Stephen and Mary (Chomistek) Biel. She attended Immaculate Conception School and Junior High and graduated from George Rogers Clark High School, all in Whiting, IN.

Bernardine entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville on September 8, 1950, and was received as a novice on August 9, 1951. As Sister Cyrilline, she professed her first vows on August 13, 1953.

Sister Cyrilline received a B. S. in Education from Marywood University, Scranton, PA, and an M.A. in Business Education from Catholic University, Washington, DC. Her initial ministry in education spanned from 1953 to 1961 when she taught in elementary schools in Hazleton, PA, Chicago, IL, and Torrington, CT, in Grades 2, 4, 5 and 6. Later, on the secondary level, Sister Cyrilline taught business classes at Andean High School in Merrillville, IN, for a total of 17 years.

In 1973, Sister Cyrilline was appointed Director of Novices in Danville, PA, a post she held until 1979. The community called upon her for congregational administrative positions from 1980 to 1988, and from 1992-1999 during which time she also served as General Secretary for three years. In 2000-2001 Sister Cyrilline did clerical work at St. Catherine Labouré School in Harrisburg, PA.

Returning to St. Methodius Convent in Danville in 2001, Sister Cyrilline performed General Duties, served as Local Coordinator and Director of Candidates. In 2018, Sister Cyrilline retired to Maria Hall, Danville, PA, and engaged in the Ministry of Prayer and Hospitality.

Sister Cyrilline held many positions of trust in the congregation. She was a well-beloved Novice Director and Director of Candidates. The numerous congregational administrative positions she held are indications of the trust the Sisters had in her ability to lead with expertise and compassion. Many Sisters have affirmed Sister Cyrilline's treasured contributions to community. They remember her as prayerful, kind, interested in the Sisters as individuals, charitable and very patient, affirming and a great resource person, especially in spirituality, reassuring when there did not seem to be a solution to a problem. Going peacefully to God without fuss or fanfare was certainly in keeping with Sister Cyrilline's pattern in life. She will be greatly missed.



In Memory of

Sister
Mary Paul
Kurator,
SS.C.M.

Born:
December 13, 1931
Professed:
August 13, 1952
Went Home to God:
February 10, 2021

Lucy Kurator was born in Gary, IN, the daughter of Paul and Mary (Pavlov) Kurator. She attended Holy Trinity School in Gary, IN, and graduated in 1949 from St. Cyril Academy, Danville, PA. She entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville on February 2, 1950, was received as a novice on August 10 when she became Sister Mary Paul.

Having completed her B.A. in 1961 at Marywood University, Scranton, PA, Sister Mary Paul earned an M.A. in Latin at Notre Dame University. She also studied at Villanova and LaSalle Universities. Her first teaching assignment was at the Villa Elementary School. Subsequent teaching assignments led her to Charleston, SC, Whiting, IN, Berwick, PA, and Perth Amboy, NJ.

Sister Mary Paul taught Religion, Latin and English at her Alma Mater, Saint Cyril Academy, then moved on to her longest assignment of 42 years at Andean High School in Merrillville, IN, where she taught Religion and Latin and served as Language Department Dean. Over the years, Sister Paul was moderator of the Freshman Class, the Latin Club and the YARC, the school club that hosted seasonal parties for mentally challenged children and young people. Unquestionably, Sister Paul's favorite perk of her time at Andean was the school trips she chaperoned to Italy and Greece. These remain the fondest memories of the students who traveled with her.

Sister Mary Paul was awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study Classical Language and Literature at the University of Kentucky and San Diego University.

Sister Mary Paul was loved and respected by teachers and students alike at Andean High School. When news of her death reached the school, the website generated seven and a half pages of comments from Sister Paul's many friends. The current principal, Mr. Jacob Knazur, recalled: "[Sister Paul] could be counted on for a family story, language lesson or warm hug."

In 2017, Sister Mary Paul retired to Maria Hall in Danville. An exceptional conversationalist, Sister Paul and Sister Florence Marcin, her friend and equal in knowledge of every topic imaginable, extended many of their meals together with stimulating discussions. United now in heaven, they can pick up where they left off.

Thanks to Your Generosity



Working between times of serious pandemic closure, the replacement of carpets with tile flooring at Maria Hall has contributed to better health and increased safety for the Sisters there. Sister Bernice Marie (Left) and all of us have your kind contributions to thank for this dramatic improvement! You are repeatedly remembered in our grateful prayers.

