



Joyful Apostolate

Fall 2014

**From our joyful consecrated life
flows our joyful apostolate!**



Elected during our Extraordinary Chapter of Elections was Sister Mary Tomasella as our Superior General (center). Her general councillors are (l. to r.): Sister Catherine Marie Stewart, Sister Eileen Sullivan (Assistant Superior General), Sister Elizabeth Normanly and Sister Sharon Richards.

After our summer camps and many other summer apostolates, all 46 Sacred Heart Sisters gathered together at El Carmelo Retreat House in Redlands, where we were generously hosted by the Carmelite friars. With hearts full of gratitude, we thanked Sister Jane for her many years of service as our Superior General and promised our continued prayers for her. Joined in prayer and asking for the direction of the Holy Spirit, the perpetually professed Sisters elected Sister Mary to be our Superior General for four years, until our next General Chapter in 2018. Our temporary professed Sisters, in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament during the election, joined us for the installation ceremony in the chapel.

*Visit our website: www.sacredheartsisters.com
for upcoming events, photos and articles.*

“God is in love with you! Can you

FROM THE HEART OF SISTER IDA



Blessed Pope Paul VI warmly greeting Sister Ida (center), accompanied by Sister Agnes (right), in a personal audience.

Really, who are we? What does the world say? The world says, “You are what people say about you.” “You are what you do.” “You are what you have.”

What does God say? God says, “You are the beloved.” It does not matter to God the Father what people say about you, or what you can or cannot do, or what you have or do not have. God is happy if you can do things. He is happy if you have things. He is happy if people are at peace with you. That does not make you who you are. It does not matter what you do if you do it with love. Love God, love people.

What people say, what you can do, and what you have can change from one day to the next. Only God can help us to see the real person that we are. God sees the fully blooming amaryllis or rose in each of us when we see only the grey bulb or awkward green leaves. You are not what you do or what you have or what people say about you. You are the beloved of God. This is the most important reality of your life!

Do not worry about unnecessary things, do not imagine or worry about what will happen tomorrow. Live today! Believe that God took care of you yesterday, He took care of you today, He will take care of you tomorrow. Stay in the company of the Lord and everything you do will have meaning. Embrace Him and say “I love you too, Lord. I believe, help my unbelief.” If you do that you will see that miracles happen. You are the beloved of the Lord, and that will never change. Live on that deeper level of consciousness: “I am the beloved.”

believe this? It doesn't matter how long you live- one day or 120 years,



Gathered together from our convents throughout the world- Hungary, Taiwan, Saint Louis and California- we celebrated the election of Sister Mary (front row, center) as our new Superior General.

"How good, how delightful it is to live as Sacred Heart Sisters!"



Sister Agnes Raday (left), presents a gift of flowers to Sister Ida (right)

Sister Agnes was born on December 13, 1928 in Szolnok, Hungary.

She was accepted into the Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart by our Foundress, Sister Ida Peterfy, on September 29, 1946, in Budapest.

Our dear Sister Agnes died on September 1, 2014 at our Sacred Heart Convent in Los Angeles, California.

Sister Agnes exemplified our religious life by living as our Constitutions state: "Spend yourselves freely and joyfully for God and for His Body, the Church."

It touched our hearts deeply that on the day that she went to heaven, Sister Agnes was working towards officially beginning the Cause for Sister Ida's Canonization.

you are loved forever!" Sister Ida

Sacred Heart Jubilee Sisters of 2014!



(left to right) Sister Eva Batta, 70 years; Archbishop Jose Gomez, Archdiocese of Los Angeles; Sister Eileen Sullivan, 25 years, Sister Catherine Miller, 50 years; on the occasion of the Archdiocesan celebration of all jubilarians in consecrated life.

Sister Catherine shares: "A Jubilee is a time of great gratitude...May I share with you a glimpse of the joy that flows under and around the mystery of this vocation Christ has called me to? He has been so good to me!...In 1962, I entered our Community. In 1964, with deep conviction that Christ was offering me his Hand and asking for mine in Spousal Love, I professed first vows...

To view Sister Catherine's full letter and a slideshow about the Sisters, go to: www.sacredheartsisters.com



On August 6th, with all of our Sisters present including those in our mission houses, we joyfully celebrated a public Mass of Thanksgiving for Sister Catherine and Sister Eileen. Msgr. Peter Moran, pastor emeritus of Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Northridge and our long-time friend, celebrated the Mass.

Come and See Day



Thirty-one young women joined us for a “Come and See” Day at our convents in Santa Ana. They enthusiastically toured our convent, joined in discussions, heard a Sister’s vocation story, enjoyed a delicious pizza dinner and ended with adoration in the chapel.



Steubenville, San Diego



In July, Sister Judith, Sister Sharon and Sister Anna joined 5,400 youth and young adults at the Steubenville conference in San Diego for a weekend of prayer and praise. It was a delightful opportunity to share with them the joy of our Call from our Lord.

RSVP Weekend



A highlight of the “RSVP weekend” was an hour of adoration before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, where hearts were lifted to the Lord in prayer.

The young women came to a deeper understanding of our community life by providing for each other through shopping and meal preparations. All participated in an atmosphere of joy.



On Saturday morning, after Mass and breakfast, Sister Eileen shared with the young women about the origins of religious life and how we as Sisters are responding to God, giving our whole selves to God, holding nothing back. We follow the poor, chaste and obedient Christ. It was a great encouragement for the young women to let nothing stand in the way of seeking to know how our Lord is calling them to follow Him today.

Breakaway Day for young adults



Young men and women joined us and spent the day deepening in their faith life and love of our Lord!

