For beauty in nature, Your glory we see
For joy and health, friends and family,
For daily provision, Your mercy and care
These are the blessings You graciously share.
So today we offer this response of praise
With a promise to follow You all of our days.

~Mary Fairchild
From the Development Office…

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; His love endures forever. (Ps. 118:1)

Dear Friend,

On behalf of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph, we wish you and your family the blessings of God this Thanksgiving Day.

In thinking about the meaning of Thanksgiving, I believe we have a fundamental reason to express our thanks to God. We are familiar with the story of creation as related in Scripture. We are told that after the creation of the universe ending with the creation of man and woman, “God saw that it was very good”. God sees that what He creates is very good. As God looks at each one of us, He sees that we are very good. That thought should give us great courage and confidence in the joys and sorrows that occur all the seasons of our lives. God sees that I am very good! This is truly a cause for Thanksgiving.

Paraphrasing St. Paul (1 Thess. 1:2) we give thanks to God, the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, for your friendship, kindness and your faithful support of our Sisters and ministries. Be assured that every time we pray, we pray for you.

Our wish for you this Thanksgiving is that the wealth of nature’s harvests speaks to you of God’s great love. May the gracious care of the Lord our God be ours today and always.

Alice Nugent, DMJ
Sally Nowinski

Our Mission:

We are an international community of vowed religious women. We are committed to deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ. This relationship manifests itself as an individual and corporate response to the needs of today’s world. Our mission is to be a compassionate, joyful presence enabling those to whom we minister to recognize their value and dignity. We are dedicated to sharing the merciful love of God with all who experience brokenness or poverty in any form.

Our Vision:

“Be there for the whole Church, be there as a pardoned sinner who has found peace and rejoices in the merciful love of God.”

Msgr. William Van Crombrugghe, Founder
Diamond Jubilarians Celebrate!

On October 21, 2012, a Mass was celebrated, for our Jubilarians, at the Mary and Joseph Retreat Center chapel in Palos Verdes. Three of our Sisters celebrated the 60th anniversary of their religious profession.

Sisters Clare Briody, Ellen Conefrey, and Catherine McShane have served God and God’s people for a combined total of 180 years. Family, friends, and the Daughters of Mary and Joseph celebrated this wonderful occasion with them. We thank these women religious for their commitment to God, which has allowed them through their ministries to serve God’s people with love, grace, guidance, knowledge, and prayer.

Sr. Ellen Mary Conefrey, Sr. Catherine McShane, and Sr. Clare Miriam Briody.

Needed—
Men and Women of Character

The world needs men and women . . .
who cannot be bought;
whose word is their bond;
who put character above wealth;
who possess opinions and a strong will;
who are larger than their vocations;
who do not hesitate to take risks;
who will not lose their individuality in a crowd;
who will be as honest in small affairs as in greater;
who will make no compromise with wrong;
whose ambitions are not confined to their own selfish desires;
who will not say they do it “because everybody else does it;”
who are true to their friends through good and bad, in adversity as well as in prosperity;
who do not believe that shrewdness, cunning, and hardheadedness are the best qualities for winning success;
who are not ashamed or afraid to stand for the truth when it is unpopular;
who can say “no” with emphasis, although all the rest of the world says “yes.”

(Source Unknown)
MISSION APPEALS 2012

Sisters Leonidas and Sarah, Daughters of Mary and Joseph from Uganda, had a very successful mission appeal season this year. They traveled from the Diocese of San Diego to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and up the coast to the Diocese of Monterey. Everywhere doors opened magically, and they were welcomed very warmly and enthusiastically. Leonidas and Sarah told of their needs very simply and sincerely. They found that the struggling economy had little effect on the desire of the American Catholic to give generously to those who have so little. The parishioners opened their hearts and their wallets and elicited a joyful dance and song from the Sisters.

