

# Bread Broken

SISTERS OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY — WILMETTE, ILLINOIS



“

*May God grant me a heart full of love, gentleness and love toward all, more and more love.*

*Pauline von Mallinckrodt*

”

# Around the Table

## Deepest Thanks

I would like to express my deepest thanks for all the work you do with BREAD BROKEN. But most particularly, I would like to thank you for the article in the winter edition: "Mother Pauline and Reconciliation". This came at a very critical time for me as I was struggling with actions taken . . . for which I needed reconciliation. Reading this article in particular, as well as other inspiration throughout the magazine, led me to my own development to "be brave and make the first move". Thank you again for all you and the other Sisters do to make this publication so meaningful.

- P. Griffin  
Minneapolis, MN

## Keep Up the Good Work

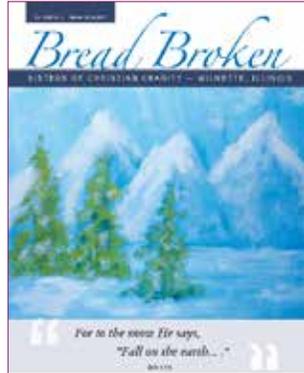
Congratulations on the publication of the winter issue of BREAD BROKEN. In my opinion, it is once again the "best ever" issue. The use of Sr. Henrica's artwork for the cover is a fine touch. Keep up the good work.

- Sr. Mary Ann Warwick, SCC  
Wilmette, IL

## Pacesetters

I just read that wonderful article about the Mallinckrodt Scholars. . . . These young women are pacesetters. They are an example of insight and foresight. . . . How wonderful to know that there is such a program. . . . I love your magazine and am enriched by reading it.

- Sr. Paula Marie Beiter, SCC  
Danville, PA



## Many Great Memories

Thank you for the winter issue of BREAD BROKEN. I always enjoy reading the articles as many bring back memories of my association with the Sisters. The story of Mother Pauline's basket and now "The Pauline Ministry Fund" was a surprise. How wonderful to know that the SCCs support so many worthwhile causes. . . . The other article of interest was "Our Back Yard". I remember well living in the Motherhouse (late 50's and early 60's).

- Judy Puetz  
LeMars, IA

Your magazine is super. I enjoy every article. Many great memories of when I was taught by the SCCs in Detroit in the 1950's.

- B. Tolentino  
Hamtramck, MI



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Have you seen our website?

For current events and items not published in BREAD BROKEN, and to see your favorite Sisters, please visit

[www.sccwilmette.org](http://www.sccwilmette.org)

## Bread Broken

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Bread Broken Magazine is published twice a year by the Sisters of Christian Charity — Wilmette, IL. The publication aims to be a source of information for the Sisters, their families, friends and benefactors on the presence and ministry of the Sisters of Christian Charity.



## Mission Statement

*As Sisters of Christian Charity,* our call is to witness to and share in the mission of Jesus by letting His love so permeate and fill us that our love overflows to all by being bread broken and wine poured out.



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## A Note from the Publisher



Dear Readers,

This issue of BREAD BROKEN is especially dedicated to Mother Pauline on the occasion of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birth. In past issues you have read about our preparations for this occasion. In the main article of this issue, the Sisters of our Region pay tribute to our Mother. The BREAD BROKEN staff had asked each Sister to think about what she most admires about Mother Pauline or perhaps what first comes to her mind when she hears “Mother Pauline” or what about Mother Pauline still captivates/motivates her. The response was overwhelming. Each Sister had an offering. I am sure you will be impressed by what they share.

As you meet our jubilarians for 2017 you will read what thought of Mother Pauline is significant for each one. You will read about the third *Pauline 200* project which will take place in Chicago. The activities that are planned would certainly gain Mother Pauline’s approval. You will also read about the early life of Mother Pauline, how the Companions of Pauline are prepared to celebrate, how our Eastern Province is “creating a future and a hope” in a variety of events.

In closing my remarks, I would like to share with you some of Mother Pauline’s words that have helped me along the way at various times.

*Let us confidently place ourselves and all else into the hands of God.  
He knows best how to guide and dispose all things.*

*It does not depend upon our accomplishing great deeds but rather upon the good intention we have in all we do, even in the most trifling things. God looks at the heart.*

*Do not rush anything; approach your work with patience, and above all continually commend the matter to God in prayer.*

*Strive ever to acquire an amiable friendliness so that peace and joy may reign wherever you are.*

God bless you.

*Sister Mary Clement*

Cover: Wilmette, IL - painting of Mother Pauline by Sr. Servatia Kreuzberger, SCC in the conference room of the SCC Center

Page 2: Minden, Germany - window in St. Mauritius Church (Minden is the city in which Mother Pauline was born.)

# What a Mother Have We!

Text courtesy of the SCCs of the Western Region / Photos courtesy of the SCC units worldwide



*M*other Pauline! What a Mother have we!  
Teach us your love and your sweet charity.  
(from a traditional SCC song)

## What We Celebrate

June 3, 2017 was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Pauline von Mallinckrodt, the foundress of the Sisters of Christian Charity. But who is this “Mother Pauline”? What is it that we celebrated and continue to celebrate? Why does her charism and vision still inspire so many? Read these reflections and you will gain insights into “What a Mother have we!”

What I most admire in Mother Pauline is her intense love of God and of each individual Sister. I glean this from her letters, so much so that I feel this love for myself. It challenges me daily to grow in my love of God and others. —*Sr. Therese Fields*

What captivates me to this day about Mother Pauline is her loving concern for all the Sisters. She was honest and told it as it was; if she felt she had been too harsh, she apologized. She also had a good business sense in dealing with the needs of the Congregation and was willing to seek advice. Mother Pauline cared for others. The most important thing to me is that she can be imitated and I feel she cares about us to this day. —*Sr. Mary Ann Poppler*

I have always admired and been challenged by Mother Pauline’s trust in Divine Providence. Even if she/the Congregation was low on funds or supplies, there was always something to give to others in need because she believed that God would provide. I am also inspired by her constant search to know God’s will and to embrace it. —*Sr. Mary Clement Eiden*

What I admire about Blessed Pauline: her priority of prayer and relationship with God; her ability to relate to people of every social situation; her insistence on love for all God’s people; her great sense of humor; her love for God, Sisters, Family, Friends and everyone without exception. —*Sr. Mary Ann Warwick*

I admire Mother Pauline for her constant care and concern for each of her Sisters—young or old or sickly. She herself took the initiative to ask them about their health, ministries, difficulties or adjustments to a transfer—sometimes a more difficult one. She truly cared about each Sister from her heart and felt responsible for their well-being and happiness. —*Sr. Alice Mary Ortman*

I first was introduced to Mother Pauline at our school, St. Henry in New Orleans, LA where she was venerated by the Sisters and people. I admire her courage and dedication which she showed by coming to a foreign land and establishing a convent and school. It was here that I learned of her many expressions of holy charity that inspired me to

Sr. Mary Agnes Meyer (dec.) of the German Province had an artist uncle, Franz Toner, who painted a portrait of the youthful Mother Pauline which he presented to the Sisters in Paderborn. This portrait was lost in the bombing during World War II. A copy is supposed to have been sent to the Americas. Sr. Mary Agnes asked Sr. Ursula Frei to search for this copy. Sister visited [at some point] every convent in the Eastern Province and every convent in South America but the cherished portrait did not come to light. The closest picture (which perhaps was copied) was painted by Sr. Viventia Nachtigall in 1938. This picture hangs at Villa Pauline in Mendham, NJ.

