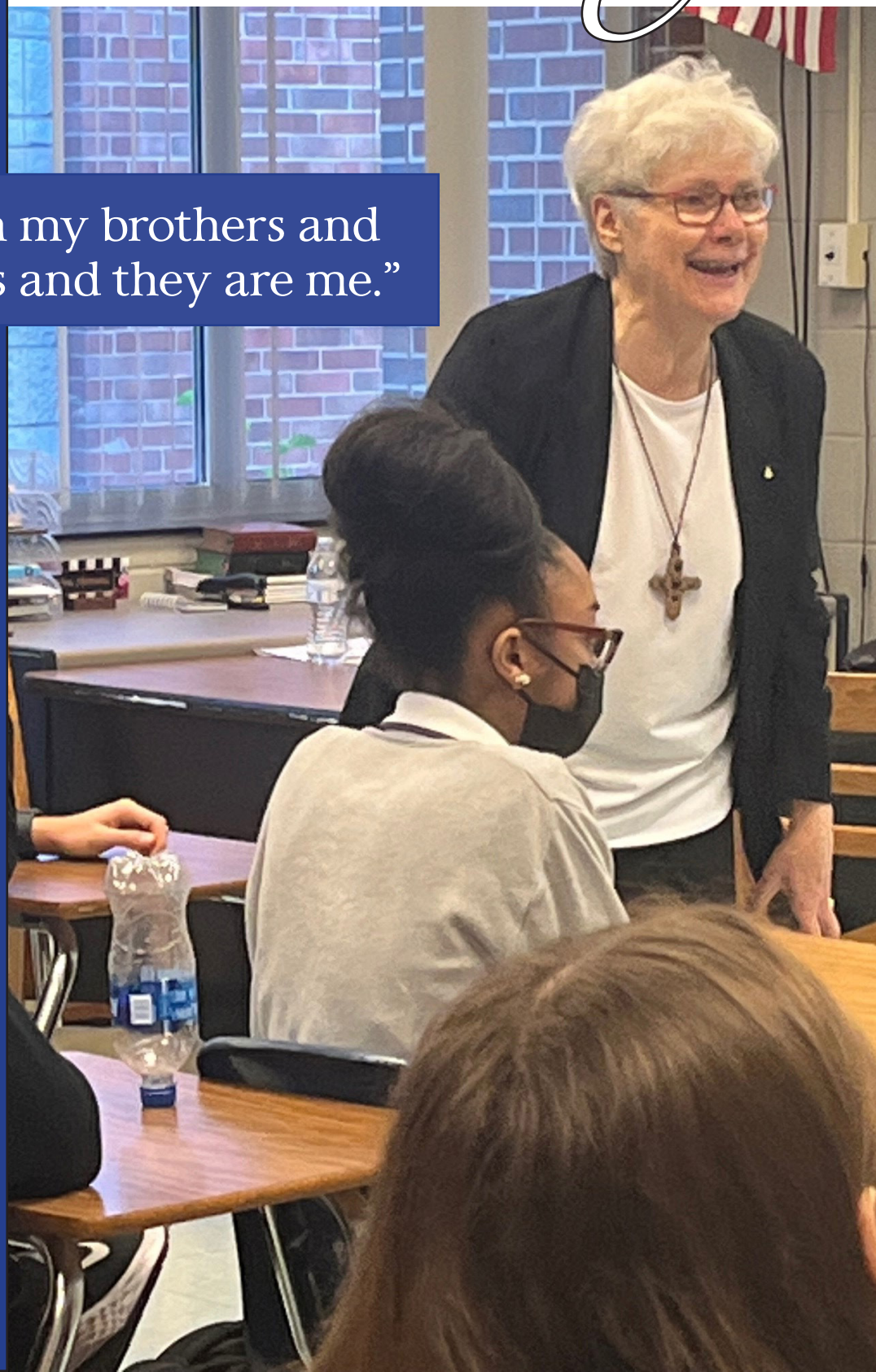


# JUST *Words*

“I am my brothers and sisters and they are me.”



# THE CONTEXT

It is not an exaggeration to say our existence is dependent upon relationship. Relationships are life-giving in so many ways; even the act of creation is evidence of relationship. We are created *out of* the love God has for us and *for* relationship with God and others. He loves us into existence, so it is no wonder we are hard-wired to seek relationship. Our Trinitarian God is the essence of relationship. As with God, our relationships define us.

In Jesus, we have a model for our relationships on Earth. All His actions and teaching were done in context of relationship. He heals the sick and forgives the sinner only after finding out who they are and what they need. Take the healing of the man blind from birth (John 9) or the Samaritan Woman at the Well (John 4), for instance. Jesus welcomes them into a deeper relationship with himself and His Father in a way that shapes their identity for the rest of their lives. They discover their true selves. Our relationship with Jesus is no different. We find out not only who we are but whose we are in relationship with Him.

