

Family of Friends

NOVEMBER 2009

To seek out

and

advocate

for the poor

and needy,

especially

families,



for the

Kingdom

of God.

• ANNUNCIATION/ASCENSION, KAMUELA
• BLESSED SACRAMENT, HONOLULU
• CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION, WAIMEA
• DIOCESE OF HONOLULU • GOOD SHEPHERD,
HONOLULU (MISSION: GOOD SHEPHERD, PEPEEKEO)
• HOLY ROSARY, KALAOA (MISSION: IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION, HOLUALOA) • HOLY ROSARY, KEAAU,
(MISSION: ST. THERESA, MT. VIEW) • HOLY ROSARY, OLAA
• HOLY ROSARY, PAHALA • HOLY TRINITY, HONOLULU
• IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, HONOKAA • IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION, KAMUELA • IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NINOLE
• IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, WAIMEA • IMMACULATE HEART
OF MARY, PAPAIIKOU • KONAWAENA HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH
KONA • MISSION, KALAPANA (MISSION: SACRED HEART,
PAHOA) • MISSION, MAKAPALA (MISSION: SACRED HEART,
HAWI) • MISSION, PACUILO (MISSION: ST. ANTHONY, PAPAALOA)
• OUR LADY OF GRACE, KOHALA • OUR LADY OF GRACE,
MAKAPALA (MISSION: OUR LADY OF GRACE, HALAULA) • OUR
LADY OF LOURDES, HONOKAA • OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL,
WAIKANE • OUR LADY OF SEVEN SORROWS, KALUAHAHA • OUR
LADY OF THE MOUNT, HONOLULU • OUR LADY OF THE MOUNT,
KALIHI • OUR LADY OF THE MOUNT, KALOPIA • OUR LADY OF
THE ROSARY, KALAOA (MISSION: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
HOLUALOA) • SACRED HEART, HOOLEHUA, ISLAND OF
MOLOKAI • SACRED HEART, NAALEHU • SACRED HEART,
WAIANAE • SAINT ROCH-SAINT JOACHIM, KAHUKU • ST.
ANTHONY, SOUTH KONA • ST. BENEDICT, HONAUNAU • ST.
FRANCIS HOSPITAL, HONOLULU • ST. GEORGE, WAIMANALO
• ST. JAMES, OOKALA (MISSION: ST. ANTHONY, PAPAALOA)
• ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, HONOLULU • ST. JOHN VIANNY,
NORTH KONA • ST. JOHN, KEALAKEKUA • ST. JOSEPH, HILO
• ST. JOSEPH, OOKALA • ST. JOSEPH, PAAUILO • ST. JOSEPH,
PEPEEKEO • ST. MARY GATE OF HEAVEN, HILO • ST. MICHAEL
THE ARCHANGEL, HOLUALOA • ST. MICHAEL THE
ARCHANGEL, KAILUA-KONA • ST. PAUL, KAWANUI (MISSION:
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, HOLUALOA) • ST. PETER, MILOHI
• ST. RAPHAEL, LIHUE • ST. RITA, NANAKULI • ST. SOPHIA,
KAUNAKAKAI, ISLAND OF MOLOKAI • ST. THERESA,
KUALAPUU, ISLAND OF MOLOKAI (MISSION: SACRED
HEART, HOOLEHUA) • ST. THERESA, KUKUIHAELE • ST.
THERESA, MT. VIEW, (KURTISTOWN) • ST. THERESA, MT.
VIEW (VOLCANO DISTRICT SCHOOL) • ST. VINCENT
FERRER, MAUNALOHA • STAR OF THE SEA, HONOLULU
• STAR OF THE SEA, KALAPANA • UNIVERSITY OF
HAWAII, HONOLULU • UNIVERSITY OF
HONOLULU, HONOLULU

Over 60 Years of Ministry in Hawaii

President's Message

November 2009



Dear Friends,

As I look out my office window I can see a huge Ginkgo tree which will soon regale us with a gorgeous display of golden leaves; it is something to which I look forward each year. No matter if we are in a time of drought or a season of abundant rain, the Ginkgo leaves always turn gold – always. So, too, it seems to me that our friends and benefactors can always be counted upon. As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, I want to especially thank you for your generosity this past year and to assure you of our prayers of gratitude.



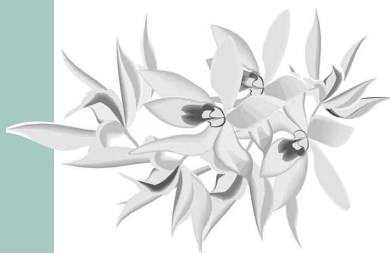
After a little Halloween merriment, November was ushered in with the Feast of All Saints and All Souls. In this issue we place before you the names of our Sisters who have gone before us, and on whose shoulders we stand. Know that during this season we continue to remember in prayer all those for whom we have received memorials this year.

