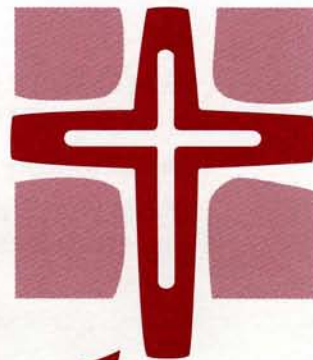


Mercy Works



Volume 15, Number 3 ♦ Fall 2007

Published by the Sisters of Mercy Cedar Rapids Regional Community

Dear Mercy Friends,

It is with heartfelt gratitude that I write to you our partners in ministry. Your support of the Sisters of Mercy as noted in this issue of Mercy Works is truly overwhelming. In these days of declining numbers in our community as well as religious communities worldwide your desire to co-minister with us is a source of encouragement. Thank you so much!

I am a firm believer in the importance of religious life for today and into the future. However, I have no clear sense of the details of what the future holds. Your support of us reinforces our pursuit of life into the future. Two meetings I participated in this summer reinforced my commitment to that pursuit. As co-partners in our ministry through your financial and moral support let me share parts of those meetings.

The first meeting took place here at Sacred Heart Convent. It was the final Chapter we would have together as the Sisters of Mercy Cedar Rapids Regional Community. Our next 'official' business meeting will take place as the Inaugural Assembly of the West Midwest Community of the Sisters of Mercy. We gathered, close to 78 strong with a few Associates and guests sprinkled here and there. The theme *Our Journey in Mercy, the Dream Unfolds* set the stage for four days of exploring how our experience of God's mercy to us has been shared with others. That exploration centered on the ministries with which we are engaged right now. It was with great pride that I listened to the work we are engaged in to bring mercy to women and men here and throughout the world. You are part of that ministry.

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Mercy Works

Mercy Works is published for friends of
the Sisters of Mercy Cedar Rapids Regional
Community.

The Cedar Rapids Regional Community is
among the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of
the Americas, a religious order of over 4,000
members founded in Dublin, Ireland, in 1831 by
Catherine McAuley.

President's Letter

(continued from page one)

The second meeting was the annual assembly of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR). Its theme *The Next Frontier: Religious Life at the Edge of Tomorrow* focused the attention of approximately 800 women religious who are in leadership positions in their respective communities. It is these women who are dealing on a daily basis with situations that suggest decline and diminishment and even death of an organization. But the energy at this meeting spoke of new life, courage, and the sustaining love of God. In the midst of discussions about the daily issues we stopped and took time to do public witness for peace and to pass a resolution calling for debt cancellation for the impoverished countries of the world and a resolution to preserve wetlands and coastlands throughout the United States.

As I think about these meetings I realize both could have been discouraging if we focused on decline and diminishment. We were given no blueprints, no plan of action listing step by step processes for moving into the future at either meeting. **But I came away believing that the spirit of God is with us leading the way, giving us life as we need it, calling us to respond to the needs of the poor in this world.**

The dance of religious life into the future partners contemplation – deep love of God, the unending quest for the transcendent -- with action – concrete, effective response to the cries of the poor. How can we help but succeed?

Thank you again for being part of our life into the future.

Kathy Thornton, RSM

Kathy Thornton, RSM



Sister Mary Irene Burns, Sister Mary Lenore Gardner and Sister Alice Maiers take a break from Chapter discussions to smile.



Teaching with a Hands-On Approach

Sister Mary Brigid O'Connell, RSM is a Montessori teacher and teacher educator at the Catherine McAuley Montessori Center in Lima, Peru. Ministering in Peru since 1988, Sister Mary Brigid helped to establish the center in order to respond to the educational needs of children in orphanages and state schools.

Most children educated through the Catherine McAuley Montessori Center are preschool age children between 2 and 6 years old. In some situations, the center has also educated children with special needs. The center provides education to children in orphanages who may not have the opportunity to receive a proper education. In addition, the level of education at the state schools in Peru is poor so many families put their little ones in private pre-schools to prepare them for the exam to enter the big school.

The Catherine McAuley Montessori Center is unique to other schools in the area due to its teaching method to help children learn. The center utilizes the Montessori teaching method, a hands-on approach to learning that encourages children to develop their observation skills by doing many types of activities. Montessori develops a child's sense of order—both place and sequence. The method also makes learning a pleasant, joyful activity with concentration and responsibility to natural outcomes. Most preschools in Lima exist to prepare

children for the exam to enter the big school, but Montessori is a preparation for life that order, responsibility, coordination, concentration skills, independence and self-confidence (an I can do it attitude) are tools useful in one's whole life.

