

A NEW VISION

Newsletter & Chronicle

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PROVINCE



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Pope Saint John Paul II 1988 Reflection on the Cross (excerpt)

The feast that we celebrate today speaks of a marvelous and ceaseless action of God in human history, in the history of every man, woman and child. The Cross of Christ on Golgotha has become for all time the center of this saving work of God. *Christ is the Savior of the world*, because in

him and through him the *love with which God so loved the world* is continuously revealed: “God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son” (*Ibid.* 3, 16).

The Father *gave him* so that this Son, who is one in substance with him, would become man by being conceived of the Virgin Mary. The Father *gave him* so that as the Son of Man he would proclaim the Gospel, the Good News of salvation. The Father *gave him* so that this Son, by responding with his own infinite love to the love of the Father, might offer himself on the Cross.

From a human point of view, Christ’s *offering of himself on the Cross was a sign of contradiction*, an unthinkable disgrace. It was, in fact, *the most profound humiliation possible*.

In today’s liturgy, *the Apostle Paul* speaks to us in words that capture the mystery of the Cross of Christ: “His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a Cross. *But God raised him high*” (*Phil.* 2, 6-9).

Through his self-emptying on Golgotha, in the disgrace of the Cross and the crucifixion (at least in the human way of understanding these events) Christ receives the highest exaltation. In God’s eyes, the Cross is the greatest triumph.

The way of human judgement is very different from God's. God's judgement far surpasses ours. What seems to us to be failure is, in God's eyes, the victory of sacrificial love.

It is precisely this Cross of human disgrace that bears within itself the source of the exaltation of Christ in God. "God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim *Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*"

Yes, it is through the Cross that Christ is exalted. Today's feast of the Church speaks to us of this mystery. At the same time, it speaks of *Christ who by means of the Cross lifts up humanity, lifts up all humanity and indeed all creation.* "For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved."

Generation after generation passes. And in the midst of this passing, the Cross of Christ remains. Through the Cross, God continuously proclaims to the world the infinite love which no created evil is able to overcome. Yes, the Cross remains, so that in it the world, indeed every human person, may find the way of salvation. *For it is by this Cross that the world is saved!*

PROVINCE AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES' CHRONICLES

June 5th – The Province celebrated Sister Mary Florence Schultz's 70th Jubilee. The day started with a beautiful liturgy in the Chapel of the Ascension Living Resurrection Village. Besides the entire Province participating in the liturgy many residents of the village also attended.

All the Sisters joined with Sister Mary Florence in renewing their vows and the letter with the Papal Blessing of Pope Francis was read.





After Mass the Sisters gathered in the Terrance Room for a delicious dinner. Sister Mary Hedwig made all the arrangements for the beautiful decorations and planned the dinner with caterers. After dinner Sister Donna Marie gave a short history of Sister Florence's life and showed pictures of her early childhood, her family, and her years in Community.

June 12th to 18th - Sister Hedwig and Sister Kathleen made a six - day directed retreat in Racine, Wisconsin.

June 25th – The Province had a prayerful send off for the Sisters Donna Marie, Virginia Ann, Hedwig, and Gloria Marie who would be leaving for Rome the next day to participate in the XVIII General Chapter. The Sisters prayed Lauds together, had special prayers for the delegates and then enjoyed a delicious breakfast.

June 26th – Sisters Carolyn and Maria Marta drove the delegates to the airport for their flight to Rome.

June 29th – Sister Dominic joined several other residents from the retirement center in a visit to Navy Pier.

July 4th – The Emmaus and Resurrection Local Communities joined together for supper to celebrate Independence Day.

In July Sister Dominic joined a group of residents from the retirement center in a visit to Putters' Peak, a miniature golf park. Sister Dominic enjoyed sitting in the shade and watching the residents play miniature golf.

In July Sister Mary Patricia made a six-day retreat in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

July 30th – Sisters Carolyn and Maria Marta picked up the delegates at the airport upon their return from Rome.

August 2nd – Sister Donna Marie, Sister Virginia Ann, Sister Hedwig, and Sister Gloria

Marie, delegates to the XVIII General Chapter, met with all the Sisters of the Province. The meeting started with Vespers and a light supper. The delegates then shared information about the Chapter.

- Sister Donna Marie shared some interesting information about the various the ministries and other information given by the various Provinces and Regions in their reports and highlighted the work and vocations in Tanzania
- Sister Hedwig updated the Sisters regarding the ministry of the “Home of the Strong” in the Warsaw Province
- Sister Gloria gave an update on Argentina
- Sister Virginia Ann highlighted the work of Canada, Australia, and England.

