In this world, how can I bring hope?

I pray for my loved ones

Tell people that they can believe

Be nice

To be nice and loving to people

Reading the Dreams of Our Children
How Youth Bring Hope to the World

Walking Together
An Update on the Synodal Process
A

dults set examples and lay the foundation for the next generation. While so much good goes on in our society, we also experience a daily onslaught of unrest and violence. The world seems to have moved past the point of moral civility. Our schools are fortresses. I recently asked Catholic school 5th graders if they felt safe. The majority of them said “No” and stated many reasons why they did not feel safe. This conversation left me distressed and concerned as to how we should educate students who come to school in fear. How do we apply solutions, when we don’t agree on problems?

In the article titled Reading the dreams of our Children, children shared mixed responses when asked “In this crazy world, how will you bring hope?” “I couldn’t tell you how I would bring hope until I told you what I and some of my friends been through,” said Donnell S. “If each individual would try their hardest to be the best versions of themselves, there would be much hope for a better future,” wrote Liv R. Madilyn M said, “There is hope in the normal day to day life.”

Would you respond differently if you answered the same question? Adults tend to mollify situations while children respond through a larger lens. As you may imagine, our polarized world is devastating to the younger generation, while we adults continually interrupt the state of our union, bringing it to a tipping point.

John Donne, an English poet and scholar wrote “No Man is an Island, entire of itself, every man/ is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.” We are connected as brothers and sisters in Christ. As part of the “main” of humankind, we help each other during times of suffering and war to assist homeless people and to provide support for those who have been devastated by global warming and disasters. In the Dominican Sisters’ Walking Together Synodal Process, the synod conversation participants said they understand the Church to be the place where all people unite in faith as one. They spoke of the spiritual benefits of working together and sharing God’s work in our daily lives to make this world a better place. Society is bombarded with negativity and democracy is fragile. As democracy drifts away, we must find the inner peace and gratitude that gives us hope for a brighter future.

As the wise Dominican Gustavo Gutierrez has said, “we must create hope.” May this issue of JUST Words be such a sign of hope.

Dr. Shirley Morris, Ed.D. is a Catholic administrator and member of the JUST Words editorial board.
Celebrating 150 Years of Mission and Ministry for the Life of the World

Anniversary Announcement

On August 19, 1873, five sisters arrived in Jacksonville, Ill., to undertake an educational mission to the mostly Irish, mostly immigrant children attending St. Patrick School. Our sisters have celebrated that date every year since as Founders’ Day.

This year, on the cusp of the 150th anniversary of that historic day, we welcome you to join us. Starting with the 149th Founder’s Day this August 19 through sunset on the 150th anniversary in 2023, please join us in a festival of great thanksgiving to God for the privilege of so many years of Dominican life, mission, and ministry.

Check out the next page for a list of events scheduled throughout our anniversary year.
Save the Dates

6:00 p.m., Friday, August 19, 2022
Opening Mass and Reception at Sacred Heart Convent, Celebrant, Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. By invitation; livestreamed.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Saturday, August 27, 2022
Associates and Sisters Day of Reflection, Sacred Heart Convent. Livestreamed.

Thursday, February 2, 2023
Taizé prayer in observance of World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, Sacred Heart Convent Chapel. Public celebration; livestreamed.

Saturday, April 22, 2023
Celebrating our Mission festivities in Jacksonville. Public events at Jacksonville Area Museum, Calvary Cemetery, and Our Saviour Parish, Jacksonville, Ill.

Saturday, August 19, 2023
150th Founders’ Day Celebration. Public liturgy and agape festival, Sacred Heart Convent; livestreamed.

Other Ways to Participate
Watch for:
- Monthly prayer services in local convents among sisters and associates, the 19th of each month
- Opportunities to join sisters and associates in service activities
- Tours of Sacred Heart Convent Chapel
- Multimedia presentations, videos, and stories about community history at springfieldop.org
- Special episodes of F.L.O.W.cast, the Springfield Dominican Sisters’ podcast
- Exhibit at the Jacksonville Area Museum, April 22 to July 30, 2023

Dominican Sisters of Springfield, Illinois

Celebrating 150 Years For the Life of the World
Hi, my name is Donnell S.