On November 6, 2009 the Sisters celebrated the annual remembering of our Foundation story, which began in San Francisco in 1872. We gathered, we prayed, we discussed, we dined and in general renewed our commitment to each other and our mission “to seek out and advocate for the poor and needy.” This issue of the Family of Friends will enable you to share in our gratitude for our mission work in the areas of Human Trafficking, with the people of Alaska and the honor awarded Sister Marie Ann Brent, and through the dedication of the Donor Wall and History Panels at Holy Family Day Home.

The Sisters will begin the week of Thanksgiving by honoring the Hawaiian people with whom we have ministered for over 60 years and with whom we celebrated the canonization of Father Damien. I hope you will enjoy reading about our connection to the people of Molokai through our Sister Damian's words recorded in our annals. It is good to have reminders of warmer climates during these crisp fall days, as well as the harvest in distant lands.

Soon the golden leaves will be falling, and the gardeners will be gathering them into bundles to be composted. Soon we will gather together to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King and begin another Advent Season.

We hope you will enjoy this issue of the Family of Friends as you gather for the holidays and the festivities which will bring this year to a close.



Sincerely,

Sr. Gladys Guenther

Sister M. Gladys Guenther
Congregational President

In Memoriam

These Sisters of the Holy Family have gone home to God after a lifetime of services to families.

We remember them with love and gratitude for the years we shared with them.

Sister M. John Bosco Crivello

was born in San Francisco and was a member of the Sisters of the Holy Family for 47 years. Sister became attracted to the Holy Family Community by the Sisters she knew while she was in high school and later joined the Sisters of the Holy Family in 1960. Sister John Bosco served as a religious educator for many years. In later years, Sister's ministry was focused on RCIA and adult education. Sister longed more than anything to be an instrument of conversion in the lives of those she touched.



Director of Community Life Department, an office she pioneered to help older Sisters deal with the changes brought on by retirement.

Sister M. Margarite Apostolo,

born in San Francisco, was a member of the Congregation for 60 years. Sister ministered as a Hospital Chaplain for 19 years at Seton Medical Center, Daly City, California and was a member of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. After retiring to the Motherhouse in 2005, Sister established a Bereavement Support Group for bereaved individuals learning to live with the loss of a loved one. Sister also served nine years at many parishes on the Island of Hawaii.



Sister M. Brigid Cullen,

born in San Francisco, was a member of the Congregation for 65 years. Sister's ministry as a religious education teacher included parishes throughout California and Nevada. The love for her call and mission was in the marrow of her bones as was the love and appreciation of the children in her care.



Sister M. Edwardine Bohan,

born in Oakland, was a member of Sisters of the Holy Family for 71 years and worked in many dioceses. Sister served as Executive Director at Saint Vincent's Day Home from 1957 to 1967 and is considered one of the Day Home's pioneers. Sister Edwardine performed Pastoral Care Ministry at Providence Hospital in Oakland, California during the 1970s.



Sister M. Eunice Malloy,

born in San Francisco, was a member of the Sisters of the Holy Family for 75 years. Sister's ministries over the years included her service in the day homes, child care and religious education in California and Nevada. Sister was always commended for her rapport with the children. In later years Sister Eunice was involved in volunteer work with the poor.



Sister M. Elizabeth Murray

was born in San Francisco and was a member of the the Congregation for 59 years. Before Holy Family College closed in 1986 Sister Elizabeth served as Assistant Dean and Dean. For many years Sister Elizabeth ministered in Hawaii, as a Director of Religious Education and as a Pastoral Associate, serving there until the time she returned to the Motherhouse in Fremont due to poor health. Sister was remembered by those in the parishes where she ministered for her Irish laughter, her generous and faithful service to the young and their parents and overall as a sweet, soft-spoken person and a hard-working Sister.



Sister Claude Marie Crinnion,

born in Oakland, served 50 years in the Congregation and ministered in many capacities including Program Director of the Social and Aging Ministry of Catholic Community Services in Salt Lake City. Sister's ministry also included serving as



Sisters Rejoice with the People of Hawaii

On October 11, 2009 Pope Benedict XVI canonized Reverend Damien de Veuste, a Sacred Heart Father from Belgium who cared for leprosy patients throughout the Hawaiian Islands.