enter the Community of the Sisters of Christian Charity. I took the name “Pauline” for my Confirmation name. —*Sr. Henrica Buchert*

I admire Blessed Pauline’s great courage when she had to send her Sisters to the United States and South America because of the persecution of the Church which affected the existence of her Congregation. Her complete trust in God never wavered. —*Sr. Mary Eileen O’Connor*

What I admire most about Mother Pauline is the genuine love she had for every Sister! Regardless of who the Sister was, Mother Pauline was there to be of service. I gather from her letters that she had knowledge of each Sister on her finger tips. Who wouldn’t love such a Mother as she! —*Sr. Carolyn Eultgen*

When I was young, Mother Pauline’s charity, shown by her picking up glass so the poor wouldn’t cut their feet, her visiting the poor and ill with Louise Hensel and other young ladies, and her great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament inspired me. Later on, her confidence in God and conformity to His will became important. Now all are blended together. —*Sr. Dolores Bozif*

What I most admire about Mother Pauline are her unbounded charity, determination and vision. She went ahead against odds to start our Community, a school for the blind and a day care center using her own inheritance. Going from house to house she also spent her time and resources to minister to the sick-poor and brought home with her the abandoned and most needy. What drew me to Mother Pauline were her special traits of humility, simplicity and kindness that were exemplified and passed on by her Sisters through the years. Mother Pauline’s intense love for the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit and for the Church are the most compelling and motivational of all! “*Caritas Christi urget me.*” The love of Christ urges me on. —*Sr. Mary Cecilia Torborg*

My personal experience with Mother Pauline was asking for a miracle. My sister had a daughter who, when she was four years old, developed a tumor on her kidney. It was inoperable so many treatments followed. I had a leaflet with a prayer to Mother Pauline for a miracle so every morning I saw to it that I got to chapel before our morning prayer started so I could say the prayer for my niece. A year passed. I came home from school on a Friday afternoon and found an envelope on my desk. The message inside: *Kathleen Thomes died Apr. 30, 1959.* Mother Pauline had died on April 30 and I do believe that she heard my prayer.

Kathleen’s job in heaven could be to get her parents, five brothers and five sisters to join her. That would make my sister happy. So, Blessed Pauline hears all prayers. She has to—that is the kind of a person she is. —*Sr. Phyllis Zierden*

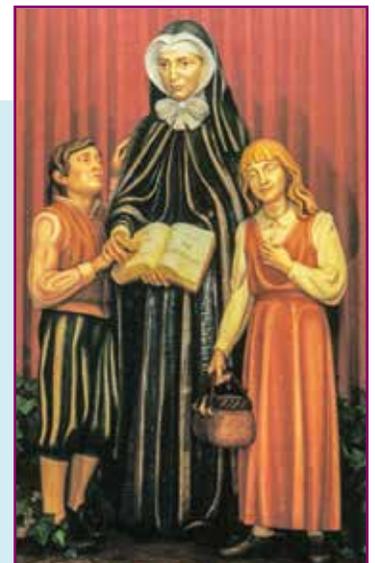
Mother Pauline was always reaching out and doing for the poor people. She was always taking care of those with whom no one else wanted to bother. She used her inheritance most generously. —*Sr. Agnette Bengal*

I am so appreciative of the booklets containing the letters of Mother Pauline which are a spiritual preparation for the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birthday. The thoughts and words she expresses are so helpful in my daily life. She gives examples or comments on events or happenings at the various convents encouraging the Sisters or suggesting improvements in their communities. These are words of advice which we can use in our present day. —*Sr. Rosemary Schwer*

Our Sisters taught me in grades 1-12. I admired their spirit, especially their prayerfulness. As I read Mother Pauline’s life and learned more about her I admired her spirit of charity and love for everyone, especially the sick and poor. I admired her many accomplishments in spite of the hardships and difficulties she encountered. She trusted in God at all times. I am grateful, too, for her love for Jesus in the Eucharist which she passed on to her Congregation. —*Sr. Eleanor Ann Ortman*

When I think of Mother Pauline, I see *The Woman Who Couldn’t Be Stopped*. She was a very courageous woman, a woman who had great love for the blind children, a woman who was true to the teachings of the Church. I am proud to be a Sister of Christian Charity. —*Sr. Bernadette Voss*

This lindenwood statue, hand-carved by Gerhard Baut, was made in Italy. It was moved from Our Lady, Help of Christians Church, (where the SCCs ministered) after the parish was closed. It now resides in Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Philadelphia, PA.





This portrait of Mother Pauline was made by a contemplative community of Sisters living near the mines in the north of Chile. They use Chilean minerals ground into sand which is then made to adhere to cloth. The colors are natural without any mixture. This portrait is based on a picture of Mother Pauline

and was a gift to the Sisters. The photo is 48 X 32 cm. In the lower left, there is a guide to the minerals used; e.g., jasper is hard and opaque like the agate. It is three different kinds of brown; Blend is a natural zinc sulfide—black. [Information courtesy of Sr. Cecilia Poblete, SCC]

I was attracted to Mother Pauline's delicate consideration for others. She was a real community person—very close to her Sisters in community, sharing news with them. She also had a great love for her own family. She once said: "The religious life ennobles the natural ties existing between parents and children—it does not sever them."

—Sr. Marianne Schwer

Mother Pauline was a very gracious lady. She was always gentle with people, especially with the blind. She traveled all over (North America, South America, Germany) to visit with her Sisters and to find out how they were doing, what they were doing and to encourage them. —Sr. Consuela Chase

I am most drawn to Mother Pauline by her spirit of Christ-like love. From her youth, Pauline was taught by her mother to assist those in need: the poor, the sick, the children. This spirit Mother Pauline exemplified in her life and she wrote/spoke about it to the Sisters. For me, Mother Pauline's basket is a symbol/challenge to live her Christ-like love in my daily life and to share it with everyone whom I meet.

—Sr. Janice Boyer

When I was in second grade at St. Boniface School in Minneapolis, MN, my mother purchased a book on the life of Mother Pauline. After she read *Whom Love Impels*, my mother told me and my siblings to pray to Mother Pauline especially when studying for tests in school and at times when we needed guidance from the Holy Spirit. For seven of my eight years at St. Boniface, a Sister of Christian Charity was my teacher. From them I learned to love and deeply respect Mother Pauline so much so that I was inspired to follow her in answering the call to be an SCC. During these last three years of preparation to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mother Pauline's birthday, while living as a daughter of hers for 53 years, my admiration and love of Mother Pauline is still growing.

—Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig

If Mother Pauline was convinced that something was the right thing to do and was in accordance with God's will she did not hesitate to take great risks. The incident which I admire most is her determination to have the body of Bishop Conrad Martin buried in his diocese, the diocese he was removed from by the government. She was able to bring his body back to Paderborn from Belgium by train right under the surveillance of the authorities by letting them believe that she was mourning the death of one of her Sisters.

—Sr. Caroline Schafer

I am grateful to have Blessed Pauline as my patron saint. To me she is a model of faithful prayer and deep faith. To remind me of these beautiful virtues of hers, I have on my desk lamp a lovely magnet which shows Mother Pauline kneeling in the chapel and praying for our Community and all its needs. Dear Holy Patron, keep me faithful as you were. —Sr. Pauline Schafer

I admire Mother Pauline's intense love with did not measure. It just kept giving—even in little things: small words of kindness, a thought for others, her way of being silent, of looking, of speaking, in writing letters and of acting. I also admire her interest in each and every Sister and their personalities. I am amazed at how she remembered details about pastors and about each convent—even the furniture.

