



Joyful Apostolate

Spring 2017

"Send Forth Your Spirit"



Above: Sister Rose and young adult chaperones help the youth to prepare a skit.

Sister Anna (photo below, 5th from right), Director of Religious Education at Cathedral Chapel in Los Angeles, brought the 1st and 2nd year Confirmation students to our Sacred Heart Retreat Camp in April for their annual 3-day retreat. Father



Truc Nguyen, pastor, joined the youth on a hike, then heard confessions and celebrated Mass. Saturday night ended with Eucharistic adoration (photo, right). The youth had a great spirit and thoroughly enjoyed the presentations, activities, Liturgies, comraderie, prayer times and the beauty of creation in Big Bear.



Gratitude in Budapest, Hungary



"We are so grateful to God for giving us such loving and supportive friends during the months following our basement fire. On the morning of the fire our pastor had three keys made to the rectory so that we could stay there during the first two months of more intensive clean up and reconstruction. We pray in thanksgiving for our friends who helped cook meals, clean up soot, wash clothes, make repairs, prayed and contributed financially. Our home is beautiful again, and we are so happy to be able to use the downstairs classrooms for retreats and parish groups! With heartfelt gratitude, your Sisters in Hungary- Sister Michelle, Sister Audrey and Sister Ines"



Blessing of the convent on March 26th by Father Imre Varju.

Record snowfall in Big Bear, California



Big Bear Lake was truly a winter wonderland this past January, with a record-setting amount of snow. Our Sisters were snowed in at the retreat camp for four days, after several storms dropped more than 6 feet of snow. They were able to go to Mass at the parish after digging out our property manager's vehicles. Shoveling and navigating pathways through waist-high snow was quite an adventure.



United in His Heart



Many of our Sisters gathered with our dear friends, the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles in Alhambra, on April 20th, in thanksgiving to God for our 60 years of friendship and shared support in the living of Consecrated Life in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. We thoroughly enjoyed an evening of prayer, dining, sharing of our histories and recreation together. Sister Mary presented Mother Judith (*bottom right*) with a booklet of Sister Ida's words and a photo of Sister Ida and our Sisters when they lived with the Carmelite Sisters in 1956-1957.

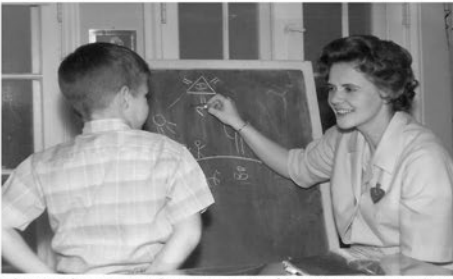
Seminar Day



We are grateful to Sister Marysia Weber, R.S.M., D.O., who came from St. Louis to give us input on the multi-faceted effects of social media. The day ended with Mass in our Novitiate house, celebrated by our friend, Monsignor Peter Moran.



From the Heart of Servant of God, Sister Ida



Sister Ida teaching catechism to a deaf boy in Los Angeles in the 1960's

Our original inspiration from God is to honestly convey the message that there is a God who is real, who is alive, and He loves us and cares for us and He is very close and we do not have to “measure up” through our own efforts to be worthy of being loved by Him.

We know that the Kingdom is not only the Kingdom to come when we see God in His glory, but the Kingdom is already here. God is everywhere, it is only our limited vision that we do not see Him present, and therefore, people are free to accept Him or not. Our inspiration is to tell about the Father to tell about Our Lord – how good, loving and accepting He is, how much He is dying to save us, how much He wants us to be united to Him; this is the whole point of anybody's life!

The original inspiration was definitely to teach religion: to spread the goodness of Our Lord, to spread His loving Heart, to let the people know that this is what God is like! We connect people with the living God and with the source of His life – the Sacraments. To convey this message to the world, and translate it and make people understand, and have them love according to it so that it would be effective in their lives – this is very much our original inspiration. This is our joy and our greatest gift – we are doing what we are doing through the power of Him who loves us and who incorporated us into His own life.

