



CONGREGATION OF
St. Joseph



Photo by S. Joellen Sbrtssa

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Issue 51

Connections

Summer is changing. Days are still long and fall is not here yet, but we feel our thoughts shifting in new directions...to school beginnings and harvesting crops, to responsibilities and planning new projects. The unforgettable smell of new school supplies greets us in stores, and outside, we detect the sweetness of ripening fruit and vegetables. Can you feel the anticipation and energy as we ready ourselves for change? Thank you for sharing your days with us, and please continue to send your photos to Gina Sullivan. We hope you enjoy the issue.

Sisters in Baton Rouge were invited to join the staff at a recent luncheon at St. Joseph's Academy. New teachers and staff members who've joined SJA this fall spent the morning learning about the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph and of St. Joseph's Academy. To further their understanding of our beautiful charism, Principal Stacia Andricain asked



sisters to share their stories at the luncheon. After their sharing, she graciously thanked them saying, "It was a blessing for all of us to have you here."

Pictured left: **S. Adele Lambert** (sitting, back) and **S. Evelyn Mee** (front, blue sweater)

Right: Principal **Stacia Andricain** and **S. Joan Laplace**



Celebrating Our Jubilarians



Cleveland Jubilarians were honored at a Liturgy of celebration and a community luncheon on Saturday, August 7. 2021 Jubilarians are:
Front: Sr. Rita Petruziello—60th
Sr. Juanita Sheale—70th
Back: Sr. Patricia Adams—60th
Sr. Susan Imburgia—60th
Not shown: Sr. Mary Schrader—60th



In **La Grange**, Jubilarians (left to right) Srs. Marybeth McDermott, 70th Jubilee, Teri Middendorf, 60th Jubilee, Mary Lou Pleitner, 60th Jubilee, Fr. Robert Oldershaw, Mass celebrant, and Sr. Pat Borchardt 70th Jubilee gathered for a Mass of celebration with the community.



Sisters at the **Wichita** Center celebrated their Jubilees on Saturday, June 26th, with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Carl A. Kemme. From left to right beginning with the front row are:
75 years – Srs. Rosina Van Leeuwen, Jean Louise Diskin, Elizabeth Ann Engels; 85 years – Sister Sedonia Isenbart (103 years old); back row: 60 years – Sisters Dolora May, Janice Roberts, Janelle Ann Britain, Rose Monica Donnelly and Mary Ellen Proulx.



Throughout our Centers and our places of presence, sisters, associates, friends and neighbors joined with Network, the Lobby for Catholic Social Justice, to call on senators to vote to pass the For the People Act, a bill that would ensure equal access to the ballot for all voters. Across the congregation, people held witness, called their Senators and signed petitions to support the bill. In West Virginia, a media event drew public attention to the bill, and constituents contacted Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia, voicing their support of the need for the bill to pass.

The bill, if passed, would put in place a law to protect the inviolability of the vote and voters' rights in our country. The For the People Act would provide federal protection of basic voter rights in all states.



Kit Kaiser, Nancy Ray, Christiana Doret, Effie and Margot Eder stand in witness on Gull Road at Nazareth. The sisters at the center have also responded to the request for signatures from NETWORK for the passage of the For The People Act.



In Wheeling, Theresa Metz, Pat Sullivan, Jane Cain, Mary Palmer, Ileana Fernandez, Caroline Benken, Anna Marie Cole attend the media event to advocate for the For the People Act.



In Cleveland, Srs. Marilyn Nickol and Carrie Vall witness for the Bill.



West Virginia group stands For the People Act.





Fun Times!!!



Sisters in La Grange spent a relaxing afternoon at the picturesque Cantigny Gardens. Left, Srs. **Julie Cannon** and **Celine Swezenski** tour the gardens, along with **S. Mary Southard**, center photo.



Happy Birthday Sr. Anna Schellhaus

In Baton Rouge, Sr. Anna celebrated her **96th** birthday with her favorite cake, a Chantilly from Whole Foods, and in the company of many friends who helped her celebrate her life.



This darling alpaca, seen here with Sr. Barb Kupchak, was a recent visitor to the Wheeling Center, delighting all there.

In Nazareth, this sweet little sunflower named Charlotte grew in the sisters' garden. As you can see, someone has accessorized her beautifully.



S. Evelyn LaGory takes in the colorful hot air balloons at the Coney Island Hot Air Balloon Festival in Cincinnati.





The old Highland Elementary basketball hoop and backboard (on the ground) are replaced with outstanding new equipment. New soccer goals, too, became part of the project, making the playground and sports areas a brand new place for children to play. Here, the equipment is dedicated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Sr. Annie Ramagos also presented the principal with a S. Mary Southard art print for the school.

In Baton Rouge, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held at Highland Elementary to reopen the newly refurbished sports areas. As CSJ Sisters and Associates, our charism embraces the desire “to serve the dear neighbor without distinction.” Each year a service project is planned by our Medaille Sisters and Associates, and in January 2020, the service committee identified the needs of Highland Elementary as our next project.

We began to develop a plan to replace basketball backboards on the playground so that the children could have a more enjoyable outdoor play experience. Plans were put on hold, however, when Covid 19 restrictions were implemented.

During spring 2021, we began to explore how we might best continue the project. After a passionate plea, a few generous donors provided funds to replace 6 basketball hoops and backboards and 2 soccer goals. At the outset of the proposed project, we had worked with former principal, **Justin Robicheaux**, and now at the project’s completion, we are finishing with current principal, Ms. **Sharon Thomas**.

The students are blessed to have these dedicated educators in their lives. As many Associates and a few Sisters have volunteered at Highland Elementary over the years, we are thrilled that this service project will have a positive impact at Highland Elementary by providing a nice play area for our "little neighbors" for many years to come.