

URSULINE

DOME

*Continuing
the Legacy
of Spirituality
and Service*

A PUBLICATION OF THE URSULINE SISTERS OF LOUISVILLE • SUMMER 2020



in this issue:

Recovering, Reconnecting, Reemerging

OUR NEBRASKA HERITAGE



About the cover

We've lit the Saint Angela Merici grotto "green" on the Ursuline campus. Governor Andy Beshear has asked Kentuckians to light a green light in solidarity and sympathy for all the COVID-19 victims and their families. Green, the color of life and healing, lights the darkness as we pray for our world.

Grotto photos by Mark Rice

About this issue

When our editorial board met via ZOOM in early May to discuss this issue, we all agreed that its focus needed to be on "Recovering, Reconnecting and Reemerging" during the COVID-19 pandemic. We felt as if we were being called forward into a new way of living in the world, completely different than the way we were before. Then, sadly, we witnessed the killing of more black Americans at the hands of armed citizens and police, and realized we had two pandemics we were living through concurrently—one, a virus that attacks the body; the other, a virus that attacks our hearts: the virus of racism. We have asked Sisters, Associates and staff to give voice to their experiences during this unprecedented time. We hope and pray that these reflections will, in some way, help lead us all on a path of healing and recovery.

—Kathy Williams, editor

DOMÉ

A PUBLICATION OF THE URSULINE SISTERS OF LOUISVILLE

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Swiftly Fly The Years

BY SISTER JANET PETERWORTH

"Sunrise, sunset, Sunrise, sunset
Swiftly fly the years,
One season following another
Laden with happiness and tears."
Taken from "Fiddler on the Roof"

And so Tevye and Golda wonder where the days and years have gone! That is much my feeling as I write this. Where have the days and years gone? How have those passing years changed our Ursuline family? How have they changed you, our faithful donors and friends? How have they changed each Ursuline Sister? These are all questions in my mind and the minds of my Sisters in leadership as we look back over our six years.

“That is much my feeling as I write this. Where have the days and years gone?”

This Leadership Circle started in 2014 representing 85 Sister members. Six years later we have 53, and during this time we had the joy of welcoming two Sisters from the Carmelite monastery as vowed Ursulines. In 2014, we were ministering in nine places outside Louisville, and as this goes to press, we are ministering in three.

But now...now we have 228 Associates in 13 states and two foreign countries, while in 2014 there were 205 Associates.

In 1964, the Ursulines went to Peru to teach at the Peruvian Navy School and to start a school in the barrio of Carmen de la Legua, with its unpaved streets and limited transportation. And now...now the barrio is a busy, small city. And, the Colegio Parroquial Santa Angela Merici (Saint Angela Merici Parish School), a school of about 400 students (kindergarten through high school) will celebrate its 55th anniversary in October 2020.

In 2017, we celebrated the centennial of the Motherhouse chapel. At that time, we had no financial assurance that our chapel would be preserved into the future and now...now You have helped us raise a little over \$3 million that is invested solely for preservation of the chapel. We set a five-year period to reach our goal of \$3.5 million, and we have two more years to meet that goal. We have great hope that with your ongoing help, we will do it.

By 2018, the Motherhouse was too large for our residential needs. We moved our Sisters into new homes. And now...now Sacred Heart Schools is restoring and upgrading part of the house for use by both their administrative staff and the Ursuline Sisters' offices. In that same year, one of our Leadership Circle, Sister



2014-2020 Leadership: Sisters Agnes Coveney, Jo Ann Jansing, Paula Kleine-Kracht, Janet Peterworth, President and Margaret Ann Hagan (deceased)

Margaret Ann Hagan, left us in body but now...now her gentle, creative spirit remains with us. The Ursuline Sisters' staff moved out of Brescia Hall and moved to the Motherhouse. And now...now Brescia Hall is alive with learning and with the voices of children. Our Sisters hosted the North American Ursuline Convocation in 2018 as well—no small undertaking.

In 1968, Ursuline College and Bellarmine College merged, and now...now Bellarmine is a University. In 2018, we marked the 50th anniversary of that merger with a year of grand celebrations. Today there is a terrace on campus named after the Ursulines—a place where students can gather. And now...now there is an Ursuline-endowed scholarship in the Bellarmine's education department.

In 2019, the Ursuline Sisters gifted Sacred Heart Schools with the property on Lexington Road and now...now Saint Angela has a spacious new grotto and the beautiful, well-kept grounds are alive with activity.

And so indeed the years have flown swiftly. So many good things, so many hard decisions. The Ursuline Sisters have seen changes and you have seen changes. Now, we are living in the midst of a pandemic that will bring about still more change. And we think to ourselves: the only constant in our lives is change.

And now...now it has been our pleasure to have served you. Soon a new group of Sisters will take up the challenge of leadership, bringing fresh energy and insight to the charism as the Ursuline family, together, faces a future full of hope. We know you will support them as you have supported us over these last six years.

In Saint Angela,

Sister Janet M. Peterworth
Sister Agnes Coveney
Sister Jo Ann Jansing
Sister Paula Kleine-Kracht

Welcome Home

Sister Loretta Krajewski returns to Louisville

BY KATHY WILLIAMS

In the 1870s, Ogallala, Nebraska, was a dusty frontier town on the Union Pacific Railroad line filled with Texas ranchers driving their Longhorns to market. Named for the Ogala Band of the Dakota Sioux, Ogallala became known as the end of the trail. Fast-forward to 2020, and Ogallala is indeed the “end of the trail” for the 105-year ministry of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville in Nebraska with the retirement of Sister Loretta Krajewski. Sister Loretta, one of six girls, grew up on a farm outside of Ogallala and has been serving for the past 15 years at St. Luke parish school as principal and head teacher.

Today, Ogallala, a small, quiet town of 5,000, swells in population during the summer, thanks to vacationers who come to enjoy Lake McConaughy, a 22-mile lake just north of town. During the school year, the parish of St. Luke has 450-500 families, according to Father

arrived, the school only had 22 children total, and there was dissent among some parishioners about staffing and running the school. Sister Loretta and Father Ernest say that they made decisions together and have supported each other through the years. Sister Loretta adds that they work really well together, “He doesn’t micromanage me and it has been an honor and a blessing to work with him.”

When asked if he has any stories about their time together, Father laughs and says, “You REALLY don’t want to call her out at Mass!” Sister Loretta, who plays the keyboard at Mass, replies, “For about a year I wouldn’t say anything to him at Mass, but now I give it right back!” Stories follow of playing cards with Sister Loretta’s father, betting on Kentucky Derby horses, and visits from her sister, Helen, who “likes to straighten

“ We call her the warrior... Warriors are brave and courageous, they are rooted in purpose, not fear—they have a sense of direction.

—Father Bryan Ernest, pastor, St. Luke Parish

Bryan Ernest, pastor. St. Luke also has a mission church, St. Patrick, in Paxton and a satellite location in Arthur, so the parish runs 45 miles north, 20 miles east and 20 miles west, a very large territory. However, St. Luke’s school is very small, with 24 students in preschool and 32 students total in grades K-5.

The first church was built as a mission in 1887, and the present-day school was built in 1953. From 1953-1970, Dominican Sisters from St. Catherine, Kentucky, staffed the school. Sister Loretta graduated from the eighth grade at St. Luke, having been taught by the Dominicans, and had the Ursulines as teachers in high school at St. Patrick in Sidney, graduating in 1971.

From 1972 to 2020, the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville taught at St. Luke, including Sister Shirley Ann Simmons, who served as principal for 24 years.

Sister Loretta and Father Ernest started in ministry at the parish at the same time in 2005. When they

them out,” according to Father. Sister has four older sisters still living, three in Nebraska and one in Kansas.

“We call her the warrior,” Father Ernest says of Sister Loretta. When asked if the nickname was because of her courage with her recent medical issues, or the fact that she is willing to fight for what she believes in, Father replies, “All of the above. Warriors are brave and courageous, they are rooted in purpose, not fear—they have a sense of direction. I see that with her illnesses—a normal person would have just folded up by now, but not her. Sister is always saying, ‘We have bigger fish to fry. Today wasn’t a good day, but tomorrow will be better.’”