My Mom Saunja said to me, “If you want to play your game, you have to respond to a question my job is asking.” Now I’m 13 and my game is all I know. When the pandemic hit, me and a lot of my friends turned to our games. I was active in sports and my mom made me go to church but that all stop when the pandemic hit. My mom got on me a lot about being on my game but what she didn’t understand is it’s all I had. A lot of my friends became depressed and they got in lots of trouble and me, well I didn’t want to do nothing but play my game. So when my mom will ask me to do something, I wasn’t quick to move because, I guess you could say the game had all control. Even though school has started back the damage is already done. Then I look a round and wonder what do us young kids have to look up to. There’s a war going on and there’s all kinds of crime all over the nation. It’s scary for us young kids. My Mom tells me to always look to God and I know sometimes she don’t think I do. She probably thinks I’m writing this just for my game. But I will let her know at night I sleep with my Bible. I know the question was how would I bring hope? But I couldn’t tell you how I would bring hope until I told you what I and some of my friends been through. The way I would bring hope is by starting a young kids group. We would meet up on certain days talk about our problems and what we can do to make better choices. We would read the Bible, talk about the scripture and what it means. We would end with a good game or music. Although I wrote this to get my game time, I truly would like to bring hope by letting other young kids know that there is hope with God by there side even though sometimes I get a little off track. God is always there.

Hola, mi nombre es Donnell S.

Mi mamá Saunja me dijo: “Si quieres jugar tu juego, debes responder a una pregunta que me hicieron en el trabajo”. Tengo 13 años y mi juego es mi mundo. Cuando llegó la pandemia, muchos de mis amigos y yo nos enfocamos en nuestros juegos. Yo practicaba deportes y mi madre me llevaba a la iglesia, pero todo eso se detuvo cuando llegó la pandemia.Mi mamá me regañaba mucho por meterme en mi juego, pero ella no entendía que eso era todo lo que tenía.Muchos de mis amigos se deprimieron y se metieron en muchos problemas y yo, bueno, no quería hacer nada más que jugar mi juego. Entonces, cuando mi mamá me pedía que hiciera algo, no respondía rápido porque, se podría decir que el juego tenía control sobre mí. A pesar de que la escuela ha comenzado de nuevo, el daño ya está hecho.Miro a mi alrededor y me pregunto qué pueden admirar los niños pequeños. Una guerra está en curso y hay todo tipo de delitos en todo el país. Los niños pequeños tenemos miedo. Mi mamá me dice que fije la mirada en Dios y sé que a veces ella piensa que eso era todo lo que tenía.Muchos de mis amigos se deprimieron y se metieron en muchos problemas y yo, bueno, no quería hacer nada más que jugar mi juego. Entonces, cuando mi mamá me pedía que hiciera algo, no respondía rápido porque, se podría decir que el juego tenía control sobre mí. A pesar de que la escuela ha comenzado de nuevo, el daño ya está hecho.Miro a mi alrededor y me pregunto qué pueden admirar los niños pequeños. Una guerra está en curso y hay todo tipo de delitos en todo el país. Los niños pequeños tenemos miedo. Mi mamá me dice que fije la mirada en Dios y sé que a veces ella piensa que no lo hago. Probablemente ella piensa que estoy escribiendo esto solo para volver a mi juego. Pero le haré saber que por la noche duermo con mi Biblia. Sé que la pregunta era ¿cómo traer esperanza? Pero no podía decirte cómo yo traigo esperanza hasta que supieras lo que yo y algunos de mis amigos vivimos. La forma en que traería esperanza es comenzando un grupo de niños pequeños. Nos reuniríamos en ciertos días para hablar sobre nuestros problemas y lo que podemos hacer para tomar mejores decisiones. Leíramos la Biblia, hablaríamos sobre las Escrituras y lo que significan. Terminaríamos con un buen juego o música. Aunque escribí esto para tener permiso para jugar, realmente me gustaría llevar esperanza haciéndoles saber a otros niños que con Dios hay siempre esperanza, aunque a veces me desvío un poco. Dios siempre está ahí.
Reading the Dreams of Our Children

By Cathy Becker

Just days before the massacre of 19 children and two teachers at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, the JUST Words Editorial Board invited young people ages 9-18 to tell us how they can bring hope to the world. The day of the shooting it suddenly felt to me, a mom to a 13-year-old, that it was hypocritical to ask the next generation to provide hope for the future when my generation has systemically denied that future to so many of their peers. Our nation’s inability to stop the sale of weapons that kill children, to reign-in the use of fossil fuels and plastics that contribute to irreversible climate change, our inability to let go of the blinders of partisanship, and our often-selfish responses to the pandemic all mitigate against hope.

