



The Benedictine Tide

Benedictine Sisters of Florida

Touching Lives through Prayer and Service

Summer 2017

God is Love God is Love God is Love

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And now these three remain: *Faith, Hope and Love.*

But the greatest of these is: *Love*



Can you identify with Charlie Brown's sentiment? What's that you say? Right! We all have our moments when we want to just relax under a tree and gaze on nature. But, then some birds begin dive bombing each other. Or, a tiny dog yaps with vim at a "couldn't care less" canine. And, just then ago learned tune makes itself remembered, "Love is a many splendored thing." Or a church tune may rise unbidden to our memory: "Where charity and love prevail, our God is ever there!"

We all know people are just plain irritating – especially the ones who don't agree with us. Long ago I heard a poem that read something like this: "To live in heaven with those we love, oh, won't that be glory. But, to live below with those we know? Now that's another story." Indeed loving EVERYBODY is difficult. Even as we sing: "We are fam-i-ly" we look at the person beside or across from us and the thought arises unbidden, "But, I'm surprised you're part of the family of God."

Jesus commands us: "Love first the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." Well, that part sits pretty easy with us. It's that second part: "Love your neighbor as yourself" that is troubling. It's that gray area that leaves me wondering what exactly Jesus meant by "LOVE."

Obviously Jesus made love a priority. He said to love others as I love myself. Do I? Do I give others an "out" as easily as I try to take one for myself? Jesus goes on to say, "By this [love] all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." Notice Jesus did not say that people will know that you are my disciples if you promote my agenda, wear the right clothes, add pithy Scriptural saying to your emails or put the right holy decal on your car. No, our task to BE love incarnated to (and for) the world. To be the kind of love that makes a difference – to be the hands of Christ in all circumstances. Perhaps especially to be that love when it is least expected.

When our community was drafting our Corporate

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Commitment we spent much time over the concept of bringing compassion to those in our realm of influence. We word-smithed the statement to reflect our true intention. Were we committing ourselves to impart Christ-like compassion or to be a model of the compassion of Christ? In the end, we realized that **we are the hands and heart of Christ** to our world. Thus, as Benedictine Sisters of Florida: "We commit ourselves and our resources to respond **with the compassion of Christ.**"

Love breaks down barriers and exposes the heart. In love we act for the benefit of others. People matter so much to Jesus, they ought to matter to us. We seek to embrace the vulnerability love requires. The well-known author C.S. Lewis describes how vulnerable love makes us when he writes:

"To love is to be vulnerable. Love anything, and your heart will certainly be wrung out and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact ... wrap it carefully. Avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket - safe, dark, motionless, airless - it will change! " [Adapted from The Four Loves]

Love gets involved in the nitty-gritty aspects of life. It takes a chance. It does the unexpected, the surprising thing. It can steal your heart but it also leaves a legacy. True love always costs. If there is no cost there is no love. In the end, the goal of our Christian life is love. The measure of our maturity is our love for God and our love for others. So, I invite you to recall a time God surprised you and then ponder how to surprise someone else with a "random act of love." Place your trust in Christ and let Him teach you how to love as He has loved you.

S. Roberta Bailey

Of the triad—Faith, Hope and Love, we may think we can explain Love best. Yet when we think of it, we hear ourselves saying things like, "I love that song, that color, that candy. Do we know what love is? How we define love grows in us.

When I was ten years old, I loved to climb trees. As a teen, I found people who loved me who weren't my family and didn't have to love me. I felt a mutual

affection for friends in my 20's. I knew it was love—but over time those loves faded. Yet all this taught me of God's love for me; it was special, caring, supportive; it didn't fade, but grew deeper and called me to be-come more my true self. I have a relationship with Jesus. I'm nothing—like a grain of sand in the universe, but He loves me and that gives me worth. He knows, understands and calls me to grow and love as He does—all His kin, everyone. What is true for me is true for all. God loves each of you in an awesome way. We need not just know about God, we need to know God! Then we'll be able to love as God does and the Kingdom can come through us. Amen!

S. Mary David Hydro

For me the object of love is primarily God, secondarily my fellow human beings. The object of love is God as supreme goodness in Himself and as our ultimate end. The love of God which is "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us (Rom 5:5) necessarily presupposes sanctifying grace. It makes us children of God and heirs of glory."