Having been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, an eye disorder and undergoing a mastectomy in December after having breast cancer, Sister Loretta made the difficult decision to retire from her 44-year teaching career and move back to Louisville this summer. Prior to teaching in Ogallala, Sister taught in Louisville for thirty



Sister Loretta's retirement celebration parade at St. Luke parish in Ogallala, Nebraska
 Front row, L to R: Sister Loretta, Helen Krajewski Peetz, Toney Krajewski, David Krajewski, Barb Krajewski
 Back row: Sheila Kalkowski Jorgensen, Diane Krajewski
 Inset: Father Bryan Ernest with Sister Loretta Center photo: Sister Loretta with students

years at St. Elizabeth, St. Joseph, St. Jerome, St. Therese, St. John Vianney and St. Simon and Jude schools. Sister Loretta is the last teaching religious in the Diocese of Grand Island, Nebraska.

Father Ernest continues, "The Ursuline Sisters have always brought an extra dimension to education—they reach out to those less fortunate, those who are struggling. Their community has always been able to reach beyond themselves and figure that out." Father grew up on a farm outside of Sidney, and he says, "I am a product of CCD classes and the Ursulines. They would come to my small town of Dalton to teach catechism at 8 a.m. on a Saturday! I got a flavor of the Ursuline way of life and the Ursuline Sisters and their love for teaching. That has been lived out in Sister Shirley Ann and Sister Loretta. There is a very specific charism that has been present in this community and that has been teaching."

He adds, "We've had to face many challenges with the school, but she never throws in the towel. She is always ready to do battle—not in a violent way, but a purpose-filled way. The 'battle' is other-directed, and she is definitely spirit-filled. This is part of the charism of the Ursulines, being a daughter of Angela. I think we will miss that the most."

Father says, "It looks like I have another daughter of Angela with Lynnette Powers, who is coming in as principal and head teacher. She is bringing many blessings and gifts with her." Lynnette has been teaching for 34 years, having taught at St. Luke's in the eighties and nineties. Her first eleven years of teaching were with Sister Mary Foley and Sister Shirley Ann Simmons. Lynnette says, "Those first eleven years really formed me as an educator. I will always be grateful for Sister Shirley's influence." So, the Ursuline legacy will live on at St. Luke's through Lynnette and the other teachers at the school whom the Ursulines have inspired.

Sister Loretta says that she is ready to retire, but it is going to be hard because she has such deep roots in the community. Ogallala is where she grew up and she has family nearby. Sister says that she has been very supported by Father and the parish in her decision.

When Sister was discerning a vocation after college, she traveled to Kentucky, visiting both the Dominicans and Ursulines, and ultimately chose the Ursulines, making her final vows in 1980. When asked why she chose the Ursulines, Sister Loretta says, "All I can say is, it was home. I just belonged there."

Welcome home, Sister Loretta. 🙏

105 YEARS OF LOUISVILLE URSULINES IN NEBRASKA

BY SISTER MARTHA JACOB



Blessed Sacrament Convent,
Omaha, 1964-65 school year:

Front row – Sisters Gervase
(Dorothy) Clephas*, Julianne
Guy, Pacelli (Marlene) Hardin*,
Leonette Wolff, Mary Lee
(Concepta Marie) Hansen,
Rosemary (Gianetta) Nevy

Back row: Sisters Janet Marie
Peterworth, Emily Peetz, Clara
(Loyola) Fehringer, Dominic
Schuler, Rose Ann (Luke) Muller,
Charles (Mary Ann) Dearing*

** Indicates those who left the
Ursuline community*

December 29, 1915. “Next stop, Sidney, Nebraska,” announced the conductor. With those words, Six Ursuline Sisters completed their 1,300-mile ride on the Union Pacific Railroad. Sisters Ambrose Schulte, 49; Rufina Denkler, 24; Alvina Constantine, 26; Monica Schwindel, 24, and Marie Bannon, 21, who had not yet made her final profession of vows, stepped from the train in sub-zero temperatures. [If you were educated on the Ursuline campus, you may remember Sister Marie Bannon. She taught music from 1944 to 1980 at Ursuline College and Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville.]

Mother Superior Angela Leininger made the trip with them, but would soon return to Louisville. They brought the Ursuline charism and ministry to the far West—far from their home, the Motherhouse in Louisville.

With a gift of \$6,000 for the school’s construction, these young “Sister-pioneers” helped to establish a boarding school in Sidney for children from the ranches and farms on the flat lands of western Nebraska and eastern Colorado. Saint Patrick School opened on January 10, 1916, with forty-eight children, twenty-eight of whom were boarders, even though neither the school building nor the convent was ready. Both were scheduled to be completed by September of that year. The Sisters lived in a two-story frame house that was poorly furnished; nothing like the convent they left behind in Louisville.

Just eight months after the Ursulines arrived in Sidney, seventeen additional Ursulines arrived in western

Nebraska. Six were sent to St. Mary Parish in Rushville; five joined the Sisters in Sidney, and six traveled 123 miles to teach in North Platte. Again, housing was not ready for them there, so the Sisters stayed in Sidney until the rectory at Saint Patrick Parish was vacated by the pastor, Father Patrick McDaid. Saint Patrick Academy in North Platte opened on September 25, 1916.

In the 1940s, as many as ten Sisters served at Saint Patrick, and in the 1960s, a dozen. The number gradually decreased and the Ursuline presence ended in North Platte when Sister Elizabeth Anne (Gerald) Schleuter departed in December 1999 because of ill health.

The Ursulines extended their ministry to Omaha by agreeing to staff the school at St. Michael Parish, in 1918, and Blessed Sacrament Parish, in 1920, when Mother Superior Angela Leininger returned to Nebraska to fill the positions of principal of Blessed Sacrament School and superior of the convent in Omaha.

Since there was no school building at Blessed Sacrament, classes began in September in the four corners of the church, with bed sheets hung to separate the classes. Sister Bernadine (Emmet) Nash served as the last Ursuline principal from 1976 to 1985. Ursuline Sisters served Blessed Sacrament until 1990, when Sister Georgia Jean (Francis Marie) Kruml departed.

In 1919, Nebraska began requiring a professional life certificate and degrees for high school teachers. Thanks to the cooperation and generosity of Creighton University

in Omaha, Saturday classes were made available to the Sisters at Blessed Sacrament Parish, and summer classes were available to other Sisters who were able to travel to Omaha. As a result, Blessed Sacrament Convent's residents doubled in the summer months.

Increased enrollment in both elementary and secondary schools across the state required as many as sixteen Sisters in the 1940s. However, the number of students and available Sisters declined over the next two decades. Sister Gabriel Blotter was the last teaching Ursuline in a school in Sidney, serving as librarian at St. Patrick High until 1989. Sister Esther Fehringer was pastoral associate at the parish until 2000.

The final parish school staffed by Ursulines was Saint Luke, in Ogallala. Sister Thomasetta returned to Nebraska in 1972, along with Sisters Mary Stella Mohr, Shirley Ann (Joanella) Simmons and Charlesetta Smith to teach there. Sister Shirley Ann served as principal for twenty years, and Sister Loretta Krajewski began as principal in 2005.

The 105-year Ursuline presence in Nebraska came to an end when Sister Loretta retired and returned to Louisville this June. The Nebraska missions are a major chapter in the 162-year history of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville. From 1915 to 2020, the Ursulines ministered in Sidney, North Platte, Rushville, Omaha, South Sioux City, O'Connor, Spalding, Grand Island, Wood River, Lexington, Hershey, Paxton, Sutherland, David City, Mitchell, Lyman, Morrill, Chadron, Gering, Pleasanton, Prairie Center, Amherst and finally, Ogallala.