In addition to teaching young children, Sister Mary Brigid is also a teacher educator, helping high school age women to grandmothers become teachers of the Montessori education method.

Besides educating women of the Montessori method of all ages, women from different educational levels come to learn. Some may have been educated through a private school and be quite well educated, while others may come from state schools where the education is not as good. This can be a challenging aspect of Sister Mary Brigid's ministry as some are able to catch on quite fast, while others may need more time to grasp a concept.

A large number of adult students go through the program to become an educator of the Montessori method, but due to the tedious



Sister Brigid O'Connell meets her great-grand niece, Lauren Ortiz at an orphanage in Tujillo, Peru.

amount of homework involved to receive certification, only about 5 to 6 students a year become certified. Most students are able to teach and do so without a certificate. Several students have even moved on to teach the Montessori method outside of Peru including the United States and Europe.

Sister Mary Brigid also travels outside the city of Lima with her ministry visiting schools around Lima, Tujillo and LaPaz. In her travels she observes interns studying in the center's education program. In a recent trip to Tujillo, Sister Mary Brigid was greeted with the



surprise of meeting her great-grand niece from Colorado. Her niece Lauren was working at an orphanage in Tujillo as part of a mission trip through her church youth group.

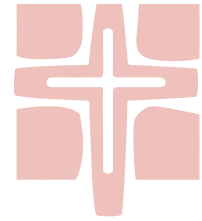
Sister Mary Brigid enjoys working with both the children and the adult students through the Catherine McAuley Montessori Center. She has experienced teaching a preschool child and when the child grew up taught her again in the teacher education program. She has also taught at the same time in the teacher education program a mother and daughter team, husband and wife teams, and sisters in a family. One of Sister Mary Brigid's great-

est challenges in her ministry is being able to meet the needs of everyone. Some of the orphanages and schools where Sister Mary Brigid travels are quite poor whether it is not having running water in its facility, to adequate space for a classroom or the means to provide the salary for a Montessori teacher in the classroom. Through the generous gifts of donors who have supported Sister Mary Brigid's ministry in Peru, some schools have been able to receive proper teaching materials, a Montessori aide or lead teacher in the classroom, and a classroom in an orphanage.



The addition of a roof onto this orphanage has made more space available for the students to learn and socialize. The roof addition was made possible by donations from St. Patrick's Parish in Fairfax and other donors in Iowa.

Suspice



*My God,
I am yours
for time and eternity,
teach me to cast myself
into the arms of
Your loving Providence
with the most lively,
unlimited confidence in
Your Compassionate,
tender pity.*

*Grant me,
O most merciful Redeemer,
that whatever
You ordain or permit
may be acceptable to me.*

*Take from my heart
all painful anxiety;
suffer nothing to sadden
me but sin,
nothing to delight me
but the hope of
coming to
the possession of You,
My God and my All,
In Your everlasting Kingdom.*

Amen

~ Catherine McAuley



Bringing Peace to the Holy Land

In 2005 during the Fourth Institute Chapter, five critical concerns were identified for the Sisters of Mercy to intensify their responses to critical needs of the times. One of the critical concerns identified was to deepen and assimilate more consciously the practice of non-violence as an integral aspect of the charism of mercy. Sister Martha Larsen, RSM is working directly to promote non-violence in dangerous areas of our world as a member of the Michigan Peace Team.

The Michigan Peace Team seeks a just world grounded in non-violence by providing training to its members and volunteers, supporting local peace groups, placing peace teams in areas of conflict both domestically and internationally and educating the public to vision and practice of non-violence. As a team member, Sister Martha was recently working in Palestine pursuing peace through active non-violence.



Sister Martha Larsen is missioned as a member of the Michigan Peace Team during the 2007 Chapter of the Cedar Rapids Regional Community.

The conflict in the Holy Land between the Israelis and the Palestinians has been an ongoing dispute over the right to live in the land of Palestine. Each group believes it has the right to occupy Palestine. Both the Palestinians whose ancestors lived and owned the land for centuries and the Israelis whose ancestors also lived and owned land for centuries and who now occupy the territory as a result of war, have claims on Palestine.