Love is our ultimate end, the end for which we are all created. We are created to love and be loved. As stated by **Saint Mother Teresa**, "*love is the tender concern of somebody. Let us always meet each other with a smile, for a smile is the beginning of love. Do little things with an extraordinary love.*"

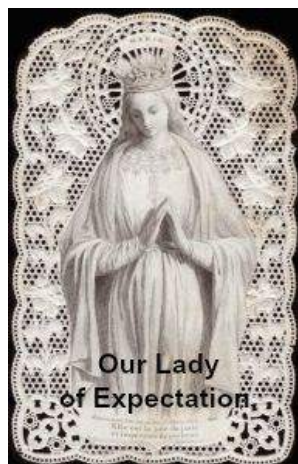
God will ask us how much we loved others; how much we gave of ourselves; how much we were able to overcome our own ego and leave it behind in our concern for others. He will ask how much we were able to perceive the other person's heart so as to understand and comprehend them; how much we stretched the capacity to love that each one of us has received.

S. Elizabeth Mathai

Visitation II

A cool walk aside a bay
a small Irish town
I stoop to see
a narrow window
with figures of clay
perhaps for sale?

Something to take home
I pause at the doorway
stooping to look in
May we enter?
A smile, a nod
and in we go.



There she is
barefoot on the smooth clay floor
the simple dress covering the swell
of imminent birth.
She sings sweetly, unconsciously,
rapt in love and contentment
this Irish Madonna

But I am no Gabriel
With radiant message and lily
I have no wings
Only a passport
I stumble out
and in the light of the sun
I reflect on the enormity of my own poverty
and her great riches.

S. Eileen Dunbar

Reflection from her visit to Ireland

Blessing of First Steps



S. Mary David, Tracey and S. Roberta

The feast of **Saint Benedict**, July 11th, is always a special celebration for us, but this year

it was more so. The rite of accepting a new postulant took place at Mass/Morning Praise. Postulancy is a beginning stage of becoming a Sister. **Tracey Adams** knocked at the Chapel door and was asked, "*What do you seek?*" She answered, "*I want to become a postulant. I believe God has called me to walk with you into the future.*" Tracey is cherished by the Sisters and staff and her positive answer was warmly welcomed!

As profiled in our Spring 2017 Tide, Tracey has spent a number of years travelling throughout the country to visit a number of monasteries. We are blessed to have Tracey decide her spiritual journey should be with us. Please keep her, our affiliates and those discerning a monastic vocation in prayer.

Upcoming Vocation Days:

- Aug. 5th Nurture Vocation Day**
- Sept. 2nd Vocation Day—women 50 Something**
- Feb. 3rd Tea Party to celebrate young women from parishes that may submit 2 to 3 outstanding women. Party to include Tour of Monastery and Input about monastic life of the Sisters.**

Please share this info with your parish and any one who may be interested.

Jesus Statue Renewed

Artist and volunteer **Linda Whitman**, spent hours and hours in May and June giving the statue of Jesus a “rebirth” of color. We are grateful for her considerable time and talents as well as **Virginia Crippen** and **Sister Dianne** for their meticulous work of artistry in remolding layer by thin layer, the statue’s right hand which had been broken in our 2014 move.



Saint Anthony School Students Honored



Liz Bodine, teacher and Student Council Sponsor at St. Anthony Catholic School in San Antonio, and two of the council members were invited to lunch with the Sisters on May 9th. Twin sisters, **Faith** and **Grace Quinn** represented the Student Council. For all the work the Council does on behalf of the entire school body, a card and \$100 gift certificate was presented by **Sister Roberta** on behalf of the Benedictine Sisters of Florida.

September 28th!

Please say a
Happy and Healthy
Birthday Prayer for

Sister Helen

on her
104th Birthday!



A Joy and Inspiration!

Concerts Begin Again in September



The following schedule is printed here for your convenience. However, please be sure to check our web-site or call **(352) 588-8320** before each month’s concert just in case of unforeseen changes.