When We Wish

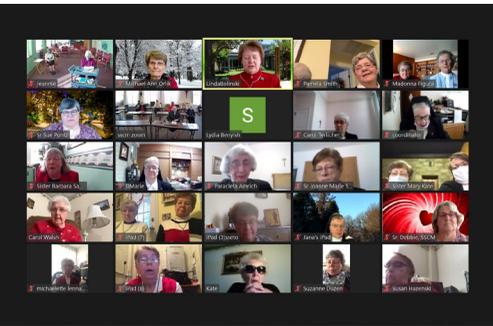
We would like to purchase new and/or replace outdated iPads for our Sisters, especially those living at Maria Hall, our Personal Care facility. Covid-19 has taught us the importance of staying connected, and iPads would permit the Sisters to attend Community meetings held via Zoom, to share prayer and reflections over video conferencing, to connect with friends and family, and to respond to the many requests for prayer that we receive daily.



Right: Just in time for the winter cold, two boilers were installed for the Motherhouse to replace a much larger one that had been in operation since 1966. It was no small feat moving the two boilers into the basement of the Academy gymnasium (or moving the retired boiler out)!



Left: A virtual prayer service to celebrate our patrons on February 14 gave us a chance to "see" each other after months of isolation.



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

Right: In her TV acting debut, Sister Deborah Marie plays Sister Cabrini enlisting the help of Mother Maria Kaupas, SSC, to intercede for her cure of Guillain-Barré syndrome. The healing was depicted in an EWTN documentary, "They Might Be Saints" on January 6, 2021.



Walking for Life

Although the annual March for Life in Washington was held virtually this year, some local areas held rallies and marches. Sisters Pamela Smith (*left*) and Marcine (*far left*) participated in a Stand Up for Life March in Columbia, SC, walking from Russell House at USC to the capitol in Columbia. The Sisters represented the SSCM's among a diverse group— young adults, families, elders, Baptists, Methodists, Catholics, and representatives of a number of racial and ethnic groups, and both the Democrats for Life and the Republican Lieutenant Governor, Pam Evette, and Speaker of the State House, Jay Lucas.



Below: The celebration of the Diocesan patron, St. Patrick, delighted Sisters Carol Ann, Michaellette, Seton Marie and Gloria Marie who appear to have found the "green" at the end of a rainbow.



Left: Annually, on the January 4th Feast of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Sister Seton Marie affords her patron saint a costumed appearance in the dining room.



100 Years Young

In Merrillville, IN, Mrs. Rachel Schutz, mother of Sister Joanne Marie, celebrated her 100th birthday on March 3, 2021. On the weekend before the big day, the weather cooperated to provide a drive-by celebration for her. Mrs. Schutz was able to sit at the end of her driveway while 60 cars led by five police cars paraded past her to deliver greetings and best wishes. The great event notwithstanding, Mrs. Schutz told someone that she doesn't want anyone to wish her "many many more!"

Above: Mrs. Schutz poses with a congratulatory bouquet. *Left:* A very proud Sister Joanne Marie celebrates her mother's milestone in life.



Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius
Villa Sacred Heart
1002 Railroad Street
Danville PA 17821

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Danville, PA
Permit No. 43

Thank you for reading our newsletter!

Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius

Spring
2021

Like Us On
facebook 

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



Chicago



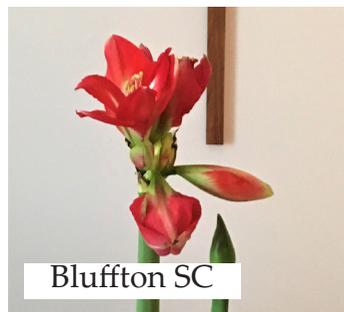
Maria Hall



Motherhouse

Say Christmas and Easter with Flowers

Sister Michael Ann's Christmas gifts to the mission homes were delivered by florists: amaryllis plants for each house. A contest for the greatest number of amaryllis blooms ensued with entries featured in the weekly newsletter! Sister Michael Ann's Easter gifts were equally as life-giving: azalea plants--perfect for Easter chapel decorations and later planting in the convent garden.



Bluffton SC



Motherhouse

Save the Date: Saturday, July 10

God willing and gatherings permitted, we hope to host the Summer Festival at Villa Sacred Heart.

We will keep you posted with confirmation and details on the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius Facebook page.