In the face of violence in Palestine, Sister Martha works with Palestinian, Israeli and international peace activists in the pursuit of peace without the use of violence. Her actions of non-violence in Palestine include participating in peace demonstrations, conferences and seminars; being an international presence in tours of confiscated land; staying in Bedouin tents to try to prevent demolitions and providing a moral presence at checkpoints. Sister Martha has witnessed the efforts of many Palestinians to continue a tradition of nonviolence. Palestinians are educating their young people in nonviolence through the study of history, through political analysis; with dance and art; and providing Holy Land tours by Palestinians to educate internationals about the Palestine situation. While Palestinian peace activists are brave to stand up for



In July Palestinians, Israelis and Internationals walked lightly in peace over the land in the village of Susiya in the South Hebron Hills.

their people, Israeli peace activists also put their lives at risk by trying to convince Israeli soldiers not to act with violence.

In April the Michigan Peace Team was recognized during the Second Bil'in International Conference on Popular Resistance for their attempt to bring peace through non-violent actions. The Palestinian National Authority, the government of the Palestinian people, honored the Michigan Peace Team with a prestigious Certificate of Appreciation for the team's outstanding support and courageous solidarity with the Palestinian people. The award was given in the presence of 400 Palestinians, Israelis, and International peace activists.

The work of peacekeeping groups such as the Palestinian and Israeli peace activists, Michigan Peace Team and other international peace organizations give Sister Martha hope that Palestinians and Israelis will learn to communicate without acts of violence and that there may be peace in the Holy Land.



Providing Medical Care in Guatemala

In April, Sister Marge Friedhoff, RSM utilized her skills as a nurse practitioner on a nine day mission trip to Los Hogares in Santa Apolonia, Guatemala. This was her second mission trip to Los Hogares with the team from her parish church, St. Alphonsus of Greendale, Wisconsin. Her first trip was in the spring of 2005. Los Hogares is an orphanage, of about 90 children, run by the School Sisters of St. Francis in Guatemala City.

Located in the Sierra Madre Mountains, Santa Apolonia is about a two hour bus ride from Guatemala City. This village and mountainous area is very poor. The water, when it is available, is contaminated and the electricity in the village is sporadic. The people who are poor have limited access to health care, either because they can not get to a town with a doctor or they cannot afford the doctor or the medication he/she prescribes.

St. Alphonsus has sponsored a mission trip to Santa Apolonia annually for the last nine years. Parishioners can participate in the mission trip by going on the trip or by giving donations for the supplies that the team needs for its work. Each member of the mission team is asked to raise the money needed to cover the cost of his/her travel and some extra for



Sister Marge Friedhoff (center) enjoys time after dinner visiting with girls in the orphanage.

the projects that are worked on at the orphanage, or for the needs of the children at the orphanage. The mission team members sleep on mats on the floor in the orphanage and eat their meals with the kids each day. Many of the meals are black beans and tortillas and coffee. The rather primitive conditions discourage many who might like to go but cannot do without their daily shower and their hair dryer or comfortable bed. Sister Marge feels very blessed by the generosity and prayerful support of the Sisters from the Cedar Rapids Regional Community that have helped to make these two trips possible. She also very much enjoys telling the Sisters about her experiences in Guatemala whenever she can. Sister Marge says that she really feels like she is an extension of her community when she is working in Guatemala. "I really am very aware of the fact that I wouldn't be there (Guatemala) if it weren't

for the donations and the prayers of both the Sisters and my family and friends."

Besides the medical team there are some members of the mission team who do construction projects at the orphanage and some who do faith-sharing while working on arts and crafts or English as a Second Language (ESL) classes with the children at the orphanage. This year the construction team was preparing the rough lumber that was going into the roof of two of the houses under construction at the orphanage. This included planning, sanding, and spraying the lumber with insecticide, after it had been cut to the correct length. The team members who did arts and crafts and faith sharing with the children of the orphanage tried to work on building self-esteem. Many of the children are in the orphanage because of some tragedy in their lives and need an ave-



nue to work through their feelings of loss, sadness and even anger. Sister Marge worked in the clinic to provide free medical care to the people in the village and surrounding area. The clinic is housed on the grounds of the orphanage, and was built by the mission team 8 years ago, after the first mission trip, when the medical needs of the people became known to the mission team. The medical team sees patients of all ages who come and sit on the benches in front of the clinic until they are seen. Some are able to come on the bus that stops outside the gates of the orphanage and many walk for up to 3 hours to seek medical attention. Announcements of the clinic being open are made in churches the week before the medical team arrives and also on the radio. Medications are very expensive in Guatemala, so the team usually brings all the antibiotics, pain medication and vitamins, as well as diabetes and blood pressure medications with them. These are also dispensed free of charge in the clinic.