- ◇ Sept. 17th Piney Grove
- ◇ Oct. 15t Saint Leo University
- ◇ Nov. 12th Friendship Singers
- ◇ Dec. 10th Food Shepherd Men’s Choir
- ◇ Jan. 14th St. Anthony
- ◇ Feb. 11th Wesley Chapel Trinity
- ◇ March TBA
- ◇ April 22nd First Methodist Dade City

Community Annual Retreat

The Benedictine Sisters of Florida held their annual retreat July 27th—August 1st. Retreat Director, **Rev. Raymond Studzinski, OSB**, a monk of St. Meinrad Archabbey in Indiana, is an Associate Professor in the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.

The theme for the retreat was “*Practice Makes Perfect*” - *Learning the Art of Spiritual Living*.” It was a reflection on spiritual practices listed in Chapter 4 of the *Rule of Benedict*. Practices such as these lead to a vibrant living out of the Christian faith for monastics and all Christians. There was reflection on practices that allow God to touch and shape and form us into people who are humble, hospitable, forgiving, mindful and compassionate.

It was an opportunity for the Sisters and other guests to stop and reflect on practices we regularly do, but never take the time to ponder the impact and difference they make in our lives and the life of the community.

In Memorium

Please remember in prayer:

Katie Starnes—Oblate, March 15, 2017

Sue Foster Paskert, HNA '58, June 16, 2017

Thresiamma Mathai, mother of Sister Elizabeth Mathai, July 3, 2017

Open House of the New Wing

Over 100 friends including two and three generations of some came to the Open House of the new wing on April 30th. Tours were given including the lobby, bedrooms, kitchenette—the works!

The entrance lobby to the wing was dedicated with a plaque in honor of **John Picciano's** parents. In an astounding gesture of love and respect for the Sisters, John gave over \$1 million to the project. We are forever grateful to him for his extraordinary generosity and kindness. John's business partner, **Bob Cohen** pictured left in the photo below, wanted "to honor my dear friend, John" with a gift to the wing of \$250,000. Doing God's work in providing hospitals and counseling for those suffering with drug/alcohol addiction and their families, John and Bob are true servants of God.



Also pictured between Bob and John are the Kutas who came to see the painting hung on the wall behind them. It was purchased in 1960 by their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Kuzman, during a trip to Rome and the Vatican. The painting was a feature of their home for many years and then passed down to their daughter, **Sylvia Kuta**. After attending several concerts at Holy Name with her daughter, **Katheryn**, Sylvia decided to donate the piece for the new wing.

We also want to thank **Ken Marks** for his very generous donation of \$10,000 in memory of his dear friends,

Steven G. Burton and **Sister Nila Cabrera**. They and Sister's brother, **Anthony**, have been friends since childhood. Because of Mr. Mark's gift, the view at the entrance door of the new wing faces the statue of the **Blessed Mother** surrounded by benches for peaceful reflection and the glorious white and pink roses donated and cared for by **Fred Hanson**.

Following their "private" tours, attendees enjoyed home-baked goodies by **Sister Donna** and fellowship in the sun-lit dining room overlooking lush trees at the end of the property.



Upcoming Calendar

- ◆ **First Sundays** Holy Hour for Vocations
- ◆ **August 6th** Feast of the Transfiguration
- ◆ **August 15th** Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary
- ◆ **November 1st** Solemnity of All Saints
- ◆ **Nov. 23rd** Thanksgiving Dinner—served meal for 200 guests in cooperation with St. Anthony Parish.
- ◆ **December 3rd** First Sunday of Advent

New Flag

Blessed at Mass - July 2nd
First Flown - July 4, 2017
 Courtesy of Congressman Gus Bilirakis

*Our kind and loving God, maker and lover of all,
 we ask you to bless the people of our country.
 Bless this flag and let it always remind us of
 the principles it stands for.
 Inspire and strengthen the people of our country to
 work together in peace so that in all things
 your holy Name may be glorified.*

*We ask this grace through Christ our
 Lord and Brother. Amen!*

April Aquaponics Training at Holy Name Monastery

Exhilarating!

Easter morning's first green miracle happened in the garden. Tiny buds appeared on a persimmon tree we thought was possibly dead yet we still continued to care for it. The spring aquaponics training taught here by **Phil Reasons** started the day after Jesus' resurrection from death and the effects of Easter were evident. Translating peak experiences into words becomes a challenge.

