

IN HIS LOVE

The Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne
SUMMER 2010



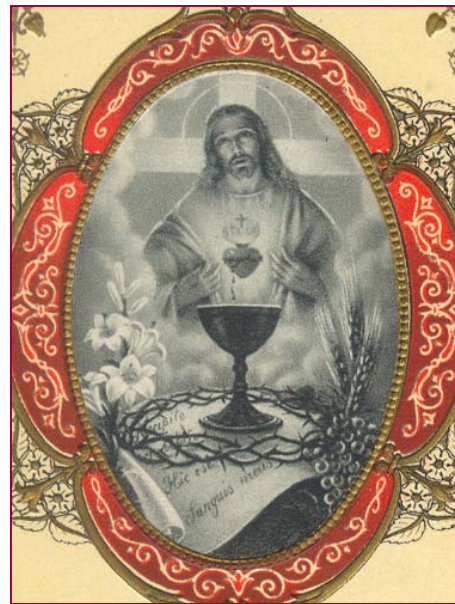
In gratitude . . .

In this publication as the “Year of Priests” ends on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we would like to express our gratitude to all priests living and deceased. We are especially grateful for all the priests who have ministered and continue to minister in our homes. Their loving service and ministry to the Sisters and most especially to our residents will always be remembered and appreciated.

We pray for the sanctification of all priests and for an abundance of holy vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

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“The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ.” — *St. John Vianney*

In Gratitude for all our Priests



“May the Lord reward, as He alone can and does, all those who have made it possible for us to gather together before the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.” Pope Benedict XVI, May 12, 2010

The sisters say, ‘thank you’ . . .

“Thank you, God, for all priests: for their dedication & counsel, for helping us along life’s way, offering the Mass, giving us the sacraments.”
Sr. Mary Dorothy



“We owe a deep gratitude to *all* of our chaplains for their daily service to sisters and patients alike.

My special thanks to Fr. Butler & Fr. Klaers, our faithful & devoted friends.”
Sr. Mary Damien



“I am infinitely grateful to the priests whose hands have brought me the Blessed Sacrament”
Sr. Catherine Marie



“Thank you, Msgr. Bradley, who introduced me to Mother Bernadette, and thus to our Community.” Sr. Maureen





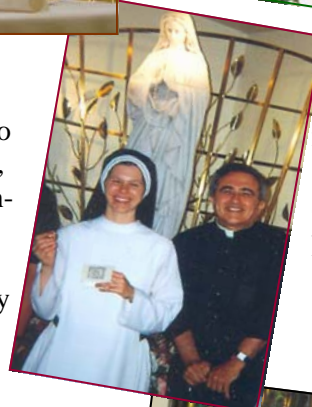
“Many thanks to the Dominican fathers in Kisumu, who ‘baptized’ us into the ways of Africa with practical help, cultural advice, spiritual support and friendship: everything from the sacraments to sharing a Dominican family meal.” Sr. Carol Marie



“My life has always been blessed by the presence of many dear priests.” Sr. Mary Anthony



“Heartfelt gratitude to Fr. A. Mastroeni and to Fr. G. O’Donnell O.P., for guiding my discernment, and for helping me to comprehend more deeply the beauty of my vocation.” Sr. Agnes Mary

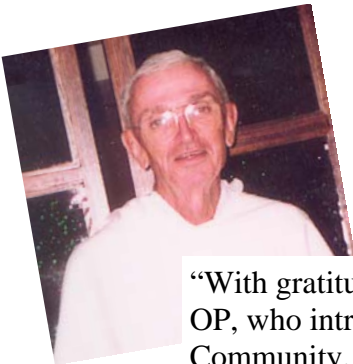


“To the late Bishop Garmendia: “His humility & acceptance of his illness was very edifying. I pray for him, & to him everyday.” Sr. M. Kevin

“Thank you, Padre Francisco, for showing me the face of Christ: poor, simple, joyful, loving. Priests: thank you for loving Christ & His Church, for your witness & love.” Sr. Stella Mary



