Crossroads
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Dear Friends,

Glory be to God whose love transforms and makes all things new!

You will notice that this edition of Crossroads has a brand new look. It is my pleasure to introduce it to you. The new design has incorporated the stained glass windows in the Sacred Heart of Jesus Chapel of our Motherhouse in Lemont, Ill. They depict St. Francis’ Song of Creation, praising God for all of creation. Much of what we have to praise God for is found in this edition. I hope that you enjoy the new format and see it as a sign of new life and hope as together we move forward into the future.

The Book of Proverbs in the Old Testament of the Bible states that “Without a vision, the people will perish...” Our 19th General Chapter confirmed our desire as a congregation to move forward into the future allowing God to transform and renew us. Our new Vision Statement, which is shared with you in this edition, was born out of that desire for resurgence. We as Franciscan Sisters of Chicago will continue to strive to live into the attainment of that vision.

Last year was a year of blessings. Our jubilarians from 2009 are featured here, and the celebration of the lives of faithful service of our jubilarians for 2010 will be in our next issue of Crossroads. Hopefully, you will enjoy the story of Sister M. Praesentia, featured in our “90 and Better” section. Musings from Betsy Crannell, our Director of Spiritual Life and Mission Integration, and Carol Lackie, our Vocation Coordinator, speak of very active and fruitful endeavors in both of those areas.

An update on the Cause for the Beatification of Mother Mary Theresa will hopefully challenge you, as it has the Sisters, to pray more fervently and work more diligently to share information about Mother M. Theresa and encourage everyone to pray to her for her intercession before God for their needs.

We were given the opportunity to rejoice and celebrate the lives of our Sisters who have died within the past year and we include their eulogies so that you may join us in gratitude to God for the gift of their lives to the Church.

We are so fortunate to have dedicated donors like yourselves as well as our committed and compassionate staff and our loyal religious associates to support our charism in prayer and action. May our gracious God continue to bless your lives with abundant grace.

Know that you are in the prayers of the Sisters every day.

In Jesus and Mary,

Sister Diane Marie Collins, OSF
General Minister
Every five years, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago hold a Chapter meeting to review the past and provide direction for the future. From that meeting they developed a new vision statement to guide them and inspire them as they move forward.

The goals of the vision statement are:

- Something that could be accomplished
- An expression of hope
- Demonstrate an act of faith and courage
- Simple, from the heart and poetic while offering meaning and directing their energies
- Shared by everyone in the community.

“God as the fabric of our existence” served as the theme of the vision statement.

The symbol uses the outline of the San Damiano Cross. It was from this cross that Jesus spoke to St. Francis telling him to “repair my church.” In the center of the cross you see woven threads. These threads represent each of us as Jesus to others. The individual spools demonstrate unique differences and the attitudes we need to form a strong and beautiful fabric.

The Thread Colors

Green represents Hope
Red represents Passion
Gold represents Sparkle
Blue represents Courage

WITH GOD AS THE VERY FIBER OF OUR EXISTENCE
WE PATTERN OUR LIVES ON JESUS
DESIGNING AND RE-CREATING OUR FUTURE
WITH THREADS OF LOVE, RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING.

AS WE INTERWEAVE OUR UNIQUE GIFTS, TALENTS AND PERSONALITIES
WE ARE DESIGNING MOTIFS OF PROMISE AND OPPORTUNITY.
BOUND TOGETHER WITH DEDICATION, COURAGE AND RESOLVE
WE CREATE A STRONG, BEAUTIFULLY TEXTURED FABRIC
FORMED ON THE LOOM OF OUR FRANCISCAN RULE
ADORNED WITH OUR CHARISM
SPARKLING WITH SELFLESS LOVE
FASHIONED FOR SERVICE.
If the old adage is true that fundraising is about “friend raising,” then we have been quite engaged in fundraising because this past year has been filled with making new friends and creating several new events. Development has been very busy as we navigate our way through uncharted waters. Since our last publication we have had our first mystery dinner. The evening was filled with good food and great entertainment. Our mystery dinner, “Who Kidnapped the Cardinal” which was held April 17 at the Jacob Henry Mansion Estate in Joliet, Ill. was a delightful evening for all who attended.

Two weeks after the mystery dinner the Sisters had their inaugural golf outing, entitled “Swinging for the Sisters” at Ruffled Feathers on May 3. The golfers drove their carts onto the course as the Sisters gave them their blessing and high fives.

They had a glorious day even though no one hit a hole in one. The weather was beautiful, sunny and 83 degrees. This in itself would not be impressive but for the fact that the forecast called for thunderstorms the entire day. The Sisters heard the weather reports and asked God to hold off the rain. God heard their prayers and provided them with clear skies and sunshine.

On June 26 the Sisters had their first pig roast on the old convent grounds. Once again God smiled on the Sisters and the weather cooperated. The temperature was 93 degrees but the heat did not detract from the gathering. Everyone present seemed to enjoy themselves and the opportunity to mingle with the Sisters. The roasted pig was delicious and the D.J. got the crowd to get up and dance with his music and antics.

Preparations are well under way for the 17th Annual Ball, which will be held on Saturday November 6, at the Oak Brook Marriott. This year’s theme is “Shall We Dance” from The King and I. In addition to the fundraising and friend raising events of the Sisters, the senior living communities sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago host several Marketing and Fundraising events to support the ministry of the Sisters. Your commitment and financial support of the various events allows the Sisters to continue the work that was started by their Foundress, Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik over 115 years ago.

We hope you enjoy the latest Crossroads and our new series on the life of Mother Mary Theresa and the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. We thank you for partnering with us to make a difference in the world and in our ministries.

Mary Bannon, Development Services
2009 Jubilarians

75 Years
Sister M. Praesentia Grzybowski
Sister M. Petronia Budzinski
Sister M. Andrea Puchalski
Sister Leona Watroba
Sister M. Deofilia Piaskowy

70 Years
Sister M. Dorothea Micek
Sister M. Celeste Walkowski
Sister M. Jeanette Golojuch
Sister Frances Szczur
Sister M. Agatha Walerski

60 Years
Sister M. Rosemary Ferus

Most holy, our Creator and Redeemer, our Savior and our Comforter…
May we love you with our whole heart by always thinking of you;
With our whole mind by directing our whole intention towards you and seeking your glory in everything;
and with all our strength by spending all our energies and affections of soul and body in the service of your love alone.

From the writings of St. Francis of Assisi

Legends, lore and historical accounts of St. Francis of Assisi

The Wolf of Gubbio

Many of the stories about St. Francis are about his love for animals and nature. Francis loved the outdoors because he felt that in nature there is good and evil, refuge and danger and violence and peace. One of the most famous is the story of The Wolf of Gubbio.

As soon as Francis heard of a ferocious wolf terrorizing the city of Gubbio, he knew he had to go there to try to reason with the wolf. As vicious as the wolf was, Francis felt sympathy for the wolf and felt that the wolf was the one being stalked.

When Francis entered the city of Gubbio, the townspeople were in an uproar and they were all talking at once telling him about the wolf and all the terrible things he had done. Francis was glad the wolf couldn’t understand human language because Francis remembered how alone and depressed he felt when the townspeople mocked him for giving up his worldly possessions and changing his way of life.

