

World Meeting of Families and Mass with Pope Francis

Sister Laura shares her experience in Philadelphia.



This pilgrimage was an incredible blessing! We prayed for you, our family and friends at the shrine of Our Lady, Undoer of Knots. One of my great joys as a Sacred Heart Sister is the work we do with families, so it was wonderful to see all the families that were

present and to experience the beautiful way in which family values were being promoted and lived. We had a beautiful booth at the Philadelphia Convention Center (photo below), thanks to David & Chery Lim.

On Saturday, we waited by a gate so we could get a good view of Pope Francis when he drove by; with great excitement and joy we waved at him.



For the Papal Mass, we had settled in front of a "Jumbo-Tron" screen to watch Mass being celebrated. God had other plans though, and through the generosity of others, all of us were able to 'move up' into the seated area and be present as Pope Francis celebrated Mass. What an incredible gift! I was greatly touched by Pope Francis' obvious love for family life. I leave you with his words from the Festival of Families: "Families have a citizenship



that is divine. The identity card that they have is given to them by God so that within the heart of the family truth, goodness and beauty can truly grow."

Sister Mary Beth Kozlowski

How did you know God was calling you to this life?

I knew many priests and religious sisters growing up and they made a positive impact on my life. Through their words and the words of the Sunday readings at Mass, I heard Jesus say to me again and again: "Follow Me!" Sometimes the invitation also came in unexpected ways, for example, when shopping in a department store or driving somewhere, I would hear one of my favorite popular songs, sensing it was really Jesus singing those words to me via the radio. Over the years, several teachers and significant adults said to me: "You should think about being a nun." God extended His desire for me to follow Him through them as well... The key to accepting my vocation was the realization that, for me, the best way to be truly happy would be to share with others the many blessings I had received, the most significant being the gift of faith.



What advice would you give to someone considering a consecrated religious life?

For any young person considering or struggling to accept a call from God to enter the seminary or a religious order, my advice to you is to visit a Marian Church in your area. Spend some quiet time there and listen to your heart. You will know what God wants you to do. Don't be afraid to take that first and necessary "leap of faith," as Mary did. After all, it is due to her initial yes to God that we each have the possibility of making Christ's presence more visible in our world today.

For the full article, <http://www.catholicsistas.com/2015/10/16/interview-sr-mary-beth-kozlowski-sdsh-year-consecrated-life/>

SOCIETY DEVOTED TO THE SACRED HEART

Joyful Apostolate

2927 S. Greenville St.
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Joyful Apostolate

Fall 2015



Archbishop José Gomez (center), with (left to right, back) Bishop Wilkerson, Cardinal Mahony, Bishop Salazar, Abbot Wright O.S.B. and Abbot Benedict O.S.B. (Front, left to right) Council members: Sister Catherine Marie, Sister Elizabeth, Sister Mary (Superior General), Sister Eileen and Sister Sharon

"It is a great joy to be here this morning...It is especially beautiful as we are celebrating it in the Year of Consecrated Life...The theme of your Jubilee celebration, 75 Years of Grateful Love, is very appropriate as we celebrate your community & your vocation. We rejoice today for the vision of your foundress Sister Ida. She knew that the Sacred Heart of Jesus is God's Heart...The message of the Sacred Heart is a message that the world today still needs to hear...You are chosen and loved in the Heart of God..." (Homily, Archbishop José Gomez)

Visit our website: www.sacredheartsisters.com
for more photos and other information

“Our Society is devoted to the loving Heart of our Lord Jesus. His love permeates our life and apostolate.” -Constitutions of the S.D.S.H.

From the Heart of Servant of God, Sister Ida



Sister Ida Peterfy renewing her vows on her 50th anniversary

“What is our original inspiration? It is to honestly convey the message that there is a God who is real, who is alive, and He loves you and cares for you and He is very close. And that it isn't true that you have to “measure up” through your own efforts or doing to be worthy of being loved by Him. We love God in the name of the Church with an undivided heart. And this is the essence of Religious Life. It is about who you are. From who you are comes what you do, it isn't the other way around. Community does not just mean living under the same roof. When we are talking about community, we are talking about the work of God. He does not give individuals to the Church. He called us as a Community, primarily a Community in love with God. When we say that religious life is a deep, profound mystery of God, we mean that it is a deep plan God has for the salvation of mankind through Religious Life. It was not invented by men, it was invented by God. We can dedicate our life to God, but only God can consecrate; He can put His hand on you and say, ‘You are mine, you have my life; I am gifting you with it: I am gracing you with it: it is my free gift to you.’

What is primary, what makes *community* is this call from the Holy Spirit to live the life of the Holy Trinity, to realize the tremendous goodness and love of God, giving everything back in return because we have received all from Him, and continuing the mission of Our Lord in His Church.”

Excerpt from a talk given by Sister Ida



Above: (left to right) Sr. Arlene (Taiwan), Sr. Michelle (Hungary) and Sr. Andrea (Retreat Center). We are grateful to our generous friends who flew our Sisters home from our mission convents.



Everyone enjoyed the 3,000 hand-made meatballs. Thank you to Narong Panawong (below, right) who oversaw the food preparations, to those who donated food and to the 100+ volunteers who worked with us in joy-filled days of preparation.



75th Jubilee of the Founding of the Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart



On Nov. 7th, joined by more than 1,000 friends and family members, our Society celebrated with a Mass and reception at St. John Eudes' Parish in Chatsworth, CA. The day was filled with joy!



Walsh family with Sr. Mary Beth and Sr. Mary Ann, both from our Taiwan convent.



Sr. Eileen and family with Sr. Eva



The day would not have been possible without months of event planning by Phyllis Luehrmann and Teri Proffitt (above, left to right, with Sr. Paula and Sr. Judith).



(left) Long-time friend, Magali Rivlin, with our Sisters. The display in the background shows our Sisters' publications in various media from the past 75 years. Did you know that our Sisters owned and operated Saint Joseph's Press? (See the timeline on our website! Hint: look at the 1950's)

Enjoy a timeline of our Community's 75 years: www.sacredheartsisters.com



Thank you to Mark Purcell (above, left) and all of the musicians who helped lift our music to heavenly heights.



Sr. Adriane, Mary Ann Vena, Fr. Bernard Johnson, O Praem.