—Sr. Mary Ann Eultgen

"It is a great grace that God should permit us to assist in the spread of His kingdom." This thought of Mother Pauline has been with me a long time—from my high school days in Chaska, MN to my first classroom in Chillicothe, IL; from my time in formation ministry through my years in Rome. Walking in the footsteps of Mother Pauline (especially in Germany and Rome) made me realize that these were no longer



A photo of the statue of Mother Pauline with Margretchen, but we replaced Margretchen with our youngest blind girl, Sunshine. Around it is a heart of hands of our girls and staff. [Information courtesy of Sr. Theresia Barkey, SCC]

just words; they had become my compass and star along the way. Yes, even now I know that Mother Pauline is walking with me. I know that she is there with me — guiding me as I continue to assist in the spread of God’s Kingdom. —*Sr. Juliana Miska*

I first learned about Mother Pauline when I entered the convent. I heard about her love for the poor and her picking up glass on the street. But I recall the story about Mother Pauline during one of her travels. There were some young men on the train and they had a little dog. Mother Pauline noticed that the dog needed some water. She asked the young men to get her some water. They, thinking it was for her, gladly went and brought her some which she immediately gave to the dog. I like this story because I, too, have a love for God’s creatures: birds, animals and fish. —*Sr. Helen Kron*

When I think of Mother Pauline, I think of the great courage and stamina she had to make it through “battles” and difficult times. —*Sr. Mary Albert Gensterblum*

The symbol of Mother Pauline’s basket is a very fitting one for the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birthday. I somehow always connect baskets with mothers. Baskets seem to hold everything that is needed to take care of the needs of others. —*Sr. Myra Beltz*

One of the qualities that I admire most in our foundress, Pauline von Mallinckrodt, is her love and compassion toward the poor and marginalized. This was already evident even in her childhood when she picked up the broken glass so the poor children would

not get hurt. Later on she courageously and heroically brought the body of her exiled Bishop and friend back to Germany for a dignified burial. Her love and compassion for others, especially for the poor, urged her to do things that otherwise would have been impossible. —*Sr. Theresa Marie Tran*

Mother Pauline’s ability to love everyone is what I admire most and desire to learn. Her description of love as “shining upon the countenance, sparkling in the eye, radiating from the lips” attracts me to her! Her admonition that “we should have neither eyes to see the faults of others, nor ears to listen to evil reports” and then “no memory to recall evil of them, but a merciful heart to compassionate all” challenges me to love more like her every day! Finally, the reminder that this “active love of neighbor is to emanate from that fire of God’s love which should burn constantly in our hearts” assures me that I never have to do it alone! What is impossible for me is possible with God. —*Sr. Monica Cormier*

Mother Pauline was a kind, loving person who went out to all. She was a good communicator. She wrote often to the Sisters, informing them of what was going on and asking them to pray for the intentions of the Community. She also communicated effectively with church officials, government officials and business people. And all of her letters were handwritten! —*Sr. Karen Zgutowicz*

In growing up, my mother showed me how to pray before a large statue of St. Therese. Later, while helping our Sisters in school, I received a picture of Mother Pauline— which I put by St. Therese. I kept praying to Mother Pauline especially after I entered the convent.



This sculpture by Sr. Celina Raquel Ladrón de Guevara, SCC stands in Mallinckrodt School in Martínez, Argentina.

## Mother Pauline *(continued from page 7)*

Reading about our Mother gives me many chances to renew myself in her spirit, especially in her love for each person. —*Sr. Mercedes Johnson*

Mother Pauline was so knowledgeable in her research and networking as in the case of Mr. Paul when she asked so many questions to find out if he was suited for teaching the blind. Mother Pauline was honest, straightforward and open to dialogue as is evidenced in so many of her letters. She surrendered herself in total trust to God. —*Sr. Campion Breske*

I was always impressed that as a young socialite Pauline would make the trip from Boeddeken to the church in Wewelsburg each morning to tryst with her Eucharistic Lord. When returning, she would stop at the homes of the sick and poor to minister to them with the medicine or food she carried in her ever-present basket. —*Sr. Elizabeth Ann Buscher*

I see Mother Pauline as a perfect blend of gentleness/kindness with forthrightness in taking care of business and practical matters. Her love for the Sisters and the poor is yet another quality I admire in her. —*Sr. Joan Clare Cooney*

Mother Pauline is a most dear Mother to me. She cared for each Sister, the poor children and the blind. Sometimes when I am down or unhappy I feel she is with me in spirit to care for and to help me grow in my vocation. I am so happy to follow in her footsteps. —*Sr. Maria Martin Nguyen*

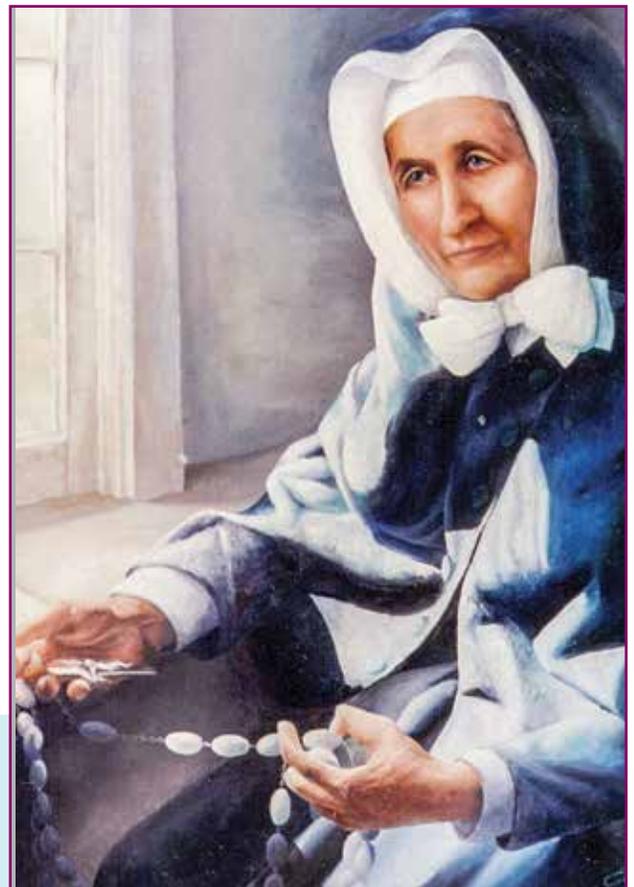
My favorite quote from Mother Pauline is: “God does all things well. Let us therefore praise and bless Him at all times and cheerfully continue our way through life. Alleluia.” Early on in religious life and now as I continue to read through the writings of Blessed Pauline, I see the depth of her trust in God to “do all things well”. The word “cheerfully” also attracted me. Mother Pauline’s calm cheerfulness comes through in letter after letter. Faith and cheerfulness was a combination that she cherished. The “alleluia” says it all. The spirit of thankfulness also permeates her writings. —*Sr. Anastasia Sanford*

To me, Mother Pauline was open to God’s grace from youth and throughout her life with a great love for the Blessed Sacrament and for the Church. She had

a great love and concern for working mothers and got help with her social work for the disadvantaged. She treated all with great love and respect. Mother Pauline was very patient in dealing with government approvals for her missions and during the *Kulturkampf*. In all, Mother Pauline’s greatest concern was God’s will in all matters until she died. Her Christ-like spirit in her charity is inspiring. —*Sr. Francetta Scherer*

What impresses me most about Blessed Pauline is her total dependence on God. She brought everything to God. I love the stories of her bringing bills into chapel and letting God take care of them. I try to have that dependence but I fall short so often. So I keep trying. I keep giving my life over to God in surrender. —*Sr. Carol Bredenkamp*

It was my mother who passed her love of Mother Pauline on to me. She sensed Mother Pauline’s love from looking at a picture of her that I had brought home from school. As a young girl, I was attracted by the habit and by knowing that her Sisters taught me. The story of Pauline picking up the broken glass touched me deeply. I still love Mother Pauline—she is special. —*Sr. Margaritis Kullowitch* †



Tired and worn from the day’s fray, Mother Pauline relaxes in the warm sunshine, as the beads slip through her fingers and she recalls the mysteries of her daily rosary. She gains strength and courage to continue in His name, for His glory, for as long as He wills. (This picture was painted by a Philadelphia artist in 1990.)