Francis started to preach to the people about Jesus commanding us to “love all creatures.” He hoped to prove to the people and the wolf that love had nothing to do with fear. He asked if anyone knew where the wolf’s lair was and the men of the crowd laughed and jeered at him. One peasant woman in the crowd spoke up that she would take Francis to the wolf’s den. This angered the men for they felt embarrassed and cowardly in front of their wives and daughters who already were starting to follow Francis and the little round woman to the cave.

As they started their journey, Francis and the woman led the crowd through the street to the wolf’s cave. Francis began to sing as he always did when he was nervous and the crowd joined in. When they approached the cave, the woman clung to Francis’ sleeve. Francis thought the woman was very brave and knew she would have fought off the whole crowd to protect him. He told her to wait there with the crowd who was silent and frozen with fear. Francis moved toward the wolf who came out of his cave frothing at the mouth and growling dangerously.

Francis stopped a few yards from the wolf as calmly as he could and looked at him. He stood still now that he was face to face with the wolf and held out his hand to the wolf and quietly said “Brother Wolf in the name of Jesus I have come for you. These people need you to be the protector of Gubbio and in return we offer you respect and shelter for as long as you live.” The wolf looked at the crowd and back at Francis and slowly offered his paw to Francis’ hand. They stayed that way for a long time and what Francis and the wolf talked about was never told. Francis put his arm around his new brother’s neck and they walked over to the brave peasant woman and the three of them led the crowd back to Gubbio.
Sister Praesentia Grzybowska was born at home on June 27, 1919 in Indiana Harbor, Ind. Her father, Marian Grzybowksi and her mother Josephine Barkowska were born in Poland. Given the name Lottie at birth, Sister Praesentia was the fifth child in her family. The family consisted of five girls and two boys. Sister loved all of her siblings and said she did not have a favorite among them. While her father worked at Inland Steel to support the family, her mother stayed at home to raise the children and keep things running smoothly on the home front.

Sister Praesentia enjoyed her childhood and said her family celebrated all the holidays with Mass and afterward the family gathered for special dinners and commemorated their Polish traditions. The family embraced their Polish heritage. With a smile on her face Sister Praesentia said that Santa Claus always came to their house.

The Grzybowski family belonged to St. John Cantius in East Chicago, Ind. Sister had many friends growing up and happily recalled that her best friend was Florence. The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago taught Sister when she was a child. She fondly remembers some of her teachers including Sister Kinga Repinski, Sister Melania Stoinski, and Sister Sabina Bujak. Her favorite subjects were Math and English. She smiled and said that was because she was good in both subjects.

Sister Praesentia entered the convent on August 15, 1934 and made her final profession of vows on August 12, 1943. Sister said she gave her life to God so that her father would stop drinking and he did. Her kind nature and willingness to serve others may have also played a role in her decision to become a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. Always willing to serve others and very prayerful, Sister Praesentia has impacted the lives of hundreds of men, women, and most especially children throughout her vocation as a Sister.

The residents of St. Joseph Home in Chicago were the first to experience Sister’s gentle and loving nature. Sister was a CNA from 1938 to 1940 and from 1978 to 1982. She was reassigned to St. Joseph Home one last time in 1986 as a resident representative and a sacristan and remained there until 2005. Sister Gabriel Lazarski was her local minister during some of that time and warmly reminisced about Sister Praesentia. St. Joseph is one of her favorite saints to pray
to and St. Praesentia always enjoyed honoring St. Joseph on his feast day by decorating. One of Sister Praesentia’s favorite assignments was Boys Town in Nebraska. Her eyes sparkle as she fondly remembers the young men whose lives she touched and the years she spent there. Sister was assigned to work at Boys Town from 1940 until 1943 and joyfully performed domestic duties there. For many of the boys living there she was like a mother because of her nurturing personality. She loved those boys and chuckles as she remembers them.

“Oh those boys!”

In 1943 after she left Boys Town, Sister was assigned to work at St. Peter Claver in Mobile, Ala. doing domestic duty once again. Sister Praesentia cherished the time she spent at St. Peters and considered it one of her favorite assignments.

She was sent back to Boys Town in 1962 and remained there until 1978. During that time she worked as a sacristan for Father Flanagan and really felt that being a sacristan was very important work. She loved working with Sister Equitia Nawracaj, Sister Leona Watroba, Sister Therese Grajek, and Sister Grace Kujawa.

In 1982 Sister came to the Motherhouse in Lemont, Ill. and took care of the Sisters in the Infirmary until 1986. Even after she retired in 2005, she would walk the infirmary halls and check on the Sisters before they went to bed to see if they needed anything.

When Sister Praesentia retired to the Motherhouse in 2005, she didn’t sit idle. She would come over two or three times a week and help the staff at the Administration building with various tasks such as checking items in for the gift shop, stuffing and stamping envelopes and shredding papers. Her favorite task was shredding. Sister Praesentia used to love doing Crossword puzzles. These days she can be found walking around the Convent grounds or watching Mother Angelica on TV. Among her many talents is her ability to play the piano by ear. Her younger brother used to play the drums in a band. Music must run in the family. Sister was also a wonderful seamstress and sewed the Infant of Prague gowns.

Some things never change including Sister Praesentia’s taste buds. Her favorite food is still bread with butter and bacon and eggs for breakfast. Sister is also the first one in the chapel every morning sometimes even before 6 a.m.

Sister Praesentia had many assignments including St. Elizabeth Day Care in Chicago and Alvernia Rest Home in Parma, Ohio. However, Boys Town and St. Peter Claver still hold a special place in her heart.

Sister Praesentia is the type of person who radiates joy and something about her just glows. The twinkle in her eye and the smile on her face tell the story of a wonderful life spent happily ministering wherever she was sent.
As I write this article, I cannot imagine that a whole year has gone by. I guess the old adage “time flies when you’re having fun” really applies here. The Buddhists believe that when you love what you do, your work is no longer work. Indeed, my work is a ministry and more importantly - a gift to be able to create something new and life giving.

I hope that has happened here at Our Lady of Victory Convent (OLV). My position calls for me to develop and implement programs to facilitate services for the spiritual, emotional and social needs of the Sisters and to create services and programs to integrate the mission and vision of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago with our associates into every facet of our ministries at OLV.

Living out the values: Respect, Dedication, Joy, Service and Stewardship and being witness to them is our mission.

The initiatives which have been put into place this past year include group discussions for the Sisters, which I facilitate around topics related to Spirituality and Aging. The Sisters have also had opportunities to participate in a Life-Writing Workshop, High Teas, Ice Cream Socials, and talks on Spirituality and Aging.
During each season, I prepare a Prayer Service for the entire OLV community, Sisters and associates, which affords us an opportunity to bond around prayer, create community and offer with and for one another, private and communal prayer. In addition, this past spring we had a Healing Prayer Service, which was particularly meaningful to many of us at the motherhouse.

Several new programs have proven to be successful, Dining with the Sisters, Birthday/Feast Day Lunches, and “Make a Difference Cards,” which recognizes the associates exhibiting our five core values.