“Thank you, Fr. Joseph Mullakhara, for helping me with my discernment: for your patient answers to my many questions, for all your support: thank you!!” Sr. Carmela Marie



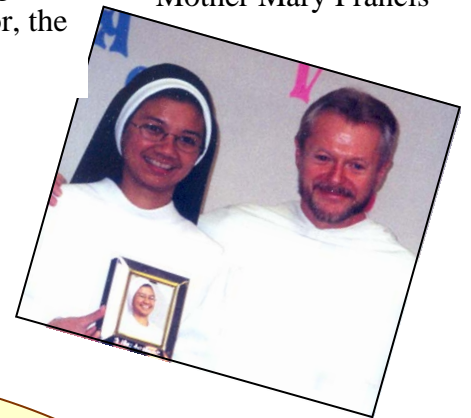
“With gratitude for Fr. M. Walsh, OP, who introduced me to our Community. He has been a great friend and a wonderful influence on my life.” Sr. Louis Marie

“With deepest gratitude to Fr. J. Brando & Fr. M. Cannon for a faithful witness of joy in a life given to God. Your help in discerning God’s call to Religious life, your continued prayers, guidance and encouragement are invaluable.” Sr. Veronica Marie



“I am blessed to know so many good, holy priests: by their teaching & example they strengthen my faith & bring me closer to our Lord. Archbishop F. Sheen has greatly influenced my life, giving me a deeper understanding of, & love for, the Church.” Sr. Teresa Marie

“We must offer our prayers & sacrifices for our priests daily.”
Mother Mary Francis



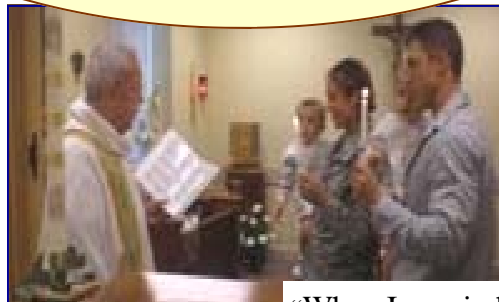
“My cousin, Msgr. Matash was in seminary when I was a postulant. We were both aware the many blessings received through priests which aided us in embracing our vocation.” Sr. Mary Martha

“In this Year for Priests which is drawing to its close, may grace in abundance come down upon you [priests] that you may live joyfully your consecration and bear witness to your priestly fidelity grounded in the fidelity of Christ.”

Pope Benedict XVI

Excerpt from a sermon given on May 12, 2010, in Fatima

“Special thanks to Fr. Carlton Jones for guiding me through the ‘roadblocks & stumbling stones’ incurred while striving to grow in my religious life.”
Sr. Mary Kateri



“My heartfelt gratitude to the Norbertine Fathers of St. Michael’s Abbey in California for their good works and deeds. Thank you Abbot Parker for your wisdom and adventures. You are a great fisher of men and left us many good and holy priests – genuine splendor of Christ’s glory. Thank you Fathers, you are all inspirations and great examples to follow.” Rosalie (postulant)

“When I was in high school and my brother in college seminary, he introduced me to the Hawthorne Dominicans. He always encouraged me in my vocation keeping the focus on my spiritual life. We are both looking to celebrate 44 years this year.” Sr. Mary Edwin



*From the Desk
of Our
Mother Mary Alphonsa*

to Cancerous Poor”

“The Real Case in Regard

(excerpt from ‘Christ’s Poor’, August, 1901)

Although no condition to be found among mankind is so uncomfortable as that of a destitute cancer patient, the dreadful state to which such a sufferer is reduced has been almost wholly overlooked by relief. Christ asks us to remember that our views about the distress of another should be keen and kind, if we wish God to be keen and kind for us in our turn.

