

Religious Of Jesus and Mary USA-Haiti Province

Bridges

September 4, 2026



Camp Claudine 2026



Arts and crafts station at Camp Claudine.

Camp Claudine began on August 4, 2026, at the Jesus-Mary school. The theme for Camp Claudine 2026 was:

“The environment is the source of our life; let us protect it.”

It was organized for 160 children aged 7 to 14. The children were divided into 8 groups of 20, with each group accompanied by a counselor. The camp lasted three weeks, from August 4 to August 21, 2026. Each day was well-structured, running from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We began with the flag-raising ceremony, followed by Morning Prayer.

There were plenty of lively activities, including singing the camp’s theme song. We organized study sessions for children who had struggled with mathematics, writing, and reading during the 2025–2026 academic year. We also carried out arts and crafts activities with the children.



Children attending mass at Camp Claudine.

We visited the Médérîte Forest, a beautiful, lush green forest; the children were delighted by the visit. We also planned a day at the Grande Rivière” (Big River), which was a truly magnificent experience. We held talks on the environment and how to protect it, explaining that the environment provides the oxygen we breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat. That is why we chose the theme: The environment is the source of our life; let us protect it.

If we fail to protect our environment, our lives will be endangered by various diseases, potentially even leading to deaths within the population. Earth is our home; we must take care of it. It is our mission to clean up, reforest, and protect the environment, because the future depends on our actions. This theme is so enriching that we have adopted it as the theme for the academic year at the Jesus-Mary school. We hope to keep it for several academic years.



Children at Camp Claudine enjoying the outdoors.

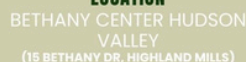
Finally, we wish to thank the Lord for all the blessings bestowed upon the children. We also want to thank the benefactors who organized efforts to secure the funding for this year’s Camp Claudine. A big thank you to Reverend Sisters Patricia Dillion and Jackie... We also extend our gratitude to everyone who contributed in any way to making Camp Claudine 2026 a reality: teacher Leny Laguerre, teacher Kenson Valcin, Mr. Claude Etienne, the activity leaders, the cooks, and others. Thank you, thank you very much.

Fr. Jérémie, Director General Jesus-Mary Parish School

Attached to this email are the videos from the camp.



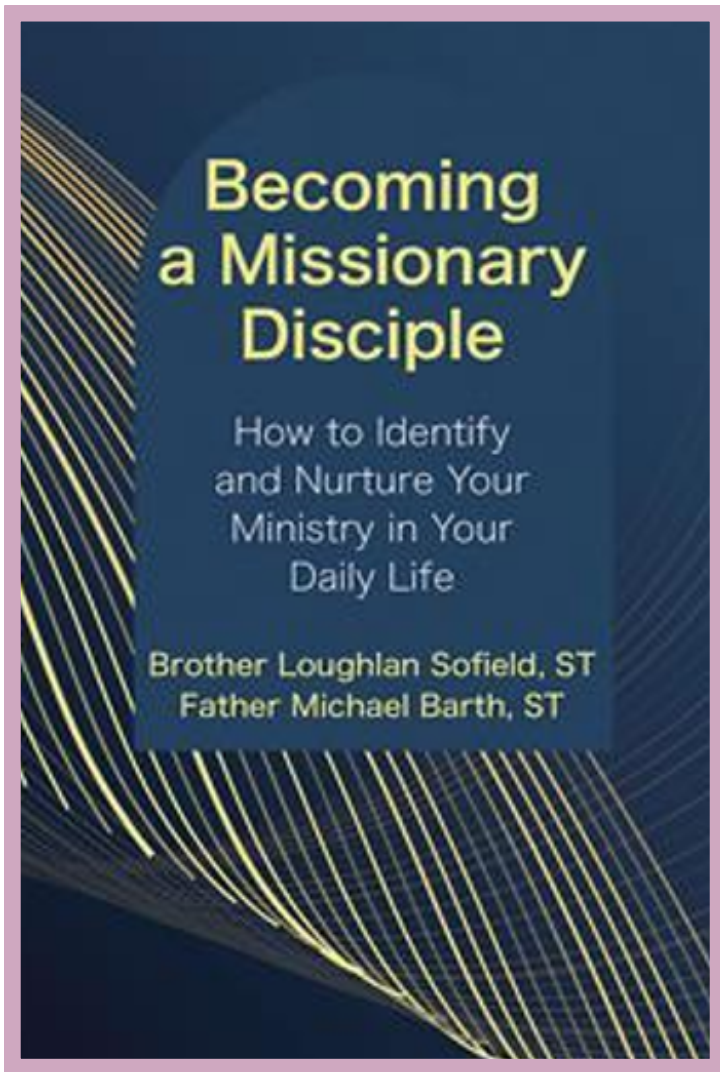
We would like to encourage you to move from "idea to action" when it comes to rewilding. To rewild areas in your own community, visit the St. Kateri Conservation Center website and their slides. They have a world of resources!