Our mission team which I chair meet regularly to address needs, develop experiences and share insights and ideas in order to build relationships and community. The people on this team are very visible, valuable assets to the community and are “hands-on” and always ready to help.

For the associates, I present regular education sessions on the five values, as well as having presented to them the new Vision Statement of the congregation. We have begun a Person-Centered Care initiative at the motherhouse. This is a model of care, which fosters relationships, promotes the overall well being of the Sisters by honoring their preferences and meeting their needs through dignity, courtesy and respect.

I have also been involved with planning the annual Missioning Ceremony, assisting in liturgy planning and even working with the Vocation Team. What remains dearest to my heart is visiting with the Sisters one-on-one. Only then do we get to know just what a gift they are, and how blessed I am to be able to tell you this today!

Betsy Crannell
Director of Spiritual Life & Mission Integration
In 1881, Josephine Dudzik, her parents, her brother Joseph, and youngest sister, Katherine, left their homeland of Poland for a better life in America. “When the Dudzik family made the painful decision to leave Poland, they like thousands of Poles before them, were impelled to emigrate for a number of reasons. Among them were Poland’s religious persecution, its political oppression, and the grave economic hardships caused by Partitions.” The Dudzik’s moved to America and settled in St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish in Chicago. When the family arrived in Chicago, Josephine helped support her family as a seamstress working out of her home.

“As from her early childhood, Josephine was characterized by piety and love. As many times as there were opportunities to come to the aid of a neighbor, she willingly did so. She always shared what she had with others. Josephine could not bear to see people in need without coming to their aid — she would share her supper with a poor girl; she took food to a sick neighbor; she aided another by sitting with her children so that the neighbor could attend Mass; with money she saved, she bought medicine for others; she aided those in sorrow; there was not a week when she did not
perform some good deed. In all honesty, these were small offerings, but God does not look at the size of a good deed but at the heart. The small, oftentimes unseen deeds one performs are more meritorious than large ones in which one’s glory is often sought. Josephine succeeded in hiding her good deeds so that very few people were able to uncover in this lively girl such a delicate and sensitive nature and such a good heart."

"Josephine Dudzik was 30 years old when, in January of 1890, Chicago was engulfed by an epidemic of influenza which was encircling the world. The dread disease had crossed the Atlantic and invaded the eastern seaboard cities. At first only isolated cases were reported in all sections of Chicago, but in a few days, a full-blown epidemic developed. Unfortunately, the Dudziks had earlier been made aware of the presence of the deadly disease, for on May 12, 1889, John Dudzik had died at the age of 67."

After the death of her father, Josephine, her mother and brother left the flat on Crittenden Street and moved to a small house on Chapin Street which was owned by Rosalie and Adam Frank, Josephine’s sister and brother-in-law. On January 22, 1891 Joseph Dudzik married Josephine Kopciak.  

“So it happened that less than 10 years after the joyous arrival and reunion of the Dudziks in America, Josephine and her mother were now alone in their house on Chapin Street.”

“Alone now with her mother in their home on Chapin Street, Josephine Dudzik’s continued growth in piety was accompanied by a growth in her spirit of self-denial which caused her to turn with greater attention to the needs of the aged, destitute, and crippled.” Her love for God grew to such an extent that she now began to shelter homeless and needy women in her small, inadequate home much to the displeasure and discomfort of her mother.” Josephine promised her mother that she would limit her works of charity but when another aged, homeless, ill, or widowed woman sought shelter, Josephine forgot her promises to her mother in the hope of bringing solace and practical aid to someone who needed help.”

“Josephine would eventually make a decision which would change the course of her life and the lives of hundreds of women, who, through the years, would be inspired by her vision, courage, and love for humanity.”

“Trusting in Divine Providence, Josephine prayed and waited for enlightenment. It was not long in coming.” Josephine was inspired by God to rent or purchase a home in the vicinity of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church and assemble (tertiaries) a group of women who would live a common life of prayer, labor, and service.”

“Since the women were Franciscan teriaries, they planned to adopt the Rule of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis.” This small group of women would become the Third Order of St. Francis under the patronage of Blessed Kunegunda, who was a model of Christian charity and patroness of Poland. Josephine Dudzik would become Sister Mary Theresa Dudzik who is now known as Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik.

Today, 115 years later this religious congregation is known as The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. Their ministries include 12 senior living communities in four states, a shelter for victims of domestic abuse in Indiana, the Madonna Foundation which provides scholarships for Catholic high school tuition and affordable senior housing in Illinois and Kentucky.

All of this came about because of one woman’s desire to help those in need and continues today because of the vision and determination of the leadership of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago.

Please check out our website: www.chicagofranciscans.org for more of the story about the life of our Foundress and the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago.

A special thank you to Sister Anne Marie Knawa, OSF, the Historian for the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago and the main source for this story. Many of the excerpts are taken from her book, As God Shall Ordain.
Celebrating 115 Years of Compassionate Services to Those in Need

115 years and still going strong that is the phrase that best describes the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago as they continue the ministry of their Foundress, Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik. A lot has changed in over a century of ministry. When young Josephine Dudzik came to the United States from Poland in 1881 at the age of 21, she worked as a seamstress to help support her family.

Josephine was characterized by piety and love from a very early age. She was constantly occupied with the thought of how she could be of service to the poor and needy. It is little wonder that she would later form a religious congregation that would do just that and continue to this day. Josephine became Sister Mary Theresa Dudzik and eventually Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik. She committed her life to God, the needy, the abandoned, and to easing the suffering of those who were less fortunate than she.

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago continue ministering to the marginalized, whether it is to the women and children at St. Jude House, to young women through the Madonna Foundation or to the residents at our senior living communities.

Update on the Beatification Cause Of Venerable Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik

The cause for the beatification of our Foundress, Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik, remains encouraging even though the alleged miracle was rejected. Recently we received news from Rome that the miracle of Jerry Lisecki would not be accepted because of a lack of sufficient documentation. We must have a documented miracle from qualified medical personnel in order for Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik to become beatified.

When we received this news, we were disappointed that the alleged miracle was not accepted but still faithful to the cause. The leadership team of the Sisters after much research, prayer, and discernment has decided to continue the Cause for Beatification.

The Cause has not ended just because the alleged miracle was not accepted. The Cause continues! This setback has made us move forward with greater passion to prove what we know in our hearts to be true that Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik lived a life that glorified God in every kindness that she showed to others.

Therefore we all need to keep praying for a miracle and to become more active in telling Mother Theresa’s story so that it will inspire others to live as she lived. Her vision of helping those less fortunate is alive and well and continues to live on through the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, their senior living communities, St. Jude House, the Madonna Foundation, and affordable housing for seniors. As we look to the future, we place our trust in God’s infinite wisdom and goodness.
Since we last reached out to all of you with news of our very active ministry, Sr. Lois Marie and I have been busy spreading the good news of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago and their lives of faith-filled community, spirituality and ministry to students, young adults, women and our many associates that work in our senior living communities throughout the Midwest.

