

A NEW VISION

Newsletter & Chronicle

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PROVINCE

Volume 15

January 1 through May 31, 2024



Closing Reflection – April 2024 General Visitation -Sr. Dorota Zygmunt, C.R.

The following are thoughts taken from Sr. Dorota's closing remarks and reflection at the end of the 2024 visitation in the Chicago Province.

Our Constitutions and charism statement emphasize that our daily encounters with the Risen Christ in the Eucharist are our strength to live our vocation and our charism faithfully every day.

In our Constitutions we find a beautiful passage: The Congregation's worship of the Risen Christ should be a response of our love to God's love for us. It is also expressed in reverence for the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Blessed Sacrament, in whom the Heart of the Risen Lord lives and beats. Permeated with the spirit of adoration, we will remember that the Eucharist is an inexhaustible source of God's life with us, and encounters with the Risen Christ in the sacrament of Love strengthen us in our daily following of Him (C 43).

The Blessed Sacrament, in whom the Heart of the Risen Lord lives and beats – the Heart that burns with love for us, is the greatest Treasure we have and can have here on earth. This Treasure is under the roof of every convent in which we live. Christ comes to us each day in our chapel, if only we want to meet Him.

What is my life like? Do I still marvel at the fact that He loves me? Am I constantly amazed that He is truly present with me here and now? Do I really desire Him? ... Do I nurture in myself the desire for His love?

Installation of Province Leadership

On January 6th, the 133rd Anniversary of the Founding of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Resurrection, Sr. Donna Marie was installed as Provincial Superior of the Immaculate Conception Province. Sr. Barbara was installed as the Assistant Provincial, and Sisters Virginia Ann, Hedwig, and Maria Marta were installed as Provincial Councilors.

Fr. Steve Bartzyszyn, C.R., Provincial Superior of the United States Resurrectionists, served as the celebrant of the Eucharistic Liturgy and Installation.

At the opening of the Mass, several important items were placed on a table at the foot of the altar: Constitutions, Directives of the XVIII General Chapter, Provincial Statutes, the Relic of the True Cross given by Blessed Celine to Sr. Anne, and the Corporate Stamp.

After the homily the members of the leadership team made their promises, received the affirmation of the Sisters, and the blessing of Fr. Steve. Then all the Sisters renewed their vows, and Mass continued.

After Mass there was a festive dinner in the Terrace Room. The Province gave Sr. Donna a beautiful pot with a variety of green plants. Sr. Donna gave each of the Councilors a pink and purple heather plant. The heather plant symbolizes admiration, respect, resilience, strength, and perseverance in the face of challenges. These are all qualities the Councilors are blessed with.



Left to right: Sr. Marta, Sr. Hedwig, Sr. Virginia, Sr. Barbara, and Sr. Donna Marie, Fr. Steve

Highlights from the General Visitation

From April 6th to 12th Sr. Dorota Zygmunt, C.R., Superior General, had visitation with all the Sisters in the Immaculate Conception Province. Sr. Hanna Slodzinska, C.R., Assistant General, accompanied Sr. Dorota.

On Sunday, April 7th Fr. Steve Bartczyszyn, C.R. celebrated the Eucharistic Liturgy with us, praying for God's blessings during the visitation.

After Mass there was a delicious catered dinner. Following dinner Sr. Mary Patricia and Sr. Donna Marie drove Sr. Dorota and Sr. Hanna to visit with the Resurrectionist Fathers and Brothers of the St. Joseph the Worker local community.



Fr. Dennis Sanders, Sr. Dorota, Sr. Donna, Sr. Hanna, Bishop Robert Kurtz



Sr. Dorota (standing), Fr. Steve Bartczyszyn (standing), sitting left to right, Sr. Barbara, Sr. Mary Patricia, Sr. Kathryn, and Sr. Hedwig

Since Sunday, April 7th was also the Feast of Divine Mercy, in the evening the Province gathered in Chapel for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayed the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and spent time in private prayer.

On April 8th the Province celebrated Sr. Donna Marie's Birthday and Feast Day. The Terrace Room was decorated beautifully, Vespers were prayed together, and dinner was catered.

Sr. Dorota met with every Sister and participated in the community and prayer life as the Sisters experience it at the retirement center.

In addition Sr. Dorota and Sr. Hanna visited St. Benedict Village where Sr. Maria Marta works and Misericordia where Sr. Carolyn works.

Besides touring the facilities Sr. Dorota took time to speak with several of the staff and residents at the facilities.



Sr. Carolyn leading Sr. Dorota, Sr. Donna, and Sr. Virginia Anna on a tour of Misericordia

One afternoon Sr. Virginia Ann and Sr. Donna Marie took Sr. Dorota and Sr. Hanna to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Des Plaines. On another afternoon Sr. Hedwig and Sr. Maria Marta took Sr. Hanna to see St. Hyacinth Basilica and St. Mary of the Angels' Church.

