



# DMJlink

Daughters of Mary and Joseph ▪ California Region ▪ Fall 2012



*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

Editor

Sr. Alice Nugent  
Sally Nowinski

Photos

Sr. Alice Nugent

Proofreader

Sr. Mary Jensch

DMJlink Logo

Jonathan Nowinski

**DMJ link** is a publication of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph. It has a twofold purpose:

- to inform its members of the involvement of our Sisters in mission and ministry;
- to acknowledge the generosity of our donors.

All material submitted for the Interchange is subject to revision and/or editing.



**Editorial Policy:**

The mailing list for the DMJ Link is **not** made available to any outside business firm or organization.

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 Crombrughe, 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 every  
body 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



Sr. Sarah and Sr. Leonidas

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

## *Bunco Bash a Resounding Success*

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.

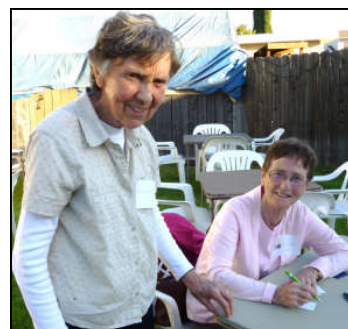
God bless all of you; hope to see you at the next Bunco.



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 week-end'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.



## Our Garden of Eat'n

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



# TAKE COURAGE

***“Let us all be of good courage and show ourselves worthy of the confidence which the Lord honors us.”***

(Constant William Van Crombrugge,  
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 Aquinas**  
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 Degoe  
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) Zbojnowicz**  
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](http://www.daughtersofmaryandjoseph.org)***

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

