



Joyful Apostolate

Fall 2008

60th & 25th ANNIVERSARIES OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

With all our Sisters present from the U.S., Taiwan and Hungary, we celebrated the 60th anniversary of Sister Agnes and the 25th anniversary of Sister Shannon to religious profession.



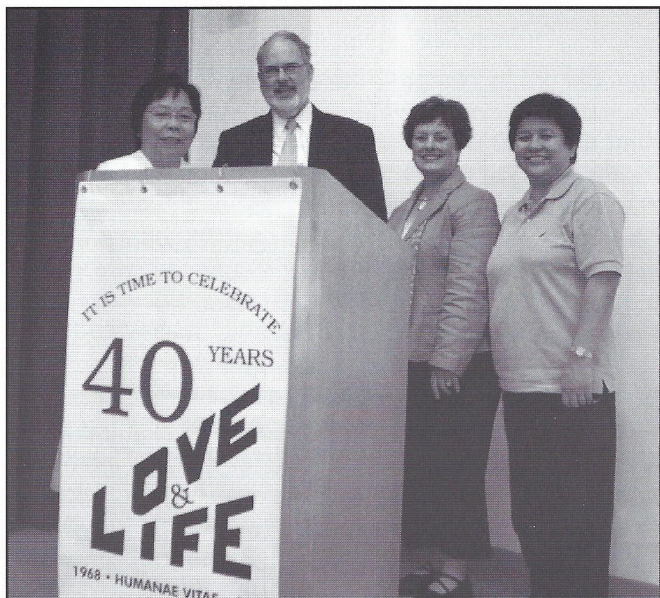
With Sister Ida looking on, Sister Jane (left) rejoices with Sister Agnes and Sister Shannon (center and right) in being Sacred Heart Sisters.

Sister Agnes was one of the first companions to join Sister Ida in Hungary during the tumultuous years of WWII. She escaped with our Sisters in 1949 to Canada, then to the U.S. to continue the mission God entrusted to Sister Ida. Sister Agnes' zeal to teach God's love for His people, her readiness to respond to the needs of the Community and the Church, her spirit of obedience and bold trust in God continue to inspire us.

Responding in obedience and faith, Sister Shannon has zealously served in our mission in Hungary for half of her 25 years. Joyfully catechizing to revive faith life there, she considers it an honor and privilege to serve the Church in Hungary where our Community began.

Please join us in giving heartfelt thanks to God for Sister Agnes and Sister Shannon and their lives of joy, love, zeal and faithfulness!

Go to that 'inner space' where Go



Celebrating the 40th anniversary of "Humanae Vitae," the historic encyclical of Pope Paul VI, and the founding of the NaPro Technology at Creighton University (l. to r) Sister Arlene, Dr. Thomas Hilger Founder of the program, Diane Daly of St. Louis, Co-founder, and Dr. Pauline Yao.

PROMOTING FAMILY LIFE

In our Taiwan mission, Sister Arlene is a family physician at Cardinal Tien Hospital. She received a privileged invitation to give a presentation at the annual meeting of The American Academy of Fertility Care held in Rome this summer. The Academy celebrated its 40th year, as well as the 40th anniversary of "Humanae Vitae," encyclical of Pope Paul VI.

Sister Arlene spoke of the success of the Creighton Model System of NaPro (Natural Procreation) technology which she launched in Taiwan. The meeting was attended by 23 representatives from 4 continents. They were impressed to hear about the number of families in Taiwan that have benefitted from our NaPro apostolate. The spiritual success included promoting greater love and respect, better communication and more stability in family life. Inspired by what they heard, the participants were eager to seek Sister Arlene's advice to promote and achieve similar good results for family life in their own countries.

God is, and listen to Him."

Sister Ida

"I JOYFULLY THANKED SISTER IDA FOR HER INTERCESSION"

"Dear Sacred Heart Sisters,

In February 2007 we learned that my daughter needed surgery for what two different doctors said looked like cancer...