# Memories & Mirth

## Who's Who?

Text by Sr. Susanne Kullowitch, SCC  
Photo courtesy of *DePaul Magazine*

Fr. Xamie, our new associate pastor at St. Aloysius, said to me that he wanted to meet the Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent in Wilmette. I told him that I was going there that morning and asked if he could be ready in 15 minutes. He said that he could. I was going to Sacred Heart to take my sister, Sr. Margaritis, back there after she had stayed overnight at our Josephinum Convent.

As I was driving over to the rectory, I told my sister that she should ring the bell and tell Father that the car was ready. Father, however, was already standing outside. Sr. Margaritis went up to him saying: "Good morning, Father. Are you the priest I am supposed to take to Sacred Heart Convent?" Father later said that he grew a little nervous thinking: "She is going to drive me and doesn't even remember who I am?" How relieved he was when he saw me in the driver's seat and realized that Sr. Margaritis was my sister.

De Paul University invited its alumni to a day of learning with five course offerings. We could bring a guest, and I chose my sister, Sr. Margaritis, to come along with me. During one of the classes a photographer took pictures for the *De Paul Magazine*. Our photo, showing us both taking notes as the professor used a screen for his teaching, appeared in that magazine. When I showed it to my sister, her response was: "Which one is me?" We almost looked like identical twins! †



Sr. Susanne and Sr. Margaritis. Photo from *DePaul Magazine*, Summer 2015 issue. Used with permission.

## "I really like your job."

Text by Sr. Theresa Marie Tran, SCC  
Photo courtesy of the Western Region Archives

I treasure many fond memories of the time I worked as a counselor in elementary schools. One of the things I enjoyed doing with the children at the primary-age level was play therapy. Sometimes by drawing a picture of their family, children would reveal so much about the family situation. At other times children could get so lost playing in a sand tray and telling me about the problems they were dealing with in life.

One day a child got so excited. "Sister Theresa Marie, I really like your job."

Curiously wondering what he meant, I asked him: "What do you like about my job?"

"You get to play with us all day long; you got a good job," he answered.

I liked my job, too. I had the privilege to journey with those children in some difficult times of their lives. We played, we laughed, and at times we cried together. We connected at a level where a healing came about which neither one of us expected. I hope through these kinds of encounters that the children have taken along some tools to take care of themselves and find their way when life presents them with other challenges. †



Sr. Theresa Marie is surrounded by a group of students during her early teaching days.

# Jubilarians 2017

Compiled by Sr. Mary Clement Eiden, SCC | Photos courtesy of the Western Region Archives

**T**hese vignettes of our Jubilarians of 2017 give a short synopsis of what each Sister is presently doing, what maxim of Mother Pauline is particularly meaningful to her, and then the admirable traits of each Sister that some of her companion Sisters have witnessed.

## Sr. Consuela Chase (80)

Sr. Consuela is in full retirement at Sacred Heart Convent. She still very much appreciates being with community and comes down to the dining room for meals. Sister takes part in all the third-floor activities. She enjoys reading—particularly history and biography. She has just finished the life of Cardinal John Henry Newman, founder of the Oxford Movement in England.



Sr. Consuela feels that the maxim of Mother Pauline which has been a guide for her throughout her life is: “Let charity motivate all your actions. Let there be charity even should you be obliged to refuse a favor. Charity is the fulfillment of the whole law.”

The qualities that Sisters note about Sr. Consuela: “appreciative of all cultures, thoughtful, kind”, “gentle in speech”, a prayerful presence, pleasant, patient. One Sister writes: “I have never heard an uncharitable word from her. She also shows me how to accept disappointments. Sister is very humble and pleasant to live with.” Sister has a “friendly face with a ready smile”. She “remains calm in her old age and illness and prays at the bedside of the seriously ill”.

## Sr. Henrica Buchert (75)

Sr. Henrica came to Sacred Heart Convent in 2010. She has religious education classes for the 7th and 8th grade students who are not able to attend the regular classes on Wednesday evening at St. Joseph’s. Sister



holds these classes on Saturday to prepare the students for Confirmation. She also has regular duty at the reception desk and helps around as she is able. Sr. Henrica enjoys painting and still strums the guitar.

The maxim of Mother Pauline that is Sr. Henrica’s favorite: “God

does all things well. Let us, therefore, praise and bless Him at all times and cheerfully continue our way through life.”

One Sister writes about Sr. Henrica: “She has great sensitivity, kindness, awareness, compassion. She is artistic and responsive.” Other traits that Sisters see in Sr. Henrica: is a good listener, is willing to help out, uses her artistic talent in many ways for others, is fun loving, prayerful. She is “a teacher through and through—even in golden years! She truly is spreading the ‘Good News’ by her willingness and ability to continue teaching the ‘Word’.”

## Sr. Carolyn Eultgen (75)

Sister Carolyn came to Sacred Heart Convent in 2008 and served as local leader until she suffered a heart attack and stroke in 2010 and had to slow down. Sister is now a patient at Sacred Heart Convent. She enjoys conversing, keeping in contact with friends through letters, and coloring. Sister is still an active member of the local community where she takes part in Mass, local assemblies, Sunday recreation, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and various social activities.



At this time of her life, what strikes Sister Carolyn about Mother Pauline is her use of short ejaculations. “As she [Mother Pauline] says: ‘. . . they take no time . . . but bring great returns’. It is now in my later years that I, too, have discovered how important and precious they are! My favorite ejaculation is: ‘Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I trust in Thee’ and I find myself praying it quite often during the day. As I wheel myself down the corridor, wait for the nurse, help someone, I pray my prayer. Thank you, Mother Pauline.”

Sr. Carolyn, writes one Sister, is “interested in community events and has a caring concern for fellow Sisters”. Others see Sister as cheerful, gentle, kind, pleasant, enthusiastic and loving. Sister’s experiences in teaching and on the Indian reservation indicate her “true love for spreading God’s Word”. She has a “welcoming smile” and a “great sense of humor”. Sister devotes time to “writing letters to friends, benefactors and Sisters with whom she has lived.” She is “an example of accepting her physical condition at this time in her life”.

## Sr. Caroline Schafer (70)

Sr. Caroline is presently the administrator at Sacred Heart Convent. She has held this position for the past 17 years. Her responsibilities include the hiring and supervision of all staffs: kitchen, nursing, housekeeping, laundry and maintenance. She oversees payroll and is responsible for the care and upkeep of the convent and its property.

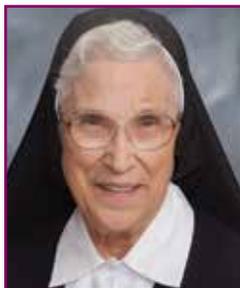
“God’s will, its fulfillment—that is the supreme goal of all my desires.” “This maxim,” writes Sr. Caroline, “permeated Mother Pauline’s entire life and is evident in all the many letters she wrote to people in all positions in life. In my life it is reminiscent of my own mother’s attitude in life. I can’t count the times I heard her saying “God willing”. I try to live by that motto also.

