

Provincial Team Report

Ursulines of Central Province

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December 2017

Team Meeting — December 18

On December 15th the staff at the Provincialate gathered for a special Christmas meal which began with a prayer in thanksgiving for our feasting table, for our families and those we love, and for one another. Following the meal, there was much fun and laughter as we shared with one another gifts of “White Elephants”.

We began our meeting together in prayer, contemplation and sharing on the Season of Advent “Birthing the Holy One....” This helped us enter into our time of reflection, keeping in mind that we are called to birth the holy through life’s messy processes, pain, darkness and finally, the fertile soil of our souls that will bloom into new life.

This month’s alms will be going to the English Tutoring Project and the Sisters of Mercy in Laredo, Texas. Our close relationship with the Mercy Sisters in Laredo has allowed us to help refugee families seeking asylum and needing assistance. Sister Rosemary Welch, RSM, said the donation will go directly to a family whose

child is in the hospital. The child was brought to the United States as an infant by her mother. This case has received much publicity recently as Customs and Border Protection tried to detain the mother and child while en route to Corpus Christi for surgery. Our alms will be a big help as they are in great need.

The agenda also covered planning for the 2018 Provincial Chapter. There is more information

about the Chapter elsewhere in this PTR. The province Annual Report was reviewed and approved. We will share a copy with you soon. Also discussed were property updates, appointment of a new board member for

Ursuline Academy Dallas, and review of our province Driver’s Policy for 2018.

Our scheduled three-day team meeting unexpectedly became a one-day meeting as Rita Ann came down with a bug that kept her at home for the remainder of the days.

“Above all, trust in the slow work of God. We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay.”

~ Teilhard de Chardin

Christmas Greetings



May you know the Love of our Incarnate God this Christmas Season!

May 2018 bring us and our world closer to God's dream of Peace for all creation.

Social Justice Notes

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Click this [link](#) to access helpful information about ways each of us can act to stop this human tragedy. Pope Francis addresses the needs of migrants and invites us to a contemplative stance in his [Message for the World Day of Peace](#) (January 1). There is a possibility that DACA (the dreamers) will come before Congress before the end of the year. Please encourage your members of Congress to support protection for those brought to the US when they were children.

In his encyclical *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis links the care of our common home with the needs of the poor and disenfranchised. It is key that we act as a voice for the voiceless in our local areas and in the world at large. We need to speak out on the challenges to the environment and on coming challenges to the social safety net. Both state and federal legislators need to know they will be held accountable.

May our hearts be open to immigrants and refugees, especially at this time of year.



Montana Ursuline Experience

“Where Angela Has Led Us”

July 16-23, 2018

The Ursuline Retreat and Conference Centre in Great Falls, Montana, is once again hosting the Montana Ursuline Experience. It is scheduled for July 16-23. We hope to sponsor two of our sisters to attend this workshop and will pay the workshop fee (\$685) and transportation expenses for our sponsored sisters. Rosemary Meiman will be presenting. The workshop will explore the heritage of the Ursuline missions and provide an experience of the Native American culture as well as many other opportunities. You may contact Rosemary for further information.

If you are interested in attending this workshop under sponsorship of the province, please contact Adele Brennan by February 23rd.



Annual Reports

We thank each community for sending in your annual reports. We appreciate the time you took for reflection and discussion on how you live out the Chapter Call.

Our Sympathy . . .

. . . to our sisters at Loretto Home on the death of our sister, Helen Louise Schmitz, who died on November 13th.

. . . to our sisters in the Dallas community on the death of our sister, Margaret Ann Moser, who died on November 16th.

2018 Provincial Chapter

In preparation for our 2019 General Chapter, we will hold our Central Province Chapter November 9-13, 2018 at Pallottine Renewal Center in Florissant, MO. The team asked the following Sisters to serve as the Planning Committee: Elisa Ryan, Peggy Moore and Mary Ellen Neeves. Our facilitator will be Sr. Ellen Doyle, OSU (Brown County), who is no stranger to many of us in the province. The committee has already met once with Ellen, and will communicate with the province as their plans develop.



Provincial Team Dates

Rita Ann

January 9.....St. Louis, MO
Ursuline Trust Fund meeting
January 23.....Eureka, MO
Francis Place Board meeting

Jean

January 7.....St. Louis, MO
Fairdale community visitation

Maria Teresa

January 9.....St. Louis, MO
Ursuline Trust Fund meeting
January 13-17New Orleans, LA
Celebration of 60th Anniversary
of Profession of Srs. Barbara
and Francis Marie

All

January 8.....RULUSA Zoom meeting
January 11.....LCWR Region X Breakfast
January 19-21Ruma, IL
Team Days
January 24-26Team Meeting

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 24-25.....Meeting of healthcare
delegates
April 25-26.....Prioresses' Meeting
November 9-13Provincial Chapter

The Province Offices will be closed

December 23rd - January 2nd.

Merry Christmas!