August 3rd – In gratitude for a significant donation from the Hermitage Charitable Trust the President of Ascension Illinois and other administrative staff invited Sister Donna Marie, Sister Virginia Ann, and Sister Maria Marta to visit Saint Joseph Hospital

For a tour and orientation to the Eating Disorders Program. The program being planned for at Saint Joseph Hospital will be the most advanced in the State of Illinois. 9% of the U.S. population, or 28.8 million Americans, experience eating disorder in their lifetime.

August 4th – Sister Maria Goretti became a US citizen and received her certificate after successfully completing her oral exam.



Fr. Steve Bartczyszyn
and Sr. Donna Marie

August 7th - Father Paul Voisin, C.R., Superior General of the Resurrectionist Fathers and Brothers, and Father Steve Bartczyszyn, C.R., Provincial Superior of the Resurrectionist Fathers and Brothers in the United States, visited with us. Both Fathers joined us for dinner in the Terrace Room.



Sr. Maria Goretti

Father Paul was in Chicago for the Provincial Chapter of the United States Province.

Father Steve presented us with a beautiful resolution which the Fathers and Brothers voted on at their Provincial Chapter earlier in August. The resolution thanked the Sisters for their many years of friendship and generous support. Most recently the Resurrectionists received a grant from the Hermitage Charitable Trust.



Fr. Paul Voisin, Sr. Virginia Ann,
and Sr. Donna Marie

August 11th – Sister Donna Marie and the other Delegates, Sister Virginia Ann, Sister Hedwig, and Sister Gloria Marie met with the Sisters of the Province to review and discuss the documents from the XVIII General Chapter.

August 8 to 13 – Twelve Sisters made the annual retreat held at the Retirement Center. There were two Sisters of the Living Word and one Cenacle Sister who also made the retreat. The theme of the retreat was “Women of the Old and New Testament.” Each day a different Sister did the presentation. Two Sisters of the Living Word, one Franciscan, one Cenacle, two Resurrection Sisters, and one lay woman. At the end of the Retreat all the Sisters renewed their vows at the 4 p.m. Mass attended by the residents.

Save the Date

The 2022 Weekend Renewal is scheduled for Friday evening, November 4th, all day Saturday, November 5th, and all-day Sunday, November 6th.



August 15th - Resurrection Local Community celebrated the Anniversary of vows of all the Sisters with special recognition of Sister Florence who celebrated the 70th Jubilee this year. The celebration began with Vespers and Renewal of Vows. A delicious dinner followed. together and dinner and celebrated Sr. Florence Jubilee

August 20th The Resurrection Local Community celebrated the August Birthdays and Feast days with dinner and recreation.

August 24th The Resurrection Local Community had a Citizenship Party in honor of Sister Maria Marta and Sister Goretti who both passed their oral exams and received their certificates and were sworn in as US Citizens.

August 26th Sister Donna Marie and Sister Virginia Ann attended “Jammin with Jen,” the annual fundraiser for the Jen School which is part of Maryville. The Jen School has special programs for students with special needs for a more structured learning environment. The school also provides the students with special training internship programs.

August 29th - The Dean and eleven faculty members from the Loyola Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing catered a delicious lunch and gave a presentation to the Sisters on the CARE Program. They wanted to show their gratitude for the financial support given through the Hermitage Charitable Trust. The CARE Program helps students from the Arupe Junior College enter into the four-year nursing program. The program not only helps them financially but also provides mentoring and tutoring to the students.

Each Sister received a gift bag from Dean Lorna Finnegan. In the bag was a beautiful Loyola scarf and a beverage bottle.

Birthdays

August 16th Sister Hedwig

September 1st Sister Kathleen Ann

September 10th Sister Mary Paulette

September 11th Sister Marilyn

September 22nd Sister Mary Florence

October 15th Sister Danielle Marie Baran, NY

Feast days

July 5th Sister Maria Goretti

July 29th Sister Maria Marta

August 8th Sister Mary Dominic

August 23rd Sister Rosemary

September 15th Sister Dolores Stepien, NY

October 7th Sister Mary Patricia

October 16th Sister Mary Hedwig

October 19th Sister Laura

Remembering the XVIII General Chapter



Delegates from New York and Chicago Province: Left to Right Sisters Alexandra, Marie, Kathleen, Danielle, Donna Marie, Gloria Marie, Hedwig, Virginia Ann, and secretary at the Chapter Sister Margaret Ann.



Sister Gloria in St. Peter's

Sisters Hedwig, Danielle, and Margaret Ann in St. Peter's



Sisters Virginia Ann and Donna Marie at Mentorella



Sister Hedwig, Sister Dorota, and Sister Donna Marie



Sisters Virginia Ann and Gloria Marie



Cascia, location of Church, Shrine,
Convent of St. Rita

Ten Young Ladies Become Postulants in Tanzania

