Provincial Team Report

Ursulines of Central Province

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May 2017

Team Meeting — May 15-16

e were happy to have Maria Teresa join us for the team meeting since she soon begins her new role as a provincial councilor. As you probably remember, this is the month of budget preparations and approvals so it is not the most interesting meeting for her to sit in on!

We reviewed and approved all of the community budgets as well as the provincialate budget, the retirement fund budget and the province community assets budget. Retirement fund requests were approved along with funds needed by the communities from the community assets fund. Ellette and Renae joined us for this part of the meeting to give us needed explanations as we reviewed the budgets.

This is also the month we award the Angela Merici Grants! You can read about these grants elsewhere in the PTR. We are grateful to our sisters who requested these awards and we pray for all of the people who will benefit from their ministry. We are grateful to all of our sisters in the province for their generosity in providing for this fund for the poor and marginalized.

Alms were given to the Earthworks organization which works for clean air, water and land; the Covering House in St. Louis which is a place of refuge for girls who have been sexually exploited; Raices which provides low cost legal services to immigrant families; and the Inter-congregational Ecological Council in St. Louis. We also gave alms to Catholic Relief Services and to Catholic Charities of St. Louis for flood relief.

We made several appointments which are included elsewhere in this PTR. We also began the process of closing the Laredo community. We are very grateful to all of our sisters who served in Laredo through the years. Even though the community is closed Karen will remain there and continue her ministry at the senior center into December. Our discussions about future prioresses for Dallas, the Missouri Cluster and San Antonio continued and will come up again at the next team meeting as we attempt to fill these roles. The team is working on the Structures study mandated by the General Council. We are so grateful to the communities and individual sisters who sent in their responses to the structures questionnaire. These questionnaires will be shared with you soon as well as the questionnaire the team was asked to answer.

Several corporation meetings were held and appointments were made for the boards of trustees of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Prompt Succor and Mount Merici Academy. The annual corporation meeting for the Ursuline Academy of St. Teresa of Decatur was held; hopefully this is the last annual meeting for this corporation as we plan to merge this corporation into the Provincialate Foundation Corporation. Several issues regarding the Ursuline Education Foundation Corporation were discussed and our province lawyer, Bernie Huger, joined us for a discussion of some of these issues.

We continue to negotiate with the prospective buyers of our Crystal City and Frontenac properties. We have a very interested and committed buyer for the Frontenac property but he cannot see his way to purchase the property until next Spring. We are agreeable to this arrangement with certain conditions that we are discussing with him at this time. Our Crystal City property is still being considered by several groups and we have one contract offer. Unfortunately this offer does not meet our expectations. We will continue negotiations with the other interested buyers and see what other possibilities may emerge.

This was the last team meeting for Ann, Julie and Mary Ann. We wish to express our gratitude to all the sisters in the province for allowing us to walk with you these past years. It has been a gift to us and we have been very blessed by your love and support!



Social Justice Notes

Summer approaches and for many children that means greater food insecurity. Free or low cost meals (both breakfast and lunch) which they have at school will not be available to them. Please check with your local Catholic Charities agencies. They should be able to tell you where and how you can be helpful.

The May issue of "Stop Trafficking" is available <u>here</u>. Some ways individuals can help are: learn the indicators of human trafficking; contact law enforcement if you believe a person is trafficked; be a conscientious consumer (how and where are foods and other goods produced); volunteer at an anti-trafficking agency; and contact legislators urging support of anti-trafficking programs.

It is important that our legislators, especially in Congress, hear from us. They need to hear that:

- we support compassionate comprehensive immigration reform,
- we oppose aggressive programs of deportation of undocumented persons,
- and we are opposed to a "Muslim ban".

It would be helpful if you could contact Secretary of State Rex Tillerson to let him know that you want the U.S. to remain committed and active in the Paris Accord to reduce carbon emissions. There is no direct way to contact the Secretary of State, but you can submit a comment on the Contact form of the State Department's website: <u>www.state.gov</u>.



Blessing of Gravesites

Rita Ann, Miriam Patricia Faricy, Theresa Sarich and Rosemary Meiman will be attending the Frontenac Villa Maria Alumnae luncheon on Saturday, May 20th held in Meisville, MN. Following the luncheon the blessing of the new gravesites for our sisters, clergy and laity at St. Mary's Cemetery in Lake City will take place. Bishop Quinn, from the Winona diocese, will preside at the blessing. We will share pictures and more information following the event.