One Sister writes that Sr. Caroline is “outstanding in her ministry as administrator at Sacred Heart Convent with its many responsibilities—at her age”. Other Sisters remark: “She does so much for everyone each day.” She “is willing to be of help to all the Sisters”, “willing to go the extra mile”. Sister is a “good listener and spends time in prayer”. “Sr. Caroline has a deep love for and loyalty to our Congregation. Due to her amazing memory she is able to relate many interesting incidents about our Community.” Sister has generously served on many levels of community leadership. She is “capable, hard-working and sacrificing”.

## Sr. Mary Ann Warwick (60)

Sr. Mary Ann’s primary responsibility is secretary for the Western Region. She is also coordinator of the Companions of Pauline in Illinois, organist and liturgist for Sacred Heart Convent and special events. Sister has been a member of the St. Joseph Adult Choir for many years.

Sr. Mary Ann has a pair of Mother Pauline’s maxims that she sees working hand in hand: “A glance into the future could really fill us with fear and fright, if we did not know the dear Lord still lives and will direct all for the best” and “Leave everything to God! Here all is in safest hands”. Sister chose these maxims because “the time we live in, just as in Mother Pauline’s time, is filled with uncertainty, anxiety and fear. Mother Pauline faced setbacks and failures as well as successes and approval. Her faith and unbounded trust in God allowed her to forge ahead to seek



and accomplish, to the best of her ability, the holy will of God.”

The Sisters write of Sr. Mary Ann: “Her love of all things holy, including music, is transferred to all people she meets.” “She gives generously of herself in service and never refuses to do a favor.” “I would venture to say that no one can surpass Sr. Mary Ann in her willingness to be of help, to find something needed, or to figure out why something is not working. Above all her *charity* is unsurpassable.” “Sr. Mary Ann is always willing to help and is gracious about it. She has a good sense of humor and a hearty laugh.” Several Sisters noted her faithfulness in playing the organ at Sacred Heart Convent and her preparing well for rehearsals. “I find that she exhibits humility and kindness which are very exemplary traits.”

## Sr. Monica Cormier (40)

Sr. Monica is currently living and ministering in Baton Rouge and in New Orleans, LA. For the past several years Sister has been the principal caregiver for her parents (Baton Rouge). Her father JC (first name John) died in 2015. Her mother is still well at 91. On the weekends, Sister is part of the SCC local community at Our Lady of Prompt Succor in New Orleans where she is the local treasurer and participates in everything that is going on. On the regional level, Sister is a principal member of the Vocation Team.



The maxim of Mother Pauline that motivates and comforts Sr. Monica is: “If only I please my Jesus, that is enough; if only I serve Him, praise Him, love Him, that is enough. In everything may His will be done, as He wills it, when and where He wills it. He eternally, He solely, He alone the object of all my actions, of all my desires and aspirations.”

Of Sr. Monica the Sisters write: She is “very interested and concerned about others”, “is one who enjoys life and helps others to enjoy it, too, by her great sense of humor”, “is a good listener and is helpful”. Other remarks include: “Sister is a born entertainer. She always carries through on a promise or a task cheerfully and willingly. She truly ‘lights up a room.’” “Her happy attitude is contagious and she cheers up the community.” “Sister is always giving the rest of us a future filled with hope. She practices attentive listening—filled with joyful acceptance and is available to take on any task no matter how challenging.” She is “a singing nun”. ✚

# In & Around the Region

## Pauline 200

Text by Sr. Juliana Miska, SCC & Sr. Joanne Bednar, SCC  
Photos courtesy of the Sisters pictured

The third *Pauline 200* project will take place in Chicago, IL from July 9-29. As with the other projects, the goal is for the participants to be spiritually renewed in the charism of Mother Pauline, to share a ministry among the needy and to experience an international community. Sr. Joanne Bednar, general councilor, and Sr. Juliana Miska, the “point person” for the Western Region, will be with the group to facilitate and coordinate activities.

While living at Josephinum Convent the group will be primarily working at Our Lady of Mercy. Fr. Nick Desmond, pastor, has invited the group to do mission work among his parishioners.

During the first week, the Sisters will be immersed in the *Totus Tuus* program working hand in hand with seminarians and other volunteers. This program is a mission endeavor and focuses on five areas: Eucharist, Marian devotion, catechesis, Christian vocation and fun. Each weekday there will be a morning session for grade-school youngsters and an evening session for high school students and adults. The Sisters will also go two by two one evening to be with a parish family to share a meal and to get to know the family—their particular needs and what general needs they see in the parish.

The second and third weeks will focus on ways to develop actions that would meet discovered needs. There could, for example, be the formation of a peace circle for works of social justice around issues of immigration, a rosary circle that would enable participants to come to a greater understanding of the mysteries of the rosary, a Scripture sharing circle, a circle where retired people could meet during the day. It would also be important to identify within each group individuals who would assume responsibility for keeping these circles active.

Fr. Nick has offered that the Sisters could attend various meetings that are a vital part of parish life such as parish, finance and liturgical councils. The Sisters will help at St. Luke’s food pantry. They will also have a presentation about poverty as it exists in the United States.

Weekends will be free for activities that promote community, culture and fun.

Again, all the Sisters of the Congregation have been invited to support this mission. We have been asked to add the following prayer (or a similar one) to our morning or evening prayer: “Holy and loving Father, we ask you to protect our Sisters during the experience of *Pauline 200* in Chicago. Let them take part in the mission of your Son to bring love, justice and peace into the world. Bless their life and their service and fill them with true joy.” Monetary donations and gift cards will be accepted to purchase food and medicine for needy families in the areas where the Sisters will be ministering. †



Sr. Maria de la Cruz



Sr. Angela Maria



Sr Dolores



Sr. Anna



Sr. Regina



Sr. Maria Ingrid



Sr. Maria Ester

## Hobby and Helping

Text and photo courtesy of Sr. Mary Ann Poppler, SCC

I have been participating in craft fairs for over 30 years. My main reason for doing this was to increase our Retirement Fund. We had many ailing and retired Sisters and I felt this was one way to help and support them and to contribute to the Community at large.

My interest in knitting and crocheting began when Sr. Angelica Hengesbach, then Provincial Superior, encouraged us all to find a hobby which could extend into old age when we were no longer in full-time ministry. I am more successful in knitting because I am more interested in it. I gave up crocheting to a great extent when I crocheted a baby afghan which felt so hard in comparison to the softness of one that was knitted. There are only two items that I crochet: mittens and the tops of appliance towels.

How did I come to this hobby? My mother tried to teach me these crafts in the late 1960's. She piqued my interest, but I was not really committed and the interest waned. Later, Sr. Celeste Poelker showed me again but I did not continue practicing. In 1971, I was missioned with Sr. Johanna Rosenkranz who did such beautiful work; this time a stronger interest was there and I was now ready to learn. After I had knitted two articles, Sister commented that I had such even stitches. I asked if she would now teach me to crochet. She said: "You knit for one year and then I'll teach you how to crochet." And she did.

When I first started knitting I donated my work to our annual Fall Festival. When this event was discontinued, I needed an outlet for the articles I was making: hats, scarves, mittens, slippers, lap robes, appliance towels and dish cloths. I also have a sister, sister-in-law and friends who add to my inventory by donating their work to sell. So I started to go to craft sales.

I have gone to several parishes. I started at St. Theresa, Palatine, where I was missioned. For several years I displayed and sold my work at Mallinckrodt College. Now I go to parishes in the area: St. Francis Xavier (Wilmette), St. Nicholas (Evanston), Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Glenview). Recently, I have been having two sales a year at Sacred Heart Convent, Wilmette—one in spring and one in fall.