In her most recent trip to Santa Apolonia, Sr. Marge came to realize how significant even a cheap pair of reading glasses can be to the livelihood of a Guatemalan family. The women in the area do very beautiful needle work on their blouses, called *huipil*. It takes an average of one month to complete the needle work on a single blouse. If the needle work is good, the women can sell it for \$60 to \$80 at the market. But if the woman's

eye sight is failing her needle work does not look as good and she can not sell it. Sister Marge saw several women in the clinic this spring that were able to receive inexpensive reading glasses from donations that will make it possible for those women to continue their beautiful needlework and help support their family.

The people of Santa Apolonia and the children at the orphanage have made a significant impact on Sister Marge's life. She has seen how the people who have so little are so extremely grateful for everything that is done for them. Sometimes patients expressed gratitude just to have someone listen and sympathize with him or her. The children at the orphanage are so caring of each other and take delight in such simple things as reading a book or blowing bubbles. Sister Marge said she would love to continue to serve the people of Santa Apolonia. Not knowing whether there will be the support for future trips, she says that she always goes as if it will be the last. But she also knows in her heart that she will be connected with Los Hogares and Santa Apolonia in some way well into the future.



Sister Marge sees a patient during her medical mission to Guatemala.

"Each day is a step we take towards eternity and we shall continue thus to step from day to day until we take the last step which will bring us into the presence of God."

~Catherine McAuley

Patrick L. Connolly,
brother of
Sister Lillian Connolly

John Fidler,
brother of
Sister Mary Rebecca Fidler

Rollin Frye,
brother-in-law of
Sister Mary Wilma Wolf

Mary Ellen Koppi,
sister of the late Sister
Mary Clarence McDonald

Lucille McIntee,
Mercy Associate



Sister Mary Julia Kepros is greeted at St. Timothy's Nursery/Primary School in Nigeria last year.

The children attending St. Timothy's Nursery/Primary School in Ukwulu, Nigeria have much to be thankful for these days having been provided with desks, uniforms, books, school supplies and snacks. Such efforts to provide these items for the children have been led by Sister Mary Julia Kepros, RSM who has made it her mission the last two years to assist the school in the poor Nigerian village.

Sister Mary Julia heard about the needs of St. Timothy's Nursery/Primary School from Sister Maria Regina Mgbakor, a Mount Mercy College student from the Immaculate Heart of Mary congregation in Nigeria. Sister Maria Regina's congregation opened St. Timothy's school in September 2004 for children 2 to 10 years of age. The school is housed in an old rice mill donated by the Chief Timothy of Ukwulu who has the dream to provide a Catholic education for the children of his village. Although the school was able to provide a Catholic education for the children, it lacked the basic needs and supplies to help children learn,

Sister Continues to Assist Nigerian School

such as desks, books, and school supplies. In an effort to provide the Nigerian children with the basic needs for learning, Sister Mary Julia collected items and funds from friends and relatives in the United States.

Last year, Sister Mary Julia had the opportunity to see her collections in good use when she visited St. Timothy's Nursery/Primary School. Sister was greeted with the smiling faces of the school children so grateful for the gifts provided. Although the children now had learning materials, Sister Mary Julia still found much more to be desired for St. Timothy's School.

She saw these children tired from the long hot walks to school, thirsty as there is no well (bore hole) in the area and no electricity to provide lights or fans. The school day begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 1:00 p.m., during daylight hours and before the heat becomes unbearable. Water is transported in by trucks to the landlocked village. Public transportation is not accessible so students must walk up to approximately five miles each day for their education. Because she witnessed these inadequate conditions, Sister Mary Julia has led an effort

to provide the means for a school bus, well (bore hole) and generator for St. Timothy's Nursery/Primary School.