Separated only by a few generations, this class was cohesive in their passion to bring life to others in geographical origins—Canada, Paraguay, Haiti, Missouri, Tennessee, Tampa, Dade City. Intense sessions expanded our knowledge of the perils of industrial farming practices.



"A paradise of information is being taught here." Similar comments of gratitude were made all week by the 14 participants as many "wow" moments helped deepen their understanding and need for sustainable food production. *"My blood pH has probably changed this week from acidic to alkaline from our nutritious meals."* This comment said in humor was a testimony to our planned healthy menu.

A dozen guest missionaries from an Orlando convention also joined a field trip tour of Phil's newly built aquaponics system in Dade City.

This training could not have been possible without the gracious participation of our generous scholarship donors and of the extra hands of **Janet Collura**, **Tracey Adams** and **Richard Bon**. At the closing ceremony, one person expressed what many were feeling—the presence of the Spirit among the group.



Immediately after the remark a strong wind began to blow and was evidence of God's living and loving affirmation. May each student bring their knowledge to better the world in

their respective ministries. Our ongoing prayer is to lessen world hunger and suffering by one exhilarating training at a time. Special thanks to Phil, **Terri, Elizabeth, Hans, Joo**, and all staff for this ever-expanding work of love. God is indeed honored.

Gratefully,
Sister Miriam Cosgrove

The next Aquaponics Training is scheduled for November 5th—10th. For information on how you or someone you know can attend, call Sister Miriam at (352) 588-8320 or go to our website at: www.benedictinesistersoffl.org.

Space is limited so call today!

Oblate Program

Oblates are lay persons who typically don't live in a monastery, but nurture a monastic heart that helps them live their Christian life.

September begins a new program year for Oblates at HNM. Having closed this year's with a focus on **Sister Joan Chittister's Monastery of the Heart**, the Oblates rated it "excellent." They especially liked the group participation, fellowship and lunching together. In their own words:

"I'm grateful to the Sisters for providing a place of peace, love and spiritual enrichment so needed in our time."

Anne Kenny

"I have gratitude for the Community, my Sisters who walk with me daily from a distance, yet close to my heart."

Beatriz Galvis

"Everything and everyone is always the best!! It is an enriching, holy, caring Community of love and worship."

Anonymous

*"Let us
not
Love
with
word
or
with
tongue,
but in
deed
and in
truth."*

An Oblate Summer Day will take place on **August 12th** to plan for next year. **JOIN** us on the journey we take together—you too will find it a real Blessing! **RSVP** to S. Mary David (352) 588-8320.

2016 Gifts In Memory Of

Frederick Algigi	James D. Kiley
Bill Bailey	Sara Kirk
S. Germaine Bevans	Trudy LaBruzzo
Louis and Eda Barthle	Harry W. Linindoll, III
Joseph T. Bires	S. Rosanna Matthiesen
S. Pauline Block, OSB	Alicia P. Mora
Evelyn and Fremont Bollinger	Rev. Louis B. Moeller
Thomas and Mary Bowman	S. Irma Multer, OSB
Tim Brown	Alma Murphy
Alex and Anna Cann	My Parents
S. Mary Ann Carollo	Leo Neuhofer
John F. Charvet	S. Dorothy Neuhofer, OSB
Clavell and Wehmhoff Families	Frank Neuhofer
John and Marilyn Coleman	S. Annunciata Newman
Sam and Marjorie Corwin	Dominick Passalacqua
Esther Montes deOca	Joyce Pessagno
Pat Fenton	Jean Patricia Peterson
John F. Fiengo	S. Mary Grace Riddles, OSB
James Fuchs	Nancy Rinaldi Romine
Deceased members of the Galvis Family	Alberto Rosal III
Gelis Family	Marlene Short
Gayle Gietler	S. Pia Smeddick, OSB
Joaquin N. Gomez	Muriel Sparks
Rosemary Herrmann	Harriettee J. Hicks Tinny
S. Imelda Hoffman, OSB	Kurt Van Wilt
Daniel Jansa	Javier Vargas
	Maxima Velasquez
	Stella Vorek