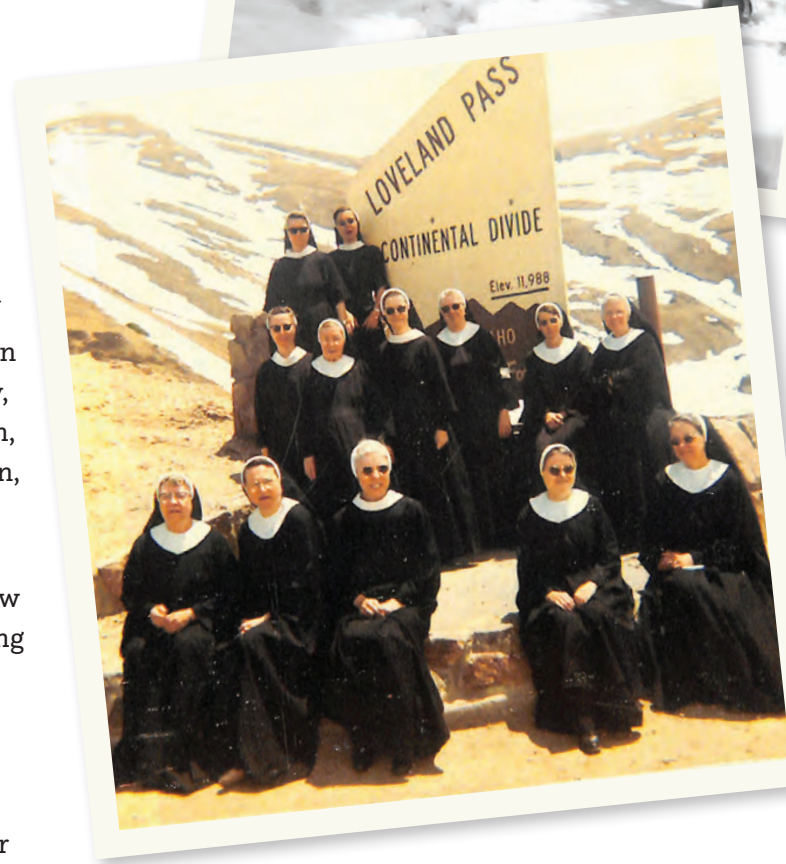
How many lives were touched in those 105 years? How many children were helped? How many years of "teaching Christian living?"

One can answer, in part, with these numbers: 46 women from Nebraska joined the Ursuline Sisters and 329 Sisters served in Nebraska as teachers, principals, counselors, catechists, at Bible camps, and in many other parish and community ministries. They traveled on weekends and in the summer months to nearby towns, offering religion classes to Catholic children where no Catholic school was available.

In addition to Sister Loretta, thirteen of these Sisters remain with us today. They are Sisters Martha (Olga) Buser, Mary Brendan Conlon, Clara (Loyola) Fehringer, Mary Lee (Concepta Marie) Hansen, Cabrini Hatley,

Georgia Jean (Francis Marie) Kruml, Theresa (Stanislaus) Kruml, Dolorita Lutsie, Rosella McCormick, Marilyn (Matthew) Mueller, Rose Ann Muller, Janet Marie Peterworth and Shirley Ann (Joanella) Simmons. 📷

“How many lives were touched in those 105 years? How many children were helped? How many years of 'teaching Christian living?'”



Top: Playing in the snow, winter, 1949, at St. Joseph's School in O'Connor, Nebraska L to R: Sisters Leonora Cook, Joyce Georgel and Grace Dalton

Bottom: Staff from St. Patrick in North Platte, Nebraska, visit the Rockies in 1968. *Front:* Sisters Christopher Corbett, Margaret Mary Schwartz, Mary Stella Mohr, Samuel Carter, Casimir Kumor. *Middle:* Sisters Bibiana (Frances) Schaf, Constance Rusche, Francesca Conneally, James Guyan, Thelma Sheehan, Theresa Olliges. *Top Row:* Sisters Harriet (Mary Frances) Stueve* and Leonard Ann (Ruth Ann) Mattingly*

* Indicates those who left the Ursuline community

RECOVERING, RECONNECTING, REEMERGING: REFLECTIONS ON THE PANDEMIC



Coping

I had never been asked before.

I had never asked myself before or even now, "How are you coping?"

Coping meant just hanging on, just hanging in, barely at the edge.

Not me. I had never just "coped" with anything.

Holding it all together, always being in control, but never "coping."

But "coping" it is, with not seeing the smile below the mask.

Not seeing the smiles of the children in the playground.

Not seeing the children.

Still new to a cell phone, I was wondering: What's up? or WhatsApp? And found the messages pouring in with concerned questions, and lovely motivating words. So why was this awful sadness finding such a huge place in my heart? And the phone rang with another neighbor, a friend, an Associate, a teacher, down with the virus. The invisible evil, the uninvited guest, the intruder in our lives was taking our lives. And the death toll kept rising.

And so, we reinstated Zoom and Skype as our connectors because coping meant finding a way to be connected, even when you cannot touch or hug or share the same space.

We are indeed coping. I can say it now, and saying it allows me to affirm that there will be no tomorrows like our yesterday. Quarantine has taught me how important our communion is in spite of the mask, in spite of the closed door. Because every one of you is more important than ever: friend, family, co-worker; you who live in the Amazon or the Sierra, or who have no address at all.

— Sister Sue Scharfenberger

Sister Sue is in ministry in Carmen de la Legua, outside of Lima in Peru. She is the mission effectiveness coordinator for Saint Angela Merici School, which the Ursulines founded in 1965.

P is for Plans canceled

A is for Asymptomatic

N is for New Normal

D is for Deaths top 100,000+
in the US

E is for Employment lost

M is for Millions in food lines

I is for Infrastructures
compromised or closed

C is for COVID-19

—Ellen McKnight, Associate and Director of
Mission Advancement and Planned Giving

Angela's Last Legacy provides a good insight into what we are experiencing now. "And if according to times and needs, new rules should be made, or any change introduced, do it prudently and with good advice." As we move into a new time in our lives, it provides for an evaluation of what is important.

For myself, it has made me even more aware of the importance of family, friends and community, and I give thanks that technology has allowed me to stay in touch with so many of them. Let us embrace this time to establish a new rhythm in our lives and establish new priorities. Let those new priorities draw us closer together, even though we cannot physically be in the presence of one another.

—Theresa Butler, Associate and former
Director of Ursuline Associate Community
(formerly the Associate Call)

"I really miss all you ladies and the awakening my heart feels when we are in 'normal' interactions." This text from one of the women in our small faith sharing group names the feeling I, too, am experiencing. For me, virtual gatherings, while a good substitute, do not create the same dynamic energy as being physically present to one another.

Throughout this time of pandemic social distancing, our parish staff has tried to keep our faith community connected in many ways, like daily bag lunches for our brothers and sisters living on our city streets, and families with children bringing smiles on the faces of our elderly parishioners by sending them homemade happy cards and bags of goodies, and decorating their front steps with chalk art.

Our time of recovering will only come when every person is able to receive an authentic vaccine for this deadly virus. Thus, our reemerging must be done with great prudence and sensitivity. As we reemerge, I envision our faith communities taking on a whole new way of being church. Hopefully, the true message of Gospel love will be reflected in creative ways of serving the marginalized, of being the voice for justice, and trusting that the God, who loves us all, will guide us to do the right thing, not just during a pandemic, but always. This is the awakening my heart desires.

—Sister Clara Fehring

Sister Clara serves as pastoral associate and parish administrator at historic St. Paul Catholic Church in downtown Lexington, Kentucky.



Photo: Heidi Wray

As I reflect on these last three months, I cannot help but have an aching heart for the countless persons who have suffered so much with this virus, including loss of loved ones without saying goodbye or putting closure on the death. I think of so many who lost their jobs and are standing in food bank lines.

I think of the most vulnerable, who have suffered in this illness, the elderly in nursing homes and the black and brown people who have lost more lives disproportionately, compared to the white population. Those economically secure could work from home, but those who struggle economically are on the front lines. Those who harvest the food, the meat packers, the hourly workers and those whose jobs are essential were all exposed to the virus.

I prayed really hard for all the people mentioned above and their families, too. Yes, I missed being with our Sisters in gatherings and going to lunch with friends. I did go to work once a week, now three days a week, to help those suffering from the economic downturn.

So, in recovering, reconnecting and reemerging, I hope we can reconnect with those most vulnerable to help them recover—and we reemerge as a caring compassionate people and nation for all.

Saint Angela reminds us that we will be strong in adversity if we are of one heart and will, and in these troubled times we will "find no better refuge than at the feet of Jesus Christ."

—Sister Jean Anne Zappa

Sister Jean Anne serves as mission advancement coordinator for Shively Area Ministries, which provides emergency, short-term, and in some cases, ongoing assistance to individuals and families in poverty and crisis in the 40216 ZIP code.

I've come to some conclusions about two very divergent things during the course of this blasted pandemic. The first is about health care providers—they are true heroes, equally as brave and gallant as soldiers on the battlefield under enemy fire. The second is about liturgy—has anyone else noticed how unfulfilling Mass of the Air is? I don't mean to be negative; I only want to point out that Eucharist is a communal rite. It has been such a sadness to me that I can't receive Eucharist with my Associate community. When we can return to in-person liturgies, I will attend with a much greater appreciation for community!