The man born blind and the Samaritan women had one encounter with Jesus that we know of. Those with whom he was in community—Peter, Mary Magdalene, Martha, Mary, Lazarus... his own mother—were continually transformed; broken open, and healed. Sometimes our relationship with Jesus and with others are not easy, but they are worth the growth and intimacy that ultimately bring joy. The

journey is so much more when we are accompanied by others.

We do our best work, prayer, thinking, serving, and loving in relationship with others and Jesus. In this issue we share stories to demonstrate that. We hear from Sister M. Clare who tells us how her relationship with Sister Philomena clarified her call to be a Dominican. Associate Carolyn White remembers how Sister Cecilianne challenged her to do and be more in ministry. Father Joseph Brown, SJ, grounds us in the covenant, both new and old, which Sister Mary Rose



exemplified to him as a young boy. And, lastly, Sister Santina shares prayer techniques to help us be truly in relationship with—and in the presence of—God.

*Cathy Becker is a Springfield Dominican associate, member of the JUST Words Editorial Board, wife to associate Joshua Becker, Mom to three incredible daughters, and Director of Faith Formation at St. Agnes Parish in Springfield, Ill. All of these relationships are rooted in her relationship with the Trinity.*

## Mission Statement:

Called by God  
into right relationship  
with all creation and  
graced by  
Dominican life and mission,  
we compassionately preach  
the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

### JUST Words

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ministry of the Dominican  
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# 150 Years for the Life of the World

The-celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Dominican Sisters of Springfield began August 19, 2022, with a celebratory Eucharist and has been going full steam ever since.

Each month, on the 19th day of the month, our sisters offer prayer in remembrance of and gratitude for the people we've encountered in our ministries around the world.

You can find those prayers and join in at [www.springfieldop.org/150years](http://www.springfieldop.org/150years).

In December, sisters, associates, and students from one of our high schools prepared gift bags for distribution to the homeless served through agencies in our local communities.

Now, with the completion of cleaning and restoration work at Sacred Heart Convent Chapel, our sisters are ready to welcome the public on Thursday, February 2, for a special event.

"Deprato Rigali Studios, who designed the chapel more than 50 years ago, sent workers to clean and restore the impressive mosaics, and



The 150th anniversary of the founding of the Dominican Sisters of Springfield began August 19, 2022, with a celebratory Eucharist. Participants included from left: Sister M. Charmaine Kribs, Becky Woiwode, Sister Mila Díaz Solano, and Sister Rose Miriam Schulte.

our own staff performed other maintenance work," said Sister Ann Clennon, prioress of Sacred Heart Convent, about the first major cleaning and restoration work in the chapel in more than 15 years. The sisters prayed in the dining room for about three months while the work was completed. "We anticipate the joy of welcoming the public for Taizé prayer in February," Sister Ann added, "pray for good weather and good health for Springfield!"

A Taizé-style prayer service, characterized by simple, repetitive, and contemplative singing in the peaceful atmosphere of a candlelit

chapel, is planned for 7:00 p.m., Thursday, February 2, which is World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, an observance that draws attention to the gift of vowed religious life to the Church. The event will be livestreamed, as will celebrations in Jacksonville, Ill., on Saturday, April 22, and the closing liturgy on Saturday, August 19 at Sacred Heart Convent.

# Relationship

## Three reflections on the i

### Sister Philomena: With and For Us

By Sister M. Clare Fichtner, OP



From the time I first knew Catholic sisters, I knew I was called to be one. They all impressed me one way or another. Sister Philomena, OP, my sixth-grade teacher, helped me decide which community to enter. She was one of the twelve sisters who traveled 500 miles north from Springfield, Ill., to staff my school, St. Augustine in Richmond, Mich. It was over-crowded and many creative solutions were needed to provide space and instruction.

Thirteen of us sixth-grade girls were assigned to a church basement classroom with 45 fifth graders. Sister Philomena

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### Always a Part of My life: Sister Cecilianne Duello

By Carolyn White



God placed Sister Cecilianne Duello in my life in such a subtle way that I cannot remember the first time I met her...it just seems like she was always a part of my life. As I reflect on the blessing of her presence in my life, I'm in awe of God's amazing

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### A Covenant of Liberation: Sister M. Rose Schleeper

By Father Joseph Brown, SJ



The Covenant by which we are bound was completed—from its proclamation, in Exodus: “You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall not afflict any widow or orphan...”—by the rendering spoken by Jesus, as He reordered our very

identities: “... you shall love your neighbor as yourself...” Long before I could analyze and breathe in this liberating reality, I knew the truth of this new covenant, by the witness and labor of the women who created a community of love and learning at St. Augustine

# ships that Matter

## mpact of one relationship

needed to spend most of her teaching time with them, so the hope was that we could work quietly (sometimes together) on the lessons provided by our texts. We often used the cloak room between the classroom and the boiler room to work together.