~ Margaret O’Rourke, DMJ

Left: Sr. Sarah
Right: Sr. Leonidas

Left: Sr. Sarah
Right: Sr. Leonidas
Our fifth annual Bunco Party was held June 30th at the home of Dawn Carlo and her mother, Dora Fulton. Approximately 120 people came to share an evening of fun and games. We began the evening with a tasty dinner. Bunco games followed and, from time to time, we had a drawing for awesome door prizes.

We were fortunate to have Sisters Leonidas and Sarah, who were visiting their DMJ community in California, with us. Through the use of a DVD the Sisters showed us Coloma School in Uganda and how much it is helped by the Bunco Party participants.

Thanks to Dawn's Chino High classmates who give so much of their time, talent and treasure, Becky Estrada, Liz Gonzalez, Paula Muskey, Debbie Perez, Debbie Valadez, and Rosie Caro Buchan, who came with friends and gift baskets, all the way from New Mexico. Others who helped, Peggy Martin, Terry Vega, Pauline Zabala, Ed Estrada, Ed Gomez, Robert Fulton and so many more who helped make this day a success.

To the Sisters from Palos Verdes and from Banning, thank you for your support.

God bless all of you; hope to see you at the next Bunco.

Right: Dawn Carlo—Festivities Director

Sr. Sarah and Sr. Helen Vigil

Sr. Louis Marie Hanrahan and Sr. Nuala Briody
Greetings from the Associates’ Desk!

DMJA Retreat - June 22-24, 2012:

Our Retreat was held at the Mary and Joseph Retreat Center June 22-24. This year's Retreat captured and deepened the theme of 2011: "Toward a Spirituality of Wonder and Gratitude.....to recognize and celebrate the beauty of God's magnificence."

In 2012, Sr. Kathleen Burns, SND, enabled us to "Re-awaken Our Relationship within the Whole Web of Creation" ...this year's theme. Sr. Kathleen took us on a Scriptural journey to create our own "Nomadic Heart: The Virtue of Availability". She encouraged us to use the metaphor of a shepherd tending his flock... the shepherd being the leader, gently guiding them through the peaks and valleys of life. We were facilitated to reflect on Old Testament passages ranging from Genesis through Exodus and Samuel, and then to John's Gospel in the New Testament.

On our nomadic life's journey, God helps us through diverse situations, as we reach out to others with compassion and joy, offering a few kind words, a listening ear, or giving other help when needed. In other words, being there - available - for others.

On the Saturday, many of our DMJ Sisters were able to join us, so we were doubly blessed and enriched by their presence and input. We thank them all. During Saturday afternoon, Cheryl Thomas (a local artist and teacher) led us through a delightful multimedia art process to express our connections to the weekend's theme. Those of us not blessed with special artistic talents were able to enjoy this experience along with the more talented!

During 2012, we have focused on reaching out to our "praying partners" - those Associates who are unable to attend our bi-monthly meetings on a regular basis. So we communicate by telephone, e-mail, or regular mail, and share their news at our meetings. This enables us to forge links and create additional communion among us all...expanding God's "web of creation".

~ Pat Monson, DMJA

What are DMJ Associates? Associate members of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph are men and women who live the Gospel values with a focus on the unique spirituality of the community of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph.
Four years have passed since the original two-year report about your gift of a raised garden. Prayers for great harvests are still being answered, but life has its problems. There was neither a successful pumpkin nor a watermelon in the adjacent patch this summer. An invasion of peacocks destroyed pumpkin seedlings and watermelon vines. I can’t argue with the peacock beauty, but have to solve the problem for 2013.

The rhubarb thrives very well and is enjoyed by Sisters and friends off the “hill.” We have learned to freeze rhubarb pieces successfully, also. The large, green leaves (poisonous to eat) benefit the compost and are bountiful. Right now the beefsteak tomato plant has two ripening tomatoes plus dozens of yellow blossoms. Weather has been such a puzzle this year. Hope remains for the blossoms. We still eat cherry tomatoes right on the spot. The green pepper plant (the same plant) has earned its place in the garden for 2013. The fact that only two of the many plump peppers turned orange is all right.