—Bay Baltes, Associate and Director of Ursuline Associate Community

RECOVERING, RECONNECTING, REEMERGING: REFLECTIONS ON THE PANDEMIC, CONTINUED

A Ride, One Day at a Time

I have never been fond of roller coasters, even as a teenager. And, a roller coaster is what life feels like as I live this time of COVID-19 and racism awakening. One day I am at the top of the ride, full of energy and reaching out to others with purpose and commitment. Another day I am riding downhill and trying to find something, or someone, to hold on to.

I am grateful for my faithful companion on the ride, Jesus, who is holding my hand and my heart. Jesus reminds me of the courage and wisdom that is in my reserve and helps me to draw from these deep-down resources. There is an innate, reflective and contemplative spirit in me which is totally a gift. It is my graced place. The creative spirit in me is nurtured as I walk the neighborhood and notice nature unfold from spring rebirth to the full bloom of summer. The earthy spirit in me nurtures the digging in the soil, planting vegetables and flowers. The artistic and giving spirit in me is nurtured by making face masks for service organizations, as well as neighbors, friends, family, and Ursuline Sisters.

Even with these valiant efforts, I feel the loss of meaningful contact with family and friends. I feel, deeply, the loss of sharing meals, community prayer, and purposeful ministry engagements with others. I desire to live these times with courage, not anxiety, and with the faith and conviction that something new, but not yet known, is emerging. Zoom, telephone, email, text and prayer keep me connected to others and is mutually feeding our souls.

I pray with gratitude for what is, as I continue to long for what can be in a peaceful and healthy world. I am grateful for my roller coaster companion.

—Sister Ruth Ann Haunz

Sister Ruth Ann serves in public relations and manages the St. Francis Center Kids Café. This outreach ministry of St. John Paul II Catholic Church serves Kids Café meals to youth from the Buechel and Hikes Point neighborhoods of Louisville.



"Have faith and keep up your courage."

—5th Counsel

"Pray that God enlighten you, direct you, and teach you what you are to do."

—Intro to the Counsels

"Do not look forward to what might happen tomorrow. The same everlasting Father who cared for you today will care for you tomorrow and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace, then, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations."

—St. Francis de Sales

The pandemic challenged me most as an administrator at Sacred Heart Academy. Rescheduling April and May events was difficult enough, but then the news reports predicting what August might look like added fear, anticipating how the new school year might start for our students.

It seems too overwhelming to consider, so I rely on Saint Angela's counsel to focus on faith, to pray and trust that God will enlighten me as we move through this pandemic. Worry and fear deplete our energy and drain our joy. Saint Francis de Sales reminds me that God is always faithful, and anxious thoughts must be vanquished.

I will be stronger for the experience, more flexible, and adaptable. I know my students ended this year strong—proud of their independence and perseverance. I have faith and courage, through the intercession of Saint Angela, that the Sacred Heart community will begin a new year full of faith—hopeful that the world will be renewed. We are Valkyries, after all... strong women of great faith!

—Amy Nall, Associate and Sacred Heart Academy Administrator

This pandemic has caused our daily rhythms of life to come to an abrupt halt. For those who live alone, the sense of isolation, the deprivation of human contact and social distancing restrictions have continued week after week and month after month.

My deepest pains were not being physically with my Ursuline family and sharing spiritual graces of Mass and reflections. For the sake of survival, a daily choice had to be made between peace or anxiety, trust or fear, life or death, and surmounting or succumbing. While solitude can provide a welcomed refuge in the midst of life, the realization that we are social beings certainly came into clear focus.

We are created by God to live in communion with others. Consequently, this sterile solitary confinement loses its purpose and value for a vibrant spiritual life. We are fulfilled when we are “allowed” to sanctify and nurture ourselves and others.

—Donna Ising, Lifetime Associate

A Call to Surrender

As I reflect on the COVID-19 pandemic, the word “surrender” continues to come to mind. For several months, American concepts of self-will and independence have been turned on their heads. In trying to control the virus, our country has been called to embrace new concepts, such as justice and sacrifice. These values may seem aspirational and, in fact, they are not easy to internalize. Those of us who have benefitted from decades of privilege do not easily surrender our control over a society that has been largely ours to define.

We have told ourselves the story of the “American Dream” so many times that we forget it is a white people’s construct that never existed for many Americans. If we believe in liberty and justice for all, then we must surrender to the truth that our powerful country was built on the backs of mostly unempowered people of color. If we wish for a fair society that includes all people, then we must confront our appalling history of slavery, displacement, and detainment over the centuries. And if we believe that all human life is sacred, then we must embrace the notion that Black Lives Matter.

This pandemic has revealed a deeper and more pervasive sickness in American society—chronic racism—that we can only mitigate if we are willing to surrender our individual concerns for the greater good.

—Lisa Steiner, Associate and Coordinator of Social Justice Concerns for the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville



During this pandemic, I have confronted my own desire to be serving others who are affected by COVID-19. Our Sisters served at Camp Taylor during the Spanish Flu epidemic in 1918. Their service took courage and vulnerability, as they were teachers and not nurses. I ask myself, then, why am I sitting here at home instead of assisting others who need it in a food bank, a nursing home, or wherever else is a need? I had to reckon with the fact that I am in the age group that is most vulnerable to COVID-19.

Bringing this to prayer, and my spiritual director, I began to notice that I am beginning to live more intently and intensely the first part of our Ursuline charism: “A contemplative love of God...” Much of my life has been spent in serving others as an educator, or, as the second

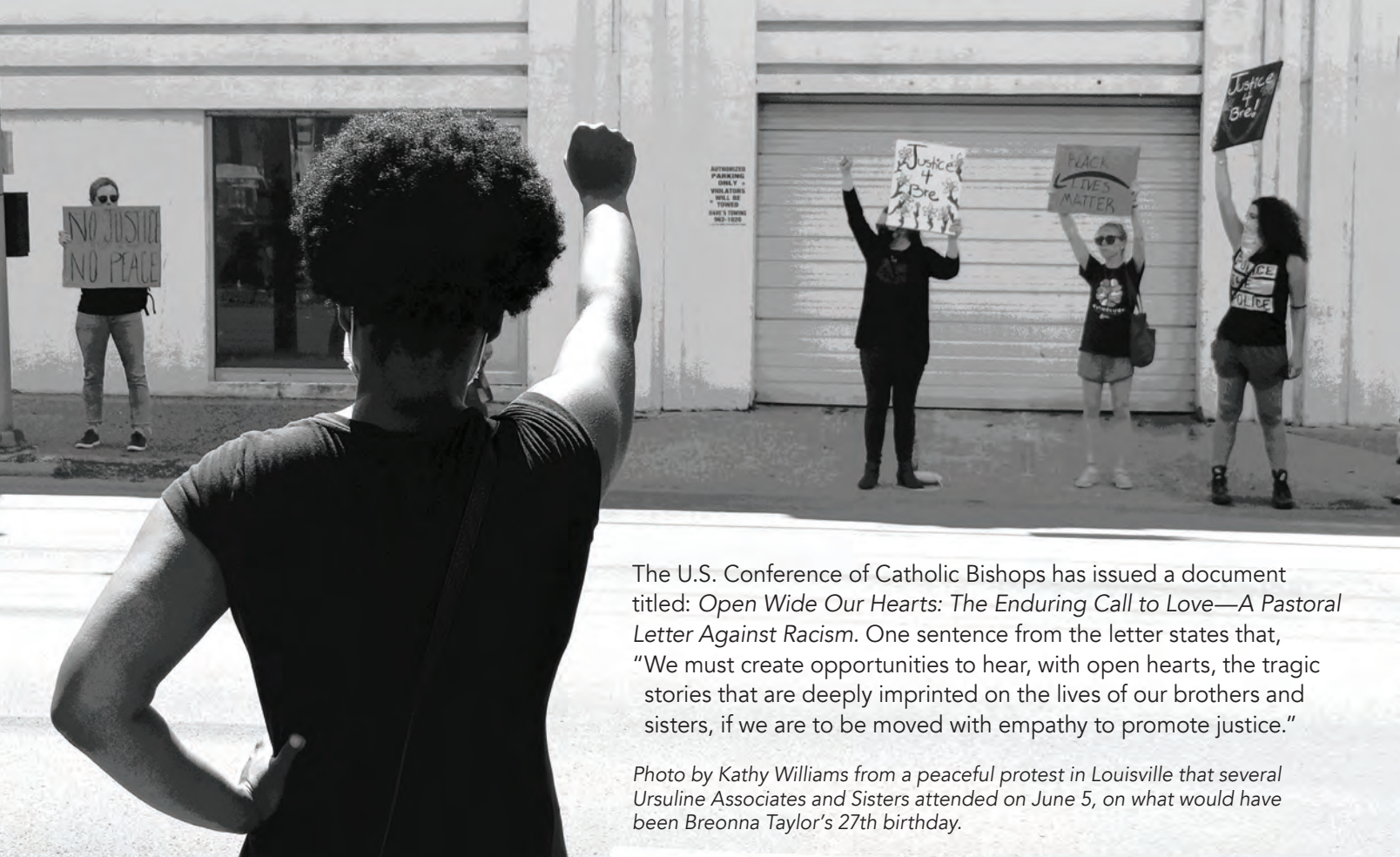
part of our charism states “...an openness and eagerness to serve the needs of others.”