One day Sister Philomena knocked on the boiler room door (It was kept locked.) so she could speak with us privately. She said her mother had died and she was traveling to Illinois to her funeral. A substitute teacher would take her place and she hoped we would help him

with “all those fifth graders.” That sharing of grief and enlistment of help led to a close relationship with her. Later in the year, I confided to her that I felt called to be a sister, too, when I grew up. She confided to me that her lungs would not survive the basement atmosphere and

Continued on page 6

Grace that placed her in Jacksonville. Those of us who knew her will never be the same, thankfully....we lived a real-life version of “Touched by an Angel.”

If Sister Cecilianne needed something done, she had such a way about her that it just got done. And if she needed me to do it, I couldn't

say no because she would always say that she had been praying about it and I was the person that God asked her to call for this particular project.

If my caller ID said “Sister Cecilianne,” I knew I had better clear my calendar! My first big project with her was taking over the Safe Environment Program when

her health started failing. She also asked my husband Paul and me to help with the Pre-Cana marriage preparation, a ministry we enjoyed fully.

I was part of a Quincy Cursillo reunion group and Sister Cecilianne joined our group. She always made us feel loved and at peace with

Continued on page 6

and St. Mary's Catholic grade schools, during my enrollment in those schools between 1950 and 1956. Most especially I knew it through my time of true “learning for liberation,” under the guidance and no-nonsense instruction of

Sister Mary Rose Schleeper, OP. From the third grade to the sixth—when my family moved from East St. Louis to Beloit, Wisc.—she taught me how to navigate the pathway to the highest academic achievement, while also calling me to caring, communal involvement

with my classmates. There was no “us vs. them,” no missionizing condescension, using us as objects of charity. One defining moment stands out for me, from those days—used, frequently—to explain how my life

Continued on page 6

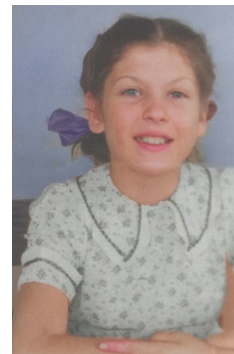


## Three reflections on the impact of one relationship, cont'd.

### Sister Philomena: With and For Us

she would have to ask for a transfer. I wrote to her once or twice a year from then until her death—always as friends, keeping each other aware of how life was going. When I had to decide on a religious congregation, her example of being with and for us, even while her mother was dying, made me decide in favor of the Springfield

Dominicans. There were many religious motherhouses near my home in Michigan. I knew several sisters from those communities, but none seemed as dedicated to the ministry as Sister Philomena. As I taught throughout Illinois, I always told my students I was from Michigan, hoping it would make them appreciate their value to me.



Sister M. Clare

*Sister M. Clare, faithful Michigander, lives at Sacred Heart Convent.*

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### Always a Part of My life: Sister Cecilianne Duello

our lives. I could never have imagined what a difference one person could make in my life. I'm so thankful she answered the call to serve God.

As I told you, dear Sister Cecilianne, when I kissed your cheek and left your bedside on your last day on earth, "I will see you in Heaven."

*Carolyn is a Springfield Dominican Associate and a member of the JUST Words Editorial Board. She lives in St. Peter, Mo.*

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### A Covenant of Liberation: Sister M. Rose Schleeper



Sister Mary Rose Schleeper, OP

was forever graced by my education so long ago. A restless (and therefore often disruptive) fourth grader was pulled aside during one recess period and pushed into an unimaginable world of intellectual adventures. "Joseph," she said, "you've read all the books on the bookshelf in the room and I want you to get a library card for the library downtown." With no idea what any of that meant, I knew it was not a matter of choice. So I maneuvered my way through the East St. Louis children's library, from the shelves nearest the entrance, around the room, until, two years

later, I had devoured the books in every section of the collection.

There were no "advanced placement classes," no Honor Societies—only a dedicated servant of learning who saw something inside me that was a light she was determined to keep burning, for my fullness and for the benefit of many. How can I keep from singing...a praise song for her and for all of the Springfield Dominican Sisters who changed so many lives for the long-lasting benefit of us all.

*Father Joseph is a professor and administrator at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.*

# CONGRATS

## Sister Sharon speaks on climate crisis

Sister Sharon Zayac has reached an academic audience with her message about the climate crisis. The founder of Jubilee Farm gave an in-person address, *Laudato Si': The Dominican Response*, at Ohio Dominican's annual St. Albert the Great Lecture, and presented a virtual lecture, *Ecological Justice: The Holy Preaching*, for doctoral social work students at Boston University. The Ohio Dominican lecture is available online. Search @ohiodominican in YouTube.