A newer garden development, however, is that this year after collecting old clay pots, the flower seeds from the packages given to us year after year at funerals were planted. At least eight different kinds of blossoms have appeared. One large bouquet of miniature zinnias adorns the nearly vacant garden right now.

Of course, the garden has always been used as a place of prayer for Sisters and/or retreatants. The flowers remind me of a litany of our friends to remember who enjoy His eternal Garden of delights. I remember you too, the living and your families who made the garden possible for the benefit of many. May the new change of seasons bring the changes you need most in your lives. Thank you. Thank you.

~ Mary Jensch, DMJ
“Let us all be of good courage and show ourselves worthy of the confidence which the Lord honors us.”

(Constant William Van Crombrugghe, Founder of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph)

When I first visited London in the early 1970’s, I was intrigued by the presence of many billboards, which exhorted all of us to “take courage”. I wondered what great catastrophe had befallen the English people that impelled someone to try and boost their country’s morale with these comforting words. When I expressed my concern to some of our English Sisters about the prevalence of so many TAKE COURAGE signs, and questioned them about the seemingly serious situation engulfing the English populace, I was totally unprepared for their response!! After composing themselves following their peals of laughter, the Sisters explained to me that the TAKE COURAGE signs were ads for a certain brand of beer!!!

This exhortation to “take courage”, however, is quite appropriate for us, especially in the midst of the turmoil, confusion and uncertainty in today’s world. But how do we take courage? Where do we see the signs of courage in our daily lives? How can we encourage one another to “take courage”? The signs of courage are found everywhere, not in a brand of beer, but in the people who touch our lives, in our family and friends, in the stranger who reaches out to us, in the beauty of nature, in the abundance of our giftedness, which we celebrate on Thanksgiving Day.

In this newsletter we remember and celebrate our three Diamond Jubilarians, who took courage so many years ago to be signs of courage and compassion to all whom they have served. We see signs of courage, not only in the works of our Sisters in Africa, but in YOU, our friends, who, through your loving hearts and generosity, have made it possible for them to continue their ministries in education.

Our Founder has stated well how we can encourage one another to take courage:

“Have courage and confidence; God is good and all powerful. Have good courage; pray and keep calm remembering that God is watching over us.”

Let us go forward with courage, let us take courage, and let us be the signs of courage.

~ Linda Webb, DMJ
In Honor of... (those honored are in BOLD)

All the DMJ Sisters
  Rev. Jerry McCormick
Sara & Bo Bowlus
  Daughters of Mary & Joseph
Lucille Brennan & family
  Sr. Julia Costello
Columban Community
  Daughters of Mary & Joseph
Sr. Mary Enda Creegan
  Ms. Alannah Kinser
Daughters of Mary & Joseph
  Mr. & Mrs. Fred Angulo
JoAnn Finnegan
  Mary & Joseph Retreat Center
Jennifer
  Marie Rientord

Michel Martinez
  Ms. Marie Martinez
John McCarthy
  Mary & Joseph R. C. Staff
Barney Ogburi
  Marie Rientord
Ottman Family
  Thomas A. Ottman
Michael Ann Rockenstein
  Paul E. Rockenstein
Sr. Maria Sorahan
  Mr. & Mrs. Terence Cummings
  Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Nestico
Rev. Deebar Yonas, SVD
  DMJ’s - Banning

Remember Your Loved Ones In a Special Way

*Enroll your loved ones, living or deceased, in the Daughters of Mary and Joseph Prayer League.*

*Beautifully decorated Enrollment Cards are mailed according to your request.*
*All prayer requests are placed in the chapel at Marian Residence where the Sisters pray for your intentions each day.*

To request enrollment forms please contact:

Sr. Kitty Moloney
(310) 377-9968

Requests may also be made in writing to:

Development Office
5300 Crest Road
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
In Memory of…