Nevertheless, in their usual style, our young people rose to the challenge. Their responses centered on the essential, the only things they can control: their agency for kindness, compassion, and care of creation. Reading the dreams of our children should be the gauge for our future actions. Their hopes are a perfect litmus test for our decisions regarding a future in which God’s dream for the world comes to fulfillment.

Cathy Becker is a Springfield Dominican associate, a member of the JUST Words editorial board, and youth minister at St. Agnes Parish, Springfield, Ill.

In this crazy world, I will bring hope by trying my hardest to be a good person, as well as inspiration. Unfortunately, the world is filled with cruel people. But if each individual would try their hardest to be the best versions of themselves, there would be much hope for a better future. I will continue to strive to be the best I can be, so that I can contribute to bringing hope in this crazy world.

En este mundo loco, llevaré esperanza haciendo todo lo posible por ser una buena persona, así como también inspiración. Desafortunadamente, el mundo está lleno de gente cruel. Pero si cada persona hiciera todo lo posible por ser la mejor versión de sí mismo, habría mucha esperanza en un futuro mejor. Continuaré esforzándome por ser lo mejor que pueda ser, para poder contribuir a traer esperanza en este mundo loco.

I can be kinder.

Puedo ser más amable.

I can bring hope by helping others with some of my spiritual gifts or just make someone smile today and be kind.

Puedo traer esperanza al ayudar a otros con algunos de mis dones espirituales o simplemente haciendo que alguien sonría hoy y sea amable.
Leyendo Los Sueños De Nuestros Hijos
Por Cathy Becker

Justo unos días antes de la masacre de 19 niños y dos maestras en la Escuela Primaria Robb en Uvalde, Texas, la Junta Editorial de JUST Words invitó a niñ@s y jóvenes de 9 a 18 años a contarnos cómo pueden traer esperanza al mundo. El día del tiroteo, de repente me pareció a mí, madre de una niña de 13 años, que era hipócrita pedirle a la próxima generación que brinde esperanza para el futuro cuando mi generación ha negado sistemáticamente ese futuro a los de su edad. La incapacidad de nuestra nación para detener la venta de armas que mata niños, controlar el uso de combustibles y plásticos que contribuyen al cambio climático irreversible, nuestra incapacidad para dejar de lado la ceguera político-partidista y nuestras respuestas a menudo egoístas a la pandemia, mitigan la esperanza.

Sin embargo, muy a su propio estilo, nuestros jóvenes aceptaron el desafío. Sus respuestas se centraron en lo esencial, las únicas cosas que pueden controlar: su capacidad para la bondad, la compasión y el cuidado de la creación. Leer los sueños de nuestros hijos debe ser el indicador de nuestras acciones futuras. Sus esperanzas son una prueba de fuego perfecta para nuestras decisiones sobre un futuro en el que el sueño de Dios para el mundo se haga realidad.

Cathy Becker es asociada de las Dominicas de Springfield, miembro de la junta editorial de JUST Words y está en la Pastoral de jóvenes en St. Agnes Parish, Springfield, IL.

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Kaidence M. - 9
In this crazy world, I will bring HOPE by:
• Praying for my friends and family
• Praying for the courage to keep trying
• I also will say more kind words
• I will keep smiling
• I will receive Communion & invite Jesus into me!

En este mundo loco, traeré ESPERANZA:
• Rezando por mis amigos y familiares
• Rezando por el coraje para seguir intentándolo
• También diré más palabras bondadosas.
• Seguiré sonriendo
• ¡Recibiré la Comunión e invitaré a Jesús a entrar en mí!

Madilyn M. - 10
In this world I can bring hope by planting new life. Everyday someone looks outside and if they cannot look they can smell or feel. I would like to brighten peoples’ days by planting flowers and trees to show that there is hope in the normal day to day life.

En este mundo puedo traer esperanza plantando nueva vida. Todos los días alguien mira hacia afuera y si no puede mirar, puede oler o sentir. Me gustaría alegrar los días de las personas plantando flores y árboles para mostrar que hay esperanza en lo cotidiano de cada día.