Being part of the craft sale circuit has been a great experience for me and my helpers. We meet many wonderful people, many of whom come back every year. It is a great source of witness to religious life and our charism. My needlework has been a fulfilling hobby, both relaxing and profitable. It has given me many joys even to this day. †



Sr. Mary Ann at the craft fair at St. Nicholas School

## Sharing Our Life

Text and photo courtesy of Sr. Dolores Bozif, SCC

As part of Catholic School's Week (Jan. 29-Feb. 4), teachers at Faith, Hope and Charity School (Winnetka, IL) made arrangements with Sr. Juliana Miska to have a Sister come to answer questions about religious life posed by the eighth-grade students. Sr. Dolores Bozif went to the school. Some of the questions were: What do you do daily? Did you know you wanted to be a nun when you were a child? What is the process of becoming a nun? How often do you pray? Do you think being a nun is something more people should be? For about an hour, Sister responded to written and oral questions, adding comments and other information. The students and teachers learned some interesting facts about "nuns". It was a good experience. †



# Sharing Pauline's Vision



## Pauline, Her Early Life

Text by  
Sr. Joanne Bednar, SCC

*"...but it is of the essence of what it means to be a Christian and of the transformation that takes place once Christ enters our lives. This great mystery takes place in and through our Baptism; and once we are aware of this first great mystery that happens to us, we spend the rest of our lives...uncovering the implications of this truth."*

—GATHERING SHARDS by Murray Bodo, O.F.M.

On June 7, 1817, Maria Bernardine Sophia Pauline Mallinckrodt did enter that "great mystery" of being a Christian and began a life of "uncovering the implications of this truth." It was four days after Pauline was born. She had been a weak, sickly infant and Frau Mallinckrodt pleaded that the priest at the Cathedral be called to baptize Pauline immediately. Not only was there new life infused into Pauline's soul but new life was sent through her body as now Frau Mallinckrodt held a perfectly healthy infant. Yes, the mystery of Christ's life was already evident in Pauline's life.

Pauline was the first of four children, brothers George and Hermann following along in the next four years. Their little sister Bertha joined the family nine years later. Theirs was a happy childhood. One of their favorite pastimes was playing at wars and sieges. After Pauline would capture her brothers' fort, they were made to march behind her as she led them in a victory parade carrying her flag and that of her brothers around the garden. Yes, Pauline was somewhat of a tomboy. Frau Mallinckrodt hoped that by sending Pauline to St. Leonard's Academy, a change would come about in Pauline. It was at St. Leonard's that Pauline met two teachers who would influence her life significantly. Pauline found in Fraulein Luise Hensel a friend and guide who deepened in her the love for the poor that her mother had already planted within

her heart. As Frau Mallinckrodt would encourage her children by her example to forego little pleasures and to save the money for the poor, so Fraulein Hensel did the same with her students. The student who had attained the highest grade in lessons and in behavior was invited to accompany the teacher on her visits to the homes of the poor on Saturday. How the girls would vie for this honor.

Pauline wrote to Luise Hensel five years after graduating from St. Leonard's:

*"Do you remember how we used to wait for you after school to walk up the steps with you, and how each one of us girls tried to get next to you to take your arm, or at least to carry a book for you? When we reached your door, most of the girls would take their leave, but the more persistent (Pauline Mallinckrodt for example), would venture into your sanctum, and then! Do you recall the deluge of questions that followed?"<sup>(1)</sup>*

A second teacher to whom Pauline confided her concerns about her hesitancy to question her parents about religion planted within Pauline a lesson that would stand her in good stead for all her life. Pauline approached Fraulein Ludger after class one day and presented a situation for which Pauline needed some help. "There is something I must ask you. What—what can—what should I do when there are things about religion I need to talk about at home, and my parents—well, my parents don't agree about them or don't want to hear about them and it gets... unpleasant?"<sup>(2)</sup> Fraulein Ludger gently responded, "Go to God, Pauline, and tell Him about it. And not only that. Take everything to Him, every tiny, little thing—especially things that people wouldn't bother about. You can always go to Him and he will always understand and care. The answers to your questions will come, too, in time. Just trust Him and wait." Pauline, just a teenager, never forgot that advice nor forgot to carry it out.

That "great mystery" of Baptism was flowering in young Pauline's life. Pauline herself recognized this growth as she later wrote to Luise:

*"I owe you an immense debt of gratitude. You laid the foundation of all my happiness. Joy and peace are to be found in God alone, and it was you who led me to this unfailing fountainhead of spiritual and temporal blessings."<sup>(3)</sup> †*

1. A Sister of Christian Charity *A Light of Catholic Action*, p. 7
2. Wedmore, SCC Delphine *The Woman Who Couldn't Be Stopped*, p. 14
3. *Ibid*, p. 8

# Companions of Pauline

## Companions Catch the Spirit of the 200<sup>th</sup>

Information courtesy of Sr. Mary Ann Warwick, SCC

The Companions of Pauline around the Western Region have been diligently planning activities to honor Mother Pauline on the occasion of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birth. Whether these events are now in the past or yet to be, they are a tribute to the spirit of Mother Pauline and the Companions.

### Louisiana

The Sisters in New Orleans have invited the public to join them in several celebratory events taking place in parishes where the Sisters of Christian Charity formerly lived and ministered:

- April 30 – An 11:00 a.m. Mass at Transfiguration (formerly St. Raphael Church and the site of St. Raphael School where the SCCs served from 1948-1999).
- May 12 – A 4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Henry Church followed by a reception. The Blessed Pauline Center is located in the former convent. The SCCs were at St. Henry from 1873 to 1973.
- June 3 – A 4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church. The Sisters ministered in this school from 1874-1996.
- The Sisters have also invited the public to join them in praying a Novena in honor of Blessed Pauline from May 25-June 3.

### Missouri

Sr. Mary Ann Eultgen said that she, Darlene Johnson (lay leader) and the Companions of Pauline in St. Louis—inspired by Mother Pauline’s love for the blind—are planning to entertain the blind women at Mary Culver Home in Kirkwood, MO and then serve refreshments. On another specified day they will

celebrate Mass at Sacred Heart Monastery and then have luncheon with relatives and friends.

Sr. Dolores Bozif reports that the Companions of Pauline in Fulton plan to have a Mass on June 5, 2017 followed by a reception.

### Michigan

Sr. Pauline said that the Companions of Pauline in Michigan (Westphalia and Fowler) have been praying the “Novena in Honor of Blessed Pauline” several times a month for the past year. They plan to host a birthday party for Blessed Pauline and to arrange to have a Holy Mass offered in St. Mary Church in Westphalia. Blessed Pauline actually visited Westphalia.

### Minnesota

The Companions of Pauline in Minnesota (Burnsville, Chaska, Cologne and Waconia) plan to deliver clothing items to a re-sale shop that services the poor. They also plan to spend time in service there and treat the personnel and customers to a “birthday treat in honor of Blessed Pauline”. In addition, some thought has been given to scheduling a Mass followed by a reception to honor Blessed Pauline at St. Joseph Church in Waconia and at Guardian Angels Church in Chaska. This could be done at the time when the Sisters visit the Companions sometime in the autumn of 2017.