(those remembered are in BOLD)

Sr. Mary Acquinas
Mrs. Marilyn Pettric Hart

Sr. Mary Agnes
Mr. Mel Dangcil

Gloria Alvarez
Mr. Alexander T. Alvarez

Anna Balega
Kathleen Townsend

Bartho, Gutierrez, & Wilson Families
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Wilson

John Patrick Brennan
Retreat Center Staff

Sr. Mary Carmel
Mrs. Marilyn Pettric Hart

Jayme Robert Chua
Ms. Nely Go

Sr. Elizabeth Cronin
Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Sheridan

Maureen Cronin
Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Sheridan

Bill Enright
Mrs. Marilyn Pettric Hart

Dan Fitzgerald
Mrs. Darleen Fitzgerald

Angelina Fusana
Mary & Joseph League
Mary & Joseph Retreat Center

Sr. Mary Gemma
Rev. Charles Hofschulte, CJ

Ray Gietzen
Len & Corrine Speltz

David Paul Hart
Mrs. Marilyn Pettric Hart

Maria Humara
Debbie Gaume
Norman & Barbara Smith

Cecilia Marie Kenney
Mr. & Mrs. D. Keith Crosser
Jim & Patti Hommes
Kidwell Family
Ms. Mary McDermott
John & Rosalie O’Brien
Kevin & Leslie O’Brien
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Smetzer
Mr. & Mrs. Robert O. Weis

Sr. Mary Kevin
Mrs. Marilyn Pettric Hart

Bob & Ida King
Mr. & Mrs. Bob King

Sr. Donna King, DMJ
Mr. & Mrs. Bob King

Patricia J. Kinsella
Mr. Terrence P. Kinsella

James H. Kinser
Ms. Alannah Kinser

Virginia Porco Lambert
Mrs. Jenny Saraceno

Maurie Martin
Retreat Center Staff

Yvonne O’Connell
Vincent Pennisi Family

Michael & Peggy O’Neill
Kathleen O’Neill

Ann & Jim O’Regan
Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Sheridan

Sr. Maria Immaculata Ottman
Mrs. RuthAnn Carlson
Mr. & Mrs. John Clarke
Larry & Sharron Coia
B. Mary Cronin-Courtney
Maryanne Degoede
Mary Ann Fumia
Jean Porter

Angelo Perone
Mrs. Mary S. Perone

Sr. Mary Anne Peterson
Rev. Charles Hofschulte, CJ

Nick Pinnisi
Daughters of Mary and Joseph

Dan Pocapalia
Mrs. Margaret Spalenka

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Porco
Mrs. Jenny Saraceno

Mary Agnes Doyle Redfern
Don Redfern

Elizabeth Robertson
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Van Buren

Les Paul Robley
Ms. Frances Husack

Rowe & Whalan Families
Mr. & Mrs. Harold A. Rowe

Henry Van Ruiten
John Van Ruiten

Christopher Russell
Daughters of Mary and Joseph
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Russell

John & Lena Sheridan
Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Sheridan

George Spalenka, Sr.
Mrs. Margaret Spalenka

Bette & Art Weissman
Mrs. Darleen Fitzgerald

Jack & Florence Wildermuth
John Wildermuth

Robert Wood
Ms. Theresa Wood

Tom Yukas
Mrs. Eileen Yukas

Henry (Murph) Zbojniewicz
Annette Lenneman
PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY CHANGES FOR OUR MAILING LIST:

_____ Change my address.
_____ Change my name.
_____ Correct spelling of my name.

(Send label and indicate correction to be made. Thank you.)

Winter is an etching,
Spring a watercolor, Summer
an oil painting and Autumn a
mosaic of them all.

~Stanley Horowitz

Visit the Daughters of Mary and
Joseph at our International Website!

www.daughtersofmaryandjoseph.org

(Credit card donations can be made by selecting
the California menu - then click on “Development”
on the drop down list.)