Realizing this, my prayer time has been focused on praying for those who can and are serving: the medical personnel, nursing home and assisted living staff, and government leaders who make life and death decisions every day. Also included are individuals and families who are suffering from COVID-19, and others. News of the day is included as well.

All is brought to the feet of Jesus crucified who understands and grieves in this time of suffering more than I can ever imagine. Remembering God’s blessings and care, I am grateful.

—Sister Barbara Bir

Sister Barbara currently volunteers at Doors To Hope teaching English to Latino families, does spiritual direction and ministers in retreats at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Milford, Ohio.



The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has issued a document titled: *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love—A Pastoral Letter Against Racism*. One sentence from the letter states that, “We must create opportunities to hear, with open hearts, the tragic stories that are deeply imprinted on the lives of our brothers and sisters, if we are to be moved with empathy to promote justice.”

Photo by Kathy Williams from a peaceful protest in Louisville that several Ursuline Associates and Sisters attended on June 5, on what would have been Breonna Taylor’s 27th birthday.

REFLECTIONS ON RACISM AND BLACK LIVES MATTER

As an African-American female who was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, I have many memories of outward and subtle acts of racism. Racial inequality has been a part of my young and adult life in my community, employment, and education.

Growing up, we knew and adjusted to the laws in place that prohibited shopping in certain stores where we could not try on clothes prior to purchasing, going to certain city parks or recreational venues, or eating a meal at a lunch counter or restaurant, to name a few. During the '50s and '60s it was apparent that it was not my educational, intellectual, or spiritual development, but the color of my skin that erected the barriers to acceptance. One only has to delve back into the history of how this country came to be, to understand on whose backs, skills, and strength it was built.

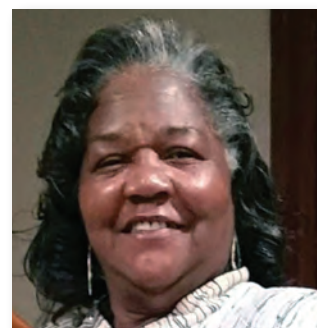
Today in 2020, shamefully, I continue to witness the sins of injustice and the devaluing of human life and dignity. This is very evident by the recent actions of those sworn to protect and value all human life. The protests we see worldwide calling for CHANGE are not just focused on Ms. Taylor, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Floyd, or Mr. Arbery. The voices

of the peaceful protesters are calling for systemic changes across the board: for police reform, access to healthcare, quality education, as well as heartfelt changes in all people to see that each of us, regardless of color, ethnicity, or religion, was created by

God, and without exception, as children of God, making each of us brothers and sisters. Our voices resound in the words of Martin Luther King Jr., “**the urgency of now.**” We have been on our knees, marched, sung “We Shall Overcome,” and continued to hope and pray for peace and inclusiveness. It is now time for ACTION by our elected officials, community leaders and all of us in our neighborhoods and churches to work to see that old laws are revised and new laws drafted that will guarantee that the dreams of all people can and will be realized.

—Emily Mosby, Associate

Emily is a long-time community activist and chairperson of the Social Concern ministry at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Louisville. She strongly believes in the notion that we are all our brother’s keeper.



Black Lives Matter

Four centuries ago, our forbearers created a pair of separate and unequal societies. One was white, privileged, and free while the other was black, impoverished and enslaved. Twelve score and four years ago, our forbearers subscribed to the propositions that all people are created equal, endowed by their creator with the inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and that human governments exist to protect these rights. Recent events in Louisville and throughout the nation have painfully demonstrated that, while the idea of 1776 has been actualized partially, it has yet to supersede and replace the dual societies of 1619. Louisville consists largely of a pair of separate and unequal communities; in fact, Louisville remains one of our nation's most geographically segregated cities.



The arc of justice dictates that Louisville and our nation cannot long endure as a bifurcated pair of unequal societies. We are all one humanity. In the end, we will sink or swim together. For this reason, we must insist that our elected and appointed leaders become more accountable for their behavior, not only through their internal channels, but also to the body politic. More importantly, we must behave accountably ourselves to epitomize the accountability we demand from others. Let us conduct our struggle on the highest ethical plane. As we state our expectations, let us exhibit the dignity and discipline with which we desire to imbue our political discourse. Moreover, as we condemn the recent shooting and looting which continue to polarize our city and nation, let us acknowledge the fears and frustrations which have given birth to such destructive behaviors.

The difficulties born of four centuries of inequality will not disappear in and of themselves. We must shine the bright light of ethical activism and rational discourse to overcome our nation's current darkness. Let us strive to replace the broad road of violence and retribution which leads to death, with wisdom's narrow path of forbearance and self-sacrifice which leads to renewed life. Let us resolve to ensure that those killed tragically did not die in vain. May our response to those deaths bring our city and nation closer to a new era, during which it will no longer be necessary to remind the public that black lives matter.

—Ruby Hyde, Associate

Ruby is a long-time community activist and was a personal friend of Muhammad Ali, whom she met when she was twelve years old and working as his water girl in Louisville's Smoketown neighborhood gym run by Fred Stoner, Ali's coach. Ruby says, "Muhammad Ali was my hero—he took on anything that challenged him." Like her hero, Ruby says she has always liked a challenge.

I feel that it is clear that our country and the world continue to struggle to address the history of systemic RACISM. The tragic death of Breonna Taylor—may she rest in peace...as well as other people of color, may soon give humanity the opportunity to recognize and make CHANGES so all people LIVE, PRAY, and LOVE in Peace and Harmony! I continue to PRAY and HOPE for these CHANGES!

—Carlotta Ingram, Associate

Carlotta is a retired JCPS teacher and taught at John F. Kennedy Montessori School in Louisville for 18 years. She says her students "will always be my children to praise and cherish." Breonna Taylor's boyfriend, Kenneth Walker, was one of her former students., which made Breonna's story really affect her in a personal way.



A NEW NORMAL

BY GINNY SCHAEFFER

Be alert! Be present! I'm about to do something brand new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is! I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands.

—Isaiah 43:19

To say we are in a time of crisis, upheaval, confusion and uncertainty is a laughable understatement.

In less than six months a new virus spread as fast as humans can travel, laugh, talk, sneeze and cough. Its ease of spread and lethality have not been seen in over one hundred years. It has stricken millions from the remote villages of the Amazon to the major cities of the world. Here in the United States, new estimates have come out that 200,000 of us could die from this virus by October.

Just as we were beginning to see a few rays of light break through the dark tunnel of the first wave of COVID-19, another virus struck. Sadly, we are very familiar with this virus. This virus lies deep within our hearts and minds and permeates our society and culture. At the time of this writing, three African-Americans were its latest victims.

Breonna Taylor was shot to death by fellow first responders in the middle of the night while sleeping in her own bed. Ahmed Abrey and George Floyd were murdered in broad daylight on our city streets. With their deaths, four hundred years of racial oppression and injustice erupted. Protestors—black, brown and white, young and old—demanded firings and arrests of those responsible and reminded us all that without justice there is no peace. They asked, “Am I Next?,” implored us to “Say Their Names” and convicted us with “Silence = Violence.”

In a very short time, the coronavirus stripped our lives down to the essentials: shelter, food, work, staying healthy and alive. Public health professionals began to lay out for us what our new normal might look like for the foreseeable future: wearing face masks when in public, physical distancing, avoiding crowds and frequent hand washing, to name just a few changes.