Appointments

Virginia Cirone

(New Orleans) Co-Delegate with Carolyn Marie Brockland for Our Lady of Wisdom Health Care Center (effective August 1, 2017)

Maria Teresa de Llano

Missouri Cluster (Provincial Councilor)

Mercedes Videira

(Mére Marie) Pastoral Care at Angela Way, Waterville, Maine

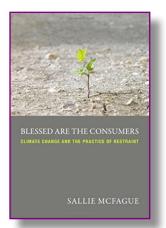


Local Community Officials

Maria Teresa de Llano Councilor, Missouri Cluster Community



Suggested Reading



S allie McFague in *Blessed Are the Consumers* (Fortress Press, 2013) calls especially for those in the developed world to practice restraint in our purchasing habits, certainly not something we are often called to in our consumer driven culture. She

clearly places the responsibility for the present environmental crisis on the shoulders of the consumerist world. She invites us to study the lives of three prophets for our time: an eighteenth-century Quaker, John Wollman; the French philosopher of the 20th Century, Simone Weil; and the founder of the Catholic Worker, Dorothy Day as models of voluntary poverty and of a willingness to undergo a radical self-emptying. McFague calls us to a radical conversion of heart and a radical conversion of habit. She has been persistent in her call for a theology that recognizes the interdependence of all of creation and our special responsibility in this area.

Blessing and Missioning

We will have a prayer service to thank and bless the current team members and to mission the new team on Friday, June 2 at 2:00p.m. at the provinces offices. If you are able to attend, please RSVP to Jean by May 31st. For those unable to attend, we will be sending the prayer service via email so you may pray with us.

DATES TO REMEMBER
May 20Blessing of new gravesites in Lake City, MN - 3:30 p.m.
May 29Memorial Day - Province Offices closed
October 6-9USAOSU Roman Union Gathering

Provincial Team Dates

<u>Rita Ann</u>

May 19-22	Frontenac, Villa Maria Alumnae Luncheon and Blessing of new gravesites
May 27	St. Louis, Missouri Cluster Meeting
June 2	St. Louis, Blessing/Transition of new and old provincial teams
June 3-4	Chicago, Family visit

Ann

May 25	Francis Place visit
May 31	Dallas

June 5-6.....New Team meeting





Angela Merici Grants

We are happy to announce the recipients of the Angela Merici Grants for 2017-2018:

- Bridges Foundation, St. Louis, MO, for fee assistance for low-income persons wishing to participate in a 30-day retreat program; requested by Thomas More Daly.
- Kumler Outreach Ministry, Springfield, IL, for medical assistance for the poor; requested by Theresa Davey.
- Marian Middle School, St. Louis, MO, for curriculum materials and staff training; requested by Madonna O'Hara and Ann Barrett.
- Hands On Summer Art Camp, New Orleans, LA, for art materials and field trips; requested by Regina Marie Fronmüller.
- Ursuline Sponsored House project, New Orleans, LA; requested by Regina Marie Fronmüller.
- Haven for Hope Art Resources, San Antonio, TX; requested by Elizabeth Susan Hatzenbuehler.
- Bethlehem Christmas Project for Children; requested by Mary K. Milne.
- St. Anthony Food Pantry, St. Louis, MO, assistance with personal care items for the poor; requested by Diane Fulgenzi.
- SS Peter and Paul Soup Kitchen, St. Louis, MO, assistance for the poor and persons who are homeless; requested by Theresa Sarich.
- Salary supplement for service to the poor at Haven for Hope, San Antonio, TX; requested by Elizabeth Susan Hatzenbuehler.
- Salary supplement for service to the poor, New Orleans, LA; requested by Regina Marie Fronmüller.





Thank you and blessings ...

... to Ann Barrett, Mary Ann Dooling and Julie Hickey for their generous service to our province these many years. We are grateful for the many ways each of you has shared your gifts with us.

We ask God's blessing on you as you now begin a new phase of your journey, loving and serving in the spirit of St. Angela. And so in blessing we pray that "the love that overflows from your heart to others be returned to you a hundredfold."