One day, while making a visit to church, I found a prayer brochure with Sister Ida's picture and story of her life. I said the prayer to obtain a special favor, for 9 days. This was Sister Ida's favorite panic prayer. I asked Sister Ida's intercession so that the doctors would be wrong about the cancer, and my daughter would be all right. I trusted in God, but still felt scared, since I had lost a sister to ovarian cancer.

The day of the surgery we waited at the hospital and prayed. When the doctor came to tell us the results of the surgery, with great joy she said, "There is no cancer and no hysterectomy!" She said that God answered our prayers. We were filled with God's Peace, and felt His Divine love all around us.

I joyfully thanked Sister Ida for her intercession. I had promised her that I would write this letter. I'm sorry that it took me so long.

My daughter is doing fine and is healthy and blessed.

Thank you for the beautiful prayer brochure about Sister Ida. May God and His Blessed Mother bless all of you."

J.J., Simi Valley, California

LET SISTER IDA INSPIRE YOU!

"YES, LORD!" The joyful response of Sister Ida to the plan of God: the story of her own vocation and how God was leading her to begin the Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart. 68 pages.

"THE SOURCE OF OUR JOY" Thoughts of Sister Ida, a first collection from her talks and letters. Pocket edition.

"THE SOURCE OF OUR STRENGTH" More thoughts of Sister Ida, inspiring with profound simplicity. Pocket edition.

"GOD HAS A HEART FOR YOU" C.D. with songs of the Sacred Heart Sisters, joyfully singing of the love of God.

"LOVE DOES SUCH THINGS" Christmas C.D. Every day is Christmas with this CD. Celebrate the coming of Christ every day as you join the Sisters in song.



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"If we are united to Our Lord
then His quality is ours."

FROM THE HEART OF SISTER IDA

"Jesus promised that what we ask from the Father in His Name, He will give to us. We can ask the Father in Jesus' Name to renew our hearts, minds and souls, to give us unity in our families, to help us to see God's goodness and love, and to respond.

So many times we make the mistake of believing that things or persons can fill that basic inner space which God reserved for Himself in each one of us.

The flame of a candle can remind us of this existential reality – God keeps a place just for Himself in every person's heart. If you look closely at the candle flame, you will see that there is a dark spot around the wick. If you try to fill that space, you will extinguish the light.

Although you have a good marriage, a wonderful spouse and children, you may still feel lonely. It is just a reminder: that is the "space" in you that cannot be filled except by God; this is God's space for Himself.

God is the God who loves to communicate with us. Go to that "inner space" where God is, and listen to Him saying, "I loved you before you ever existed. You are precious to me. How much I love you, care for you, give for you! If I gave you my Son, what is there that I would not give you?"

Today, when we have so many heartaches, scares, fears – which are all legitimate – we need to go to Him and allow Him to tell us who we really are.

Ask Him to give His Holy Spirit to you. He can inspire you and give you the courage, the power, the strength you need.

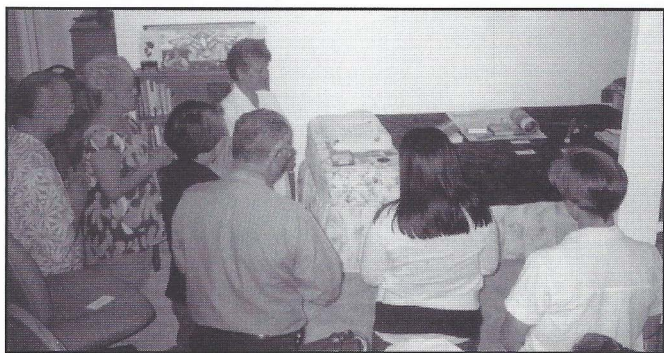
Don't be shy. Go to that "inner space". Be with God."

our Lord,
qualities - His kindness, goodness,

FIRST "TRAVELING" FAMILY CAMP

Sacred Heart Family Retreat Camp has been a blessed part of our Joyful Apostolate for 38 years in California. This summer we initiated the first *traveling* Family Camp in the U.S.! Sister Carmen, Sister Joanna and Sister Angela were joined by two couples, Joe and Betty Ng, and Bob and Maria Montanez, taking the Family Retreat Camp to Holy Trinity, Alabama!