Yet, during the Great Pause, many began to wonder if another new normal was possible—one that was less



chaotic and did not leave us feeling so disconnected and exhausted, one that allowed us to connect more frequently with those we love and with nature, one that was grounded in compassion, relationship and self-giving rather than greed, hate and rage.

With the eruption of the second virus, our lives were laid bare again. Watching George Floyd deliberately, methodically and tortuously murdered by a police officer awoke many of us to the truth we had long been trying to deny, that racial prejudice does exist, that white privilege does exist, and that many of us have been complicit in our silence.

It is said that within the Chinese character for crisis is the word opportunity. As we face the great crises of the early 21st century, we can do so by reverting back to the way things were, which will result in the deaths of hundreds of thousands more, as well as the ongoing oppression of our brothers and sisters and the continued destruction of the environment.

Thankfully, there is another option. As did a people millennia ago, we, too, can hear and take to heart God's

promise “to do something new.” We can choose to become co-creators with God in God’s ultimate reality “on earth as it is in heaven.” We have caught glimpses of this new thing since COVID-19 struck and the cries for justice have echoed through our city streets.

“

Just as we were beginning to see a few rays of light break through the dark tunnel of the first wave of COVID-19, another virus struck. ...This virus lies deep within our hearts and minds and permeates our society and culture. At the time of this writing, three African-Americans were its latest victims.

”

During the Great Pause, families reconnected around the dinner table as parents worked, children learned their lessons, and at the end of the day, they sat down together for supper rather than going through a drive-through on their way to another activity. We were forced to see the worth of essential workers in a way we never had before, as they kept our loved ones alive whenever possible, kept our grocery shelves stocked, our electricity and water running and packages of mail, food and other necessities delivered to our doorsteps. We reconnected with our sense of justice and how we, as a society, have failed so many as we witnessed the deaths of our fellow citizens, and had the time to allow their deaths to sink into our hearts and feel a small part of the grief and outrage experienced by other members of our community.

As we were sequestered away to flatten the curve and save lives, the planet was given an opportunity to recover from our activity and abuse. Skies cleared over great cities and mountains and sights were seen that have not been seen in years. The waters of the great canals in Venice were able to rest and cleanse themselves so that fish and swans returned. We, too, were able to recover something of our humanity as we reached out to support our neighbors by a phone call, going to the grocery for those most vulnerable, donating to food banks, grieving the deaths caused by both viruses and hearing the cries of those demanding justice, and joining them in their demands—either

physically or through phone calls, letters and emails to our government leaders.

As we continue to reemerge, we do so not yet free from the triple threat of COVID-19, racial inequality and environmental destruction. We have choices to make. Do we go back to the way things were, pretending that there is not a deadly virus still seeking victims, denying the reality of racial injustice and hoping that we can continue to kick the can of climate change down the road just a little bit further? Or, to borrow a phrase from Abraham Lincoln, “Do we choose our better angels?”

Another millennia ago, God said to a people, “Today I set before you life or death. Choose life.” It seems that God is making the same request of us. The great sin of this time would be to miss the opportunities found within the crises we face. By the grace of God, we will co-create a new normal that brings about the Ultimate Reality of the Lover of us all. 🙏

Did you know we have a brand-new website?

Visit us at:
www.amcspirituality.org
for the latest updates on programming, virtual prayer services, finding a spiritual director and much more!



GRATEFUL GRADUATE LEAVES LEGACY GIFT

BY ELLEN MCKNIGHT

Martha Dilger, a 1959 graduate of Sacred Heart Academy (SHA), updated her will in 2010, years before she died after a stay in the memory care wing of Nazareth Home-Highlands in Louisville, Kentucky. Her death, in 2019, culminated a lifetime of faith-filled experiences, opportunities, service to others and hospitality.

Her youngest and only surviving sibling, Ruth Dilger Kelly (SHA '66), who is estate executrix, said, "The Dilger family had generations of 'cradle' Catholics. Practicing our faith was unquestioned. Family rosary every evening, prayers before meals, praying the Angelus, and Benediction on Sunday afternoon. Our parents and grandparents were model Catholics."

From grade school (St. James and Holy Spirit), through high school, Martha was taught by Ursuline Sisters. After high school graduation, she attended three more Catholic institutions: St. Mary-of-the-Woods College in Indiana, Nazareth College (now Spalding University) in Louisville and St. Louis University in Missouri. With a background in business and nursing, she earned a master's degree in cardiovascular nursing at St. Louis University. Returning to Louisville, she was the director of nursing at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Hospital before working in direct patient care at Jewish and Suburban hospitals.

Over the years, Martha stayed connected to the Sisters and the Ursuline campus by volunteering and involvement on committees and boards. She shared her personality and skills at the Ursuline Sisters' Marian Home (former nursing facility on the Ursuline campus that closed in 2010) and then at Sacred Heart Village (now Nazareth Home-Clifton), where Marian Home residents relocated.

Martha remembered the Ursuline Sisters in her will. Her sister, Ruth, said, "inclusion was most certainly my sister's gratitude for her many years of Catholic education." 🙏



MARY MARTHA DILGER

Class Pres. 3; Bowling 3, 4; Hockey 2; Tennis 4; Dance Com. 3, 4; Banquet Com. 3; Angeline News 3, 4; News Editor 4; French Newspaper 3, 4; Choral Club 1, 2, 3, 4; Rosary Club 1; Latin Club 1, 2; Dramatics Club 3; Make-up, Junior Play; Paladin Certificate 2, 3; Social Work 2, 3; CSPA Convention; Latin Play 2; 100% Game Attendance 2, 4; Honor Student.

1. First Communion
2. Sophomore at SHA -1956-57
3. 1959 Yearbook graduation photo listing participation in clubs, sports, and activities
4. Photo with parents at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College graduation
5. SHA Senior Photo
6. Nursing Career





7. Ursuline Campus Festival in the 1950s-1960s. Bob Dilger, Martha's father, volunteered and chaired this event for many years.

What's in Your Will?

If you have included the Ursuline Sisters, or are considering will inclusion in your planned giving, please make sure this information is on your legal documents:

Corporate Name:

Ursuline Society and Academy of Education

Mailing Address:

3105 Lexington Road
Louisville, KY 40206

Questions? Contact:

Ellen McKnight
(502) 515-7526
emcknight@ursulineslou.org



Sacredly Centered

The fundraising campaign to preserve the Motherhouse chapel is \$360,000 short of the \$3.5 million goal. The board and donor restricted Chapel Preservation Fund was established in 2017 with donations to be used for much needed upgrades, repairs and renovations to this century old sacred space.

Help preserve this epicenter of spiritual life for the Sisters and schools. **Please use the special remittance envelope in this DOME for your gift designated to the Chapel Preservation Fund.** Inclusion in your planned giving is also an option.

SAVE THE DATE!

**Ursuline Academy Pittsburgh
2021 All Class Reunion
October 15-16, 2021**

Contact: Ruth Anne (Garrison)
McGinley '68. (717) 728-3174
ruthamcginley@yahoo.com

DONATION INFORMATION

The Ursuline Sisters of Louisville appreciate the support of those who share their financial resources with us.

We make every effort to ensure that you receive the maximum tax credit allowed by law. When making a donation, make your check payable to the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, and mail to Mission Advancement Office, Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, 3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206, or use the enclosed remittance envelope.

The check must be processed through the Mission Advancement Office for the Ursuline Sisters to generate the proper documentation you will need for your tax-deductible donation.

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THE PANDEMIC STRAINS PERU'S LIMITED RESOURCES AND AFFECTS ITS MOST VULNERABLE

BY SISTER SUE SCHARFENBERGER

We have been writing the Peruvian Journal for years. Even when the issues were more frequent, it never seemed difficult knowing what to say. But this time we feel stumped. The last few months of quarantine have been like living on another planet, some sort of science fiction story, where we are the actors.

But that is not news, because most of the world has been living the same experience. What stands out are truths we have “known” for a long time but perhaps never paid much attention to: globalization, neo-liberalism, the destruction of earth’s resources and the abandonment of the most vulnerable in whatever society of which we happen to be a part.

The COVID-19 virus brought it all home. For us, the populations of indigenous communities in the Sierra and in the Amazon regions of Peru have been the most affected: forgotten for all practical terms in education and health care. So now, when schools are closed and the ministry of education wants to supplement “schools” with radio or television, or in some cases with internet, the children and their parents have to walk two to three hours to get a “signal” for reception of radio waves or whatever might connect them with the program “Learning At Home.”