Sister Sharon Zayac listens as she is introduced at Ohio Dominican's annual St. Albert the Great lecture by Peace Dominican Sister Diane Zerfas. She was joined on stage by Blake Mathys, Ph.D., department head of the environmental science department at the university.

## Sister Katherine O'Connor completes her years of service at SHG

Sister Katherine O'Connor will step down from her role as President of Sacred Heart-Griffin High School at the end of the 2022-2023 school year, concluding a nearly two-decade career as a leader in Catholic Dominican



secondary education in Springfield. Sister Katherine successfully

led SHG through two capital campaigns to raise millions of dollars for renovation of the school's west campus and Dominican Hall, positively impacting thousands of current and future SHG students. She also led the school through the COVID-19 pandemic with the top priority being the health and safety of all. SHG remained fully opened for in-person learning for the 2020-2021 school year. Sister Katherine has been a steadying and visionary force at Sacred Heart-Griffin for eighteen years," said Sister Rebecca

Ann Gemma, the prioress general of the Dominican Sisters.

"We commend the wonderful working relationship she and the school's principal, Kara Rapacz, have forged, and we plan to build on that foundation as the school moves forward. SHG's governing board, faculty, and staff are up to the task of keeping the mission of the school alive." Thank you for your years of service, Sister Katherine!

## F.L.O.W.cast reaches milestone

At the close of the second season of F.L.O.W.cast, a podcast produced by the congregational communications office, the team produced 19 episodes that engaged 17 sisters and nine associates, and touched on the good work being done through 11 ministries and several affiliate programs. If you

missed any of these inspirational interviews with alums, antiracism allies, and coworkers—all people changing lives in hopeful ways—get caught up at [www.flowcastlisten.org](http://www.flowcastlisten.org). Season three opens in August 2023! Don't miss it!



Continued on page 14



# Dominican Sisters of Springfield: A History Measured in Relationships

By Sister Beth Murphy, OP, Illustrator Brandon Durham

A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history. –Mahatma Gandhi

There is more than one way to look at the sweep of history. Here's the story of the Dominican Sisters of Springfield told in glimpses through the relationships that shaped it.



## ***Family Reunion: c. 1873***

During a visit with his cousin, Dominican Father J. A. McShane, Father P. J. Macken shared the challenge of finding an order of Catholic sisters to teach in his school in Jacksonville, Ill. Father McShane was well acquainted with the Dominican Sisters of St. Catharine, Kentucky, and recommended he try there.

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## ***Driving Sister Josephine c. 1874***

Soon after the arrival of the sisters in Jacksonville, Sister Josephine Meagher befriended her neighbor Catharine Geers Yates, recently widowed spouse of Governor Richard Yates. The two spent many hours together on carriage rides. In part because of that friendship, the Yates home became the sisters' convent in 1885.



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## ***"Travel By Pullman" c. 1876***

When Father Macken needed funds to afford a restorative summer vacation for four of the sisters recovering from typhoid, he turned to church trustee Charles Routt, who provided the funds and instructed Father Macken to tell the sisters "travel by Pullman and eat hearty meals in the diner." This was the first of many times Routt would come to the aid of the congregation.





## "Inquiries were made" 1946



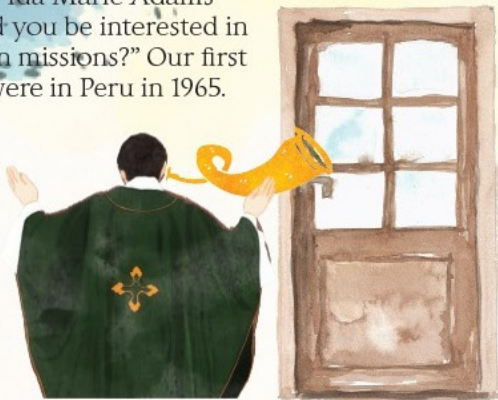
Jackson  
Vicksburg

Friends Leon Thomas and Jack Kennington, driving to Vicksburg from Jackson, Miss., were inspired with the notion to open a Catholic hospital in Jackson. They instantly turned the car around and rushed to St. Peter's cathedral to test the idea with the pastor. He went to Bishop Robert O. Gerow, an acquaintance of Bishop James A. Griffin of Springfield, Ill. "Inquiries were made" as the history says, and our sisters opened St. Dominic's in 1946.

.....

## I heard it through the grape vine c. 1960

Father John Byrne, the provincial of the Precious Blood Fathers, made a summer visit to St. Joseph College and learned "indirectly" that the Springfield Dominican Sisters had plans to open a mission in Latin America. "our Fathers are so impressed with the spirit of your Sisters" he wrote to Sister Ida Marie Adams "...would you be interested in Peruvian missions?" Our first sisters were in Peru in 1965.