In March, we held our “Come and See” event at Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont. We had four women in attendance and it was a weekend of fellowship, prayer, fun and discernment. Many of our Sisters joined in to help make it the wonderful weekend that it was – from sharing their knowledge of St. Francis to being prayer partners to just extending the warm, loving hospitality that the community is so renowned for to our visitors – the success of the event was truly a group effort! We are already busy planning future “Come and See” events at some of our senior living communities.

With new women from varied backgrounds considering their vocation to join the community, it seemed appropriate to explore just what it means to be “diverse” in today’s world. To that end, we invited Sr. Charlene and Fr. Luis Vera to share some thoughts with the community in a Multicultural Event entitled New Membership – Crossing Boundaries: A Prophetic Call, on April 10. We had a great turn out and everyone left with “food for thought” about the invitation for the community to imagine a future for itself that is perhaps more culturally integrated and enriched by diversity than in the past.

This winter, Sr. Lois and I began working at the St. Stanislaus soup kitchen every Thursday – it has been a wonderful experience. It has taken us back to the community’s roots, presented us with an opportunity to do direct outreach to the poor and homeless and also provides us with a venue for engaging in ministry with inquirers.

We have several women that are in the process of discerning whether they are being called to religious life with the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. We ask you to keep them and us in your prayers because we all need to be involved in the ministry of promoting religious vocations!

Carol Lackie,
Vocation Coordinator
SISTER MARY DONALD URBAN  
Born: February 14, 1914  
Died: April 14, 2009

John and Agatha Urban as well as their two oldest daughters, Marie and Catherine, were born in Poland. John Urban desiring a better life for his family left his wife and daughters in Poland and came to the United States seeking employment. He was a skilled mechanic and was employed by the railroad. Once he was settled in Chicago, he sent for his wife Agatha and their two daughters. A third child was born into the Urban family on February 14, 1914. She was baptized into Christ on February 22, 1914 at Five Holy Martyrs Church in Chicago and given the name, Julia. She was confirmed on May 7, 1928 at St. Pancratius Church in Chicago. Eventually four more brothers and one baby sister were born into the Urban family.
Julia, was eager to learn and her mother taught her how to cook, bake and sew. Her parents also taught her the Polish language and she was happy to have the ability to speak two languages. Initially, Julia attended the local public school and eventually transferred to St. Pancratius Catholic School where the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago taught. Julia often observed the Sisters walking past her house as they went from the convent to St. Pancratius Church. By the age of 16 she felt the call of God in her heart and she asked her parents for permission to enter the convent. While her mother was happy with her daughter’s decision, it took much more pleading before her father finally consented to Julia’s request. She entered the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago on July 27, 1930. Julia became a novice on August 15, 1931 and received the name, Sister Mary Donald. She made perpetual profession on August 16, 1936. Sister Donald’s life of ministry in the congregation was influenced by her desire to do God’s will no matter what that meant or where that would lead her. If something needed to be done, she would do it. No task was too large or too small. She began her life of service in September 1932 by teaching third grade at St. John Cantius School in East Chicago, Ind. Her talents and strength were needed at Our Lady of Victory Convent where she returned to help on the farm from 1933 to 1935. Sister Donald performed all types of domestic duties from 1935 through 1946 at St. Hedwig Convent in Gary, Ind., St. Florian and St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr and the motherhouse in Chicago. In the summer of 1939 Sister Donald, with some of the other Sisters, actually helped to renovate and restore the old farmhouse in Crown Point, Ind. that would become St. Anthony Rest Home. Sister Donald ministered as a dental assistant in Boys Town, Neb. from 1946 through February 1948. Her love for nature was nurtured when she returned to the motherhouse in Lemont to take charge of the garden. Sister Donald cared for the infants at Guardian Angel Day Care Center in Chicago from 1949 to 1950. From 1950 until 1964, except for one year of domestic tasks at Assumption Convent in New Chicago Ind., she taught kindergarten at St. Elizabeth Day Care, St. Florian and St. Pancratius Schools in Chicago and St. Mary School in Hammond, Ind. Sister Donald returned to the new motherhouse in Lemont, Ill. in 1964. She worked hard with the rest of the Sisters to prepare the new convent. Sister Donald was also the guardian angel who would go to pick up various donations of food from many different places. She became the official driver for many of the Sisters including Mother Mary Beatrice, the superior general. She also had the unique task of helping the undertaker prepare many of the deceased Sisters for burial. Sister Donald took care of the living quarters for the retreat directors annually, when they came to preach the retreats. During the later 1960’s after a General Chapter at which changes were made that involved the redesigning of the veils and habits of the Sisters, Sister Donald’s skills as a seamstress were once again put to good use. Her duties also included moving some of the Sisters to their new places of ministry and when convents were closed, it was Sister Donald who would bring the property belonging to the Community back to Lemont. Sister also served the community as local treasurer. Sister Donald truly used all of her talents and abilities for the glory of God and in service to her Sisters. Sister Donald retired to the infirmary in 2002. At 12:40 a.m. on Tuesday, April 14, after 95 years of earthly life and 78 years of religious life, the risen Lord Jesus took her to Himself. Sister Donald, we are grateful to you for the many years of life and loving service you shared with us. Please pray for us so that one day we may all join you in the heavenly kingdom praising God forever in joy.
June was bustling out all over in Cleveland, Ohio when Mary and Frank Gajdzinski welcomed their third daughter into the family on June 29, 1917. Mary and Bernice, the two older sisters, were probably happy to greet their baby sister who was baptized into Christ on July 8, 1917 at St. Josaphat Church in Cleveland, Ohio and given the name Helen Antoinette. The family grew to include two brothers, Steve and Stanley, and another sister, Jean.

Mary and Frank Gajdzinski were Polish immigrants who instilled in their children a strong sense of family and respect for every human person. Helen’s father had a love for reading and her mother shared the gift of a deep spirituality with her children. Both of these qualities influenced Helen and the way she lived her life. Reflecting on her encounters with the Sisters and acting on her desire to be a teacher, she entered the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago on January 31, 1931. Helen entered the novitiate on August 15, 1932 and received the name Sister Mary Charitas. Her educational background includes: attaining her Bachelor of Science in Education from DePaul University, in Chicago a Music Certificate from Alverno College in Milwaukee, Wisc; a Certificate in Theology from St. Xavier College in Joliet, Ill; a Master's Degree in Education from St. Louis University in St. Louis, and post graduate work at Loyola University in Chicago. Her love for teaching, music and people found many opportunities for expression throughout her years of ministry.

Sister Charitas taught at St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr School, St. Pancratius School, Five Holy Martyrs School, and Madonna High School, all in Chicago, and St. Louise de Marillac School in La Grange Park, Ill. Sister also taught at St. Stanislaus Kostka School in Youngstown, Ohio and Central High School while living at St. Casimir Convent in Johnstown, Penn. In addition to teaching the core subjects she was able to share her skill as a musician through teaching piano, serving as assistant organist and tickling the piano keys as accompanist for the productions in some of the schools and parishes.

The love Sister Charitas had for the English language continued to blossom during her years at Madonna High School where she not only taught English to all four levels of students, but, served as chairman of the English Department. That relationship with the literary world continued up to and including her last day of life. She loved to read mysteries and was a great fan of David Baldacci.