SAINT DAMIEN'S STORY

Damien de Veuste came to Hawaii in 1864, was ordained a priest in Honolulu, and worked on the Big Island for nine years before dedicating himself in 1873 to the Hansen's disease (leprosy) patients whom the government had quarantined for life in Kalawao on the Island of Molokai. After 16 years caring for the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of those in the leper colony, Father Damien announced in 1885 that he, too, was a leper; yet he continued to build hospitals, clinics, and churches, and some six hundred coffins. Father Damien died of the disease on April 15, 1889 in Molokai. He is widely considered a "martyr of charity."



Report from Sister Mary Ruth Faisca

CELEBRATING A LEGACY OF COMPASSION AND CARE

I was fortunate to partake in the festivities honoring St. Damien in my hometown of Kohala, one of the districts where St. Damien ministered in 1865. The motorcade I was in traveled a few miles through Kohala with the reliquary carrying St. Damien's relic. It felt like we were on a pilgrimage with a humble and energetic man who gave so much of himself to humanity and now has revisited the fruits of his labor. How blessed the earth and winds must have felt! The highlight of this experience happened when we stopped at Kohala Hospital where we went in with St.

Damien's relic to bless the patients, a ministry so close to St. Damien's heart.

In Sacred Heart Church in Hawi we were greeted with an old Hawaiian chant along with a hula and various songs. Again, his ministry to the sick continued as the sick came forward to pray and to be anointed with the sacred oil of the sick. I spent some quiet time with my hands on the lovely Koa wood case that contained St. Damien's blessed relic and with a heart filled with devotion and gratitude. I lifted all of us to him knowing that his mission lives on.

Sisters Who Ministered in Hawaii

Ancila DeLaO
Angelina Dutra
Brenda Marie O'Connor
Carol Reichert
Dolores Freitas
Hilaria Marie Dawal
Loretta Marie Marbach
Kathleen Littrell
M. Albert Denike
M. Alphonsus Liguori
M. Anita Mendoza
M. Bernardine Waterman
M. Christine Kaelin
M. Christopher Schmidt
M. Damian Gonzales
M. Dorothea Kunnecke
M. Edith Sutherland
M. Eileen Collins
M. Elizabeth Murray
M. Georgette Roeder
M. Helena Boss
M. Joan of Arc Rodrigues
M. Joanna Connolly
M. Joanne Logan
M. Louise Baptista
M. Ludwina Van Woerkom
M. Margarite Apostolo
M. Martin Moran
M. Mercedes Braga
M. Norinne Clifford
M. Rosalie Van Hagen
M. Thaddeus Cuellar
M. Thecla Gilbert
M. Victor Negrete
M. Victorine Richards
Mary Anne Wittman
Mary Helen Jathas
Mary Lange
Mary Lehmann
Mary Roberta Van Woerkom
Mary Ruth Faisca
Patricia Wittman
Rita Margaret Lowe
Rosemary Kaffer
Yolanda DeFrancesco

You're Invited to Celebrate with Us
Sunday, November 22, 2009 2:00 - 4:00 pm
SHF Motherhouse

Join us as we honor the people of Hawaii and celebrate Father Damien's canonization. The afternoon will include prayer, time to "talk story" and time to view a photo display which focuses on the ministry of the Sisters of the Holy Family in Hawaii and has a section dedicated to Molokai.

The photos will remain on display in the front hallway of the Motherhouse through the New Year and can be viewed daily from 9:00 am - 4:30 pm.



SHF Ministry in Hawaii

Soon after the end of World War II, the Bishop of Honolulu at that time, Bishop James J. Sweeney, on surveying the needs of his Diocese, realized the best group to serve the Big Island would be the Community he knew well from his hometown of San Francisco, the Sisters of the Holy Family. At the Bishop's invitation, on August 8, 1947 six Holy Family Sisters arrived in Honokaa to catechize and work with children and families along the Hamakua Coast and north and south Kohala.

The Big Island of Hawaii was the perfect "Call to Ministry" for Sisters of the Holy Family. The Sisters taught Catechism to public school children, trained adult Catechists, and visited the sick, lonely and elderly in their homes. Unlike the other major islands, where a good percentage of parishes had parochial schools, the Big Island only had one, in Hilo. The other 12 parishes and 11 missions were generally small and far-flung. The population was clustered in small towns, plantation communities and ranches.

The first six Sisters who went to Hawaii were Sister M. Dorothea Kunnecke, Sister Rosemary Kaffer, Sister Brenda Marie O'Connor (Sister M. Brendan), Sister M. Damian Gonzales, Sister M. Bernardine Waterman and Sister Alphonsus Liguori. Their destination was Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Honokaa. Sisters Albert Denike and Rosalie Van Hagen joined them in 1948.

