



CONGREGATION OF
St. Joseph



Photo by S. Theresa Hafner

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Issue 52

Connections

Today, Labor Day, let us remember the gifts of workers. They provide us with the ability to live and to thrive, to eat, to learn, to be healthy and to heal, to be sheltered, to travel, to stay connected to each other and to God. Workers touch every aspect of our life, and each plays a part in God's plan. As St. Joseph reminds us, we are enhanced by the dignity and devotion of work, no matter how humble. Remember a prayer today for each person who touches us through their work and that we embrace justice for each worker. Thank you for sharing your days with us, and please continue to send your photos to Gina Sullivan. We hope you enjoy the issue.



In Wheeling, Sisters gathered to pack mini back packs for unsheltered women who attend the Blossoms program at Laughlin Chapel. The program meets each Saturday to provide community, support, a hot meal and access to showers for local unsheltered women. Each mesh bag held twenty personal care items and a handwritten note of encouragement with the hopes it would lift spirits. **S. Mary Clark** displays the packs.



In La Grange, Sr. Mary Jo Curtsinger met with new student interns from Taller de Jose in Chicago. Using some of our photos on a “nifty photo board” and our publication, ImagineOne, the orientation session introduced interns to our CSJ’s spirituality and mission. Pictured here are interns (left to right) **Claire Whalen** (Amate House), **Katie Wojda** (JVC), **Poleth Garcia** (Dominican University), **S. Mary Jo Curtsinger**, interns **Arleth Garcia** (Dominican University), **Aliette Diaz-Valls** (Loyola University), **Alejandra Padilla** (NEIU) and **Lizette Martinez** (Dominican University).



In Cleveland, some of the Sisters gathered for an afternoon at the beach. Left (front) **Jane Ann Comerford**, **Delphine Kennedy** (back) **Dorothy Turk**, **Rita Shinhearl**, **Juanita Shealey**, **Felicia Petruziello**. Right: A dog at the beach found **S. Mary Schrader**, our lover of dogs, and adopted her for the day.



On the Road with Kascha Sanor



Top: (left to right) Kascha, Kate Marshall, Sr. Kathleen Durkin & Danny Swan on the steps of Mother Jones Center for Resilient Community after a tour of incredible trauma informed care art spaces! Left: S. Kathleen Durkin and Kascha enjoy a tasty apple at the urban orchard.

Our Director of Social and Environmental Justice, **Kascha Sanor**, began her visits to our Centers to familiarize herself with our people and places. Kascha's first visit was to Wheeling, where she met with Sisters, staff and area organizations that serve the Dear Neighbor. She reflected on the warmth and beauty of her stay, and commented on the love and service shown to all. While there, she was able to tour some of the area work and projects that we support or are involved in. She especially enjoyed a visit with Sr. Kathleen Durkin to an urban apple orchard, bringing healthy food to the city.

In Cleveland, her next stop, Kascha met with the Sisters for a meet and greet ice cream social and graciously participated in a question and answer session. There were meetings with Peace and Justice, Anti-racism and Sustainability committee members to share thoughts and ideas and hear of current work being done. In touring the Cleveland area, she was happily surprised by the amount of green space there, and she commented that everyone was happy and eager to meet and speak with her, as she was with them.

Kascha will continue to visit all our Centers and is very much looking forward to meeting our Sisters and staff, learning more about us and developing a richer picture of who we are while she is on her journey. She hopes to collect "the many tributaries of our shared dedication to Anti-racism, Laudate Si and other areas in which we are working and direct them to the same river of change."

Her next scheduled visit is to Kalamazoo. Thank you, Kascha, for generously sharing photos of your journey with us.



In Cleveland, Kascha, Srs. Carrie Vall, Felicia Petruziello, Marilyn Nickol and Juanita Shealey.



In Cleveland, **Bishop Edward Malesic** celebrated Mass and performed a Dedication and Blessing of the newly built Hall of St. Agnes + Our Lady of Fatima Parish. Bishop Malesic told the parishioners and others at Mass that Jesus called us to look after one another, especially those who are more vulnerable. “This parish does that well and looks out for the neighborhood,” he said, “I am especially happy to be here tonight to bless and dedicate the parish hall. Dream big on what it can be used for. Use it to draw people together and feed their souls as well as their bodies...The world, as you know, can be a very cold place. Warm it up with the light of Christ.”

The Hall will also be used as a place for the larger community. Sisters attending the event included **Sr. Juanita Shealey** (seen here at upper right with Bishop Malesic) and **Sr. Rita Shinhearl** (bottom, second from right). Sr. Rita is a member of the parish Wisdom Council.