Sister Mary Julia has researched how to provide the children of St. Timothy's with these necessities and is educating the community. She is raising funds for a generator so that the school has electricity, a well to provide the village with water and a school bus, so that children can attend school without walking a great distance. Sister Mary Julia hopes to be able to achieve her goal in providing these necessities by the end of this year with the help of community support. An anonymous donor is planning to match up to \$5,000 of funds received for a school bus for St. Timothy's Nursery/Primary School.

Many thanks go to friends and relatives in the United States who provided both funds and materials for St. Timothy's Nursery/Primary School. These gifts can help the Nigerian parents make a dream come true - their children educated.





Celebrations on the Hill

2007 Jubilee

Five Sisters of Mercy celebrated their jubilee this summer. The first celebration for family and friends took place on Sunday, June 10 with a Mass at the Chapel of Mercy followed by individual receptions for each sister. A second celebration for Sisters of the Cedar Rapids Regional Community took place on Saturday, July 21 during the regional community's Chapter.

2007 Chapter

The final Chapter meeting of the Cedar Rapids Regional Community took place July 19 - July 22 at Sacred Heart Convent.

The theme of the 2007 Chapter, *Our Journey in Mercy the Dream Unfolds*, engaged Sisters in prayer and discussions about the future of religious life and the emerging West Midwest Community. They learned of the work of committees such as New Membership, Micro-Lending Program, AFIRM grants, Associates, and finance.

Guest speakers throughout the meetings included opening remarks by Institute President, Sister Mary Wasowski, RSM; justice presentation on racism by Sister Cora Billings, RSM; Sister Patti Donlin, RSM about New Membership and an overview of Mercy-sponsored works by Sister Angele Lutgen, BVM Executive Director of the Catherine McAuley Center; Tim Charles, President and CEO of Mercy Medi-



2007 Jubilarians pictured are in front Sister Mary Maurice Schulte (60 years), in back from left to right are Sister Mary Wilma Wolf (70 years), Sister Roseline Kos (70 years), Sister Linda Bechen (25 years) and Sister Betty Carr (60 years).



Sisters celebrate the work of the final Cedar Rapids Chapter during the special jubilee dinner on Saturday, July 21. Pictured from left to right are Sister Mary Ellen Flaherty, Sister Shari Sutherland, Sister Delores Hannon and Sister Rita Waters.

cal Center in Cedar Rapids and Dr. Christopher R.L. Blake, President of Mount Mercy College.

The evenings were filled with entertainment and social activities.

The Chapter concluded on Sunday, July 22 with the missioning ceremony of the Sisters from the Cedar Rapids Regional Community.



Thank You!

The following are names of individuals, organizations and businesses who have supported the Sisters of Mercy Cedar Rapids Regional Community financially from July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007.

\$5,000 and Above

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Janet Merfeld and Kevin Murray
Mercy Medical Center -
Medical Staff
David R. Stallman

\$1,000 - \$4,999

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Joseph and Arlene Thome
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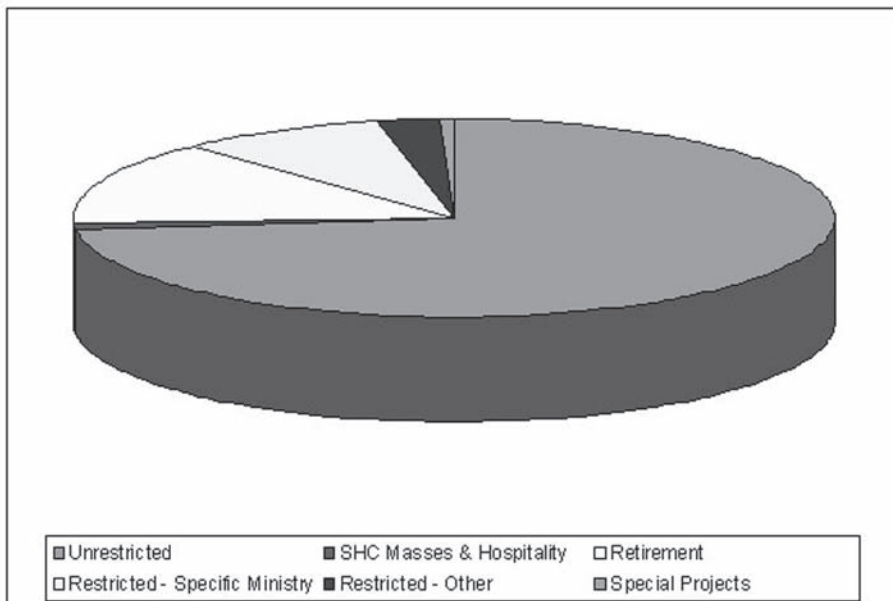
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The following are Sisters of Mercy from the Cedar Rapids Regional Community who have supported the community with a donation from their patrimony or works from July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