### Illinois

The Companions of Pauline in Illinois plan to help with and participate in the special Pauline 200 events that the Sisters in the Wilmette/Chicago area are planning in celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Blessed Pauline’s birthday. †



Do you want to walk with us and share the fire burning in our hearts? We invite you to journey with us as an SCC Companion of Pauline. The Companions of Pauline is a faith-based group whose members, women and men, affiliate themselves with the Sisters of Christian Charity and share in the spirit of the Congregation. Do you feel called to become a Companion of Pauline? If you would like to have more information, write to Sr. Pauline Schafer, SCC at 1515 N. Oakley Blvd., Chicago, IL 60622 or call 1-773-235-8646.

# Our Future

## Here I Am Weekend

Text contributed by several SCCs  
Photos by Sr. Juliana Miska, SCC

Sr. Juliana Miska and Sr. Monica Cormier, our vocation team, along with Sr. Dolores Bozif, Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig and Sr. Mary Ann Warwick planned three days of vocation activities and elicited many other Sisters of the Region to implement the plans—plans to share with others our joy and happiness in religious life.

The activities of Friday, March 3 began with the arrival of our postulants, novices and their directresses from Mendham, NJ. The group arrived close to 3:00 p.m. Shortly afterward the Sisters and visitors gathered on the third floor west porch (and thereabouts) for “Fresh Air Friday”. Conversation and refreshments flowed. There was a song specifically written for the occasion: the many gifts of religious life sung to the tune of “The 12 Days of Christmas”.

Four young women joined us for supper. After tables were cleared, the novices and postulants each offered a few remarks about themselves, and Sr. Carol Bredenkamp shared how she knew her calling to the SCCs. Each of the young women received a follow-up sheet to indicate if she would be interested in other activities such as a retreat experience, service time, a monthly gathering to read and reflect on *Coming Home to Your True Self* by Albert Haase, OFM.

Saturday, March 4 was a day set aside for the Sisters themselves so that they might “come aside and rest a while”. It was a day to reflect on and renew their own “Here I am, Lord”. Twenty Sisters participated. On arriving at the Josephinum Convent (Chicago), the Sisters chatted over coffee and then spent a period of prayer in chapel before the exposed Blessed Sacrament. The heart of the day was sharing with each other in small groups: what is my vocation story? How has my call developed or even changed over the years?

After a light lunch, there was time for resting or playing games. More activities followed: a game of



The Core Committee: Sr. Mary Ann, Sr. Monica, Sr. Dolores and Sr. M. Joanne (not pictured: Sr. Juliana)

“wheel of future” and community singing. Creative Evening Prayer brought the Sisters to chapel once again. The day concluded with a typical German feast-day dinner! When asked to comment on the day, the Sisters offered a variety of responses: relaxing, refreshing, introspective, inspiring, comfortable, enjoyable—a truly SCC-style day.

Sunday, March 5 was a presence and participation day which began with the 10:45 a.m. Mass at St. Aloysius Parish in Chicago. The Sisters were present before and after the Mass to greet parishioners. Fr. Claudio Diaz, pastor, welcomed the Sisters during Mass and said that he hoped the SCCs who had already been over 100 years in the parish would be around for another 100 years.

There was an open house at the Josephinum Convent from 2:00-3:30 p.m. especially for young women who might be wondering about a call to religious life. It was an opportunity for them (and their friends or families) to “come and see” a bit about convent life. After an early supper, the Sisters traveled to Our Lady of Mercy Parish where they were welcomed by pastor Fr. Nick Desmond and his parishioners. There the Sisters were present for a concert (in Spanish) by Luis Enrique Ascoy of Peru who uses his music as a tool for evangelization. Luis also played and sang devotional music — on his knees the entire time — during a period of Eucharistic Adoration.

On Monday, March 6 the core committee gathered at the SCC Center to evaluate the weekend and to discern the “next best steps”. Please pray with us that the Lord will send more laborers into his harvest. †

Sr. Marianne Schwer meets Sr. Josephine Wagner.

# SCCs Around the World

## Creating a Future and a Hope

Text and photos courtesy of the Eastern Province

During this year of Blessed Pauline's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birth, the Sisters of Christian Charity in the Eastern Province are creating a future and a hope in an array of ways.

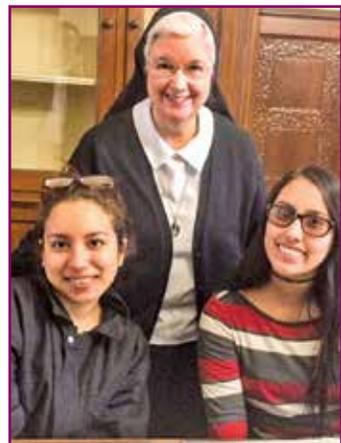
### Breaking New Ground

Our groundbreaking ceremony on June 25, 2016 marked a renewed sense of unity as the Eastern Province prepared for a vibrant future. A new, more efficient Motherhouse being built on the Mendham property will provide a center for the province's administration, formation, liturgical and community life. In addition, the senior Sisters from Holy Family Convent, Danville, PA will transition to Mendham, creating the opportunity for all the Sisters to remain together physically, as well as in "one heart and one soul." MPvM

In the words of Sister Mary Edward Spohrer, Provincial Superior: "Eighty-six years ago . . . a groundbreaking took place on this property for the establishment of a motherhouse here in Mendham, NJ. Today, God is calling us to undertake another building project, which will provide a new home for all of our Sisters. By turning over these first shovels full of earth, we take a significant step into our future."

### Joining in New Ministries

Over the last few years, the Province has reached out in building God's Kingdom in a variety of ministries and parishes. Two inter-community collaborative ministries were begun. The Nativity/Miguel School in Scranton, PA opened its doors in 2015. It is a tuition-free Catholic school model which includes longer school days, educational trips, and an extended school year with summer programs. The school is sponsored by the SCCs and the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Scranton. Sr. Maria Angeline Weiss, SCC teaches fifth grade. The Passaic, NJ Neighborhood Center for Women is a collaborative effort between the Diocese of Paterson, NJ and its religious communities. It exists to provide a place for the women of Passaic to meet, share and grow in a peaceful and safe environment. Here, women can express their needs, discover community resources to fulfill their needs, and strengthen themselves and their families through educational growth. Sr. Ann Marie Paul is the Director of the Center and Sr. Gerardine Tantsits is the Assistant to the Director.



Sr. Gerardine is with two young women who were learning English at the Center. One is now in college; the other is preparing to go to college.

Sr. Mary Rose Mroz serves in the Diocese of Camden NJ as a phone operator for the Ears of Mercy—A Vitality Resource and Referral Help Line – a new ministry established to assist those who are elderly or disabled and remain at home. Sr. Mary Irene Sorber ministers as an "Itinerant Spiritual Director" for the West Virginia Institute for Spirituality in the Diocese of Charleston-Wheeling, WV. She travels to three areas of West Virginia to offer spiritual direction while directing retreats and training programs at the Institute.

### Pauline 200 Outreach

In celebration of Mother Pauline's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday and in the spirit of her love for those who are poor and needy, we asked each of our local convents to implement a specific outreach to commemorate this significant year. Some of the initiatives included: organizing an eye glass collection in area churches, raising money to fund a seeing eye dog for someone in need, creating a local "Diaper Bank" and giving to those organizations that provide for infants and toddlers, contributing to nine local and international charities chosen by the local community, and volunteering at the Msgr. Corr Family Resource Center in Morristown, NJ.