Want to see more of the submissions for our Youth Brings Hope Project? Visit springfieldop.org/youthhope
Walking Together:
An Update on the Synodal Process
By The Synod Conveners

Exquisite! Magnificent! These words describe the rich beauty of a “planetary tapestry” woven through the global synod convoked by Pope Francis in October 2021. Stories, concerns, critiques, and dreams of Catholics the world over are due in Rome by August 15, and will be processed through the synod office in preparation for the global synod of bishops in October 2023.

The Dominican Sisters of Springfield will submit a report to the Vatican summarizing the conversations we’ve had with people to whom and with whom we minister. We welcomed into serious conversation many who spoke with us about how we might walk together more effectively as Church. Responding to the call of Pope Francis we explored questions such as: How are we doing? Where might we improve? What would our Church look like if our dreams materialized?

Here is a sampling of thoughts shared by participants after our synodal conversations about the experience and their perception of the Holy Spirit’s presence.

Sisters Barbara Blesse, Elyse Marie Ramirez, Jean Patrice Schingel and Mila Díaz Solano were conveners for the Springfield Dominican Sisters synod process.

Associate Nancy Rita Kaz commented: “I was surprised that the Church is interested in what we have to say and I was grateful for the freedom to speak my truth. I felt like I was being heard. Being listened to creates an intimacy that wouldn’t otherwise happen.”

Dave Sanders, another associate, also participated and served as a facilitator and a scribe. He felt the presence of the Holy Spirit “in the prayers, in the sincerity and wisdom of words the participants spoke and their eagerness to speak, but mostly in the hope that filled each moment of each session.” Reluctant at first to spend so much time in this endeavor, he admits “it turned out to be a great blessing. The experience was very spiritual as well as being a time for bonding and friendship building…. Most of all, it was a time to participate in a constructive process to advance Christ’s mission in the Church.”

The Holy Spirit’s presence within the “coming together” for the listening sessions was also the experience of the student Dominican Preachers and the campus ministers of their high schools. Across the board they mentioned how fruitful it was for them to speak with other people who were doing the same work of promoting the Dominican charism in their respective high schools.

Anna Grill from Marian Catholic said she felt “the Holy Spirit working in many ways that allowed teenagers from all different areas of Illinois to express what God has put on their hearts. I saw the Spirit let these people be bold with what they needed to say. I loved the experience. It was so amazing. It is sometimes challenging to find like-minded people that care so deeply about wanting a change in the Church and I wish I could experience something like this more often.”

Judy Babb Troxell, an SDART member and associate, expressed excitement and gratitude that the synodal process gave her hope in “the opportunity to go deep, examining all aspects of life, mission, and ministry as called by God to live and preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

As members of SDART and associates, Charlie and Kattie Minor have known the Springfield Dominicans since 2004. Charlie said: “My take on it is this: The Holy Spirit tells us what makes us different. Whether we are Baptist or Catholic is not where we stop. No, we have the same goal and are walking in the same direction. The Spirit is saying, ‘Keep at it. Keep walking together street by street, town by town heading towards God!’”

The President of the Board of Directors at the all-girls Rosary High School, Travis Ketterman, appreciates that “the power of prayer and the personalities of the people were an amazing combination… In particular, the discussion on the need to increase the involvement of women at the decision-making levels of the Church—from a parish on up—was reaffirming. Based on the power of the Holy Spirit and the dynamic gifts bestowed on individual Catholics, I remain as optimistic as ever for the future.”

(continued on page 10)
Sarah Tapscott, a board member at Sacred Heart-Griffin, experienced her synodal session as “very interactive…collaborative…and inclusive.” She detected the Holy Spirit’s manifestation as community. “I felt as though the listening sessions allowed us to gather…representing different schools, and share our thoughts and experiences without judgment. I felt there was intentional time and space devoted to allowing the Holy Spirit to be present as we reflected individually about the questions being asked and during our small group conversations.”