## All In the (Dominican) Family 1984

Tom and Marilyn Leuer's children attended Holy Angels School and Rosary High School, where they were taught by the Springfield Dominicans. They spoke highly of the sisters to Tom's brother Mark, a Dominican priest in Louisiana. Father Mark wrote to the community asking for sisters to help him open a regional Dominican high school in Hammond, La. Our sisters staffed the school, St. Thomas Aquinas, 1986-2005. It is still going strong.

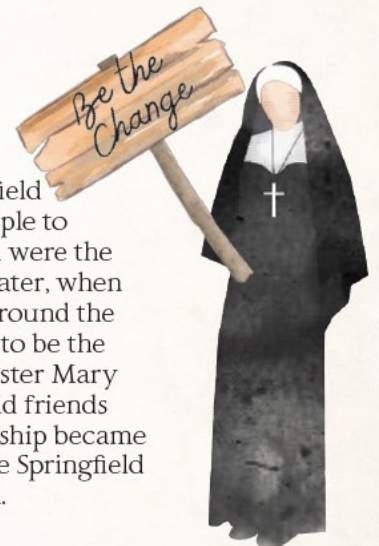
## Fishing for volunteers c. 1971

Sisters Jane Ann Beckman, Charlotte Rebbe, and others were in summer school at St. Norbert College, Green Bay, and accepted an invite to swim at nearby Oneida Lake. There they met sisters volunteering for a summer program at the Oneida Indian School. The program director wasted no time "fishing" for some new volunteers and scooped up our sisters, who profitably gave their summers teaching children at Oneida from about 1972 through 1984.



## Being the Change 1994

When Leroy and Johnetta Jordan first moved to Springfield in the late 1960s the only people to acknowledge them in church were the Dominican Sisters. Decades later, when the sisters finished nibbling around the edges of racism and decided to be the change they wished to see, Sister Mary Jean Traeger turned to her old friends the Jordans, and that relationship became the foundation of SDART, the Springfield Dominican Antiracism Team.





# The Connection: Ways of prayer

by Sister Santana DeLuca, OP

Prayer happens in relationship, when our minds and hearts are joined in God. There is mutual sharing, giving, taking, speaking, and listening.

When we are born into a human family, optimally we are nurtured and cared for so that we develop and mature. Along that journey, we become aware of a wide, amazing world. We are drawn to new life experiences and our understanding matures. In time, we learn that this awesome creation had a beginning. There is a Creator!

In the Judeo-Christian faith story, we retell how God interacted with our ancient brothers and sisters, and with the whole

of creation. From the start, God was present to and in relationship with all creation. God spoke to minds and hearts, and a covenantal relationship began.

Christians recognize that God sent Jesus, the living Word of God. In every way, Jesus' life impacted the people of his time. In fact, so full were His relationships that His message still pulses through our beings as we remember events of those days, now, in this age!

We are so beloved of God that God yearns for an individual friendship with us and with each person ever created. All are cherished by God. God is always present to us. Prayer is what happens

replied, "I look at God and God looks at me. You know, the Father is very fond of me." God's approach is one of great fondness for us.

Prayer is both gift and learned task. The desire to pray comes from God's Spirit. However, our task is to nurture the gift, to respond faithfully, to journey in an easy manner, seeking solitude and quiet, developing an inner space of silence. It is important to maintain a planned routine, place, time, way of prayer, and a firm daily commitment. This can develop into a nearly continuous conversation with God through the day.

"Suddenly I experienced the silence like a presence. At the heart of this silence was the one who himself is silence, peace, tranquility." (Georges Bernanos, 1888-1948)

Prayer is God calling us into a relationship in which

we discover our true selves. And, this prayer plunges us into service with and for our sisters and brothers. There are many types and methods of prayer: praying with scripture, using an



Children praying "The Posadas" in San Juan de Jarpa, where our sisters minister. This is a traditional form of Advent prayer with Mary and Joseph and calls to mind that even today migrating families struggle to find shelter like the Holy Family did.

when we become aware of that Presence. Edward Farrell told about a man who visited a nearby chapel on his lunch break from his factory job. When asked what he did while in the chapel, he



# The Connection: Ways of prayer

examen, praying with icons, journaling, centering prayer, following the liturgy of hours, faith sharing, walking in contemplative prayer, praying with beads, walking through a labyrinth, moving with music in body prayer, gardening as prayer. Listening to your own heart's method of prayer.

Here are two types of prayer you might try.