The evening before leaving Chicago, Sr. Dorota shared a beautiful reflection on the importance of the Eucharist in our life. After her presentation Sr. Dorota shared power point pictures from our convents and ministries in Poland and Tanzania.

Sisters of the Resurrection Receive Award From Maryville

On April 11, 2024 Maryville had a special evening celebration in honor of their 140th Anniversary of caring for children and strengthening families. Sr. Dorota Zygmunt and Sr. Hanna Slodzinska attended the event along with Sr. Donna Marie, Sr. Virginia Ann, Sr. Hedwig, Sr. Maria Marta, Sr. Stephanie, Sr. Dominic, Sr. Mary Patricia, and Sr. Paulette.

The Sisters of the Resurrection were honored for their legacy donation toward Maryville’s Services for Mothers and Children. This donation has been invested and will earn up to \$200,000 each year to support Maryville programs for mothers and children. The Sisters were presented with a beautiful crystal trophy.



Sr. Donna, Sr. Hanna, Sr. Dorota, Sr. Virginia, Sr. Catherine Ryan, Director of Maryville

Chronicle

December 31 From 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. the Sisters had a holy hour in Chapel to celebrate God’s goodness and blessings in 2023 and asking for graces needed in 2024.

January 2 Sr. Donna Marie, Sr. Maria Marta, Sr. Maria Goretti, and Sr. Mary Patricia attended Lois and Bob Pawelko’s Wedding Anniversary. Lois and Bob have been longtime friends of the Sisters. Sr. Donna gave the opening prayer.

January 6 We celebrated the 133rd Anniversary of the Founding of our Congregation and the new leadership was installed. Fr. Steve Bartczyszyn celebrated Mass with the Sisters. During the Mass Sr. Donna Marie made her commitment to the Province as Provincial Superior and Sr. Barbara, Sr. Virginia Ann, Sr. Hedwig, and Sr. Maria Marta made their commitment as Councilors.

January 12 Sr. Mary Dominic visited the auto museum with other residents from Ascension Living Resurrection Village.



Sr. Dominic

January 21 The Resurrection Local Community celebrated the January Birthdays and Feast Days.

January 22 Sr. Mary Dominic enjoyed an outing with the Ascension Living Resurrection Village residents to the Elmhurst History Museum for a special nostalgic trip back to the heyday of Chicago's department stores like Marshall Field's, Sears and Montgomery Ward. Included was an iconic history through an array of artifacts, videos and memorabilia. On the way home the group stopped for lunch at Portillo's in Northlake.

February 2 The Province came together in the evening to celebrate the 124th anniversary of Sr. Anne and her three companions' arrival in the United States and the beginning of the ministry of the Resurrection Sisters in the United States. We prayed Vespers together, renewed our vows, and then had an Open Meeting with Sister Donna. Each Sister received a small booklet on "Living Blessed Celine's Vision" which focuses on her trust in and dedication to the Will of God.

The evening ended with dessert.

February 6 Ann Rhomberg, Director Solidarity Bridge visited with us, and shared pictures of the work Solidarity Bridge does with the poor of Bolivia and Paraguay. Ann shared stories about the adults and children who are helped each year by the medical missionary program. After Ann's presentation we had pizza.

February 12 Resurrection Local Community anticipated Valentine's Day with a little gathering and dessert.

February 13 Fr. Paul Sims, C.R. had a short conference on the Sacrament of Penance and the Mercy of God. After the Conference there was time for individual confession.

February 17 Sr. Maria Marta, Sr. Virginia Ann, and Sr. Donna Marie attended an all-day Annual Leadership Meeting with Cardinal Cupich. The meeting was held at the Provincial Home of the Felician Sisters.



Sr. Maria Marta, Sr. Donna Marie, Sr. Virginia Ann

February 19 The Resurrectionist Fathers and Brothers invited us to join them for their Founders' Day Celebration. We joined them for noon prayer and then for a delicious lunch. Sisters Mary Patricia, Carolyn Marie, Gloria Marie, Dominic, Virginia Ann and Donna Marie attended.

March 5 The Province celebrated the 90th Anniversary of the death of Sr. Anne. We gathered for Vespers and a light supper. Sr. Stephanie prepared and shared a beautiful and interesting reflection on Sr. Anne and her early years as a Sister and a Leader.

March 10 The Emmaus Local Community celebrated the March Birthdays and Feast Days. The celebration started with Vespers and then they had supper together. Sr. Donna Marie joined them for the celebration.