Sister Charitas left the field of Education and went to St. Anthony Medical Center in 1985 where she ministered as Medical Librarian for many years. She moved to the motherhouse, Our Lady of Victory Convent, in 2002, sought and found new adventures. One of which was whizzing by outside on her motor scooter every afternoon to catch a breath of fresh air.

Sister served the congregation as local and assistant minister, driver and in her later years, mesmerizing storyteller. Sister Charitas served as assistant local minister at the motherhouse from 2002 to 2008. She joined the St. Clare Infirmary Community in 2009. Sister spent a good deal of time engaging in conversation with the Sisters in the home inquiring about their well-being or discussing the latest news item about the Church or society in general.

“The Sisters and Brothers whom the Lord has called to a life of contemplation (Mt. 6:31), with a daily renewed joy, should manifest their special dedication to God and celebrate the Father’s love for the world.”

(The Rule and Life of the Brothers and Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis, Article 9)
Sister’s love for people could be experienced by those she met in many different ways: the mischievous glint in her eye, the firm grip of her handshake or a powerful, but, friendly punch to the arm. She often shared her spirituality with her Sisters in community and others through promises of prayer or having Masses said for various intentions.

Sister Charitas was a woman religious who was well aware of who she was in relationship to her God and because of that was able to share a true sense of joy with all she met.

During the early morning hours of Thursday, October 8, Sister Charitas knew that her time here on earth was ending. While holding on to the hand of her friend in this world, she called out for Jesus to grasp her other hand and bring her into eternity. The eternal Shepherd heard her voice and after 92 years of earthly life and 78 years of religious life he brought her to her eternal home in heaven.

Sister Charitas, thank you for teaching us how to appreciate the gift of life and share it fully with all of God’s creation. Thank you for teaching us that, paraphrasing St. Ireneaus, the glory of God is the person fully alive. Pray for us as we continue our journey, that we might be a sign of God’s joyful presence for our brothers and sisters on earth and walk with sure faith until we join you and our awesome God forever in eternity.

SISTER MARY TERESITA KUCZMARSKI

Born: November 13, 1907
Died: November 18, 2009

The year 1907 was quite eventful. There was a financial crisis in the United States that primarily affected bankers but sharply depressed the manufacturing sector for a year; Maria Montessori, the first woman physician in Italy, founded her school for children; the state of Oklahoma was welcomed into the United States by President Theodore Roosevelt and on November 13 John and Helen Kuczmarski welcomed their third child, daughter Mary, into their family. Prior to her arrival Felix and Julia her older brother and sister were born. These three children were followed by the births of Stanley, Cecilia, Clara, Edward, Vincent, Val, Leonard, Joseph and John. Joseph died when he was 20 years old and John died when he was but a few hours old.

Mary was baptized into Christ on November 16, 1907 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Cleveland, Ohio.

The Kuczmarski home was a model example of the Catholic faith. John Kuczmarski worked hard to support his family and Helen provided a warm and loving environment for her husband and children. The family prayed the rosary together three days a week and also opened their home to family and friends on the weekends. We can imagine that Mary learned the values of faith and hospitality as well as the love of family from the example of her parents. The foundation provided by a Catholic education was important as seen by the fact that the Kuczmarski children all attended Catholic grammar school and were taught first by the Felician Sisters and then by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago at Sacred Heart of Jesus School in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mary helped to support her family by working in a local grocery store, at a wool mill and finally Richmond Brothers, a company that specialized in men’s suits. Touched by the example of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago and aware of the persistent voice in her own heart, Mary answered the call to religious life on August 7, 1927. Mary entered the novitiate on July 16, 1928 and received the name Sister Mary Teresita.

“Wisdom is with the aged and understanding in length of days.”
(Job 12:12)
Sister Teresita spent a total of 53 years in the ministry of education as teacher and principal. She ministered at St. Joseph School and St. John Cantius School both in East Chicago, Ind. Sister also ministered at St. Pancratius School, St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr School and Five Holy Martyrs School in Chicago. Sister Teresita ministered at St. Leo School, St. Casimir School and Sts. Philip and James in Ohio and her education ministry also took her to Assumption School and St. Casimir School in Pennsylvania. Sister Teresita enjoyed teaching religion to the children and preparing them for the sacraments. The average size of her classes was 52 students. Her last year of ministry as a teacher was the 1980-81 school year. Sister Teresita then moved into the ministry of health care and ministered at Mount Alverna Home in Parma, Ohio as a medical records chart clerk and receptionist from 1981 until 1987. Sister Teresita ministered to her sisters as a local minister in many of the local homes of the congregation and many of the younger members of the congregation were entrusted to her care. She also served as assistant local minister and local secretary. Sister ministered as local treasurer at Mount Alverna Convent from 1992 until 1997. She was happy to be at Mount Alverna because it allowed her to be close to three of her sisters who became residents at Mount Alverna and she was there when each of them died.

Sister Teresita moved to the motherhouse in Lemont, Ill. on July 30, 1997. She was 90 years old and looking forward to her retirement years. She found ways to minister to her sisters in community and they to her. Sister’s family always celebrated her birthday in style by coming to visit her and bringing treats for Sister Teresita and the other sisters. She knew they loved her and considered her life a gift. When she was almost one 100 years old she was asked how she felt and she responded “I feel like a spring chicken!” Her family was here once again not too long ago to celebrate Sister’s life of 102 years. Sister Teresita enjoyed the day and told everyone that she was celebrating her 102nd birthday. Tuesday afternoon of last week, Sister Teresita told one of the sisters that she was going to heaven and she wanted someone to pray with her in Polish. This sister accommodated her wishes and spent some time praying with her. Early on the morning of Wednesday, November 18 after 102 years of earthly life and 82 years of religious life, Sister M. Teresita entered the kingdom of heaven and beheld the face of God.

Sister Teresita, you experienced many different historical events and extraordinary changes in the life of the Church and this religious congregation during your lifetime. However, the most glorious event for you is the one in which you are now participating. You stand before the throne of God experiencing perfect love and joy for all eternity. Please pray for us until we join you in that kingdom of everlasting peace.

**Sister Mary Deofilia Piaskowy**

*Born: August 20, 1919  
Died: November 28, 2009*  

Josephine and John Piaskowy had welcomed four boys: Leo, Louis, Anthony and Joseph and four girls: Victoria, Helen, Laura and Gladys into the family. They were probably experts at parenting by the time their youngest, a baby girl was born on August 20, 1919. She was baptized into Christ on August 31, at St. Florian Church in Chicago and given the name Frances JoAnn.

Frances heard the voice of God calling her to serve him at an early age. She entered the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago on October 4, 1934. Frances entered the novitiate on August 15, 1936 and was given the name Sister Mary Deofilia which means, “Daughter of God.” Sister professed her perpetual vows on August 12, 1943.
How does a faithful daughter of God spend her life? Sister Deofilia’s life of service gives us many examples.

Sister attended DePaul University in Chicago, St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, Ind. and Alverna College in Milwaukee, Wisc.