2016 Gifts In Honor Of

S. Roberta Bailey, OSB	Gloria O'Brien
Eugene and Ethel Berger	Margaret Ricou Randall
T. Bonzon, M.D.	Anthony Regan
S. Mildred Gelis, OSB	Ramon, Marie, and Paul Rosal
S. Mary David Hydro, OSB	Barbara Wansley
S. Helen Lange, OSB	S. Dianne Wansley, OSB
Rocky Milliman	
Barbara Molloy	



Listening Heart Circle

We know many of our donors want to write a check for \$100, but your budget may be happier if you give \$5 or \$10 monthly. Now you can follow your heart and still stay within your budget. Become a monthly donor at benedictinesistersoffl.org and click on the "You Can Help" tab. It's quick, simple and best of all, you can make a difference for as little as \$5 or \$10 a month!

We invite you to be a member of our **Listening Heart Circle**. Donations that are made monthly help us to steward our resources and plan for needs that come before us from those we serve...both expected and needs that are not.

Mark your calendar for **Thursday, January 25, 2018** when we recognize the members of our Listening Heart Circle. More information to come! For further details, call **Faith Pridmore at (352) 588-8443**.

Give Day 2017

Grateful thanks to our partners who helped make for another **Give Day** success. **\$20,092** was raised which goes to making the programs for those we serve possible. These donations are part of the Annual Appeal for the calendar year 2017. This day of giving is making a difference in what we are able to do for others!

While we did not win any prize pool dollars this year, it was good to know that several social service non-profits did. A special thank you to **Joyce Welch** who donated the \$295 airline credit which was the quiz prize. Won by **Jane Martinson**, she has a trip to New England planned to visit family. Congratulations Jane!

A big thank you to our volunteers who made reminder phone calls May 1st, the evening before **Give Day**. There was laughter and much joy **from the** callers and the called!



Pictured L-to-R—back row: S. Miriam, Emma Kiefer, Tracey Adams, Divya Aradhya, Rick Chadick, and Javohn Brown. Front row: Barbara Molloy, S. Elizabeth, Lourdes Milan (decked-out as a telephone), Linda Gant, Linda Whitman and S. Margaret Mary. Janet Collura was also with us.

Annual Appeal 2016

The Benedictine Sisters of Florida wonder if our friends, supporters and volunteers understand how their gifts make a difference. For those who seek solace, guidance and answers to barriers in their faith, hope and love, we are here. This place of peace that has been built for God's glory is profound in its perfection and simplicity...a home and family to all our guests.

Our work with the poor, the elderly, children and those who look to us for a variety of needs is only possible with you, our friends and donors, at our side.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

The following are donors to the Annual Appeal from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016:

<p>Stewardship Circle \$5,000 - \$9,999 Joseph and Rose Herrmann Charitable Foundation</p> <p>Commitment Circle \$2,500-\$4,999 Anonymous</p> <p>Balance Circle \$1,000- \$2,499 Anonymous - 18 Patricia Becker Joshua Bomstein Mary Kay Miller ('60) Calvert Chapel Box Anonymous Cliff Martin Ginger Judge Drs. Victor and Dewey Kramer Christopher and Gina Neuhofer Allan and Marilyn Powers Dr. Vivina Rosal Dr. John and Barbara Sinnott Bernd, Holly and Sophia Sokolowski</p> <p>Hospitality Circle \$500-\$999 Tracey Lynne Adams Anonymous - 2 Shelley A. Barre Linda L. Bishop Columbiettes Tampa Concert Anonymous Roy and Virginia Crippen John and Patricia Grubbs Alfred and Diane Heiler Jack and Stephanie Hipple Taryl Holbrook Dr. Charles and Maureen Kaupke Pamela P Kernisky Mary Palazzo Heather Parker-Jones Donald and Beverly Roy Dr. Mary Spoto School Sisters of Notre Dame Social Work Club, Saint Leo University Jean Strohmeier Robert C. Van Allen Margie Whigham '61 Angus and Judy Williams Jr.</p>	<p>Peace Circle \$250- \$499 Anonymous Hospitality Anonymous Spiritual Direction Anonymous Jody L. Bollinger Warren and Bernadette Broz Elizabeth C. Came Matthew J. Clarke Janet Rodriguez Collura Frank and Kim Corradini Marietta Dinopol Ben N. and Vivian L. Donatelli Shirley A. Duggleby John Dunbar Raymond+ and Leona Erazmus Felicita Finney Deborah Flanagan Wendy Lynn Fulcomer Karen Gildemeyer Deacon Tom and Sandy Goldsworthy Annie Lee Gomez Virginia Barthle ('57) Gordon Anne McDonald Heath Bernard Hemker Steve and Lynn Hickman Violet Kehl General William and Anne Lennox Thomas Malouf Frances E. Martin '60 Jane Martinson Lourdes Milan Monsignor Frank Mouch Anthony Olivito Papa Joe's Pizza Thaddeus and Roslyn Puzio John and Lynn Roth Armando Ruiz III Sacred Heart Women's Club Mary T. Schultz Sr. Mary Helen Forney, SSJ St. Clement Church Margaret Sullivan Marion Tarallo Clara Wansley Gary and Carol Ann Woodard</p> <p>Friends Circle \$50-\$249 Charles and Pam Abraham</p>	<p>Amazon Smile Foundation Jeffrey and Nadine Anderson Anonymous - 12 Ronald Arrowsmith Bernard and Diane Bak Miguel Barboza and Cavi Velasquez Charles L. Barthle Frances and Dorothy Beamen Martha Newman Bennett Thomas and Clare Bennett Eugene and Ethel Berger Thomas and Judy Bires Maresea Blackwell Patricia Bledsoe Kevin and Cynthia Borland Nora Regina Bourke John and Yvonne Boyle Lucille Brennan Margaret Brennan-Riddle Brotherhood of Hope, Inc Lydia A. Brown Gail H. Buffong Vera Burianek Margaret Cantu Thomas and Theresa Carollo Rey and Juanita Casarez Christopher and Donna Catotti Gary and Connie Caudill Circle 20 Women's Group Ruth Wehmhoff and Alice Clavell Jere and Pat Cook John and Amy Cordray Deacon Gene and Lillian Corrigan Gladys E. Cortes Cay Corwin '59 Nancy Counihan ('45) and Sally Burns Jack and Valerie ('62) Crane Tim and Maria Crosby Gretchen D'Ovidio Dr. Edward and Teresa Dadez Gary Davila Bruce Day Thomas and Eleanor Dempsey Margaret DiMuzio John and Irene Doscher George M. Douglas John and Maggie Dowling</p>
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Patrick and Debbie Drewes
 James and Janice Dunleavy
 Barbara Ann Elker
 Kelly A. Elliott
 Helen Fehn
 Richard Fenton
 Emily Fisher
 Dr. Michael and Cheryl Foley
 John and Patricia Frank
 Rev. Robert V. Fuchek
 Beatriz F. Galvis
 James and Linda Gant
 Lois Peters ('56) Gardner
 Mary Giella
 Joseph Gietler
 Pola Godsey
 Elizabeth Gregg
 William Gregg
 Louis and Ann ('52) Grieshop
 Patricia Gunson
 Bernice Halfmann
 Carmen M. Hall
 Helen Hall
 Kuan Jung Han
 Carl and Joyce ('60) Harig
 Alfred and Nancy Harradine
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 Michael Hodges and Keith Williams
 Hazel Hudson-Allen
 Kathryn Huey
 Karen Humphreys
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 Sharon Leigh
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 Lee Delaney Love
 Thomas and Mary B. Maher
 Andree Mason
 E. Paul and Juanita ('47) Mayeux
 Johanna Maytin '55
 Brenda McBath