## Praying with Scripture

In this prayer we hear and listen to the Word of God. Joseph A. Tetlow, SJ, describes three approaches to praying with scripture. First, carefully select a scripture passage. Then quiet yourself and begin.

1. Contemplate. You are absorbed in the story—seeing, hearing, smelling; feeling excitement, fear, delight. You place yourself in the event. Contemplation requires little effort, if you allow your fantasy freedom. Apply to yourself and to your life what has been felt and experienced in prayer. Rest with that. How will you live this out?

2. Meditate. Recall what happened in the scripture you read. Think of it in detail, meditating on what it means, and what you might want to do about it. Without getting lost in the story, recall it in detail. Moving between

the events of the text and your reflection, apply this meditation to your own life.

3. Consider. Search Scripture for sentences and events that speak to you. Consider in detail how the message applies to you, to the world, to others. This is a very active kind of praying.

## A Prayer of Examen

This prayer method helps you become conscious of all that is happening within and around you and to live with intention in that consciousness. It provides a

clearer view into one's heart and actions and a review of one's day. The steps may lead you into a conversation with God that over time can create intimacy with God, trust in God, and daily spiritual growth.

1. Gratitude. Thank God for today's gifts.

2. Awareness. Revisit the good and not-so-good events of the past day. Speak to God about these times.

3. Significant moments. Identify, experience, and explore what God is doing and desires for you in the moments of the day.

4. Peace. Ask God's

forgiveness and the fullness of a deep, lasting peace.

5. Freedom. Speak with God. Ask, "How are you inviting me to change my life and become all that You want of me, God?" Listen to God's response deep in your heart.

6. Others. Lift up those whom you want God to bless and to guide.

7. Prayer. Use the Our Father to close the examen.

If praying in these ways is new to you, believe that God is guiding

you and seeks you even before you seek God.

God yearns for you; God calls you. In prayer, you surrender to God's presence, and God's will. Over time God, who has begun and nurtured this relationship in you, by that same awesome love and faithfulness, will lead you into an eternal union.

*Sister Santina is a member of the JUST Words editorial board and lives at Sacred Heart Convent in Springfield, Ill. She appreciates the input of Sisters Kathleen Cour, Patricia Francis, and Phyllis Schenk.*



By Milan Popovic courtesy of unsplash.com

# La Conexión: Formas de oración

Por Hermana Santina DeLuca, OP

La oración ocurre en medio de una relación, cuando nuestras mentes y corazones se unen a Dios. Se trata de un compartir mutuo, dar, recibir, hablar y escuchar.

Cuando nacemos en una familia humana, somos espléndidamente nutridos y cuidados para que podamos desarrollarnos y madurar. A lo largo de nuestro camino, tomamos conciencia de un mundo vasto y maravilloso. Nos atraen las nuevas experiencias de vida y nuestra comprensión madura. Con el tiempo, aprendemos que esta asombrosa creación tuvo un comienzo. ¡Hay un Creador!

En la historia de fe judeocristiana, relatamos cómo Dios interactuó con

nuestros antiguos hermanos y hermanas, y con toda la creación. Desde el principio, Dios estuvo presente y en relación con toda la creación. Dios habló a la mente y al corazón, y así comenzó una relación de alianza.

El mundo cristiano reconoce que Dios envió a Jesús, la Palabra viva de Dios. La vida de Jesús impactó en todo sentido a la gente de su tiempo. De hecho, sus relaciones eran tan íntimas que su mensaje aún palpita en nuestro ser al recordar los acontecimientos de aquellos días, ¡ahora, en esta era!

Dios nos ama tanto que anhela una amistad individual con nosotras y

con cada persona creada. Cada persona es un tesoro para Dios. Dios siempre está presente en nuestra vida. La oración sucede cuando nos damos cuenta de esa Presencia. Edward Farrell nos cuenta la historia de un hombre que visitaba una capilla cercana a su trabajo en una fábrica, a la hora del almuerzo. Cuando se le preguntó qué hizo mientras estaba en la capilla, respondió: “Miro a Dios y Dios me mira a mí. Haz de saber que el Padre me tiene mucho cariño”. La cercanía de Dios se deja sentir en su gran cariño por nosotros.

La oración es a la vez don y tarea. El deseo de orar es obra del Espíritu de Dios. Nuestra tarea es nutrir ese don, responder con fidelidad, caminar con serenidad, buscar la soledad y calma, y hacer un espacio de silencio interior. Es importante mantener una rutina planificada, lugar, tiempo, forma de oración y un firme compromiso diario. Esto puede convertirse en una conversación casi continua con Dios a lo largo del día.

“De repente experimenté el silencio como una presencia. En el corazón de este silencio estaba aquél mismo que es silencio, paz, tranquilidad”.