Every religious is an apostle. The Apostles were the ones who were sent to “witness, to be “messengers” of Christ's saving power. In this sense we are first-class witnesses because we are witnessing not just with our words but with our whole life. Jesus said “I was sent on a mission from the Father” Then He said, “I send you” (Jn. 20:21). Being sent on a mission is not a work we assume on our own; apostolate is not just a private enterprise, it is a commission from Christ. It is through His power that we are doing what we are doing. We are sent by Christ and by the Church. We are called to be an active apostolic community. Our apostolic mission is very much part of our religious vocation. This is a privilege!

If you love someone very much, then you work with that inner energy and you do it well, to the best of your ability...It is about the Person you are doing it for... it is to feel with, think with, move with that Person.

***Sister Elizabeth - 50th Jubilee
Sister Paula - 25th Jubilee
Sister Hannah - Renewal of Vows***



Father Matthew Elshoff, OFM Cap (center), with (left to right) Sister Paula, Sister Elizabeth, Sister Mary and Sister Hannah

On March 25th, our Society joyfully celebrated the Jubilees of Sister Elizabeth Normanly and Sister Paula Sawhill at Old Mission Santa Ines. Sister Elizabeth has previously served at the Mission for a combined total of 20 years. Sister Paula has also been assigned to the Mission. Father Matthew, pastor, is a long-time friend and generously celebrated the Mass. We are grateful to our many friends at Old Mission Santa Ines for their loving support and for hosting our celebration.



*Left: Sister Elizabeth and sister, Jeanne
Above: Sister Paula and dad, Dick*



Left: Sister Hannah professing the vows of Chastity, Poverty and Obedience. The vows were received by Sister Mary, Superior General (right).

See photos from the Jubilee at

<http://sacredheartsisters.com/2017/04/08/jubilee-2017/>

SEEK Conference, Focus 11, OneLife LA, UCCC

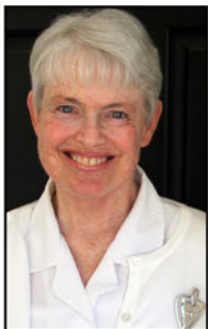


In addition to our daily apostolates, our Sisters participate in various events within our dioceses and around the country. This past year, we attended a number of events, including the SEEK conference in Dallas, Texas (above) and OneLife LA (below). Sister Joanna helped to coordinate and emcee Focus 11 in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and she was a presenter at the UCCC conference at UCLA (bottom photo).



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

Sister Joan Games



Sister Joan, March 2017

Born and reared in Reno, Nevada, I was an only child. My father owned a chain of grocery stores, Washoe Markets...My family practiced no religion at home, but at Christmas we had a small nativity set that was placed under our Christmas tree. When I was about 4 years old, I pulled out the Nativity scene and began speaking to the little statues. I knew the baby's name was Jesus, but that was all I knew of him. Every year I would have a running conversation with this child in the crib. As I look back, I see that God the Father was slowly introducing me to His Son.

When I was twelve, the Sisters moved next door to my home. My family had a swimming pool and my mother invited the Sisters to use it anytime. Sister Ida was one of the Sisters who would enjoy the pool. One day after swimming with Sister Ida, my mother asked me to help carry some food next door to the Sisters. As we walked over to the convent, Sister Ida asked me if I had ever thought about being a Sister. I did not know how to respond then, but now I realize that God the Father was going beyond introducing me to His Son—now He was asking me to say “yes” to Him.

A few years later when I was fifteen, my mother passed away. At that time, I had no knowledge of Heaven or resurrected life. I thought that death was the end of life. During my high school years I was quite active in school organizations and volunteer work. One of these volunteer groups I helped with was the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. In my senior year, our Sisters asked me to help them as an aide in their religious education classes. In time, I became quite involved and began teaching some of the classes. I even went to Mass daily for two years.

I attended the University of Nevada in Reno. My major in college was Child Development. I enjoyed school and belonged to the Tri Delta Sorority. Yet, as I grew to know God more, I knew I wanted to give my total life to Him. If I wanted to be a Sister, I had to start by becoming Catholic. Sister Judith Fogassy prepared me for Baptism and I was brought into the Church April 8, 1973. I changed my major to pre-school education so that I could enter the convent in September 1974. My father was open to my decision and to my faith – he became a Catholic on the day I became a novice!

For the rest of Sister Joan's story, go to
<http://sacredheartsisters.com/client/sister-joan-games/>

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<http://sacredheartsisters.com/prayer-request/>