When this work for the cancerous poor was begun, there was no place for the cancerous poor who could not be operated upon, except the almshouse hospital at Blackwell’s island. St. Rose’s Free Home was opened after more than two years work in tenement rooms, crowded with patients; and now, in the second year of its foundation, on a more conventional plan, rejoices in a branch house, Rosary Hill Home, Sherman Park, N.Y. The latter property is of large capacity, and was chosen because it gave opportunity to admit male cases of incurable cancer, as well as the female cases for whom the charity was primarily undertaken in 1896.

It is desirable that the care of destitute sickness should be made, by the women devoted to this field of work, noble and painstaking, instead of inadequate in force and superficial in quality. It should be made so thorough and affectionately gentle that even the poor can praise it.

A group of hospitals, leaving but a small minority of the poor in forsaken misery, and not showing an overwhelming excess in the unsuccessful number of applicants, should be the aim of state or private effort. Given the absence of such magnificent generosity, even a tiny nucleus of kind hearts devoted to the poor sick is better than none; even fifty beds for neglected cancer patients are better than many cellar-holes or avoided corners for them. In the present dearth of this high code of treatment in giving the poor extensive aid, a dozen nurses banded together for life with the right spirit are a promise of better principles, and must not be lightly reckoned in summing up civic resources.. Such a charity must forever touch the great heart of people. It is a survival of mercy known in every epoch of the human race; but since Christmas dawned around the star, it has been known more definitely to all right-hearted people, and adopted with varying thoroughness. Tepidity has as little appropriateness to the management of destitute misery, as it has, at the seat of war, to the management of soldierly blood and strategical crises. Wherever broad human interest are concerned, be they national honor, huge trusts, or the multitude of men and women without food or opportunity, vigorous thought and power must be used. In all large action there should be largeness of heart. The multitude of poor may fill us with scorn, but Christ feared that precisely such a multitude would faint with weariness and hunger. In this field of the daring imitation of Christ’s compassion, tepidity is more unwise than usual.

“From the particular faults of good people, deliver us, O Lord! There are sacraments for sin, for lukewarmness there is none.”—Fr. Faber

RESPONSES TO THE RESURRECTION:

There are many responses given to the resurrection of Jesus Christ in the Gospel readings throughout the Easter Season. There is the unbelief of the Pharisees, the total belief and tender love of Mary Magdalene as she clings to the risen Lord, the doubt of Thomas, the initial astonishment of Peter, and so many others. One thing is certain: that the resurrection, as with the crucifixion, requires a response. The resurrection of Christ, the Light of the world, reveals the reality of all that is. It does not present a world of dappled colors or impressionistic landscapes that lull one into a complacent calm or contentment. It is truth and it demands a response from us. The response one has to the resurrection is also linked to the response to the crucifixion, since they are part of the same mystery.

Thomas and Peter are two apostles who need to be drawn out to make their response to the risen Lord. And Christ in His love and omniscience knows and gives exactly what they need. Thomas's doubt turns into the firm belief of Jesus as his Lord when he probes the glorified wounds of Christ. "In one burning utterance, Thomas gathered all of the doubts of a depressed humanity to have them healed by the full implications of the exclamation 'My lord and my God!'" (Fulton J. Sheen- The Life of Christ). Thomas sees, knows and loves our Lord in that moment.

Peter's response is a little more complex. At first there is wonder and astonishment. Then he returns to some of his former way of being and doing, perhaps brooding over his past denial and turning his own sins over and over in his mind. He goes fishing and is completely unproductive even in this natural pursuit. Again our Lord knows what he needs and comes to him at the sea of Galilee. In diving into the sea to reach Jesus, Peter leaves the night of his sleep in the garden of Gethsemane, the night of his thrice spoken denial, the night of fishing; he leaves them all for the full sun of Jesus Christ.