Our own teachers in Saint Angela Merici School, here in Carmen de la Legua, are struggling to facilitate the more adequate virtual platforms to reach our students. While some have computers, most have cell phones, but there are still significant numbers of our students who cannot connect at all to the “virtual” classes that our teachers provide. And even some of our teachers do not have adequate access to the kind of technology needed to transmit their classes.

Sister Yuli has organized incredible learning experiences for her students from Saint Angela Merici



Sister Yuli teaching her students via WhatsApp



School and has managed to stay in contact with them via WhatsApp, but it has been quite exhausting.

Initially, the COVID-19 statistics seemed distant, in someone else’s neighborhood. That quickly shifted, so that daily we hear of another Associate, student, parent, neighbor, or family member who has the virus. And when you see the funeral car pull up to the street just in back of us, you know that there is another victim of poor or no health care.

We laud our president, Martin Vizcarra. The actions he took and the curfew imposed were prompt, necessary and adequate. One of Peru’s finest gifts is her informality, which fosters her welcoming spirit and festive, spontaneous dancing and singing. But Peru’s culture of informality is her greatest difficulty in confronting an evil like COVID-19. And the accepted lack of norms, or lack of respect for norms, is a huge impediment to fighting the virus. We also recognize that many people have to make the daily choice between going hungry and

violating the social distancing in order to provide food for the family, which puts them at even greater risk for contracting the virus.

Peru is close behind Brazil in the Latin American coronavirus statistics and is a much smaller country. It is no one's wish to come in second in this competition against an invisible enemy. It is everyone's wish that we learn to begin to care for the most vulnerable; that we assume responsibility for the earth's resources; that we

transform our style of living to a practice of inclusion, solidarity, communion and community.

We applaud our Ursuline leadership for their untiring efforts to keep us connected and informed, so that we can accompany one another, especially the most vulnerable within our community. 🙏

*Blessings and resilience to all,
Sisters Yuli and Sue*

IN MEMORIAM

Sister Jamesetta DeFelice



Sister Jamesetta DeFelice, 89, died at Nazareth Home-Highlands on June 18, 2020. A native of Louisville, she joined the Ursuline community as a postulant in 1948 and entered the novitiate in 1949.

Sister Jamesetta was totally devoted to serving as a teacher and then as principal in Catholic schools for 56 years. In 1984, she was a presenter at the Catholic Educators Institute, sponsored by the Louisville Office of Catholic Schools. She spoke on simple, workable classroom methods to create community and reduce conflicts on the primary level. While principal at St. Matthias School in Louisville, Sister introduced a two-week program called, "The intense vocation on the concept of peace." When asked how she fulfilled her vow to "teach Christian living," Sister simply stated, "By trying to serve others."

Beginning in 2007, Sister Jamesetta served at Marian Home as social services director, and then when the Sisters moved to Nazareth Home Clifton, she volunteered on the Marian Community Team.

Sisters who lived with her at the Motherhouse remember how she coordinated the bracketology of NCAA March Madness for several seasons. Participants put 25 cents on the team that they thought would win. She spread out the brackets'

papers, and would total the scores each night as the basketball games were played. She called Sisters who were in the game but not living at the Motherhouse to report who was winning!

Sister Julia Davis recalls that Sister Jamesetta had a sense of humor and a beautiful smile. Many remember how happy she was when her nephew, Michael Borders, made the creche that is displayed on the Ursuline campus each Christmas season.

As Mildred DeFelice, she attended Ursuline Academy for three years, then took her senior year at Sacred Heart Academy, graduating in 1949, followed by obtaining her bachelor's degree from Ursuline College. She completed a master's degree in educational administration from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and a master's degree in religious studies from Spalding University in Louisville.

Sister Jamesetta was principal at St. Francis of Assisi, Holy Name, St. Polycarp and St. Matthias parish schools and Maryhurst High School in Louisville, and in southern Indiana at Sacred Heart School, Jeffersonville; and St. Anthony School, Clarksville. She taught at St. Ann, St. Peter, St. Boniface, St. Vincent de Paul and St. Rita schools in Louisville; at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in New Albany, Indiana; and in Columbia, South Carolina; Madison, Indiana; Cumberland, Maryland and Pittsburgh.

Sister is survived by her sister, Mary Borders, nieces and nephews, as well as the Ursuline Sisters and Associates.

*Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Ursuline Sisters and mailed to the Mission Advancement Office,
3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206*

Sister Isabel Lehmenkuler



Sister Isabel Lehmenkuler died on May 24, 2020, at Nazareth Home-Clifton, Louisville. In 1926 she was welcomed into the family home on Breckenridge Lane in St. Matthews, Louisville, Kentucky, the fifth of eight children. Isabel was educated at Holy Trinity grade school and Ursuline Academy. She was/

is celebrating her 75th anniversary as an Ursuline Sister in 2020. (In

her take-it-as-it-is manner, we don't think she stopped celebrating just because she died!)

Ginny Schaeffer, the director of the Angela Merici Center for Spirituality, wrote the following in the reflections read by Sister Janet Marie Peterworth, president of the Ursuline Sisters, at Sister Isabel's funeral service. "One of the gifts that Sister Isabel brought to almost every situation . . . was her wonderfully wicked, dry wit." Ginny also noted, "Another...[was] her authenticity. She was the epitome of the cliché, 'What you see is what you get.'"

Sister Isabel served in several ministries. The first was education, where she spent 35 years, first as a classroom teacher (her favorite role) in Louisville at St. Elizabeth, Our Mother of Sorrows and Ursuline Academy and at St. Patrick Academy in Sidney, Nebraska. Next, she was called to serve as principal at St. Boniface School, Evansville, Indiana, and then at St. Ann and Our Lady of Lourdes schools in Louisville. In preparation for these responsibilities, Sister earned both the bachelor and master of science degrees from Creighton University, Omaha.

Next, Sister interned at the Baptist Medical Center in Columbia, South Carolina (1983-84) and became a chaplain at Providence Hospital in Columbia, serving from 1985 to 1999. Her relationships with patients and their loved ones were exceptional. In January 1993, the then-bishop of Charleston, Bishop David Thompson, wrote to her expressing his gratitude for her care and concern for his predecessor, Bishop Ernest Unterkoefler "in his final days and weeks." Bishop Unterkoefler died at Providence Hospital on January 4, 1993. [We know

this only because we found in her files a letter from Bishop Thompson.] Sister Isabel made history while in Columbia when she became the first female chaplain of that city's police department. Her role was "to listen... to provide an outlet for the stress of the policemen."

Sister Isabel's service to her Sisters included Director of Office of Personnel and Professional Development, Director of the Ursuline Associate Community (Associate Call), councilor or local superior for the community of Sisters at the Motherhouse, and in pastoral care at Marian Home. In her last years, she volunteered at Water with Blessings, a non-profit organization that seeks to provide education and low-cost equipment for producing clean water in areas where there is none.

Sister is survived by her sister-in-law, Therese Lehmenkuler of Anthem, Arizona, nieces and nephews and Ursuline Sisters and Associates. The funeral service and burial for Sister Isabel were private. A Memorial Mass is planned for the future.

"Perhaps the greatest gift that Sister Isabel quietly shared with all of us through the life she lived was as a God-seeker."

—Ginny Schaeffer, June 2, 2020

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Ursuline Sisters and mailed to the Mission Advancement Office, 3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206



Therefore, my most loving mothers, if you love these dear daughters of ours with a burning and passionate charity, it will be impossible for you not to have them all depicted individually in your memory and in your heart. ”

—from Saint Angela Merici's
Second Legacy

Sister Lorraine (Juanita) Maginot



Sister Lorraine Maginot (formerly Sister Juanita) died on May 24, 2020, at Nazareth Home-Clifton, Louisville. She was number six in a family of ten—four girls and six boys. Lorraine was the third girl and a middle child born on Christmas Day, 1927, in Calumet City, Illinois. She believed having a Christmas birthday was a privilege

since she shared it with her Savior! Two Ursuline Sisters, Josephine and Mary Hildenbrand, were her aunts and sisters of her mother.

After graduating from Noll Central High School in Hammond, Indiana, in 1946, Lorraine journeyed to Louisville to become a postulant. She claimed she thought of entering the Dominican Sisters, but when she shared that with her mother, she was told it was better to join the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville since the family had a connection through Sisters Josephine and Mary.