Sister ministered as a teacher at Five Holy Martyrs School, St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr School and St. Pancratius School in Chicago, St. Adalbert School in East St. Louis, Ill. and Assumption School in New Chicago, Ind. She also taught at St. Mary School in Hammond, Ind. and Sacred Heart of Jesus School and Blessed Sacrament School in Gary, Ind. Sister Deofilia spent over 30 years of her ministry as the organist and director of children and adult choirs in many of the parishes where she was teaching. I was a member of Sister’s grammar school choir at Sacred Heart of Jesus School and it was she who taught me to read musical notes as well as to pronounce and sing the Polish Christmas carols. Sister’s ministry in education and music spanned 50 years, from 1937 until 1987. She served her religious congregation as local secretary and local minister in many of the convents where she lived.

Sister Deofilia began her ministry at Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont, Ill. in 1987 as Director of the Motherhouse Gift Shop and as a receptionist. Sister is remembered as someone who had a profound respect for persons. When directing others as receptionists at the motherhouse she would always practice the pronunciation of the names of persons who were being paged over the intercom system and was very patient in repeating the process until names were pronounced perfectly. Sister Deofilia was very meticulous and precise which was especially evident in the way she directed her choirs and managed the gift shop. Sister was willing to share her time and talents with others. She actually taught a couple of the young receptionists under her direction how to do handiwork so that they could do something productive as they sat in the office waiting for the phone or doorbell to ring. Sister was well respected and loved by these young people.

Sister Deofilia showed kindness and compassion, especially for those who had no one to care for them. One example of this is seen in her determination to get her sister, Gladys, into Franciscan Village in order to make sure that she would be safe and well cared for. Sister also took it upon herself to answer the mail that was sent to the Sisters who were deceased, notifying family and friends of their departure from this life.

Sister Deofilia is remembered by one of the Sisters as having a certain way of looking at a person that would convince anyone to do whatever she wanted.

Sister Deofilia celebrated 75 years of religious life this past September with friends and family. Soon after the celebration Sister continued to show signs that her life on this earth was coming to an end. She had recently returned home from extensive stays at the hospital and rehab center. She was happy to be home and asked that she not be sent back to the hospital. Her wishes were followed. Sensing that God would be calling her home soon, she asked for her Sisters in community to pray with her and they did. Sister Deofilia was very alert and attentive when Father came to administer to her the Sacrament of the Sick on Friday. Early on Saturday morning, November 28 after 90 years of earthly life and 75 years as a religious, this daughter of God returned to her Father in heaven.

Sister Deofilia, thank you for sharing your life with us as Sister, teacher and friend. Pray for us as we continue our earthly journey so that one day we may join you in the angelic choirs of heaven forever singing praise to God.

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near.”

(Philippians 4:4-5)
It really was Some Enchanting Evening for the guests who attended the Black Tie fundraiser hosted by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago at the Oak Brook Marriott on October 17, 2009.

General Minister Sister Diane Marie Collins and General Council members Sister M. Bernadette Bajuscik, General Vicar; Sister Francis Clare Radke, General Councilor/Treasurer; and Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie, General Councilor, greeted guests as they arrived at the 16th Annual Ball. The guests enjoyed delicious appetizers and cocktails as they surveyed the silent auction items, which included a diamond cross necklace and a king size mattress valued at $5,000. A scrumptious meal enticed the crowd into the main ballroom to enjoy the festivities.

New to the program this year was an award ceremony that honored special guests who have played a significant role in the ministry of the Sisters.

This year’s honorees were Barry Cesafsky, who was the first lay board member for the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation, and Joe and Cheryl Skender, along with Mark and Roxanne Skender, from Skender Construction. Skender Construction has worked on various construction projects with the Sisters including affordable housing at St. James Senior Estates in Crete, Ill.

“These individuals have graciously given their time and energy to further the mission of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago,” said Sister Diane Marie Collins. “We are very grateful for their role in helping our residents experience the fullness of life.”

The Rob Curtis Orchestra provided wonderful music to glide across the dance floor and dance the night away. Tropical flowers graced the tables and Nancy Eriksen from Lange’s Woodland Flowers of Lemont created unique palm trees to adorn the hut and graceful centerpieces to decorate the tables.
Photographer Mel Walaszek captured the moment as he took pictures of the guests in front of a Tiki Hut that was specially crafted and donated for the evening. The evening ended successfully raising a significant amount of money for the ministry and good works of the Sisters.

Sister Diane Marie said to the crowd, “The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago don’t need a special island. We need persons like you who believe, as we do, that the well-being of our brothers and sisters in this world depends on people coming together and making choices for the common good. Thank you for partnering with us so that our residents and clients may have their dreams come true.”

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago are located in Lemont and sponsor senior living communities in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. In Indiana the Sisters support a shelter for women and their children who are survivors of domestic violence, empowering the women to lead productive lives. They also operate affordable housing communities for seniors as well as home and community-based health services. Through the Madonna Foundation the Sisters provide scholarships for young women to attend Catholic high schools. Many of the girls come from underprivileged families who cannot afford the tuition for a Catholic high school.
To our donors and friends, thank you for partnering with us, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, through your love, prayers and financial support. We offer you our gratitude and our sincere appreciation for your generosity, which has allowed us to continue the ministry started by Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik.

Your donations have helped the ministries of the Sisters in a profound way. Their ministries include affordable housing for seniors, a shelter for victims of domestic abuse, senior retirement communities, and scholarships for Catholic high school tuition.

The donor list in this issue is recorded in two parts, the first listing is from January 1 through June 30, 2009 and the second listing includes gifts from July 1 through December 31, 2009. We make every effort to keep accurate records and each gift is acknowledged promptly. Should you find something amiss, however, we ask you to call us at once. Your inquiries should be directed to Maria Mulcahy, Assistant Director of Development, at 630-243-3560 or at mmulcahy@chicagofranciscans.com.
The Unrestricted Fund is important because it allows flexibility for our use. We often refer to gifts being directed to where the need is greatest. We’re able to use unrestricted gifts immediately or to allow them to accumulate until a significant need arises. We appreciate the thoughtfulness of unrestricted gifts.

