

A NEW VISION

Newsletter & Chronicle

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PROVINCE



Volume 16

June 1 through August 31, 2024

Broken, Healed by God's Love, and More Beautiful Than Before



This year our annual retreat was directed by Father Philip Chircop, S.J. The retreat started on Sunday August 18th and ended on August 23rd. The theme that ran through all the conferences was, "Perfectly Imperfect." As Father developed the theme we found it to be very much in harmony with our Resurrection charism and belief in God's unconditional love

for us. God's love is so deep and passionate for each of us, that He does everything He can to reassure us of His love and help heal our brokenness.

Father Philip told us about a beautiful Japanese tradition and art called Kintsugi which teaches us the awesome truth about our brokenness and the careful and loving healing hands of our God and heavenly potter.

What is Kintsugi? The word Kintsugi means "join with gold." It is a Japanese art in which broken pottery is repaired with gold. This repair renders a new piece which is actually more resilient and more exquisite than the original unbroken piece.

In our world so often the imperfect or broken are thrown away or hidden out of sight. But our God treasures and reverences each human person, each human heart and soul so much that no matter how broken we are He never throws us away. Isaiah 42:3 says, *A bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick, he will not quench.* And in Psalm 34:18 we are told, *The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

Instead of mending our brokenness with gold, our God heals us with the blood of Christ, His Son. In 2Corinthians 4:7 we read: *But we hold this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us.* The repaired vessel becomes more valuable because; *It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me,* Galatians 2:20.

Sr. Donna Marie Wolowicki, C.R.

Jubilee Celebration



Sr. M. Dominic

Our 2024 Jubilarians are Sister Mary Dominic Russell, C.R. celebrating 70 years and Sister Virginia Ann Wanzek, C.R. celebrating 60 years. During the course of the year, we have tried to honor both Sisters in many ways, recognizing their faithful gift of self to the Risen Jesus, their love and service to their Sisters in Community, and their deep care and compassion for those they serve in ministry.

On June 2nd a beautiful Eucharistic Liturgy was celebrated honoring Sr. Dominic and Sr. Virginia Ann. All the Sisters of the Province and many of the residents of the retirement center were present.



Sr. Virginia Ann

Fr. Joseph Glab, C.R. was the celebrant for the Mass. After the homily all the Sisters renewed their vows. After Communion the letter from Rome with the Apostolic Blessing of Pope Francis was read. The residents were deeply touched to hear that they also received the blessing from his holiness, Pope Francis because they participated in the Jubilee Mass.

After Mass all the Sisters participated in a delicious catered dinner planned by Sr. Hedwig.

After dinner Sr. Donna Marie shared a photo slide life history of each of the Jubilarians.



Blessings

Tribute to Sr. Mary Dominic Russell, C.R.

Sr. Mary Dominic was born June 16, 1934 to Joseph Russell and Marie Silkowski. She had one younger sister.

She entered the Resurrection Sisters on August 2, 1952 and professed her first vows on August 15, 1954. After her first profession Sr. Dominic was stationed at the House of Studies in Harrison, New York and attended and graduated from Fordham University.

From 1957 to 1969 Sr. Dominic taught grades 4 through 8 at St. Mary of the Angels, St. Bede, and St. Casimir. From 1969 to 1990 she taught at St. Casimir High School.

In 1991 Sr. Dominic began her studies in Pastoral Ministry. Upon the completion of studies and achieving her certification as a chaplain, Sister served as a chaplain at Westlake Community Hospital and Resurrection Medical Center.

Today, Sr. Dominic continues to serve at Ascension Living Resurrection Village as a lector, as a reader of the newsletter over the inhouse television, and she serves on the Residents' Menu Advisory Committee.

Sr. Dominic loves people and is a source of inspiration and comfort to many. She values community life and does all she can to support her Sisters.

Tribute to Sr. Virginia Ann

Sr. Virginia Ann was born March 10, 1944 to Frank Wanzek and Colette Yokiell in Albert Lee, Minnesota. She has four siblings, two sisters and two brothers.

