

Provincial Team Report

Ursulines of Central Province

Vol. 48, No. 11

December 2018

Team Meeting — December 17-18

Waiting, hoping, longing are Advent themes we hear proclaimed these days. These same themes wove through our December agenda.

Rita Ann shared about her recent visit to Waterville and Lewiston. She joined the sisters in Lewiston at Christmas parties held for the residents and volunteers. To date Martha Helen who suffered the stroke, is doing very well in rehabilitation.

We discussed some personnel issues and took time to look at possible meeting dates and agenda items for the prioress' meeting in the spring. Updates on the status of the different properties up for sale were shared. We discussed several financial matters and looked at terms of members serving on different commissions dealing with areas of finance. Our alms this month will go to Bethany House which provides housing for refugee women and children. We also held several corporation meetings.

We are grateful to all the communities for completing their annual report. The team

has read all of them and is now preparing the province annual report which will be sent to the General Council in January.

The team began work on an assisted living policy. The goal of this policy is to provide

clarity for sisters who will be transitioning into this level of care. More information on this will be coming in the future.

As we completed team meetings we went into party planning mode. We finalized

plans for the staff Christmas party to be held on Friday. We are so blessed with a wonderful staff who give of themselves and share their gifts with all of us throughout the province.

Our prayer for each of you as we come to Christmas and the beginning of a new year is that it will be a joyous and blessed time for all. May gratitude fill our hearts for all that has been given us in the past year and may we find ways to be the light of Christ, by bringing a much-needed peace to our hurting world.

As God showed love for all through the Christ Child, let us come to Christmas with love for all in our hearts, praying for the peace and hope that God intended for us.

*“May we mirror Love’s Light in the Darkness
And embody God’s Healing Presence in our world!”*



*Our thoughts and prayers for a blessed Christmas
and a grace filled New Year!*



*Congratulations to our
January jubilarians!*

50 years

Maria Teresa de Llano
and Peggy Moore

60 years

Regina Marie Fronmüller
Ann Mangelsdorf
Mary Ellen Neeves
and Ann Marie Owen

65 years

Mary Denis Lessard

70 years

Colette Jokerst
Rosemary Meiman
and Ann Smith



Social Justice Notes

Pope Francis in his [Message](#) for the Celebration of the 52nd World Day of Peace (January 1, 2019) tells us that “good politics is at the service of peace”. He also quotes the *Beatitudes of the Politician* proposed by Vietnamese Cardinal François-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận. It is up to us to call our officials to live up to standards such as these.

January is Poverty Awareness Month. There are over 40 million people in the US who live in poverty and 2.5 million children in the US experience homelessness each year. The website [povertyusa](#) has really helpful information about each state. It also suggests actions that each of us might be able to undertake. Catholic Relief Services offers ways in which we can help internationally.

If your city, county or state officials have or are acting to encourage the use of renewable energy sources, please let them know that you support their actions. Officials from a number of US states and cities attended the COP meeting in Poland to show continued US support for the goals of the Paris accord. A recent [report](#) describes how the rate of temperature increase is faster than forecasted.

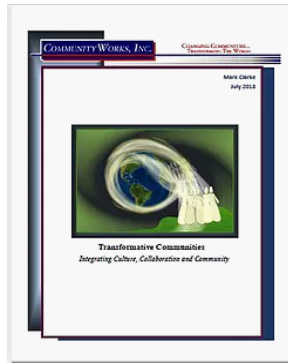




Suggested Reading

Community Works, Inc. has published an article by Mark Clarke entitled “Transformative Communities – Integrating Culture, Collaboration and Community”. (July 2018)

The article stresses the importance of having an integrated approach that is grounded in culture, collaboration, and being a transformative community. He talks about religious life and what it needs today so that it can “... go beyond diminishment by expanding our awareness of the potential of collaboration, the wealth of resources and insights within an individual congregation....”



You can download and print the article at www.cworksindy.com. Once on the website click on publications.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 15.....Response on “affirmation & staying connected” due to Rita Ann
- March 1Requests to attend the Montana Experience due to Adele
- July 25-28Ursuline Convocation in St. Louis
- October 31 — November 4.....Province Conference

Provincial Team Dates

Rita Ann

January 8.....Closing for Crystal City property sale

Jean

No dates

Maria Teresa

No dates

Next team meeting January 14-16

Thank You . . .

. . . to Madeline Kelly for sharing her beautiful icon of Our Lady of Tenderness, which we used for our province Christmas card.



Continuing to Share Our Story . . .

Rose Marie Moran shares more about her group of discerners.

The members of the Discernment Group are a well-established group at Grace Episcopal Church in Elkridge, Maryland. For the past two years we have been discussing the book Gateway to Self-knowledge by Zelig Pliskin, A Jewish Rabbi. The book presents more than 80 characteristics followed by a long list of questions to discuss. Examples of issues the author deals with are humility, impulsivity, embarrassment and anger.

The members of the group include several former Catholics, an agnostic and members of Grace Church. These women are honestly searching to understand and improve themselves. They frequently discuss the big questions and search for understanding and meaning. The Episcopal pastor joins the group frequently. Whether or not he wants it, he is provided advice from the vast wisdom of the women.

Our discussions leave us inspired, appreciative of one another and anxious to return to this source of enrichment.



Roman Union Chapters

Please remember in prayer our sisters who are meeting in Chapter in the coming weeks:

- STE ANGELE.....December 27-30, 2018
- MEXICODecember 27-30, 2018
- FRANCE/BELGIUM/SPAIN.....December 27, 2018 - January 3, 2019
- PERUDecember 28, 2018 - January 4, 2019
- CARIBBEAN.....January 1-4, 2019
- CROATIAJanuary 2-4, 2019