Grupo de niños rezando durante Las Posadas en San Juan de Jarpa donde nuestras hermanas hacen ministerio. Esta es una forma tradicional de orar con María y José durante el adviento, por familias migrantes de hoy que también buscan refugio.



# La Conexión: Formas de oración

(Georges Bernanos, 1888-1948)

## La oración es Dios

llamándonos a una relación en la que descubrimos nuestro verdadero ser. Y esta oración nos sumerge en el servicio con y para nuestros hermanos y hermanas. Hay muchos métodos y tipos de oración: orar con las Escrituras, hacer examen, orar con iconos, llevar un diario, orar para centrarse, liturgia de las Horas, compartir la fe, caminar en oración contemplativa, orar con el rosario, caminar por un laberinto, orar con el cuerpo al son de música, jardinería como oración, etc. Escucha el método de oración de tu propio corazón. A continuación, dos tipos de oración que puedes probar.

## Orando con las Escrituras

En esta forma de oración escuchamos la Palabra de Dios. Joseph A. Tetlow, SJ, describe tres estrategias para orar con las Escrituras. Primero, selecciona cuidadosamente un pasaje de las Escrituras. Luego tranquilízate y comienza.

1. Contempla. Déjate absorber por el texto: viendo, oyendo, oliendo, sintiendo emoción, miedo, deleite. Colócate en el evento. La contemplación requiere poco esfuerzo,

si dejas a tu imaginación ser libre. Aplica a ti y a tu vida lo que has sentido y experimentado en la oración. Permanece con eso. ¿Cómo puedes hacerlo vida?

2. Medita. Recuerda lo que sucedió en el pasaje de las Escrituras que leíste. Piénsalo en detalle, medita en torno a su significado y lo que podrías hacer al respecto. Sin perderte en la historia, recuérdela en detalle. Pasando de los eventos del texto a tu reflexión, aplica esta meditación a tu propia vida.

3. Considera. Busca en las Escrituras oraciones y eventos que te hablen. Considera en detalle cómo se aplica el mensaje a ti, al mundo, a los demás. Este es un tipo muy activo de oración.

## Una oración de examen

Este método de oración ayuda a tomar conciencia de todo lo que sucede dentro y alrededor de uno mismo y a vivir intencionalmente conscientes. Proporciona una visión más clara del corazón, las acciones y una revisión del día. Los pasos pueden llevar a la persona a una conversación con Dios que, con el tiempo, puede crear intimidad y confianza en Dios y el crecimiento espiritual diario.



By Eniko Kis courtesy of unsplash.com

1. Gratitud. Da gracias a Dios por los regalos de hoy.

2. Reconocimiento. Revisa los eventos buenos y no tan buenos del día. Habla con Dios sobre esto.

3. Momentos significativos. Identifica, experimenta y explora lo que Dios está haciendo y su deseo para ti en los momentos del día.

4. Paz. Pide perdón a Dios y la plenitud de una paz profunda y duradera.

5. Libertad. Habla con Dios. Pregunta: “¿Cómo me estás invitando a cambiar para llegar a ser quien Tú quieres de mí, Dios?” Escucha la respuesta de Dios en lo profundo de tu corazón.

continúa en la página 14

## La Conexión: Formas de oración

6. Otros. Nombra a quienes quieres que Dios bendiga y guíe.

7. Oración. Usa el Padre Nuestro para cerrar el examen.

Si esta manera de orar es nueva para ti, ten fe que Dios te está guiando y te

busca incluso antes de que tú busques a Dios. Dios te anhela; Dios te llama. En la oración, te rindes a la presencia de Dios y a la voluntad de Dios. Con el tiempo, Dios, quien ha comenzado y alimentado esta relación, te llevará a una unión eterna por ese mismo

asombroso amor y fidelidad.

*Hermana Santina es miembro de la junta editorial de JUST Words y vive en el Convento del Sagrado Corazón en Springfield, Ill. Ella agradece el aporte de las hermanas Kathleen Cour, Patricia Francis y Phyllis Schenk.*

## CONGRATS (continued)

### Sisters Ann Elizabeth Little and Kelly Moline honored

Two of our sisters in ministry in Jackson, Miss., **Sister Ann Elizabeth Little** and **Sister Kelly Moline**, reached significant milestones while studying and working full time as chaplains at St. Dominic Hospital. Sister Ann earned a HUB-CMI Credential from The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters, allowing her to serve as a Spanish-language interpreter in the hospital setting. The credential is a step toward CMI certification which requires an additional two years of study. In addition, Sister Ann received the Franciscan

Missionaries of Our Lady Health Systems' highest honor. She was one of 17 individuals to be recognized with the Franciscan Service Award. Scott Kashman, president and CEO of St. Dominic's, said of the honorees, "I couldn't help but notice a common theme among them. They each offer the gifts of listening, making others feel seen and heard, and often going above and beyond in making a difference for their patients and colleagues."