She entered the Resurrection Sisters after high school on August 22, 1962. Sr. Virginia Ann professed her first vows on August 15, 1964. After her first profession Sr. Virginia was stationed at the House of Studies in Harrison, New York and attended Fordham University.

From 1965 to 1966 Sr. Virginia Ann taught 5th grade at St. Casimir.

In 1969 she received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Medical Records from St. Louis University and became the Supervisor of Medical Records from 1969 to 1974.

She went to Notre Dame University for several summers to earn a master's degree in Not-for-Profit Finance.

Most of Sr. Virginia Ann's life as a Sister of the Resurrection has been a gift of service to her Sisters and the Congregation. She served as Directress of Novices and Junior Professed, Provincial Treasurer, General Councilor and General Treasurer in Rome, Treasurer in the Chicago Province, a Local Superior, and a total of 23 years as Provincial Superior in the Immaculate Conception Province.

Sr. Virginia Ann is a faith-filled religious who trusts deeply in God's presence and grace.



Province Chronicle

June 2nd The day was dedicated to celebrating Sr. Dominic and Sr. Virginia Ann's Jubilees (see page 2 of this volume for more information on the Jubilee).

June 4th We started an optional common Holy Hour for vocations on the first Tuesday of the month. During the Holy Hour we pray for each Sister and each Candidate in Formation.

June 6th. Sr. Donna Marie and Sr. Virginia Ann attended a special Mass and Reception at Ascension Alexian Brothers Medical Center. The event was hosted by Ascension to celebrate the compassion and

generosity of the Ascension Illinois Foundation donations.

June 9th Sr. Virginia Ann arranged for the Sisters of the Emmaus Local Community to have supper at Arcadia, a Polish Restaurant. The outing was a celebration honoring Sisters who recently and/or soon would be celebrating feast days or birthdays. Sr. Maria Marta was invited and she drove some Sisters in the van. Sr. Paulette and Sr. Donna Marie were also invited. It was a lovely event.

June 11th. Sr. Virginia Ann and Sr. Donna Marie visited the Chicago Botanic Gardens. The weather was perfect, and the flowers were in full bloom.

June 13th Sr. Donna Marie and Sr. Virginia attended the open house of the new Eating Disorder Unit at St. Joseph Hospital. It is a full-service inpatient program that provides medical and psychological counseling along with family support. Our Province provided a financial gift to the program through Hermitage Trust.

June 16th On June 16th Sr. Dominic celebrated her 90th Birthday. Sr. Dominic had many surprises among which was an invitation to lunch by her friend Amy. Her lunch was ended with a surprise small Birthday cake along with candle!



June 19th Sr. Donna Marie, Sr. Virginia Ann, and Sr. Maria Marta attended the Mass and reception at Ascension Resurrection Life Center in celebration of the completed remodeling of the Chapel.

June 28th All the Sisters of the Province met in the Terrace room for Vespers and a farewell blessing for Sr. Maria Goretti who was returning to the Poznan Province. Sr. Maria Goretti was thanked for her years of service In the Province.

June 29th Sr. Dominic, Sr. Rosemary, Sr. Christine Maria, Sr. Virginia Ann, and Sr. Donna Marie made a Eucharistic Pilgrimage in a spirit of unity with the Eucharistic Pilgrimage of United States Catholics. The holy hour was made at St. John Brebeuf. After the time of prayer, all went for lunch to Culvers.

July 4th The Resurrection Local Community had a picnic supper and recreation to Celebrate Independence Day.

July 5th Sr. Dominic joined other Residents from Ascension Living Resurrection Village for a boat ride on the canal In LaSalle, Illinois. The boat was Pulled by the mule which was walking along the shore. The mule named Moe is shown in the picture.



July 7th. The Resurrection Local Community celebrated Sr. Kathryn's Birthday with a special dinner followed by recreation.

July 9th The Provincial Council had a lunch meeting with the leadership of Solidarity Bridge, a Catholic Medical Mission Group that we have given support to.

July 17th The Sisters of Province got together in the Terrace Room to celebrate the 101st Anniversary of the Congregations Final Approval and the approval of The Constitutions. Vespers and supper followed.

