

During the day's activities, Sister Ida explains to the Sisters how we have journeyed toward our "Promised Land" in the past forty years, and shows the development of our Sacred Heart badge.

OCTOBER 7th MARKED THE HAPPY OCCASION for the celebration of our 40th anniversary as Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Our Sisters gathered from the surrounding Los Angeles and Orange County areas to join in the festivities at our Motherhouse in Burbank. The highlight of the day was the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by Monsignor Marum, during which we personally received our newly approved Constitutions from Sister Ida, and gave thanks to God for His abundant love.

During the day, we shared insights on our Constitutions, we recalled, on film, some historical and enjoyable events of our 24 years in Los Angeles, and exchanged handmade gifts with one another. As shared conversation, laughter and the spirit of thanksgiving filled the Motherhouse, the atmosphere of the day reflected our feelings of being blessed by God in our religious life.



Dear Friends,

This year is of special significance in our lives as Sisters devoted to the Sacred Heart. It was forty years ago that Our Lord called us in His love to His service. It has been a long journey for us from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Canada, and finally, 24 years ago, to the United States, to California and Nevada.

Forty is a holy and symbolic number. It reminds us of the forty years the people of God were traveling in the desert, God leading and protecting them until they arrived to the Promised Land. I would like to share with you, our friends, how Our Lord has treated us as a Community in these forty years. He has been true to His Name: He is Love, and He has shown His face to us in "many and diverse ways". We have grown in numbers to 49 Sisters in ten convents, including the three young women who entered our Novitiate in September. We have built and opened two retreat centers this past year: the Heart of Jesus Retreat Center in the diocese of Orange, and the Sacred Heart Retreat Camp at Big Bear Lake, California.

Our Lord has given us good Shepherds, our Cardinal, our Bishops and the many priests we have worked with throughout the dioceses of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Sacramento and Reno. God showed His kindness to us in you, our dear friends, in your interest over the years, supporting our work, our religious life and our Community efforts.

I want to thank you for your generous love and assure you in the name of our Community that you are mentioned in our community prayers, as we ask the Lord Jesus to look kindly upon you and your families, giving His peace to your hearts. We ask you for your continued prayers for us, because "the Harvest is plenty".



DID YOU HEAR?

- Teenagers from Queen of Angels Parish in Lompoc (Mission Hills) raised \$200 towards our Sacred Heart Retreat Camp.
- Our fourth annual "Fashion With Heart" fashion show was highly succesful.
- St. John the Baptist (Costa Mesa) annual benefit dinner, a great success.
- Family Camp Reunion: December 7th, at the Heart of Jesus Retreat Center.
- -Christmas Leadership Course: December 27 to 30 at the Heart of Jesus Retreat Center.

The Joyful Apostolate is a newsletter of the Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart, published for our many friends whose constant prayers aid us in our apostolic work.