Edward and Ines Aden-McFadden
 Emily McHugh
 Craig McKee
 Connie McMahon
 Yolanda Melkun
 Deborah Mendes Degraw
 LeAnne M. Milian
 Sr. Sara Grimaldo
 Jorge and Carol Montealegre
 Guy and Ann Moore
 Dr. Yvonne Nelson
 Denise O'Brien
 Oblates of Holy Name Monastery
 Beverly Oglesby
 William Olivito
 Marguerite Orban
 Roland and Delores Leal ('64) Owens
 Jessica Parisi
 Peter Pav
 Malloy and Lena Pearson
 Thomas and Kimberly Penman
 Curtis and Nancy Pond
 Thomas and Elizabeth Ann Prather
 Richard and Debra Radke
 Margaret Ricou ('49) Randall
 James and Regina Ranieri
 Ralph and Mary Liz Ranieri
 John and Phyllis Rearden
 Phil and Terri Reasons
 Pat and Jeanette ('58) Reilly
 Elaine Richard
 Felton and Deborah Richardson
 Frank and Patricia Richter
 Rotary Club of San Antonio
 Sandra Sachs
 Saddlebrook Golf and Country Club
 Saint Anthony School
 Iris J. Salcedo
 San Antonio Founders/Garden Club
 Charles and Gina Savko
 Steve and Joan Schmidt
 Philip and Marisa Secord
 Josephine Shine
 Philip and Cynthia Signore
 Anne Louise Smith
 Fr. Frank X. Smith
 Harold and Victoria Smith
 Jane Smith
 Theresa E. Smith
 Brad Sollberger
 Patricia C. Southward
 George and Eileen Sowa
 Mary Theresa Spoto
 Karen A. Stoebe
 Helen and Ben Strakos
 Barbara Ullrich ('54) Sutton
 Angela Midili ('47) Sweeney
 Victor and Judith Tarasco
 Richmond and Carol Jean Taylor
 Thanhthuy Thi Thai
 Susan Starrs Thompson

Colleen Tiesler
 John D. Tinny
 David and Nancy Topp
 Reverend Helen Trainor
 Travelers Rest Garden Club
 Salvatore J. Versaggi
 Elizabeth Vino
 Joseph B. Vogel
 Rodolfo and Elsa Wehrhahn
 Jeanne Weiss
 Otto Weitzenkorn
 Mary Alice Wheeler
 Bill and Virginia ('56) Witherspoon
 Rena Woss
 Dr. Phyllis Zagano

Prayer Circle

\$25 - \$49

Anonymous
 Norm and Beverly Austgen
 Lilly Baldwin
 Barbara Cowne
 Kristin Bina
 Elizabeth B. Bogdan
 Larry and Brenda Bradford
 Alfred Bray
 Helen Y. Choi
 Edward and Lorriane Cranston
 Belinda Montes deOca
 Victor and Luz Maria Garcia
 Suzanne Gellens
 J. Kevin and Colleen Hartney
 Jonathan and Gerri Jackson
 Rita Jackson
 Judith LaChance Kendrick
 Arnold and Ernestine Lange
 Andrea M. Lawrence
 August and Karen Malfregeot
 Charles and Mary Jean Marino
 Domenic and Barbara Martucci
 Abby McEntire
 Marie McLeod
 Jacqueline McNamara '49
 Jeanette and The Milan Family
 Wayne and Jane Mooney
 Sharon Reisman
 John Rogers
 Kathy Saunders
 Fritzie Lee Seifert
 William and Barbara Stewart
 Peter and Gabriela Suyono
 Richard and Denise Swalec
 Delores Gast, Director
 Robert J. Tiesler, Jr.
 Joe and Pat Vancil
 Mary Ann Weakley
 Richard and Joan Weingarten
 Catherine Yant
 George and Norbeth York
 Candace E. Zann



ideas about how to face today's concerns with hope for the future. While drawing on multiple resources, Sister Edith used the framework of **John Kotre's** idea of "The Generative Way" as a process for facing the future with hope. Throughout the four days of meetings, the delegates discussed ways in which Sister Edith's presentations could inspire a focused direction for setting a Chapter agenda. The days of

Facing Forward with Hope was the theme of the Pre-Chapter Conference of the Federation of Saint Scholastica held at Saint Leo University from June 15 to June 19, 2017. **Sisters Roberta Bailey, Jean Abbott** and **Eileen Dunbar**, from Holy Name Monastery, joined sixty Benedictine prioresses and community delegates from twenty communities across the US and Mexico for meetings.

The delegates designed the agenda for next year's Chapter meeting in Cullman, AL. In the welcome talk, **Sister Lynn Marie McKenzie**, President of the Federation, used a poem by **William Cowper** to speak about "fresh courage" in facing the concerns of monastic communities of women in the United States and Mexico.