July 24th. Sr. Donna Marie met with the Sisters of the Emmaus Local Community to review the updated forms for documenting your wishes regarding resuscitation The new forms have several choices regarding pre-cardiac arrest treatment, so Sr. Donna explained them.

July 24th Sr. Paulette died peacefully in her own room at The retirement center. Sr. Paulette was under Hospice care and had asked that someone pray the rosary at her bedside daily as well as the chaplet of Divine Mercy. Sr. Paulette had Viaticum and died right after the rosary on July 24th.



Sr. Paulette was waked on July 28th and her funeral was on July 29, 2024, at Mary Seat of Wisdom. Fr. Richard Grek, C.R. was the main celebrant of the funeral Mass.

Sr. Paulette will be greatly missed. She is remembered and cherished by her Sisters in Community, her family, co-workers, students, and many others. She was a religious who shared her love of God and faith with others and treated everyone with tenderness and love.

August 11th The Emmaus Local Community celebrated Sr. Dominic's Feast Day and Sr. Rosemary's Feast Day. The celebration started with Vespers, dinner from Blazen Grill, and recreation. Sr. Donna Marie was invited as a guest.

August 13 Sister Mary Dominic joined some Ascension Living Resurrection Village residents for a trip to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin to enjoy a 2-hour Lake Geneva Luncheon Cruise. As they cruised, the captain pointed out many historical mansions along the shore.

August 13th. Sister Virginia Ann and Sr. Donna spent a few days at our home on Lake Delevan. While at the Lake they went to play miniature golf. It was relaxing and we didn't do too badly.

August 15th. The whole Province came together for supper in the Terrace Room. Vespers were



prayed and Vows were renewed. After supper Sisters shared their experiences as Novices and memories of the early years in Community. The evening ended with dessert.

August 18th – 23rd Sr. Donna Marie arranged for a six day retreat here at the Retirement Center. The retreat director was a Jesuit, Father Philip Chircop. Ten Resurrection Sisters participated in the retreat. Sr. Donna opened the retreat to the Sisters of other Congregations who live here at the Retirement Center. Eleven Sisters of the Living Word, one Notre Dame Sister, and seven Religious of the Cenacle participated in the Retreat. Fr. Philip Chircop is originally from Malta and currently is stationed in Toronto, Canada.



Fr. Philip Chircop

August 25th The Resurrection Local Community celebrated Sr. Hedwig's Birthday. Sr. Carolyn ordered a Chinese Dinner after which there was recreation.

August 27th Sr. Virginia Ann attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Career and Counseling Center at Resurrection College Prep High School. The new Center is in room 211.

August 28th Sr. Donna Marie met with and answered the questions of the Sisters of the Resurrection Local Community regarding the updated forms for documenting wishes regarding resuscitation. The new forms have several choices regarding pre-cardiac arrest treatment.

Loyola University School of Nursing Dean's Advisory and Advancement Council

Recently, Dean Lorna Finnegan invited Sr. Donna Marie to serve on the Loyola University School of Nursing Dean's Advisory and Advancement Council. The Council meets twice a year for a full day to review and provide input on new projects and

programs for the School of Nursing and give input and advice on advancement and fund raising.

Summer Gardeners

Two of our Sisters have balcony gardens that have grown quite well this year!

Here are two pictures from Sr. Donna Marie's balcony garden.



Here is a picture of the garden Sr. Virginia Ann is growing on the 2E common balcony.





Congratulations to Sr. Maria Marta

In August Sr. Maria Marta started her new job at Nazarethville Place in August. Sr. Marta loves working at Nazarethville.

Birthdays

September 1st. Sr. Kathleen

November 4th. Sr. Mary Patricia

November 21st. Sr. Carolyn Marie

Feast Days

September 15th. Sr. Dolores Stepien

September 15th Sr. Dolores Marie Palermo

October 7th Sr. Mary Patricia

October 16th Sr. Mary Hedwig

November 4th. Sr. Carolyn

November 4th Sr. Carolyn Marie

November 10th Sr. Mary Leonette