Campus ministers Courtney Adams (SHG) and Michael Rawls (MCHS) both have renewed hope after their students risked sharing honestly during their listening session. Courtney observed that it was so good for the students to be able to say what they thought and, in the end, not feel judged for it by the sisters. Courtney and Michael said they experience hope for the future of the Church as the students continue to open themselves to the presence of the Spirit in their lives. Courtney observed that this synodal process helped lay the groundwork for the students to embrace the challenge of “how will I be Christ to other people?” Growing in that understanding, they will truly be Church themselves, part of a living, breathing Church. Michael’s experience helped him realize the Church is not just an institution to be studied but a complex reality that has grown and developed over the past 2000 years and that seeks to meet the needs of society today.

Sophia Cousins, from Rosary, appreciated the group discussion: “especially the way we were able to listen to others’ perspectives and build our responses off one another. It was encouraging to hear and discuss with others the way they are being witnesses of faith in other places and to know that I’m in solidarity with fellow high school students living their faith. I gained a new excitement for spreading the traditions of the beautiful Catholic faith.”

Sacred Heart-Griffin student Kathleen Lauterbach said she “liked hearing about how others practice their faith and what they may struggle with. It was a great experience where I could recognize that we are all similar in faith.”

More than 100 of these partners in mission and dozens of Springfield Dominican Sisters participated in the synodal journey. Including the following:

- Springfield Dominican Associates
- Coworkers at Sacred Heart Convent
- Board members from Marian Catholic, Chicago Heights, Ill.; Rosary, Aurora, Ill., and Sacred Heart-Griffin, Springfield, Ill.
- High school students designated as “Dominican Preachers” at all three schools
- Members of SDART, the Springfield Dominican Antiracism Team

Deep gratitude to ALL those who have generously taken part and benefited from the synodal listening sessions. Synodality among us has only just begun!
Your Gifts are Building “Paradise” in Jarpa
By Sister Kathleen Anne Tait, OP

The excitement is mounting among the parishioners and youth of San Juan Bautista de Jarpa, Peru! One of the youths, Milagros, told Sister Eli, “We thought our pastoral house would be impossible to achieve. Today you see a paradise building—a dream of many years has come true!” The convent and parish center are taking shape and the potential for enhancing the parish life experiences and the working conditions for our sisters is palpable.

It is heartwarming to see the collective effort and generosity producing this building project. It started with the people in the parish contributing labor for the demolition of the old center and convent and reusing many of the materials for others who needed them. The generosity of Peruvian donors and our Partners in Mission together provide funds needed for the construction. The parishioners are crafting the furniture for the classrooms and parish center which keeps costs down and creates a feeling of ownership of God’s mission for the Church in this area of Huancayo, Peru.

“...The beginning conversations about construction sounded like previous ones without action. Today it is becoming a reality!” The collective effort is providing more than just new rooms. Sister Doris says it will also “dignify the life of the people of Jarpa with bathrooms, and a kitchen for preparing hot drinks, a spacious area safe from rodents.”

Your generosity deeply touches lives. Sister Eli said “the new building will shelter the dignity of the children, young people, and families of the parish—dignity often denied by a system of exclusion.” The parish center will serve the people of thirty towns that make up San Juan Bautista de Jarpa Parish. Thank you for reaching across national borders to make this dream come true!

Sister Kathleen Anne is the director of mission advancement for the Dominican Sisters.
"Deeply Dramatic"

Dominicans in Krakow Welcome Ukrainian Refugees

By Friar Andrzej Mońka, OP

It was obvious to us from the beginning that we wanted to help people who were forced to flee their own country because of the war. Since then we have had the privilege of hosting 145 people. Currently, we have prepared places for twenty people in our priory, and in the properties adjacent to our priory we have adapted five apartments for another forty people.

Today we take care of other needs of our guests such as finding a job or sending their children to school, while the first days after the outbreak of war were deeply dramatic. The Krakow train station was overcrowded just as it was at the World Youth Days in 2016 with the difference, however, that these people had nowhere to stay overnight. The cold of winter, unfamiliar with the category of pity, only made the situation worse. Nightly phone calls begging for help. A boy with a broken leg, a mother with a two-week-old baby, teenager showing us footage of his home razed to the ground. These images will stay with us forever.
In all this, however, we were able to experience that the good—given quickly—returns with its redoubled blessing. Guests who live in our monastery eat meals with us. On Sundays we have meals together with the families who live in the 5 apartments around the monastery. There is a lot of joy and a good, family atmosphere.