The Sisters soon expanded with convents in Mountain View in 1950, Kona in 1955 and Honolulu in 1966. On the Big Island, they worked in all the parishes outside of Hilo. On Oahu they served at St. George Parish in Waimanalo, Blessed Sacrament in Pauoa, and Our Lady of the Mount in Kalihi Valley.

Excerpts from Hawaiian Annals of the Sisters of the Holy Family:

Sister M. Damian Gonzales wrote, "As we left San Francisco we were under the impression it was a final farewell to all we had known and loved as ours was final, as we thought and understood. How little one can know the future – and how useless to worry about tomorrow!"

In 1950, the Sisters of the Holy Family began a series of regular visits to catechize the children of Molokai, conduct home visits, and be of assistance to the people of Molokai. On July 30, 1950, Sister Damian took the mail plane to the Leper Settlement and visited Father Damien's grave. The Franciscan Sisters told Sister Damian everything about leprosy and "the havoc that leprosy can cause to the human body."



Of the Franciscan Sisters, Sister Damian said, "Those Sisters must indeed get a high place in Heaven when their life's span is over. They would dress those ugly wounds with ungloved hands and with loving hands." For eight summers, Sister Damian traveled with two or three other Sisters of the Holy Family to Molokai where Father Damien had built a church.

"When they first went to Kalaupapa one of the originals asked Mother Marianne Cope of the Franciscan Sisters what she would do if one of them contracted leprosy. Mother Marianne looked at the Sister and then in no uncertain words said, 'Sister, no Sister will ever contract leprosy,' and her words have certainly proved prophetic. No Sister ever has."

In the 60 years since that first group of Sisters ministered in Hawaii, many others have followed them and continued the work ministering to the people of Hawaii.

Currently Sister Carol Reichert serves at St. Raphael's Parish in Koloa, Hawaii in the capacity of receptionist and secretary. Sister is also involved in the parish's Ministry to Families.



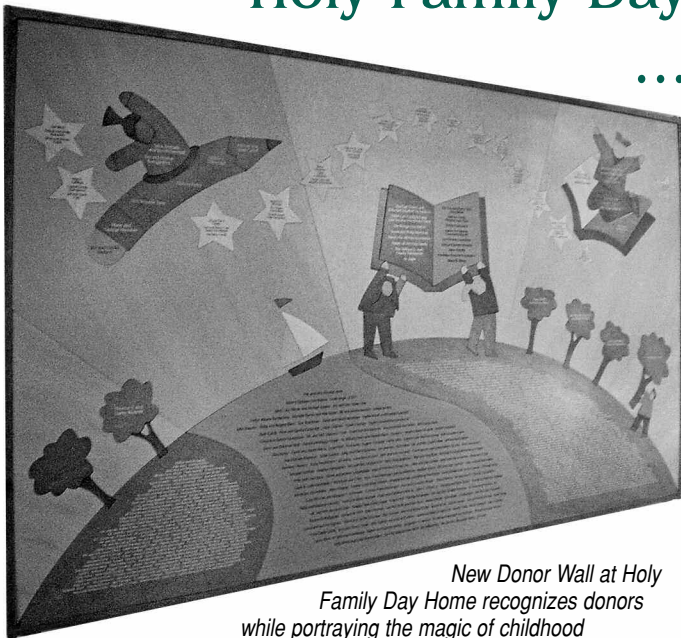


SISTER MARIE ANN BRENT, SHF RECEIVES PAPAL AWARD

Anchorage Archbishop Roger Schwietz presented Sister Marie Ann Brent, Pastoral Administrator of St. Francis Xavier Church, with the highest honor awarded to the laity by the Pope. Sister received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal – which recognizes service “For Church and Pope” during the September 27 Sunday Mass at the Valdez, Alaska parish. In an interview with the Catholic Anchor, Archbishop Schwietz said he requested the award from the Vatican to thank Sister Marie Ann Brent for her many years of work in the Archdiocese. “She has been so instrumental in bonding the community together and carrying out so many pastoral services to the people down there in Valdez. It’s been really marvelous, and she’s very, very well appreciated for that service,” he said. “She’s done all kinds of wonderful work,” the Archbishop Schwietz added, “not only shepherding the parish but working in the name of the church in caring for the people of the whole community.”

Congratulations, Sister Marie Ann!

Holy Family Day Home Donor Wall Unveiled ...Our Mission Funds at Work



New Donor Wall at Holy Family Day Home recognizes donors while portraying the magic of childhood



Sisters at the Donor Wall Dedication were: (l. to r.) Sr. Gladys Guenther, Sr. Michaela O'Connor, Sr. Sandra Ann Silva, Sr. Joan Marie Derry, Sr. Ann Maureen Murphy, Sr. Marianne Smith, and Sr. Karen Stern.

