



December 1, 2023

**May this Advent Season be filled
with Blessings of Joy and Hope.**



RESOURCES FOR ADVENT

- Attached to this issue of BRIDGES, you will find material for the 2nd Sunday in Advent sent to us by the Angélique community in Fourvière.
- “The Religious Formation Conference is offering a free one-hour webinar entitled, “The Advent of Deep Incarnation,” on Sunday, December 10th, at 5:30pm, EST. For more information or to register click on: [Event Details & Registration](#).

PRAYER RESOURCES

St. Tim’s has a “prayer kit” entitled: *Meeting Christ in Prayer*, that they are willing to share.

The materials in this 8-week prayer experience are designed to:

- Enrich your prayer life, by experiencing a prayer model based on St. Ignatius of Loyola’s Spiritual Exercises.
- Learn new ways of praying and feel supported in the Christian life in a new way.
- Meet Christ anew through scripture and reflection and become more aware of God’s presence in your daily life.

To borrow the kit or for more information, please contact Sr. Doris Bissonnette

THANKSGIVING DINNER - During Covid Isolation

Because they were in contact with persons subsequently diagnosed with Covid, some of our sisters at Marillac had to quarantine for a number of days.

Nothing daunted, those in quarantine gathered for their own Thanksgiving feast. Pictured here, clockwise from lower left, are: Srs. Dina Marie Garcia, Fatima Viramontes, Gertrude Lavoie, Bernadette Oliva, Lucie Jusseume and Shirley Ann Leveille.



YOUR PHOTOS ARE NEEDED



Molly would appreciate receiving photos of:

- ❖ **By 12/5: a photo of your community including lay staff**
 - ❖ **By 12/5: a photo of your community showing just the sisters**
 - ❖ **By 12/5: a list of the ministries and volunteer activities the sisters in your community are involved in**
 - ❖ **A photo of your community's creche**
 - ❖ **Headshots of the following 2024 Jubilarians are still needed: Srs. Pat Ryerse, Kathleen Scanlon, Martha Torres, Mary Crépeau, Natalia Mejía and Mariam Norick.**
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LAUNCHING OF "HAITI 25th"

We are so excited to share that while it has taken time and effort, we are moving forward with using our new database and online tools to begin growing our development efforts. Last Saturday, the leadership team joined Toby Harkleroad and his son, Joseph, to fold, stuff, label, and mail nearly 1,300 letters to our supporters. *This letter is attached to Bridges.*

The letter from Sr. Mary Bourdon shares with our supporters how proud we are of the over 25 years of RJM presence and ministry in Haiti. The letter introduces a variation on a quote about St. Claudine's early efforts: **"Together with some of our friends..."** as an invitation to our supporters to think of themselves as an integral part of the RJM community in mission.



Sr. Mary's letter introduces our supporters, some of whom have not been communicated with in years despite having made previous donations, to Toby our Director of Mission Advancement and points them to our website, where they can make online donations. The letter also sets up that we intend to communicate with them more frequently going forward through postal mail, email, and social media. In terms of "growth" the letter lays out a goal of raising \$225,000 for the Haiti Mission Fund by September 2024, this is an increase over this past fiscal year but around what was raised for Haiti the year before last.

This first letter will be followed up by the next edition of our Haiti Mission Newsletter in a few weeks which will have a special focus on looking back at the 25+ years of the RJM presence and ministry in Haiti. Going forward, we anticipate sending out Haiti Mission Newsletters at least 3 times per year.

If you have anyone that you would like to add the Haiti newsletter mailing list, please email their info to Toby at tharkleroad@rjmusa.org.

- Toby Harkleroad, Director of Mission Advancement

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE WITH DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 1	Natalia Mejía, RJM
December 9	Liz Cornejo, RJM
December 16	Vivian Patenaude, RJM
December 17	Claudette Lapointe, RJM



PROVINCE OFFICE

December 15

Next Bridges published (articles due by Wednesday 12/13 at noon)

MESSAGES OF THANKS

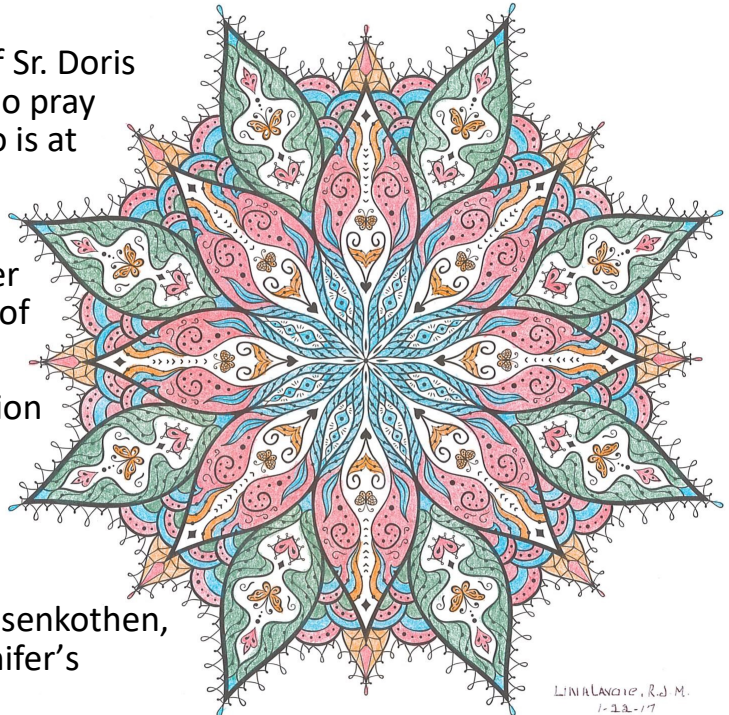
Sr. Teresita Morse writes:

Thank you for keeping my niece, Jennifer, in your prayers. She is doing well against the odds and we all know it is because of prayer. Her surgery was radical but, combined with the chemo treatments, has been successful thus far. She is home now with her husband and two young teenage children as her primary care givers. Her body is slowly beginning to adjust and gain strength. She says that through it all she has felt wrapped in people's prayer, as in a warm blanket.

- Gratefully, Teresita

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR...

- In gratitude for Sr. Shirley Leveille's discharge from the hospital and for her continuing recuperation;
- Serge Boudreault, the brother-in-law of Sr. Doris Bissonnette, who is in hospice care. Also pray for Claire his wife (Sr. Doris's sister) who is at home caring for him;
- Claire Ethier, sister of Sr. Pauline Ayotte, whose spirits have been low after moving to rehab to continue treatment of a very serious infection;
- Colleen Pusateri, daughter of Haiti Mission Mission supporter Lorrie Kenney, who is now on dialysis and doing somewhat better as she hopes for a kidney transplant early in the new year;
- Continuing Prayers: Jennifer Morse-Meisenkothen, niece of Sr. Teresita Morse, and for Jennifer's husband and two teenage children;
- Kay Jezi Mari (Srs. Pat Dillon, Jackie Picard, Liz Cornejo, Rosario Fumanlal, and Postulant Marie-jo Desir), 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