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**Total donations
 received from July 1,
 2006 to June 30, 2007
 \$272,249.15**



Unrestricted

\$199,671.90

SHC Masses & Hospitality

\$2,550.00

Retirement

\$37,759.96

Restricted - Specific Ministry

\$23,007.29

Restricted - Other

\$7,510.00

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\$1,750.00



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** Every effort has been made to include all donors to the Sisters of Mercy Cedar Rapids Regional Community from July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007. We regret any omission that has been made in producing this list.*

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The Mercy Legacy Society recognizes individuals who have generously committed to make a philanthropic gift to the Sisters of Mercy through a planned gift. A planned gift can be made without spending current income by designating the Sisters of Mercy as a beneficiary in one's will, life insurance policy or retirement assets. Donations of cash, stocks or real estate are also types of gifts that can be made.

For more information about becoming a member of the Mercy Legacy Society contact, Melissa Looney, Director of Development and Communications at (319) 364-5196 x123 or log onto the Sister of Mercy Cedar Rapids Regional Community web site at www.sistersofmercycr.org.

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Honorary Tributes & Memorials

The following have had donations made in their name as an honorary tribute or memorial gift from July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007.

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Sister Linda Bechen

Lucille Besler

Ruth Bickel

Sister Betty Carr

Sister Mary Clementine
Cashman

Sister Mary Corkery

The Cooper Family

Sister Elizabeth Derga

Sister James Marie Donahue

Sister Mary K. Doughan

Chris and Jackie Doyle

Sister Susan Dunnwald

Sister Jane Ehrhardt

Sister Mary Alice Ernst

Sister Anne Fiala

Sister Mary Ellen Flaherty

Sister Pauline Fox

Edward Frein

Sister Gladys Frein

Sister Lucy Frein

Sister Veronica Gorman

Tara Healy

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Charles Hogan

Margaret Hostak

Sister Philomena Husak

Sister Mary Raye Hutchcroft

Michele Jaehrling

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Sister Mary Julia Kepros

Dee Kintzle

Sister Roseline Kos

Daniel Kula

Kevin Kula

Mark Kula

Matthew Kula

Sister Bernice Kurt

Sister Mary Kurt

Sister Mary Dorothy LaVigne

Sister Bonita Lentz

Sara Zbaracki Lettieri

Andy and Mildred Majewski

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Montgomery

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Donna Nunemaker

Sister Brigid O'Connell

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Sister Mary Lou Podzimek

Sister Laura Reicks

Karen and Norman Sasek

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Sister Mary Maurice Schulte

Nancy M. Shade

Sister Mary Ann Shimek

Sister Maurita Soukup

Sister Shari Sutherland

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Conception in Cedar Rapids
1942-1955

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John Van Hove

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Sister Marilyn Ward

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Sister Mary Cephas Wichman

Rex Willis

Sister Mary Wilma Wolf

Betty and Dick Worrell

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Allendorf

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Lawrence Bildstein

Sister Mary Matthew Biwer

Helen Black

Sister Mary Mark Blessington

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Sister Joseph Marie Busher
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Sister Mary Eleanor Cashman
Sister Mary Thomasine Cashman
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Willie Chihak
Harold Clapson
Lee and Katie Coito
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Orville Conlan
Tom and Sophie Conley
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Gertrude Cosgrove
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Elsie Cunningham
Sister Mary Eileen Cusick
Debra S. Davis
Sister Gladys Daly
Joan Davis
Sister Siena Davis
Catherine Dennis
Sister Leonice Derga
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Dick and Dale Devine
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The Differding Girls
Joseph and Thelma Dolak
Maxine Drahos
Sister Mary Edmund Dunn
Irene Dunnwald
Larry Dunnwald
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Milver Erusha
Ruth Esper
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Richard and Helen Ferreter
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Tim Ferrie
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Anne Fischels
Clarice Flagel
Catherine L. Flaherty
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Mary K. Foster
Eileen Fox
Anna Mae Frein
Matt and Marie Frein
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Mary G. Gansen
Rick Garner
Grace Gassman
Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Gifford
Joseph Givvin, Sr.
Rose Gober
The Karl Gorlitz family
Nee Gorman
John J. Grace
Deceased members of the
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Marjorie Green
Ronald A. Haage
Sister Mary Lawrence Hallagan
Sister Francis Mary Hallstein
Clement and Catherine Hanson
Sister Mary St. Jude Haywood
Florence Healy
Orie, Florence and Jack Heid
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Mildred Duffy Herrmann
James Loftus Hesse
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Sister Mary Imelda Hippler
Laura Hillebrand
Sister Rita Hlas
Deceased members of the