This scene of Jesus and Peter near the sea, speaking of love and the feeding of lambs, St. Bernard of Clairvaux sees reminiscent of the line in the Song of Songs where the Bride is asking her Bridegroom "tell me, whom my soul loves, where will you pasture your flock, where will you make it lie down at noon." St. Bernard gives a poetic response to this scene, speaking of Christ's birth as the first rays of a dawn culminating in the full day of his resurrection. "The glory of his solar presence chased away the dawn and the night was swallowed up in the triumph of the morning...The Resurrection gave a particular radiance and a light that was purer than usual." St. Bernard further explains until we meet the risen Lord in heaven we are still awaiting the ability to fully comprehend the resurrection. "On earth...there is neither pure light, perfect rest nor safe haven...All things are given here to me except perfection...When will you fulfill me by showing your face to me? Your face is my noon." One can imagine Peter gazing into the noon bright face of our risen Lord as he asks "Simon Peter, do you love Me?"

The face of the resurrected Lord is what St. Peter Julian Eymard, founder of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers, contemplated in Eucharist adoration. He knew like Simon Peter that before our Lord we learn to love and that from ourselves our love falls short of the infinite love of Christ. So the question comes, how can we love our risen Savior? St. Peter Julian believed since we are created in the image of God we are essentially love. But since the fall we must be refashioned to love as Christ loves. St. Peter Julian Eymard says: "Communion gives us the grace of love. Our Lord, wishing us to love Him and knowing how incapable of it we are of ourselves, fills us with His own love, He Himself comes and loves in us...Let us desire to pour out our heart in His heart."



Sr. Mary Kevin & Mr. Lobianco



Smile!

Lou trying to get a good picture with Mr. Brown



The sisters prepare to serve our residents a delicious Easter dinner



Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel on Easter Sunday



Wine anyone?

Our 'centenarian' shares a smile with her daughter



A sneak peek into the Sunroom as residents enjoyed dinner with their loved ones

Children of Mary



In keeping with the love of the Dominican Order for the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Sisters have kept her not only close to their hearts, but they take her name as well. While many orders have such a tradition, Dominicans consider her their patroness; in our congregation we are required to take her name since it reveals a great truth: we are daughters of the Church and daughters of Mary. It is said that religious consecration is a flowering of baptismal grace. At our baptism our name is declared by our parents and we are born

anew in Christ. Mary also is at that baptismal font. For what is said of the Church is said of Mary and vice versa. Both are our Mother.

This truth can be seen in an 8th century hymn:

*Children rising from the fountain,
Chrism-fragrant, unction-bright,
With the Virgin, mother-caring,
As she brings them robed in white;
Heaven-destined, Christ begets them,
Sole-begotten in the height.*

From the beginning of our congregation when Mother Mary Alphonsa and Mother Mary Rose took their religious names and received the habit of St. Dominic on the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th, our Sisters have been children of Mary. From the beginning, we have had Sisters with not only Mary in their name, but devoted names to her patronages, attributes and apparitions. Names of Sisters such as Carmel, Loretta, Immaculata, de Lourdes, Virginia, Rosaria and many more are heard from the necrology read daily in the refectory. This beautiful legacy is one to be reminded of so that we know who we are and how to live our consecrated life. With Mary as our Mother we will always be led to her Son.

Blessed Humbert of Romans said “the Blessed Virgin was of great help in the beginning of the Order...and it is to be hoped she will bring it to a good end.”

May this be so of the Dominican Order and of our congregation as well.

May Crowning



Our annual May crowning was held last May 8th on the feast of the Patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary over the Dominican Order. Such a beautiful occasion, honoring the Mother of God, she whom Blessed Humbert of Romans termed “the special mother of that Order which exists to praise, bless, and preach her Son, developing, advancing and defending the Order.”¹

The procession started in our chapel soon after our postulant Rosalie crowned the Blessed Virgin Mary, then the Sisters processed through the halls gracing the hospital areas with their angelic singing of hymns of the Blessed Mother. Sr. Veronica Marie crowned the Blessed Virgin Mary in the lobby. Residents looked forward to the procession and were attentive as the Blessed Mother banner carried by Sr. Carmela Marie and Sr. Stella Mary passed room to room. The procession ended in the Chapel with the Sisters renewing their Consecration to the Blessed Mother.