Sister was a very proper, exact person, always busy. A graduate of Sacred Heart Model School remembers Sister Lorraine for her detailed, but patient, instructions in cursive writing. “I can still write beautifully today.” Upon learning of Sister’s passing, Sister Mai-Dung, a Dominican Sister of Peace, noted that Sister Lorraine was the first one to welcome her and was so kind when she came to live with the Ursuline Sisters at the Motherhouse. A mother wrote that Sister Lorraine was so gracious in making it possible for her children to receive the catechism instruction she desired for them.

Sister taught grades one through eight (except seventh) in Louisville at Sacred Heart Model School and at St. Joseph, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Rita, St. Clement and Most Blessed Sacrament schools; in Sidney, Nebraska, at St. Patrick Academy; and in Cumberland, Maryland, at St. Mary School. When asked what was the most difficult ministry, Sister would always reply—serving as principal for one year at St. Mary. She often said, “I liked teaching the lower grades!” Sister Lorraine also ministered in Iowa City, Iowa.

For several months, Sister Lorraine also cared for her sister; and later worked in the Ursulines’ craft shop. A talented and detailed seamstress, she “clothed” several dolls in the Ursuline Sisters’ habit, which are in the archives. Sister Lorraine held a bachelor’s in education from Ursuline College, Louisville, and a master’s in education from Creighton University, Omaha.

Sister’s funeral services were private because of the COVID-19 virus regulations. Her nephew, Father Michael Maginot, presided. Her great-nephew, Father Benjamin Ross, and Sisters Agnes Coveney and Jo Ann Jansing assisted at the service.

Sister Lorraine Maginot is survived by her brother, James (Helen) Maginot of Munster, Indiana, sister-in-law Joan Maginot of Janesville, Wisconsin, several nieces and nephews, as well as the Ursuline community of Sisters and Associates.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Ursuline Sisters and mailed to the Mission Advancement Office, 3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206

“Do not lose heart, even if you should discover that you lack qualities necessary for the work to which you are called. He who called you will not desert you, but the moment you are in need he will stretch out his saving hand.”

—Saint Angela Merici

Sister Bernadine (Emmet) Nash



Sister Bernadine Nash (formerly Sister Emmet) died at Nazareth Home-Clifton on June 3, 2020.

Sister Bernadine claimed the title of “matriarch” as the first of eleven children—three girls and eight boys. Sister helped care for one brother who died as a one-year-old, and if you visited with Sister, even for a little while, you heard tales of her seven brothers!

Born on March 8, 1925, in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, Frances Bernadine was six-months old when the family moved to Louisville. Her education began with first grade at Saint Elizabeth parish school, then continued at Ursuline Academy from 1938 to November 1940. Bernadine abruptly quit school when her mother became very ill. “As I was the eldest, my parents felt I should ‘drop out’ of school and help at home. I did so, reluctantly, but of necessity.” When her mother’s health improved, Bernadine “was not in the mood to return to school.” Instead, she took a job as a laundry shirt presser (at 25 cents per hour). Next, she was a nurse aide at St. Joseph Infirmary, and lastly, she joined the telephone company. On December 1, 1945, Bernadine resigned that position to prepare to enter the Ursuline Sisters. This decision was difficult as she was so devoted to her family.

As an Ursuline candidate and then a postulant, she completed her junior and senior years at Sacred Heart Academy, graduated in June 1947 and entered the novitiate on July 2, 1947, taking her father’s name, Emmet. There were 51 fourth graders in her first teaching experience at Holy Spirit School. Next, she was sent to Saint Peter School and then to Saint Boniface, all three in Louisville.

Sister Emmet taught the fourth grade at Saint Patrick School in North Platte, Nebraska (1952-54). She was then sent east to Omaha to teach at Blessed Sacrament School and attend college classes at Creighton University on Saturdays and in the summer until graduation in 1956. Her adventures in Nebraska

were frequently told in conversations, including several about training the boys to be servers at Mass.

After a summer in Louisville, Sister returned to Omaha to work on a master’s degree in elementary education, which she gained in 1959. Next it was back to Louisville as teacher, or principal, or teaching principal at Saint Vincent de Paul, Our Mother of Sorrows, Saint Raphael and Saint George schools and Sacred Heart Model School. In 1976, Sister Bernadine returned to Blessed Sacrament School, Omaha, to serve as principal for nine years. Her last position was principal of Saint Philip School in Mt. Vernon, Indiana. From 1992 to 1998, she was coordinator of the Ursuline Motherhouse community and then volunteered at Jewish Hospital, Suburban Medical Center and at the Hospice inpatient unit at Norton Hospital. Calling seniors in Elderserve was meaningful because she loved to talk!

Sister had a great devotion to the Ursuline community and was grateful when Sisters came to visit. That made the “no visitors” rule during the COVID-19 pandemic most difficult for her.

Sister Bernadine is survived by her sister, Peggy Clark; three brothers, Dennis and Robert, both of Louisville, and Charles Nash, of Florida, many nieces and nephews and Ursuline Sisters and Associates.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Ursuline Sisters and mailed to the Mission Advancement Office, 3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206

THE CHARISM

of Saint Angela Merici and the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville is a contemplative love of God and a resulting openness and eagerness to serve the needs of others.

Sister Jane (Hilary) Stuckenberg



Sister Jane Stuckenberg (formerly Sister Hilary) died at Norton Hospital on May 29, 2020. Jane was born in Louisville, received an Ursuline education at Saint Therese School, Ursuline Academy and Ursuline College in Louisville. After high school graduation in 1948, she became a postulant of the Ursuline Sisters and entered the novitiate in 1949.

When answering the question, “How do you teach Christian living?” Sister Jane stated, “I strive to bring a compassionate and loving presence to each person individually. This flows from my ‘contemplative love of God and my eagerness to serve the needs of others.’” [From the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville mission statement] She lived this statement during her thirty-three years of teaching in elementary schools and as a member of the Ursuline Leadership Team from 1992 to 1996. Sister also worked in the Office of Finance, handling the Sisters’ medical insurance; on the Vocation/Formation Team, and as the social services coordinator at Marian Home. She was in charge of Sisters’ funeral arrangements from 1992 to 2008. After moving to Our Mother of Sorrows parish convent, she became a Eucharistic Minister, led a Bible study group and volunteered in the rectory office.

Sister Jane received a master’s in education from Spalding University, Louisville, and attended the School of Applied Theology in Oakland, California. Sister Jane taught in Louisville at St. Vincent de Paul, St. Helen, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Mother of Sorrows, St. Therese and Immaculate Conception parish schools and at Sacred Heart Model School; and in Sidney, Nebraska, at St. Patrick School.

Sister Jane volunteered to go to Peru, South America, in 1964, when the Ursuline Sisters announced the opening of a mission there. She and Sister Kathleen Neely (formerly Sister Joseph Angela) were assigned to join the other Sisters there in 1968. Sister Jane taught English to children at the Peruvian Navy School until

1971. In an article in *The Record*, dated October 18, 1979, Sister commented about her time in Peru:

“Sometimes you go to the mission area with the idea of helping others. But when you get down to it, you’re the one who’s being helped by learning to appreciate and experience other cultures and other people’s struggles.”

Sister Jane is survived by a niece and three nephews and Ursuline Sisters and Associates. Her younger sister, Carolyn Ann Stuckenberg Wantly, is deceased. Sister’s private funeral services, with burial in St. Michael Cemetery, took place on Friday, June 5. A Memorial Mass is planned for a later date.

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3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206*

Jesus said he would be with the lowly, the ill, the fearful, the confused. He is still present in these places and we follow him through our prayer, through our own suffering during this pandemic.

In Angela’s day there were plagues—the Bubonic Plague, the Black Death, the Italian Plague. What was Angela’s response? Was she also confused, frightened, helpless? Angela trusted in the love of God. She told us to have faith and keep up our courage.

Our charism and our spirituality come to our aid in these troubled times. We have helped best by staying home, a ministry we can all do—alone and together in love and in spirit.

Let us go and seek Jesus in new ways!
—Sister Martha Buser

Our Mission Teaching Christian living is the corporate mission of the Ursuline Sisters. This ministry, cutting across socio-economic, racial and national boundaries, assists women, men and children to live more fully and to develop a personal relationship with God.