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LaVern Holub
Clinton and Veronica Hughes
Dr. James Intlekofer
Madalyn Intlekofer
Jan Marie Jaehrling
Royden and Florence Jaehrling
Andrew Jennings
Angeline C. Jennings
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Sister Rosemary Jewell
Helen Kadlec
William J. Kanak
Ralph and Mary Rae Kanengieter
John and Mary Kazimour
Sister Mary Clarice Keefe
Sister Mary Sebastian Keefe
Lois Hennessey Kelly
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Leroy Kula
Margaret Kula
Mark Kucharski
Lola Leary
Joanne Lemire
Sister Mary Winifred Lence
Charles Lentz
Jean Lester
Sister Mary Anthony Livingston
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Mallory
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Dr. G. W. Marme
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Sister Mary Elizabeth Martin
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Betty Mausser
Edward McAleer
Sister Mary Pierre McAleer
Father Tom McCarty, OCSO
Mary C. McCauley
Alice McCracken
Sister Mary Clarence McDonald
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John McElroy
Rose McElroy
Caroline McElwain
Gertrude McGourty
Gertrude McGrane
Joe and Margaret McGrane
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Michelle Niles
Quenton C. Nolte
Sister Mary Antonella
Nonnenmacher
Ron Noonan
Miles S. O'Brien
Sally G. O'Brien
Laura O'Connell
Keith Ohde
Corliss Olander
James Olander
Sister Francesca Oldham
Sister Mary Ellen Oldham
Michael D. Oldham
Joseph Palmersheim
Mary Pat Patterson
Peter Pauly
Sister Mary Geraldine Pavek
Nan Peters
Sister Mary Brendan Phelan
Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Pitlik
Leo and Genevieve Porter
Holly Powers
The Queen of Angels Infirmary
Sisters and Staff
Mary Frances Ramsey
Mary Lou Recker
E. Smith Reed
Deceased members of the
Regan Family
Clarence Regan
Lester Rehak
Sister Mary Xavier Reilly

William Renner
Bob Reu
Ivanka Ritter
Sister Paula Rivers
Sister Mary Robichaud
Charles and Nora Robinson
Floyd and Clara Robinson
Lavonne Roling
Leonard Rosenboom
Sister Mary Augustine Roth
Sister Monica Ryan
Sister Mary Bernadine Salz
Sally Sattler
Louis and Christine Schilling
Edith Oldham Schon
Sister Mary Eugene Schriner
Leo and Veronica Schueller
William and Patricia Schuler
Duane Schuyler
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Sell
Dr. Donald Sharpe
Karl Shatek
Walter and Irene Shores
The Sinnwell Family
Deceased Sisters of Mercy
Sisters who cared for Maxine
Julia McDonald
Lorraine Smith
Paul Spartz
Elizabeth Stangl
K. Louise Staskal
Richard Staton
Jon Steven
Sister Anne Marie Stickling
Sister Mary Inviolata Stickling
Leo and Maxine Stodola
George Sudmeier
Tom and Helen Sullivan
Gary Sundell
Michele Sundell
Andrew P. Svoboda
Lenora Svoboda
Tom Thill
Deceased members of the
Thornton Family



The Gene Thornton family
 Marguerite Thornton
 Thomas Thornton
 Vicki Thornton
 Anne Louise Todd
 Erma Tomas
 Mary Trcka
 Stanley Trcka
 Sister Mary Mildred Trzil
 Barbara Turriff
 Sister Rose Van Vliet
 The Vogt family
 George Wagner
 Sister Mary de Lellis Welch
 Welch Family and Friends
 Marilyn Wetzell
 Sister Loretta Whitty
 Sister Marilyn Whitty
 Thelma A. Whorton
 Sister Mary Fidelis Wicke
 Harold Wilson
 Joseph J. Wisher
 Thomas and Matilda Woltz
 Deceased members of the
 Wright Family
 Sister Mary Inez Zeman