Sept. 19, 2:00 pm: Join Bethany Center Hudson Valley for an in-person afternoon of nature, poetry, music, and community as we celebrate St. Hildegard's vision of viriditas, or the divine greening power alive throughout creation. Following a forest walk, mezzo-soprano Sarah Nordin will perform eight of Hildegard's viriditas-themed chant compositions, in between background reflections and poetic readings. The performance will be followed by a wine and cheese reception. Please purchase your tickets here:

<https://bethanycenterhudsonvalley.org/event/celebration-of-hildegard-of-bingens-feast-day/>

Becoming a Missionary Disciple



How to Identify and Nurture Your Ministry in
Your Daily Life

Michael Barth, ST and Loughlan Sofield, ST

We have a long history of friendship with the Missionary Servants, and have benefitted greatly from that association, dating back to our moving into their “neighborhood” in 1955. Here is news of a recent publication, co-authored by Br. Loughlan Sofield and Fr. Michael Barth, available from Paulist Press.

Becoming a Missionary Disciple invites Catholics to recognize that ministry is not limited to formal parish roles, but is found in the daily circumstances of family, work, neighborhood, and community life. Drawing on Pope Francis’s call to missionary discipleship, the legacy of Father Thomas Augustine Judge, and interviews with lay Catholics who have discovered their own call, Brother Loughlan Sofield, ST, and Father Michael Barth, ST, offer a practical and encouraging guide for discerning one’s gifts and living the Gospel with purpose.

“Takes the reader from personal reflections and discernment to exploring parishes, dioceses, and archdioceses. Throughout this easy read are opportunities for the reader to ponder his/ her own responsibility for the Church’s mission. Asking the reader to pause and answer the ‘why, how’ of the journey toward becoming a missionary disciple brings the book and its purpose to life. In today’s parlance, it is both a personal and organizational GPS to sanctification.”

—Dr. Hugh M. Dempsey, GCMOb, Washington, DC

“A well-organized book that provides an outstanding summary in three areas. First, it invites each Catholic to assume their God-given role as missionary disciples, a role strongly advocated by Pope Francis. Second, it provides concrete examples of what a missionary disciple looks like through eight poignant interviews with individuals who have already answered this call in their lives. Last, it provides specific suggestions for parishes and educational leaders to assist and provide guidance in fostering this vision of leadership in our Church.”

—Most Rev. Elias R. Lorenzo, OSB, auxiliary bishop of Newark, NJ

Welcome to the Season of Creation:

September 1 to October 4

Some of you may have been able to join the [prayer service](#) that opened the Season of Creation on September 1st. If not, we're happy to provide the link that will give you access. With people from all over the world contributing, the service offers a beautiful experience of reflecting on the gift we've been given in creation and our obligation to care for it, an obligation reaffirmed in our province's response to the Calls of GC 38.

Take note of the link in the text that gives access to resources for actions you can take during this time. We would welcome an account of anything you have done, large or small, and we will share what is sent in the next BRIDGES.



This Season of Creation, let us turn prayer into action.

[Share your Season of Creation initiative on our global map](#) and let others be inspired by what is happening in your community.

[Explore the Season of Creation resources](#) we have prepared to help you pray, celebrate and act throughout this special season.

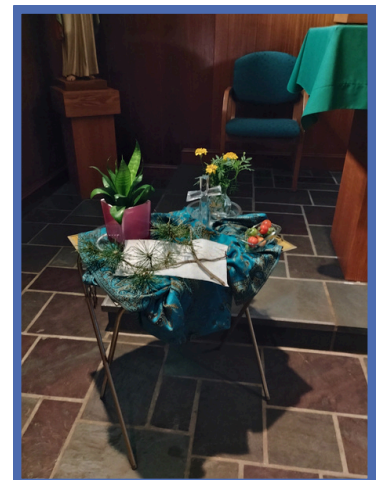
May our gratitude become conversion.

May our lament become courage.

May our guilt become grace.

May our prayer become action.

And wherever Living Water flows through us, may everything live.



Display that Sr. Doris Bissonnette created in the chapel in St. Timothy's chapel in honor of Care for Creation month.

Happy Season of Creation!

SEPTEMBER 4, FEAST OF BLESSED DINA

Excerpt from the letter of Sr. Carmen Muñoz, Superior General:

“Perhaps the invitation of today’s celebration is precisely this: to care for our inner selves as we would care for a cherished (musical) instrument – to make room for the silence that restores order, for the word that encourages, and for the relationships that sustain us. To attune our hearts so that we may respond freely to what God desires, without fear or the inner tensions that hold us back.”

HAPPY FEAST TO ALL!



Chapel table at St. Timothy's displaying the religious icon of Blessed Dina Belanger, RJm on her feast Day.

Remembering Sr. Isa Sola's



Wednesday, September 2, was the 10th anniversary of Sr. Isa Sola's death in Port-au-Prince. We ask for her continued intercession for the people of Haiti, whom she loved so much.

Prayers For:



Image Courtesy of Unsplash

- **Mike Reskey** during this difficult time. He is a friend of Mary Ann Berdoe, a former RJM.
- **Brenda Mejia**, who will soon begin treatment for thyroid cancer. Brenda is a member of a refugee family in Maryland, and recently gave birth to a baby boy.
- **Sr. Teresita Morse's** niece, **Jennifer Morse Meisenkothen**
- **A friend of Mary Ann (Augello) Berdoe**, **Dr. Dee Tomeo**
- **Edward Stolba**, brother of **Sr. Janet Stolba**
- **Michele Higgins**, the sister of **Sr. Pat Dillon**
- **For Colleen Pusateri**, who is the daughter of **Lorrie Kenney**, niece of **Sr Eugenia Castonguay**
- **Sr. Jill Weber, RSM**, who has previously done work in Haiti. She has had an unexpected medical emergency and is in recovery.

Praised forever be Jesus and Mary