

BRIDGES



November 3, 2023

FALL FUN DAY - Thevenet Montessori School, Highland Mills, NY

We ended this beautiful last week of October with a Fall Fun Day!

The children made vegan chocolate chip pumpkin cookies on Friday morning. The cookies were a lot of fun to make and even more fun to taste. Then they visited connect four, football toss, and ring toss stations, as well as other games. Upper Elementary students did an excellent job showing younger students how to do the activity at each station.



All the children had a really wonderful time and each received a prize at the end.

- Mrs. Zucker and Mrs. Benivegna, teachers

REMEMBER, LORD, THE ONES WE LOVED IN LIFE...

As we begin the month when we commemorate our beloved dead, we want to call to mind those who have shared life and mission as RJM's, and have gone before us to eternal life.

Beginning today, the provincial website (www.rjmusa.org) will be posting commemorations of deceased sisters who have lived and ministered in the province. In the coming days, look for information about some sisters who have passed on, including official necrologies. More will be featured later.

Notify family, friends and alumnae who would be interested in seeing a remembrance of a particular RJM. And, if there's a particular one you would like to see there, please let Sr. Rosemary Mangan know. We'll do our best to oblige!



Care for Creation Committee

Greenpeace message excerpt
<https://www.greenpeace.org>



Proposed Global Plastics Treaty

The plastic waste crisis has reached a tipping point. And if world leaders fail to unify around a legally binding Global Plastics Treaty, the problem is projected to TRIPLE by 2050. There are two reasons why this is so important:

1. Our planet can't withstand the plastics crisis much longer. If we don't phase out projection across its toxic life-cycle and make corporations clean up their act, life as we know it could succumb to the plastic pollution seeping into every inch of our air, our water, our food, and our bodies.
2. Collectively, we can drown out industrial green washers and secure our planet's survival - but only if we make the most of the day dedicated to uplifting our international fight to end the age of plastics, *before it ends us.*



The negotiations for the Global Plastics Treaty started last November, with the goal of completing the process by the end of 2024 to:

- **Limit plastic production and use**
- **Keep oil and gas in the ground**
- **Hold big polluters accountable for excessive plastic production**
- **Build refill and reuse systems**
- **Ensure transparency and a fair transition for affected workers**
- **Deliver a clean, safe planet for us and for our children**

Click here to send a [message to President Biden](#), in support of the Plastics Treaty.

- Submitted by Srs. Diane Dube and Doris Bissonnette

ALL SOULS DAY - San Diego, CA



Here at La Casa de Esperanza, for All Souls Day we set up our prayer table with photos of our deceased family, friends and RJM's. We shared a special prayer of gratitude for our loved ones who remain close to us and continue to love us.

Then at Holy Cross Cemetery, Srs. Rosie Nicholson, Natalia

Mejia (right), Rosa Mejia (from Province of Mexico and Natalia's sister), and Sandra Salazar, participated in a prayer for the children from around the world who have died from war, disaster, and the plight of migrants dying while seeking asylum. Enrique Morones had given us butterfly boxes and on the right, Sr. Natalia releases her butterfly.



The butterfly release symbolizes the new life that each person is called to... both now and at our dying to new life.

Brooke Binkowski wrote the [Times of San Diego](#) article below, [Human Rights Activists Mark Día de los Muertos With Butterfly Release at Holy Cross Cemetery](#), about the butterfly release.



Sister Rosemary Nicholson holds a painted lady butterfly during a Día de los Muertos event at Holy Cross Cemetery, November 1, 2023. Photo by Brooke Binkowski.

A small group of human rights activists and allies gathered on Wednesday to release butterflies in recognition of Día de Muertos.

The event focused on migrants, asylum-seekers, and refugees, particularly children caught up in a growing number of global conflicts. Traditionally, November 1st is the day that the souls of children return to visit beloved friends and family members, and November 2nd is for the adults.

Immigration activist Enrique Morones led a prayer for the dead.

"We've been going to Holtville for 35 years and doing a ceremony for the hundreds of people who are buried there that are unidentified," said Morones.

Hundreds of unidentified bodies of those who died attempting to cross the border in the desert are buried in a mass grave at Terrace Park Cemetery in Holtville, just a few miles from the international border.

This year, the ceremony took place at the Holy Cross Cemetery in Chollas View alongside a statue of St. Jude — patron saint of hope amid difficulty.

Frank Modic, a retired chaplain turned butterfly wrangler, handed out newly-hatched painted ladies in small boxes labeled "No Olvidamos" – We Won't Forget. Participants held the butterflies in their cupped hands until they were warm enough to fly.

"There's a little saying that says, Just when the caterpillar thought it was going to die, it began to fly," said Modic. "That's why we celebrate with butterflies."

Butterflies are longtime symbols of transformation and freedom of movement for those who have been caught up in often labyrinthine immigration laws and policy changes in the United States. They are also thought by some to be the souls of the dead, arriving to enjoy the fresh flowers on their Día de los Muertos offerings.

UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION

Sr. Helen Scarry has a new address: Marillac Residence, 125 Oakland Street, Wellesley Hills, MA 20481, **Room 414, room phone 781-997-1346**. Her cellphone remains 301-335-7508 and email scarryh@georgetown.edu.

Sr. Loretta Knapp has a new address. She too is now at Marillac, **Room 413, room phone 781-997-1256**. Her cellphone remains 917-273-6012 and her email remains knapp0@aol.com.

Sr. Middia Doute has a new address:
Comunidad - Fernando El Católico
Religiosas de Jesús-María
Gran Vía Fernando El Católico, #37
46008 Valencia, SPAIN

011-509-3887-3780 (cell - Haiti)
011-34-762090871 (cell - Spain)
+509-388-7370 (WhatsApp - Haiti)
midoute@yahoo.fr

Sr. Brittany Galvin has a new address:
Comunidad - Colegio Mayor
Religiosas de Jesús-María
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011-34-676656653 (cell - Spain)
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PROVINCE OFFICE

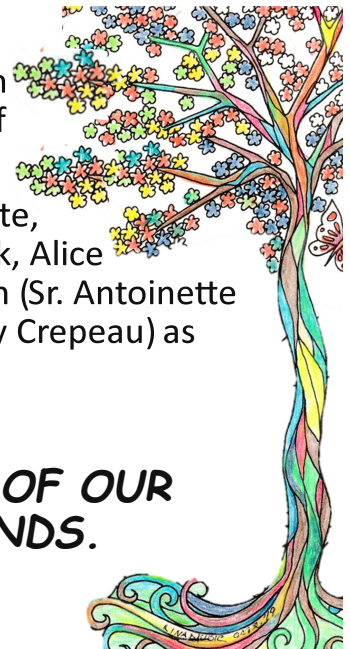
November 6-11 Rosemary in New York and New England

November 17 Next Bridges published (articles due by Wednesday 11/15 at noon)

November 23-24 Provincial Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR...

- Continuing Prayers: Colleen Pusateri, the daughter of Haiti Mission supporter Lorrie Kenney; Jennifer Morse-Meisenkothen, niece of Sr. Teresita Morse;
- St. Timothy Mission Center (Srs. Pauline Ayotte, Doris Bissonnette, Diane Dube, Claudette Lapointe, Priscilla Lemire, Mariam Norick, Alice Ouimette, and Helen Scarry), Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Mission (Sr. Antoinette Jacques) and Dina Mission Center (Srs. Jackie Crepeau and Mary Crepeau) as this week's community for special prayer.



**WE ALSO PRAY FOR ALL THE NEEDS OF OUR
RJM SISTERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS.**

Praised Forever Be Jesus and Mary