The needs of the people of God are many and varied! We know and believe we are called to fearlessly "break new ground" in whatever direction that may lead us. "All is safest in God's hands." MPvM ✚



Taking part in the groundbreaking are (sitting) Sr. Mary Edward Spohrer, Sr. Joan Daniel Healy, Sr. Pierre Koesters, (standing) Sr. Teresa Ann Jacobs, Fr. Andrew Smith, OSB, Sr. Mathilde DeLucy

# Connections

## A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words

Text contributed by Sr. Mary Ann Warwick, SCC  
Photo by Joe Wyse

While she was in a local stationery store several years ago, Patricia Wyse bought note cards imprinted with the drawing of the original Motherhouse of the Sisters of Christian Charity done by artist Elaine Harwood. Patricia admired the cards and enjoyed using them.

Recently, when Patricia and her husband Joseph decided to downsize and relocate from their home in Winnetka to a condominium in the Mallinckrodt in the Park building [the former SCC Motherhouse], Patricia had the unique idea of using the “Motherhouse” note cards to inform her family and friends about their new address. She called the SCC Center to find out how to get more cards. Sr. Mary Ann Warwick told Patricia that the desired note cards were available at the SCC Center. Patricia ordered a total of 96 notecards! Sr. Mary Ann delivered the cards on December 6, 2016 to the Wyse’s condominium.

In the course of conversation during that visit and a subsequent visit, it was discovered that Patricia and her husband had a few other connections with the Motherhouse and the Sisters of Christian Charity.

- Patricia’s step-father had received permission from the Sisters to walk through the north driveway of the Motherhouse to take a short-cut on his way to shop at the Treasure Island store.
- Sr. Friedberta Hermann (dec. August 16, 1978) and Patricia’s step-father shared a passion for gardening. Sr. Friedberta made visits to Patricia’s parents’ house to admire their lovely blooming roses and share with them flower bulbs from the Motherhouse garden. Gardening techniques were also exchanged.
- Patricia remembers that one year Sr. Friedberta brought Christmas cookies to her parents’ home and serenaded them with “O Tannenbaum” to the delight of all. Patricia recalls that Sr. Friedberta had a lovely singing voice.
- Patricia and her husband Joseph enjoyed taking classes at Mallinckrodt College of the North Shore while it was part of Loyola University Chicago.

When asked if they would like to meet Elaine Harwood, Patricia and Joseph answered with a resounding “Yes”. On February 23, 2017 Elaine and Sr. Mary Ann visited the Wyse’s in their condo. †



Elaine, Sr. Mary Ann and Patricia enjoyed their visit and made yet another connection.

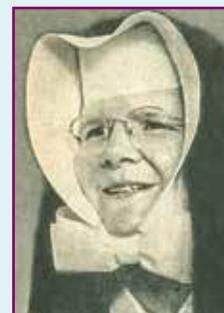
## My First Grade Teacher

Text contributed by Sr. M. Joanne Ladwig, SCC  
Photo courtesy of the Western Region Archives

Just now [1/7/2017] as I opened my mail, I received a lovely, hand-written letter from my first grade teacher, Sr. Victorine Thiry (now Joan Thiry). In BREAD BROKEN, she had read about the books I was collecting for the poor children and she sent me a donation. What a surprise! Her handwriting was perfect. I just called to talk with her as she had given me her phone number. We had a great conversation. She is 90 years old but still working on projects.

I told Joan that she had had a great influence on my life since it was from the first grade that I began thinking of becoming an SCC. I was in her class in 1951 at St. Boniface School [Minneapolis, MN].

Joan was at St. Raphael School in New Orleans for six years and still has contacts down here. [Sr. M. Joanne is presently in New Orleans.] A friend of hers, Brother Jeffrey, was part of the Consecrated Life retreat I made in the fall of 2015. Brother told Joan that he had met me as I had shared with him that Joan was my first grade teacher. What a blessing! †



Sr. Victorine



## Sr. Susanne Kullowitch

quietly slipped the bonds of earth and danced into the arms of the Father on February 14. Mary Rose was born on January 20, 1933 in Chicago, IL. She attended St. Aloysius School, graduating from 8th grade. Her first year of high school was at Josephinum. Mary entered the postulancy on August 28, 1947. She was received into the novitiate on August 21, 1949 and was given the name “Sister

Susanne”. Two years later – on August 21, 1951 – she pronounced first vows. After making first vows Sr. Susanne was sent to teach at St. Raphael School in Chicago. Her next assignments took her to St. Louis, MO; Detroit, MI; LeMars, IA; New Orleans, LA and Westphalia, MI. In 1987 Sr. Susanne began teaching high school religion classes at Josephinum in Chicago.

Sister took up ministry in our Eastern Province in 2003. While living at Divine Providence, she worked at St. Anthony Center in the soup kitchen, free clinic and retreat center. Sister returned to Chicago – and to Josephinum Convent – in 2009. For seven years she served as sacristan at St. Aloysius Parish and helped with the RCIA program. In March 2016 she went to Sacred Heart Convent in Wilmette, IL following an episode of severe back pain.

The wake for Sr. Susanne took place at Sacred Heart Convent on Friday, February 17. On Saturday the funeral Mass was held in the convent chapel. A group of seven musicians from St. Aloysius Parish played flute, guitar and keyboard, and led the singing. †



## Sr. M. Madeline Portner

died peacefully on April 5. She was 104 years old. Martha Clara Portner was born on January 14, 1913 in Lafayette Township, Nicollet County, MN. Martha’s first seven years in school took place in “the little Red Country School” where she was taught by lay teachers. Her 7<sup>th</sup> grade school year was spent in Communion classes taught by Sr. Procula at Holy Trinity School. In the fall of 1926 Martha entered as a freshman at Holy Trinity High School; she had many fond memories of SCC teachers there.

Martha entered the convent on February 11, 1935. On August 21 of that same year she became a novice and was given the name “Sister M. Madeline”. She made her first vows on August 21, 1937. Sr. M. Madeline’s first ministry was that of grade school teacher, a ministry which lasted 42 years and saw her in Michi-

gan, Minnesota, Louisiana, Iowa and Illinois. Her later teaching assignments also included the duties of principal and local superior.

In 1979 Sr. M. Madeline’s ministry changed to that of librarian; this ministry continued for 20 years. In 1999 Sister came to Josephinum Convent. For two years she tutored students and helped with household duties.

Sr. M. Madeline came to Sacred Heart Convent in Wilmette, IL in 2001 where, until 2006 she worked in the convent library. In 2007 her status changed to “retired”. Advanced age and declining sight soon necessitated nursing care, so Sister was moved to the nursing floor as a patient in 2011.

The wake for Sr. M. Madeline took place at Sacred Heart Convent on Monday, April 10. The funeral Mass was celebrated on Tuesday morning. †

Rita Fitzpatrick  
Companion of Pauline

Fr. Robert W. Gralapp  
Friend and benefactor of the SCC

Arlene Kmiecik  
Companion of Pauline

*In death we are all  
alone with Jesus.  
Oh, well for us if we can then  
trustingly look up at him.  
If he has been our treasure and  
our wealth during life,  
he will be this also  
throughout all eternity.*

Pauline von Mallinckrodt, 1873

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## Pen Pals

Text and photo courtesy of the Pen Pals

During National Vocation Awareness Week, Sr. Juliana Miska and Sr. Monica Cormier attended a Vocation Fair in Kansas. Of all the people there, the Sisters singled out three young girls who showed special interest in consecrated life and a seminarian who feels the need of more support as he nears ordination. The two Sisters came up with the idea of pen pals.

**L-R: Sr. Therese Fields, Sr. M. Mercedes Johnson, Sr. Rosemary Schwer and Sr. Marianne Schwer** were each asked to be a pen pal to one of the four. The Sisters accepted the invitation, happy to be part of the vocation reach-out. Who knows what God will do in the lives of all eight as they share with each other! †