Very touching is the attitude of the mothers, despite their own need for support. They take care of their children, give them hope and encouragement. Most of all, though, it’s very edifying that our guests do not lose their faith and try to see this experience in the light of faith. It is a great lesson for us.

_Father Andrzej was ordained to the priesthood for the St. Hyacinth Province of the Dominicans, Krakow, Poland, on May 28. Before entering the Order of Preachers, he completed a degree in geodesy and cartography._

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**About the images**

Pg. 12: Father Andrzej carries a mattress to an apartment for refugee families. Each family has its own kitchen, bathroom, and washing machine. All maintenance costs are covered by the Dominicans.

Top: Sign welcoming guests to the dinner table.

Left: Brother Konrad and Brother Simon visit with their guests.
Do you remember what you were doing in 1962, or 1972? How about 1997?

Those years are special for our sisters who celebrate their 60th, 50th, or 25th anniversary of profession of vows. Just as married couples often mark significant dates with special celebrations, so do Catholic sisters when the time roles around to reflect on the most significant moment of our lives—our yes to God and to the people of God. This year we celebrate the fidelity of 16 of our sisters who mark their milestone anniversaries.

60th Anniversary Celebrants
Profession Date: June 19, 1962

Sister Francis Mary Philipp, OP
Sister Jane Ann Beckman, OP
Sister Ann Vincent Terracina, OP
Sister June Volpe, OP
Sister Rose Miriam Schulte, OP
Sister M. Josetta Brown, OP
Sister Rosemary McGuire, OP
Sister Beverly Jeanne Howe, OP
Sister Kristin Rever, OP
Sister Mary Jean Traeger, OP
Total years of vowed religious life: 600

50th Anniversary Celebrants
Profession date: June 19, 1972

Sister M. Geraldine Kemper, OP
Sister M. Paulette Joerger, OP
Sister Catherine Mary Currie, OP
Total years of vowed religious life: 150

25th Anniversary Celebrants
Profession date: August 9, 1997

Sister Linda Mary DeLonais, OP
Sister Susan Karina Dickey, OP
Total years of vowed religious life: 50

A combined 800 years of vowed life, lived For the Life of the World.

Thank you, sisters! Our community celebration, a private Mass and a festive meal, is scheduled for Aug 6. Please share in our joy with a prayer of thanksgiving or a note of appreciation for the jubilarians at https://springfieldop.org/jubilee-2022/
For the first time since 2019, the commitment ceremony for a Springfield Dominican Associate class was held in-person at Sacred Heart Convent Chapel on Sunday, May 1, 2022. Twelve associates made commitment. To read more about the new associate class visit https://springfieldop.org/commitment2022


Please pray for the repose of the souls of these sisters and associates who have died in the peace of Christ.

Claire Stapleton, Associate, January 8, 2022
Vernice Jones, Associate, January 9, 2022
Carol Sipes, Associate, January 20, 2022
Sister Helen Michael Horne, OP, February 13, 2022
Sister M. Virginia Derhake, OP, February 25, 2022
Alejandro de la Cruz, Associate, March 15, 2022
Sister M. Noel Plummer, OP, April 13, 2022
Sister M. Teresine Zarones, OP, May 13, 2022
Merlin Skretvedt, Associate, June 1, 2022

Visit https://springfieldop.org/donate to make a gift in memory of a sister or associate who has died.
Dominican Sources

“Hope does not exist in a moment; we must create hope. Hope is a gift, a grace, and when we receive a gift, it is not for us; it is for our neighbor.”

Gustavo Gutierrez, OP

DATEBOOK

Events not public unless otherwise noted.

| July  | 4   | Independence Day |
|      | 17-23 | Retreat at Sacred Heart Convent |
|      | 22   | Feast of St. Mary Magdalen, Patron of the Order of Preachers |
| August | 6   | Jubilee Celebration, Sacred Heart Convent |
|       | 8    | Feast of St. Dominic de Guzman, Founder of the Order of Preachers |
|       | 19   | Founder’s Day: Opening of 150th Anniversary Year of Celebration |
|       | 27   | Annual Associate & Sisters Day of Reflection, Sacred Heart Convent |
| September | 1   | World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation |
|        | 5    | Labor Day |
|        | 8    | International Literacy Day |
|        | 21   | World Day of Peace |