March 12 Sr. Donna Marie and Sr. Virginia Ann attended the Ed Block Courage Award Scholarship Fund Luncheon. The luncheon is a fundraiser to help with scholarships for students under the care of Maryville. The luncheon is co-sponsored by Maryville and the Bears Football Team. Mrs. Virginia Halas McCaskey attends this luncheon every year.

The success stories of these young people are truly heartwarming. These young people were wards of the State and in most instances grew up at Maryville without the support and love of parents or siblings.



Sr. Dominic and Sr. Christine Maria

March 13 Sr. Mary Dominic and Sr. Christine Maria enjoyed an anticipated St. Patrick's Day Celebration at the Irish American Heritage Center. A St. Patrick's Day Mass was followed by Live Irish Music and Lunch.

March 15 Sr. Donna Marie hosted a Lenten Soup and Reflection. The reflection was a slide tour of the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church built around the rock believed to be the location of the agony of Jesus before his death.

March 17 The Resurrection Local Community anticipated St. Joseph Day with recreation and a delicious salad bar prepared by Sr. Carolyn, Sr. Barbara, and Sr. Hedwig.

March 19 To celebrate the Feast Day of their local community, Sr. Donna Marie treated Sr. Maria Marta and Sr. Paulette to lunch at the International House of Pancakes.

March 21 Fr. Paul Sims, C.R. gave a reflection on the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Mercy of God. Afterward Father heard our confessions.



Sr. Maria Marta, Sr. Paulette, Sr. Donna Marie

March 24 The Resurrection Local Community celebrated Sr. Carolyn's Birthday. They had dinner together in A 414 and enjoyed recreation afterward.

March 31 Easter Sunday the entire Province attended the 9 a.m. Mass in the Ascension Living Resurrection Village Chapel.

The Saint Joseph Local Community gathered in the afternoon at the Life Center. Sr. Maria Marta and Sr. Paulette prayed Vespers with Sr. Mary Leonette. Afterward they read the Easter Letters and Cards and shared some light snacks.

The Sisters of the Emmaus Local Community and the Sisters of the Resurrection Local Community both celebrated Easter in the evening. Both had light suppers and recreation in their community rooms.

April 1 Easter Monday was celebrated as a Province. We started at 5 p.m. with a crockpot supper prepared by Sr. Donna Marie. We then had Vespers and renewed our vows. At 6 p.m. Deacon Mike McManus and his wife Helen, shared slides from their visits to the Holy Land. They gave each Sister a hand carved image of Mary. The image is carved on olive wood and fits in the palm of the hand. It is meant to be held prayerfully at times of stress to remind us of Mary's motherly care for us.

April 5 Sr. Dorota and Sr. Hanna arrived from Rome for visitation. (see article on page 3 and 4 for more information on the visitation).

April 11 Maryville's 140th Anniversary event (see details on page4).

April 20 Sr. Donna Marie, Sr. Virginia Ann, and Sr. Maria Marta attended the 25th Anniversary Fiesta Fundraiser of Solidarity Bridge. Solidarity Bridge is a Catholic organization that improves access to medical care and bridges the surgical gap in Bolivia and Paraguay.

April 22 The Resurrection Local Community celebrated Sr. Donna Marie's Birthday and Feast Day. A delicious meal was ordered from OutBack. Dinner was followed by recreation.

April 24 Ascension Living Resurrection Village honored all the residents who volunteer their time and service. The staff served the volunteers a delicious

luncheon and had a beautiful prayer for all the volunteers. Sr. Virginia Ann, Sr. Dominic, Sr. Stephanie, Sr. Kathleen, Sr. Kathryn, and Sr. Donna Marie attended the luncheon.

April 27 Sr. Donna Marie and Sr. Virginia Ann attended Ascension Illinois' annual gala fundraiser. The Sisters were seated with the Poor Handmaid Sisters and during the program both Congregations were recognized and thanked for their commitment to healthcare and for the hospitals they started.

April 29. The Resurrection Local Community celebrated Sr. Kathryn and Sr. Kathleen's Feast Days.

April 30 Sr. Donna Marie visited the new St. Catherine of Sienna Home opened by Maryville. This home cares for fragile children who are wards of the State. The facility provides healthcare support in a homelike setting. It is located a few blocks away from St. Joseph the Worker home of the Resurrectionists.

May 1 Sr. Virginia Ann and Sr. Donna Marie attended the all-school Mass and May Crowning at Resurrection College Prep High School. The Sisters also attended the breakfast at which scholarship donors could meet the students who are recipients of their scholarships. The Sisters of the Resurrection support scholarships named after Blessed Celine, Mother Hedwig, and Blessed Alice. The students who are recipients of these scholarships are deeply grateful to all the Sisters.