Joe & Betty, Bob & Maria attended several Family Camps when their children were young. In recent years they have been helping with our family Camps at Big Bear. They were delighted when we asked them to be part of the traveling team. They said, "We're not just going *with*



The Family Camp traveling team with our Sisters pray in thanksgiving in the room and at the bedside of Sister Ida after their return from Alabama.

the Sisters, we have, to *be* as Sacred Heart Sisters" and convey the Heart of Jesus to the families in Alabama.

Fr. Dennis Berry, S.T., and his team of generous volunteers warmly hosted the families at his parish. The families met our Lord in dynamic presentations of the truths of our faith, in daily Mass, family sharing, and activities.

Where will the traveling team spread the joy and spiritual fruits of the Sacred Heart Family Retreat Camp next summer? We are ready to bring the Good News wherever His families need us!

patience, etc. will bring forth fr

SUMMER CAMP IN TAIWAN

Children's summer camp in a nursing school building? in Taipei that is where our Sisters could provide 144 children with a week of camping that included daily Mass and



Sister Andrea helps the children to get ready for a game during camp in Taiwan.

faith-learning lessons, crafts and games, songs and dance, – and a favorite for many children – water play! There is no pool, just creative games to get wet and keep cool in the hot summertime.

Sister Mary Beth and Sister Andrea trained and directed the 100 generous adult and college volunteers. Sister Mary Ann was the “official” camp photographer. In the strongly Buddhist culture, about 75% of our campers are Catholic. Our Sisters were delighted when, at the end of the camp, several youth and even some counselors expressed interest in learning more about our Catholic faith.

Here is what one boy, Joseph, age 13, wrote about his experience during the week:

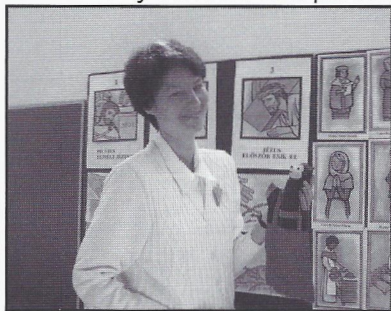
“My feeling about this faith camp is terrific. Everyone is nice...The big brothers and sisters are fun to be with because they are kind unless if you do something crazy or mean. Our teacher educates us about being Catholic, telling us about Confession, Baptism, and Confirmation. There are other teachers that teach crafts, singing and dancing. The big field game is when you play a lot of games with your group. That is why I like the faith camp.”

uit in our lives. *Sister Ida*

NEWS FROM HUNGARY

Our Sisters in Hungary have presented workshops in Romania before, but this summer brought an added dimension. Catechists from four different dioceses representing at least half of Romania, met in an historic city for their annual on-going formation sessions. Sister Shannon, Sister Judith and Sister Audrey went prepared with all our catechetical material: books, posters, teaching tools, Sacred Heart Kids' Club video tapes and even Pookie the puppet.

The 80 catechists rejoiced in the practical help our Five Step Illustrated Method gave, and delighted in the joy and conviction with which our Sisters taught them. The catechists were encouraged to go forth as joyful apostles to the many schools and parishes in which they work.



Sister Audrey enjoys introducing Pookie the bear to catechists in Hungary.

By the end of the week, the Sisters had many requests like "Come to my parish... Speak to our RCIA team... Give retreats to our youth... Teach our teachers!" The harvest is great! Ask the Lord of the harvest, pray for vocations!

AND FROM ST. LOUIS



A joyful Sacred Heart Family Retreat Camp!