*"My legacy to the
 Institute is charity: If
 you preserve the peace
 and union which
 has never been vio-
 lated among us, you
 will feel, even in this
 world, a happiness
 that will surprise you
 and be to you a for-
 taste of the bliss pre-
 pared for every one of
 you in heaven!"*

~ Catherine McAuley

Celebrate Mercy Day

The Sisters of Mercy Social Justice Committee will be hosting a lecture to celebrate Mercy Day on Saturday, September 22.

Sister Amata Miller, IHM, PhD will give a presentation titled, "Economic Justice – What Does it Mean for Relationships Among Races?" from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Chapel of Mercy at Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids.

Amata Miller is a member of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Monroe, Michigan. She received her Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Marygrove College in Detroit, a Master's degree in Economics from St. Louis University in St. Louis and her PhD in Economics from the University of California at Berkeley. She began her career in ministry as an elementary school teacher in Detroit, before becoming a Professor of Economics at Marygrove College; St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas and the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota. Sister Amata has also served as Financial Vice President of her religious community; Economist and Education Coordinator at NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby in Washington, DC; and Chief Financial Officer and Vice President for Finance and Administration at Marygrove College. Currently, Sister Amata is the Professor of Economics and Director of Myser Initiative on Catholic Identity at the College of St. Catherine.

Sister Amata has been involved in a number of community service organizations as a volunteer and serving on boards. She has also won several awards for her work, authored many publications and has been a renowned speaker since 1990.

This is the second year the Sisters of Mercy Justice Committee has hosted a lecture to celebrate Mercy Day. The celebration includes the lecture followed by Eucharistic Liturgy at 5 p.m. in the Chapel of Mercy. Those attending are invited to stay for a Mercy Day reception following Eucharistic Liturgy. All Mercy Day celebration activities on September 22 are free and open to the public. For more information or to make a reservation to attend, please contact the Sisters of Mercy Social Justice Coordinators, John and Laura Locher at (319) 365-2284 or justice123cr@yahoo.com

Mercy Day is celebrated every September 24 by Sisters of Mercy around the world as the feast day of Our Lady of Mercy and anniversary when Catherine McAuley opened the first House of Mercy on Baggot Street in Dublin, Ireland in 1827.



Mercy Presence on the Hill



The Sisters of Mercy's presence on the Mound Farm hill in Cedar Rapids dates back to 1906, when the Sisters leased Judge George Greene's mansion and surrounding land to house Sacred Heart Convent and a boarding school for girls. Although the structure of Sacred Heart Convent has changed and more buildings have been erected on the hill over the years, the presence of the Sisters of Mercy has continued for over a century.

To continue the Mercy presence on the hill, the Sisters of Mercy are again adapting Sacred Heart Convent to accommodate today's Sisters in retirement and changing numbers.

The latest renovation plans of Sacred Heart Convent have already begun with the addition of a private patio for the Sisters. Soon the next stage of renovation will begin moving inside to implement safer living

quarters for the Sisters, energy efficient updates and handicap accessible measures.

The Sisters of Mercy Cedar Rapids Regional Community is launching a campaign to help raise funds for the latest renovation of Sacred Heart Convent. More details will be available in the next coming weeks.

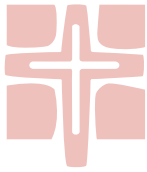
As a friend of the Sisters you are invited to assist the Sisters in keeping the Mercy presence alive on the hill by supporting the latest renovation of Sacred Heart Convent through prayer and/or a financial contribution.

If you wish to support the Sisters of Mercy's presence on the hill with a financial contribution, simply send

a donation indicating your contribution is restricted for the renovation of Sacred Heart Convent. You can also contact Melissa Looney, Director of Development and Communications at Sacred Heart Convent at (319) 364-5196 x123 or shcdevcomm@mercy-cr.org to learn more about the planned renovation and/or to schedule a visit.



The patio outside the sun porch of Sacred Heart Convent was the first phase of the latest renovation of the mother house.



Mercy Works

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Cedar Rapids Regional Community
1125 Prairie Dr. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-4737

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*Our Journey in Mercy,
The Dream Unfolds*