May 8 Sr. Mary Dominic joined other Ascension Living Resurrection Village residents on a tour of Queen of All Saints Basilica in Sauganash followed by lunch at Lou Malnati's Pizzeria.

May 9 Sr. Donna Marie and Sr. Virginia Ann attended the Loyola University Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing CARE Pathway Celebration Dinner honoring the first students graduating from this program. The CARE Pathway is an investment in the future of nursing. It helps students from historically under-represented communities succeed in college. The CARE Pathway provides academic, financial, and socio-emotional support to BSN students of color.

The Sisters of the Resurrection made a significant donation to the program through the Hermitage Trust. Sister Donna Marie, an alumna of Loyola, was asked to give the Invocation at the Dinner.



Dean Lorna Finnegan and Sr. Donna Marie

May 11 Sr. Virginia Ann hosted a pancake breakfast for the Emmaus Local Community. Sr. Paulette, Sr. Maria Marta, and Sr. Donna Marie were also invited.

May 15 The Province gathered for supper in the Terrace Room. Sr. Virginia Ann prepared a family recipe salad while Sr. Donna Marie prepared chili, a cold cut tray and a Boston Cream Pie. After supper we prayed Vespers together and had a May Crowning. The two Jubilarians presented roses to Mary after the scripture reading. After Vespers Sr. Donna Marie had a short open meeting with the Sisters and then we had dessert.



Sr. Dominic and Sr. Virginia Ann

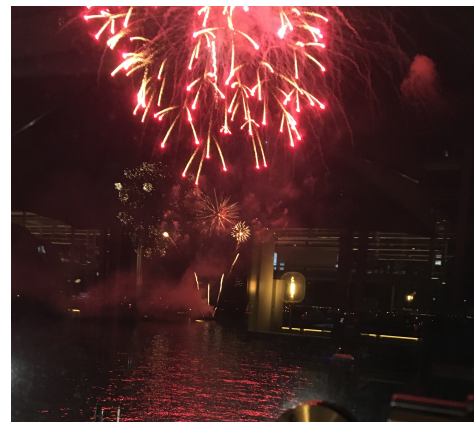
May 20 The Feast of Mary Mother of the Church was celebrated with common Morning Prayer in the Archives followed by breakfast.

May 20 The Resurrection Local Community celebrated Sr. Maria Goretti's Birthday. The local community had dinner together and recreation.

May 23 Sr. Virginia Ann attended Resurrection College Prep High School's 99th Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement Ceremony. The graduation ceremony was held at Holy Name Cathedral. Sr. Virginia Ann serves on the Board of the High School.

May 29 Sr. Donna Marie and Sr. Virginia Ann attended the 3rd Annual Light Up a Child's Life, A Special Evening Benefiting the Maryville Crisis Nursery. The event took place in the 3rd floor of Navy Pier's Festival Hall. The Crisis Nursery provides assistance to hundreds of families each year when the family needs temporary shelter or assistance with their small children. There is no State funding for this program and so Maryville relies totally on donations to provide this service. At the end of the evening there were beautiful fireworks over Lake Michigan.

May 30 After Mass the priest led a Corpus Christi procession carrying the Blessed Sacrament. Many residents joined in the procession that ended at a small, decorated altar. There are a few male residents who are members of the Knights of Columbus, and they were responsible for planning the procession.



Feast Days - Belated

February 6 Sr. Dorota - Rome

March 25 Sr. Marie Pappas - Rome
Sr. Donna Marie

April 29 Sr. Kathryn
Sr. Kathleen

May 31 Sr. Virginia Ann

June 7 Sr. Christine Maria

Feast Days – Coming Up

June 29 Sr. M. Paulette

July 26 Sr. Anna Helena – Rome
Sr. Hanna Slodzinska – Rome

July 29 Sr. Maria Marta

August 8 Sr. M. Dominic

August 23 Sr. Rosemary

Birthdays - Belated

January 20 Sr. Maria Marta

January 25 Sr. Barbara

February 26 Sr. Marie Pappas - Rome

February 28 Sr. Stephanie

March 10 Sr. Virginia Ann

March 11 Sr. Hanna Slodzinska – Rome

March 26 Sr. Carolyn

April 7 Sr. Donna Marie

May 4 Sr. Mary Leonette

May 18 Sr. Maria Goretti
Sr. Aleksandra Kowalska – Rome

June 1 Sr. Anna Helena Skalik – Rome

June 13 Sr. Gloria Marie

June 15 Sr. Rosemary

June 16 Sr. M. Dominic

June 30 Sr. Kathryn

Birthdays Coming

July 18 Sr. Dolores Marie Palermo – NY

August 16 Sr. M. Hedwig



Deer at our home in Delavan