1/1/2009 - 6/30/2009
Sharon Alexander
Steve and Jeanine Bardoczi
Tim and Wendy Bellagamba
Regina Bober
Anne Burton
Kathryn Cuervo
Joyce Cure
Valerie D’Amico
Ruth Ann Derbas
Chris Gostkiewicz
Dolores Grantz
Bernice Hyatt
Dolores M. Johnson
Chet and Theresa Labus
Jeanette Lindish
Diana Marovich
Lynn Martin
Regina McCarthy
Geraldine Michalak
Mount Alverna
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago
Eileen O’Brien
Mary Paxson
Kathy Skwiera
Muriel Simnick
Janet W. Sisler
Patricia Tarczewski
Lorraine Wagner
Ken and Sophie Wolniakowski
and Family

7/1/2009 - 12/31/2009
Tim Bellagamba
Regina Bober
Janet Correll
Colleen Cosey
Kathy, Eddie, Jacob and Natalia Cuervo
Miss Emilie H. Duda
Chester and Mary Ann Dudzik
Geraldine Dudzik
Veronica Dudzik
Mrs. Adeline Galuszka
Louis and Josephine Glowacki
Dolores Grantz
Bernice Hyatt
Lori C. Jones
Julianne Kalata
Theresa Kolczak
Thomas Kujawa
Joseph Lushnia
Lynn Martin
James L. Miară
Family of Helen Nowobilski
Eileen O’Brien
Linda O’Neill
Stephanie Panek
Mary Paxson
Elizabeth A. Pienta
Carol A. Post
Florence Rybski
Josephine Siepak
Reverend Daniel F. Tempora
Frank Swiderski
Patricia E. Tarczewski
Carl R. Winger
Sophie Wolniakowski
and Family
Raymond Zmaczynski
Monsignor John Zuraw

We are restricted by law and policy as to the kinds of non-cash gifts we can accept. Among those items are medications and some used items or partially used items. Some changes in legislation also affect the donor. In fact, Congress passed new rules for deducting household goods, clothing and other items. Unless the item is in good used condition or better or was donated before August 18, 2006, you won’t get the tax deduction. Congress wanted to stop people from using charitable organizations to dump unwanted items in order to write off the donation of minimal or no value. It’s always best to call the Development Office at 630-243-3562 before giving a non-cash gift. Dropping off something we cannot legally accept often requires the Sisters to pay for the disposal of these items, which we know was not the donor’s intent. We thank the following for their gifts of services.

1/1/2009 - 6/30/2009
Addolorata Villa
Breadsmith
Carol D’Amico
Thomas Kujawa
Lillian Mellske
Reverend Thomas Paul
Phillip’s Flowers
Rose Piwowar
Chief Kevin and
Mrs. Shaughnessy
IN MEMORY OF EUGENE PAZERA
Wesley Adamczyk
William and Ruth Carew
Helen K. Carlson
Rocky Mountain NP
Administration Employees
Marguerite Schweisthal
Richard and Judith Tekulve

VENERABLE
MOTHER
MARY THERESA
DUDZIK
BEATIFICATION
FUND

Gifts sent to the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago for the Beatification Cause are sent immediately to this Fund. Gifts received through the League of Mother Theresa are used to cover the cost of operating the League Office and once a year (or more often) money from the League is transferred to the Beatification Fund. We thank everyone who has helped build the Beatification Fund. Every step in the process requires fees and the Beatification Fund must continue to grow so that funds are there when needed.

1/1/2009 - 6/30/2009
Chris and Debbie Gostkiewicz
Guild of Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN AND HELEN BAJUSCIK
Family and Friends

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
SISTER M. CHARITAS GAJDZINSKI
Judith Lynn Roman

EMPLOYEE
RECOGNITION
DINNER 2009

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago and our associates thank our friend for their contribution to our annual Employee Recognition Dinner.

Phillip’s Flowers

SECOND CENTURY FUND

The Second Century Club is closed except for giving opportunities to underwrite the cost of some remaining items such as a number of stained glass windows and the chapel organ. Giving Categories for this fund are:

VISIONARIES $25,000 and up
FOUNDERS $15,000 to $24,999
PACESTSETTERS $8,000 to $14,999
SUSTAINERS $2,500 to $7,999
FRIENDS $1,000 to $2,499
CONTRIBUTORS Up to $999

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN AND HELEN BAJUSCIK
Family and Friends

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
SISTER M. CHARITAS GAJDZINSKI
Judith Lynn Roman

RETIREMENT FUND

Gifts to the Retirement Fund are very important to us as they provide support in the care of the retired and infirm members of our Community. The rising cost of health care and medicine are as serious an issue for us as they are with the general public. We’re grateful for your gifts.

1/1/2009 - 6/30/2009
Reverend Fred Tomzik
St. Louise de Marillac
LaGrange Park, IL

7/1/2009 - 12/31/2009
Mrs. Henry W. Michalski
Ms. Mary Mosser
Al and Helen Schroeder
Alice V. Siorek

7/1/2009 - 12/31/2009
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Trzcinski
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tyranowski

7/1/2009 - 12/31/2009
Brigittine Priory of
Our Lady of Consolation
Pat Budzyn
Dr. Joseph Coscino, DPM
Joyce Cure’
Thomas E. Gallagher
Reverend Thomas Paul
Phillip’s Flowers
Sisters of St. Casimir
Tebo’s Evergreens
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Trzcinski
The Theresa Dudzik Service Award is a program restricted to the communities in the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation system. It was established in 1991 and in 1992, the first recipient was awarded the $10,000 unrestricted cash grant and a plaque acknowledging their earning this prestigious award. To share information throughout our entire system, copies of each full proposal are sent to all our communities. A brochure is available explaining the criteria to be met and listing all the winners and their projects through the current winner.

In order to make the $10,000 purse a reality, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago partner with financial managers across the country. Representatives from this group also serve on the judges’ panel and help select the winner among two or three finalists. The judges tell us they enjoy being part of the panel, indicating that by being active participants in the program, they’ve learned more about the Sisters and the facilities we sponsor.

We are grateful to our partners not only for their financial support but also for their interest in our ministries.

Aberdeen Asset Management, Inc.
Anchor Capital Advisors, LLC
Thomas H. Boehm
Calamos Financial Services, LLC
Mary CrummeY
McDonnell Investment Management, LLC
Oak Ridge Investments, LLC

Using the envelope included with this issue of Crossroads is the easiest way to contribute to any of our funds and it makes it especially easy to direct a gift to the Legacy Fund. There are several categories to which your Legacy gift can be directed — the two most popular are Memorials (for deceased loved ones) and Tributes (in honor of living individuals or groups). Some donors make regular gifts to this fund on anniversaries as in the case of memorials, birthdays, marriages, and our Jubilarians. General, undesignated, gifts may be made to this fund as well as donations for your own special intention. As you may know, the Legacy Fund is our Endowment, which we continue to grow by reinvesting the income from the fund. Your gift to the Legacy Fund also continues to grow in perpetuity. Ultimately, a portion of this fund will be used to help those who entrust their needs to us, including our infirm and aged sisters.


goal

General Gifts

1/1/2009 - 6/30/2009

Estate of Lucian Przybysz
Estate of Norette Przybysz
In Memory of My Parents
Christine Habian

Tributes

1/1/2009 - 6/30/2009

In Honor of the 2009 Jubilarians

75 Years

Sister M. Praesentia Grzybowski
Sr. M. Petronia Budzinski
Sr. M Andrea Puchalski
Sr. Leona Watroba
Sr. M. Deofilia Piaskowy

70 Years

Sr. M. Dorothea Micek
Sr. M. Celeste Walkowski
Sr. M. Jeanette Golojuch
Sr. Frances Szczur
Sr. M. Agatha Walerski

60 Years

Sister M. Rosemary Ferus
Val Ensalaco

In Celebration of Gloria Konsack’s
June 11th Birthday
Nancy Liska

7/1/2009 - 12/31/2009

In Honor of the 2009 Jubilarians

70 Years

Sr. M. Jeanette Golojuch
E & J Golojuch
IN HONOR OF
SISTER M. GEORGEANN KINEL
Rose P. Novotny