Sister Kelly completed her first unit of clinical pastoral education (CPE) through the

Connecticut-based JED Center for Spiritual Care and Education while working full time as chaplain at St. Dominic's. Four units and a board exam are required for certification. Sister Kelly plans to take a second unit during the winter 2023 term. Congratulations to both our sisters!

St. Dominic Health Services was a sponsored institution of the Dominican Sisters of Springfield from its founding in 1946 until 2019, when sponsorship was transferred to the Louisiana-based FMOLHS.

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### Dominican Veritas Ministries Task Force receives approval

**Sister Kathleen Anne Tait** served as project manager for the Dominican Veritas Ministries Task Force (DVM), a group which planned for the transition of nine Dominican educational institutes toward sponsorship by the recently approved Pontifical Public Juridic Person (PJP). The designation establishes DVM as a canonical sponsor of participating Dominican ministries. Three

congregations of Dominican Sisters currently sponsor nine primary and secondary schools that will be the first to Join DVM. The schools are under the sponsorship of the Adrian, Houston, and Sinsinawa Dominicans. There is no plan for the three high schools sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of Springfield to join the PJP at this time. The announcement, signed by five Dominican sisters

who make up the PJP member board, said "This exciting moment is the fruit of the extraordinary work of many hands, hearts, and minds. We thank our entire Dominican family who sustained us with their wisdom and prayers." Springfield Dominican **Sister M. Paul McCaughey** serves on the member board. She is on the faculty of DePaul University's College of Education.



# PARTNERS IN MISSION



By Sister Kathleen Anne Tait, OP  
Director of Mission Advancement

This quote from St. Catherine graces a beautiful new recognition wall, recently installed at the door of Sacred Heart Convent chapel, where every day our sisters remember in their prayer our friends and benefactors, who, having been our companions on the journey in this life, continue to share their gifts with us at the end of their lives on Earth.

St. Catherine knew from her own relationship with God that walking together as brothers and sisters in this life is a sure path to God's reign.

Since our earliest foundation, we Dominican Sisters have been blessed by bequests from friends and Partners in Mission who have chosen to accompany us on the way. Through the years, their generous gifts have helped us build for the needs of our ministries in the United States and Peru, whether that be in support of students in our

schools, parishioners in the cities and pueblos of Peru, or financial resources for our preaching, social justice commitments, and care of our elder sisters. These dear friends, even though they are no longer with us, continue to make possible the preaching of the Gospel in our place and time.

St. Catherine's image of walking with two feet is, in a very real way, an image of financial planning. Our benefactors' first step is to look after the needs of their own families, then, stepping forward on the foot of charity, they share their surplus with organizations like our own religious community as a way to signal the values they desire to pass down to the next generation.

This new recognition wall is a beautiful acknowledgement of

the way our benefactors have built the path to God's reign on the two feet of love of God and love of neighbor. We are so pleased to have this constant reminder at the door of our chapel, where we can be

**"Walk with two feet;  
love of God and love  
of neighbor...  
on two wings you will  
fly to heaven!"**

~St. Catherine of Siena

humbled by the generosity and goodness of the members of our heritage society, newly named in honor of St. Catherine.

*Sister Kathleen Anne Tait is the director of Mission Advancement for the Dominican Sisters of Springfield. To learn more about how to become a member of the St. Catherine Heritage Society contact her at [skatait@spdom.org](mailto:skatait@spdom.org) or or 217-787-0481.*



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About the cover art: Sister Joanne Delehanty speaks to Marian Catholic High School students about her life as a Springfield Dominican Sister.



## Dominican Sources

*"It remains, beloved [ones], that before all these things you must have a constant mutual charity among yourselves, for it cannot be that Jesus will appear to those who have cut themselves off from the unity of the [community]."*

~ Jordan of Saxony to Order of Preachers, Paris, letter, p. 135, from *To Heaven with Diana*, by Gerald Vann, OP.

## DATEBOOK

February	2	7 p.m. Taizé prayer at Sacred Heart
April	22	10 a.m. Opening ceremony, and mayor's proclamation, Celebrating 150 Years for the Life of World exhibit, Jacksonville Area Museum, Jacksonville, Ill.
	22	1 p.m. Prayer Service at Dominican Sisters and Charles Routt tomb, Calvary Cemetery, Jacksonville, Ill.
	22	4:30 p.m. Jubilee Mass, Our Saviour Church, Jacksonville, Ill., reception following.
August	19	10:30 a.m. Anniversary celebration Mass, Sacred Heart Convent Chapel, Springfield, Ill. reception following.

All events are open to the public.  
Visit [springfieldop.org/150years](http://springfieldop.org/150years) for details.