

BRIDGES



March 1, 2024

CATHOLIC SISTERS WEEK - March 8-14



Fifty-two weeks a year women religious stand with the poor and immigrants, teach children, fight injustice, heal the sick, share spirituality, empower women, defend the planet, promote peace, create community, offer hope...

But for one week, March 8-14, we shine the spotlight on women religious. More on Catholic Sisters Week can be found on <https://catholicsistersweek.org/>.



70th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. CAMILLUS SCHOOL

The 70th anniversary of the official groundbreaking for St. Camillus School took place on February 20, 1954. This year, at the anniversary Mass, Sr. Janet Stolba (left), one of the first parishioners, and several graduates of St. Camillus School who were present, were called up to the sanctuary to receive a blessing from Fr. Brian Jordan, OFS, pastor.

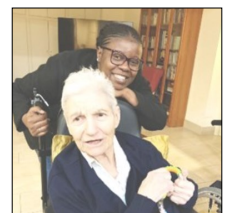


Many St. Camillus graduates attended Regina High School. Later St. Camillus school merged with St. Mark's (originally staffed by RJM's) to become St. Francis International School, where Toby Harkleroad served as principal.

- Sr. Janet Stolba

IT'S A SMALL WORLD

Sr. Rosario Fumanal in Gros Morne, contacted us about this photo after she received the last Bridges. The photo shows Sr. Middia visiting an infirmary and she happens to be with Sr. Rosario's sister, Sr. Margarite, an RJM in the J-M infirmary in Barcelona!



ELECTRONIC DIRECTORIES

The 2024 Community and Ministry Directory and the Remembrance Book were recently mailed out. Sr. Norene Costa notes that the directories just happen to be in the colors of Ukraine! If you would like an electronic copy of either, please contact Molly at mshakeri@rjmusa.org.



FLEXIBLE JOURNEY WITH MIGRANT MINISTRY - SAN DIEGO

Spiritually accompanying the migrants at the shelter and at the border wall 5 minutes from our house, delivering warm clothing, food, tarps and joining in sacred moments of interfaith prayer together have deepened our experience of the life of Claudine and the call of the Gospel.

We are also making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches which Sr. Sandra Salazar (below left) takes to the border wall and some are shared with those at the transit location. It is a profound experience of being one with the various faith groups, other women religious accompanying migrants and being evangelized by them in the process.

Simple presence, handing out food, clothing or masks through the border wall, a welcoming smile, listening - all these gestures are a universal language of compassion, oneness, a moment of healing along the painful journey... When I look at those hands reaching out through the border wall in the dark of night for food, I see the voiceless, the vulnerable man, woman, and child hungering for life, life that no longer existed in their homelands. I see those hands reaching out to our hearts and calling forth a response and a prayer for all people to overcome fear, indifference, greed, violence, abusive power that are 'push factors' in this flow of migration and are experienced during their journey.



Fr. Scott, SJ from Our Lady of Guadalupe (right) participated in one of the prayer gatherings and shared with Sandra, RJM and Rosa, RJM about work with the migrants.

At this time we would like to express our gratitude to Sr. Rosa, RJM and to our Mexican Province for sharing Rosa with us. She contributes much to our community life, prayer and mission. Rosa returns home Monday with much love and gratitude from each of us. Many blessings, Rosa!

- Sr. Rosie Nicholson



PROVINCE OFFICE

March 2 - 4 Rosemary in New York

March 15 Next Bridges published (articles due by Wednesday 2/13 at noon)

PRAYER SERVICE AT MARILLAC - March 3

On Sunday March 3, there will be a Mass in the Marillac Chapel offered for the intentions of our donors to the Haiti Mission Fund. Our Director of Mission Advancement, Toby Harkleroad, will be in attendance. Stay tuned for details in the next Bridges!

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR...

- Patrick Scanlon, the father of Sr. Mary Scanlon;
- Catherine Crowley, a long-term member of the Family of Jesus and Mary and generous donor to the RJMs, who is at Calvary Hospital in Bronx, NY;
- Sr. Claudette Lapointe, who is home recuperating at St. Tim's;
- Continuing Prayers for: Jennifer Morse-Meisenkothen who is the niece of Sr. Teresia Morse, and Colleen Pusateri who is the daughter of Haiti Mission supporter Lorrie Kenney;
- The Elizabeth Seton Residence (Srs. Agnes Bell and Mariam Norick) and Marillac Residence (Srs. Dina Garcia, Claire Dandeneau, Lucie Jusseaume, Loretta Knapp, Gertrude Lavoie, Shirley Leveille, Bernadette Oliva, Therese Picard, Vivian Patenaude, Helen Scarry, and Fatima Viramontes), 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