IN HONOR OF GLORIA KONSACK
Nancy Liska

IN HONOR OF SISTER DOROTHEA MICEK
Nancy Balvin

IN HONOR OF OUR
60TH ANNIVERSARY
ON JUNE 3, 2010
Henry and Laverne Nowak

IN HONOR OF JENNA PADBURY
Joe and Kathy Filipiak

IN MEMORY OF MARIA DUDA
ON HER 12TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY
ON JULY 12, 2010
Miss Emilie H. Duda

IN MEMORY OF MY BELOVED AUNT, MARTHA M. DUDA
Gloria F. Duda Richman

IN MEMORY OF
SISTER M. CALLISTA GACH
Reverend Paul Larry Stroskey

IN MEMORY OF
SISTER MARY RICHARD DUSZYNSKI
D.J. Dunn

IN MEMORY OF
SISTER M. AMABILIS BELLOCK
Nancy Balvin

IN MEMORY OF
SISTER TARCISIA BUCKI
Nancy, Bill, Tom and Mary Bucki

IN MEMORY OF
SISTER M. LEONIDA BYWALEC
Mrs. Pat Purl

IN MEMORY OF MY SISTER, MARtha M. DUDA ON HER 1ST DEATH ANNIVERSARY ON AUGUST 21, 2010
Miss Emilie H. Duda

IN MEMORY OF MY SISTER, MARTHA M. DUDA ON HER 10TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY ON DECEMBER 29, 2010
Miss Emilie H. Duda

IN MEMORY OF MY SISTER, SISTER MARY ROBERTA DUDA ON HER 12TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY ON JULY 12, 2010
Miss Emilie H. Duda

IN MEMORY OF
ROSE AND HYACINTH DUDA
Miss Emilie H. Duda
IN MEMORY OF MY AUNT, BERNICE KAPLAN ON HER BIRTHDAY OCTOBER 19, 2009
Mrs. Barbara Rose

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. LAETITIA KOŁCZAK
Mrs. Jean Sciora

IN MEMORY OF HELEN C. KUDLA
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kudla

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. TERESITA KUCZMARSKI
Kathy and Louis Gazo and Family
Alice M. Kuczmarski
Ed Kuczmarski
Joseph Kuczmarski
Pat Kuczmarski
Rich and Carolyn Kuczmarski
Robert Kuczmarski
Mrs. Virginia E. Kuczmarski
Mrs. Virginia P. Kuczmarski
Jeanette Lindish

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. SYLVIA LEWANDOWSKI
Irene Gladish

IN MEMORY OF KATHLEEN “COOKIE” OBORA
Gene Obora

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. DEOFILIA PIASKOWY
Sister Eugene Baiardo, OSM
Pat Budzyn
Frances Duszynski
Peter, Mary Beth and Matthew Duszynski
Mathilda D. Ferko
Dorothy Ann Guba
Marcella Hollinger
Margaret Keogh
Teresa Kopil Family (“Kopil Kids”)
Jeanette Lindish
Maria Mulcahy
Marie Pindok
Josephine Ryba
Marguerite Schweisthal
Arlene Shrader

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. KINGA REPINSKI
Emilie R. Hebda

IN MEMORY OF AGNES RYBACKI
Helen Rybacki

IN MEMORY OF MOTHER M. BEATRICE RYBACKI
Anne and Bill Guisewite
Helen Rybacki

IN MEMORY OF FRANK RYBACKI
Helen Rybacki

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. METHODIA RYZNER
Geraldine Biel

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. ALBERTINE SCHAB
John and Bernadette Vlock

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. EULALIA SIEROCKI
Reverend Paul Larry Siroskey

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. INNOCENTIA SIEROCKI
Reverend Paul Larry Siroskey

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. ROSALIMA SIEROCKI
Reverend Paul Larry Siroskey

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. MARISTELLA SKRZYNISKI
Dennis and Geraldine Michalak

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. RALPH STAWASZ
Joseph J. Wolowicz

IN MEMORY OF CYRIL TWOREK
Pat Gedbaw

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. NATALIE USCINOWICZ
Nancy Balvin
Helen Jakupca
Henry J. Usher

IN MEMORY OF FRANK VALERIO
Nancy Liska

IN MEMORY OF SISTER M. LILLIAN WATROBA
Irene Gladish

IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH ZAWISLAK
Honorable and Mrs. George A. Kwak
The Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik Spiritual Enrollment Program provides an opportunity for the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago to share their prayer with others in a special way. A monthly Mass is celebrated for all those enrolled, living or deceased. The Community of Sisters remembers everyone who is enrolled in their prayers.

The Spiritual Enrollment card with a matching mailing envelope is exquisitely designed and easy to use. It may be used to celebrate any occasion or remember a loved one. Please be sure to complete the section requesting your name and address so that the Spiritual Enrollment Book has your name as well as the name of the person being enrolled. A one-year enrollment is $15.

To obtain your enrollment packet, please contact Mary Bannon at (630) 243-3562 or Maria Mulcahy at (630) 243-3560 or email mmulcahy@chicagoFranciscans.com.
TAMAR A BARHAM
Enrolled by Pat and Joe Budzyn

SEAN BARRETT
Enrolled by Peggy Hogan

REVEREND REGIS N. BARWIG
Enrolled by Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

JACKIE BELLA
Enrolled by Tim and Wendy Bellagamba

AMY BIEDRON
Enrolled by Pat and Joe Budzyn

REVEREND KAREN CALHOUN
Enrolled by Villa de San Antonio

ELAINE CLANCY
Enrolled by Maria Mulcahy

TERESE MARIE CONNOLLY
Enrolled by Maureen A. Connolly

HALINA I. CZERWONKA
Enrolled by Unknown Donor

CARMELLA DE NITTO
Enrolled by Reverend James L.P. Miara

ERNE ENSALACO
Enrolled by Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

VAL ENSALACO
Enrolled by Pat Budzyn

DIANE GAJOS
Enrolled by Christopher Knowski

ADELINE GALUSZKA
Enrolled by Unknown Donor

MOST REVEREND GUSTAVO GARCIA-SILLER
Enrolled by Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

FATHER RICHARD A. HOULAHAN, O.M.I.
Enrolled by Villa de San Antonio

KEN AND MARIE IVERSEN
Enrolled by Anne M. Knawa

CHRISTINA JOHNSON
Enrolled by Rosa Lockhart

REVEREND MARY ELLEN JOHNSON
Enrolled by Villa de San Antonio

CHERYL AND JAMES KLOCKOW AND MICHAEL
Enrolled by Anne M. Knawa

JOHN KNOWSKI
Enrolled by Patricia G. Knowski

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CHICAGO MARRIOTT OAK BROOK
1401 West 22nd Street, Oak Brook, Illinois

Cocktails - 6:00 p.m.
Formal Welcome and Dinner - 7:30 p.m.
Dancing until Midnight

Music and Entertainment by Rob Curtis Band
Silent Auction • Black Tie Ball

For more information please contact Maria Mulcahy at (630) 243-8560 or email to mmulcahy@chicagofranciscans.com