¹ As quoted in 'Devotion to Mary Among Dominicans in the 13th Century,' a paper by Fr. D.V. Wisemen, O.P.

Whence came the Feast of *Corpus Christi*?

Holy Thursday, the Mass of the Lord's Supper: an exuberant liturgy, commemorating and giving thanks for the Eucharist and the priesthood . . . yet, with an aura of sadness. The rapture and zeal that so fills one's soul that holy evening all too quickly gives way to the sorrow and pain of Christ's Passion. The hours of adoration that night give way to the desolation of a cold, bare, *lifeless* chapel on Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Such sentiments of insufficiency on the part of celebrating the Blessed Sacrament prompted the institution of the Feast of Corpus Christi.

In early 13th century Belgium, our Lord appeared to an Augustinian nun, St. Juliana of Mt. Cornillon, revealing to her His desire for a 'Feast of the Most High and Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar:' "at the present time, the celebration of this Mystery is only observed on Maundy Thursday. But on that day, it is mostly My sufferings and death that are thought about. Therefore, I desire that another day be set apart, in which the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar shall be celebrated by all of Christendom!"² Juliana endured much persecution while seeking approval for this new feast. It was not until 1264 (six years after her death) that Pope Urban IV promulgated the Feast of Corpus Christi for the universal Church, commissioning our very own St. Thomas Aquinas to compose the liturgical office for the Feast.

Pope Urban IV designated the Thursday after Trinity Sunday (in the U.S., the Sunday following Trinity Sunday) to celebrate in a "more solemn and special way" the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ. Sublimely beautiful is the bull—*Transiturus*—the pontiff issued announcing the new Feast. May his words impel to a more fervent love and adoration of Christ's Presence in the Holy Eucharist:

"Let the hearts and votive offerings of all mouths and lips break forth in hymns of saving joy; then let faith sing, hope dance, charity exult, devotion applaud, the choir be jubilant, and purity delight. Then let [all] with willing spirit and prompt will come together . . . celebrating the solemnity of so great a feast. And may it happen that ardor so inflame his faithful to the service of Christ that . . . He, Who gave Himself as ransom for them, and gave Himself as food to them, may, at the end of their lives, give them Himself as their reward."



² c.f. *Life of Juliana of Cornillon*, by G.A. Bradbury, 39. May be downloaded on Google Books.

³ As quoted in *The Hidden Manna* (Ignatius Press, 1988), by James T. O'Connor, 196.

Thinking back . . .
 Rosary Hill Home was
 formally opened on the
 Feast of *Corpus Christi*,
 June 5, 1901.

Mother Mary Alphonsa passed on to her daughters an ardent love for and devotion to our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

She expressed her deepest motivation in entering religious life as a *“longing to be near the Blessed Sacrament and in a holy precinct in serving the sick poor, to whom I believe I can bring love and the knowledge of God where none was before.”*



From the Chapel, the sisters process before our Lord in the Monstrance, chanting hymns . . . throughout the hospital halls, into the rooms where Father Boguslawski, O.P., blessed each patient.



In procession, we paused at the 'altars of repose' for Benediction and the Divine Praises

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Dear Sister Alma Marie:

- I would like to speak with you about visiting your community.
My number: () _____ - _____
- Please send me additional information about your community.
- Please send me your Vocation Video on a CD. (The video is also on our web site.)
- Please send me your 2010 calendar.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

- Please add the above name to The Rose Hawthorne Guild.
- Please add the above name to your mailing list to receive **IN HIS LOVE**.

JOIN THE CAUSE
There is a lot happening with the Cause of Rose Hawthorne (Mother Mary Alphonsa). If you're interested in learning more, join the Rose Hawthorne Guild. There is no cost to become a member. We are happy to have your interest. All we ask is that you spread the word about Rose Hawthorne and share with us any favors you know of that are received through her intercession.

The Rose Hawthorne Guild
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