On October 22, 2009 several Sisters of the Holy Family attended the early evening dedication of the Donor Wall and History Panels at Holy Family Day Home in San Francisco. The Donor Wall is a huge wooden puzzle with two children holding a book and surrounded by trees, stars, and rolling hills each depicting the donors to the Capital Campaign which raised funds to replace the original 1911 building damaged by the Loma Prieta earthquake. In addition, the second floor staircase and landing has a series of pictures and artifacts and a history panel which were provided by the Archives of the Sisters of the Holy Family. Sister Michaela O'Connor, SHF Archivist, collaborated in providing the narration for the history panels.

The attendees were welcomed by Ms. Donna Cahill, Executive Director of the Day Home, and a testimonial was given by a woman whose grandchildren attend the

Day Home. Ms. Marie Hurabiell, President of the Board of Directors, thanked the major donors. Mrs. Alfred (Diane) Wilsey, long time donor and wife of the late Board member Al Wilsey, encouraged those in attendance to value the importance of the Day Home in breaking the cycle of poverty and forming young minds. The program ended with Mr. Phil Marineau, Board member, challenging those present to raise \$100,000 in scholarship money this year. He and his wife, Sue, initiated the Campaign with a \$50,000 challenge grant.

Holy Family Day Home is a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of the Holy Family. In November the Day Home will be receiving \$24,000 from the Sisters' Mission Fund for the Embrace-a-Child Scholarship Program. Thank you for your generosity in making this gift a possibility.

Report on Mission Campaign and Other Development Efforts

The September 2009 Mission Campaign Raffle and On-Line Auction were a great success. The total amount realized was \$33,320 which will help support the ministries of the Sisters. The Campaign also made it possible for the Sisters of the Holy Family to receive \$2,763 as a Matching Grant for Sister Michaela O'Connor's ministry to the Kmhmu' community.

The first place winners in our Raffle were Mr. and Mrs. E. Jackson Going Jr. and second place was Mrs. Dorothy Hrepich. Ms. Concetta Lewis won third prize, which was a large Nativity. These winners are faithful and long time benefactors.

We are especially grateful to all our Benefactors, Sisters and Associates who donated auction items and participated in this Campaign. Thank you to everyone who participated, bid, bought raffle tickets and especially to those who made a donation to the Mission Fund this year!

Join Us in Sustaining and Strengthening Our Ministry

I hope you can join us in the coming year and work with us to perpetuate our charism by sustaining and strengthening the mission of our Congregation through ministries that serve families—the foundation of every community. We are happy to offer you two inspiring ways to participate and invest in the Sisters' ministries through our Sustaining Benefactor Program and our Holiday Raffle.

RAFFLE REMINDER:

Raffle Drawing is December 18, 2009. Have you mailed in your tickets? Do you need additional tickets? They are \$6 per ticket, or 5 for \$25, 10 for \$45, 15 for \$70.

END OF YEAR MEMORIAL

We remember our loved ones and honor their memory with great respect as we pray that they will be freed from their sins and share in the prayers of the Sisters of the Holy Family.

*Watch, O Lord with those who wake, or
watch or weep tonight,
And give your angels and saints charge over
those who sleep.
Tend your sick ones, O Christ.
Rest your weary ones; bless your dying ones;
soothe your suffering ones;
Pity your afflicted ones; shield your joyous
ones – all for your love's sake. Amen.*

St. Augustine of Hippo

Contact Us If One of Our Sisters Worked in Your Parish

Recently the Heritage Committee of St. Michael the Archangel Parish, a member of the North Kona Catholic Community of Hawaii, published the "North Kona Catholic Heritage ... Remembered" book. The Archives of the Sisters of the Holy Family provided many photographs and historical data for the project. Many other parishes have also received material from the SHF Archives over the years. If you or someone you know is gathering information on the history of your parish, contact us. We may be able to provide you with photographs, documents and other archives that can help you document the past in your parish community.

Again I looked and saw all the oppression that was taking place under the sun:
I saw the tears of the oppressed - and they have no comforter;
power was on the side of their oppressors - and they have no comforter.

~Eccl. 4:1

On June 22, 2007, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution making January 11 an annual day of awareness and vigilance for the countless victims of Human Trafficking across the globe. You are invited and encouraged to consider how this issue could be included in or become the focus of your worship services and Sunday school programs the week of January 11, 2010 and even in your children's school programs. Talk to your parish priest and school teachers.