The primary presenter for the meeting was **Sister Edith Bogue**, OSB from Duluth, MN, who offered

prayer and meetings were concluded with a festive dinner prepared by the culinary staff of Saint Leo University.

On Saturday, the delegates joined the Benedictine Sisters of Florida at Holy Name for a Mass of Thanksgiving. When the delegates had last visited the site, there was only an abandoned orange grove. On this visit the group toured the monastery and new guest wing which was completed in April 2017. The day's event included the Blessing of the new wing and a Mass celebrated by **Most Reverend Gregory Parkes**, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Petersburg.



In-Kind Gifts are Greatly Appreciated!

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Rose Marie Ash | Marilyn Hines '51 | Marshall and Faith Pridmore |
| Lewis Barbieri | Kym Hoerr | Paige Ramsey-Hamacher |
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Valerie Crane

HNA Alum '1962

Valerie Mauser Crane is a Holy Name Academy graduate of the 1962 Class. She has kept in close touch with the Sisters and other alums throughout the years and recently attended the May 2017 Class Reunion organized by the Prep School grads.

The only child of **Evelyn and Ted Mauser**, Valerie was born in Mt. Clemens, Michigan and until the age of eleven the family had a dairy farm. After a barn fire that destroyed everything, their friends and family helped the Mausers raise a new barn, but Ted's heart was just no longer in it. They had friends living in Sarasota, Florida who convinced them to come down. The farm was sold and a new chapter in their lives was begun.



Valerie (left) with Ellen Barefoot Brown and Carol Romey Ritchey
Saint Leo /Holy Name 55th Class Reunion, May of 2017

Valerie left her small town and was at first nervous knowing no one at her new school, St. Martha's Catholic School. Valerie credits her teacher **Sister Helen** with making the transition and the move "the best thing in the world for me." Sister's patience and loving spirit engendered a closeness in that 6th grade class that has continued to this very day. "I think of Sister Helen every day," says Valerie. "She was like a mother to us. Sister used to say that she only got one good day each week out of us students—Wednesdays. That was because as a group we would socialize at the local Youth Center on Thursday and Friday nights. Then Monday and Tuesdays were spent talking about what fun we had! Though young, that year with S. Helen was life-changing for all of us."

Valerie received a scholarship to Holy Name Academy as an incoming high school sophomore. She says, the Benedictines Sisters "nurtured and encouraged me to take leadership roles that I never would have ventured into at a large high school...class president junior year, council president senior year, Saint Leo homecoming queen, basketball and volleyball player. And the sisterhood with my fellow students was all part of the mentoring experiences that did so much for my development. I was fortunate to have the nurturing environment and excellent education received from the Benedictine Sisters of Florida."

After her graduation from Holy Name, Valerie attended Loyola University School of Dentistry in New Orleans for dental hygiene. She was to meet her beloved husband, **John Crane (Jack)** when both were freshmen at Loyola and were married the summer before Jack's senior year. After he received his Masters at UT Austin, the couple moved frequently as Jack's career in public administration and city management advanced. They lived in Texas, Iowa, Alabama and finally for the last forty years in Dublin and Marietta, Georgia. Valerie continued to work part-time while their family grew with the blessing of four children — **Cindy, Jerry, Chris and Tim.**



Valerie practiced clinical dental hygiene for 25 years. Then when three of Valerie and Jack's four children were furthering their educations with the pursuit of their graduate degrees, Valerie decided with prompting by her daughter to go back to school too! She received a BS in Business Administration from Shorter College in 1996. Valerie served national and international companies as consultant and Clinical Education Manager for advanced dental technology. Her interest in education led to a faculty position and clinical coordinator for six years at West George Technical College. She was employed by Hu-Friedy, a dental instrument manufacturer as Director of Education, Academic and Professional Relations for dental and dental hygiene schools in the southeast. Valerie co-authored the Oral Health Program, Manual of Procedures for the state of Georgia.

Now retired, Valerie is enjoying lake living and spending time with Jack, their four children and nine grandchildren.



Holy Name Monastery

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CORPORATE COMMITMENT

In an effort to address contemporary local needs, we, the Benedictine Sisters of Florida, commit ourselves and our resources to respond with the compassion of Christ to the physical, spiritual and emotional hungerers of the People of God.

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