



The Call

“To Jesus Through Mary”

April Edition 2006

Sisters of Charity of Our Lady Mother of the Church



Bishop Joseph Perry and Mother Anthony, Superior General, SCMC

A Warm Welcome

Bishop Joseph Perry, a long time friend of our Congregation, honored us with his presence from January 22nd - January 31st.

Bishop Perry resides in Holland, Illinois and serves as the Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago. He is also a professor within the seminary program at St. Mary of the Lake College and Seminary.

Among the highlights of the Bishop’s visit were the conferences given on the importance of fidelity to the Lord, to the Church and to the treasured Patrimony of our Congregation.

Novitiate News



On March 19, the feast of St. Joseph, Sister Joan Clare Gulden pronounced the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience for the first time as a Sister of Charity of our Lady Mother of the Church. Sister is originally from Cleveland, Ohio and is presently pursuing a degree in Education.

Greetings from our Postulants:

Sr. M. Benedicta who is presently taking ESL classes at the Motherhouse, Sister Margaret Mary who is participating in a school mentoring program at a local parochial school and Sr.



M. Josephine who, as a former health care aid, is now using her many talents to assist our senior Sisters.

On March 6, 2006, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students at Assumption School in Manchester, CT participated in their annual “Invention Convention”. Following guidelines provided by the Connecticut State Invention Convention committee the participants in this program explore the process of inventing by researching the autobiographies of famous inventors and tracing the history of various inventions. Next, they become observers of the world around them and explore common everyday problems. Focusing in on one area, students then design an invention that will become a useful tool to help other with such problems. Completed projects include a report that contains a statement of purpose, a list of materials, a detailed set of directions and a statement of originality. They must also create a backboard and display the actual invention.



Sister Elizabeth Marie, Junior professed Sister of SCMC with Miss Bethany Rang, a sixth grader who was awarded the first place overall winner of this project.

“It is Christ who feeds and Christ who is fed.” Pope Leo the Great

This is exactly what we have found to be true in the working of our Holy Family Pantry.

Through the ever-increasing bounty of the Lord, we have been able to help a growing number of God’s children in our area of the vineyard. The Holy Family Pantry had its beginning in 1970. At that time it was a very simple effort to never turn away anyone who came to the door asking for food. Over the years as the needs increased, so did our prayer, “Lord, help us to help them.” And the above prophetic words began to be lived out.

Thirty-six years later God provided that the renovation of our “storage–garage” has now become our official food pantry. With the inspiration and ingenuity of our maintenance and our refrigeration men, an 8x8 walk-in cooler and freezer unit which were donated by a benefactor were installed.

The next order of business was to set a grand-opening date which would include a blessing of the room,



the refrigeration units, those who will be feeding the hungry and also the hungry themselves.

Father Joseph Tito, our neighbor parish priest performed this august duty on March 11, 2006. What a milestone for this "Corporal Work of Mercy. It remains a great source of wonder and mystery as to how this all came about. It is definitely the Will and Work of the Lord! In this month of March we will have served about 50 families, with the total amount of groceries being figured in meals which will go on record as having served 4,305 meals in the first month of operation in our new home.

"Well Done My Good and Faithful Servant"



**Sister Marie Arthur
May she rest in peace.**

Sister Marie Arthur, passed into eternity on February 23, 2006 at the age of 83 after a brief illness. To those of us who worked with Sister, to those she served in Catholic education, she never settled for anything less than the best.

During her ministry that spanned 64 years, Sister Arthur

served as principal in six schools within the diocese of Norwich, CT. Throughout her life, Sister exemplified the true Religious--the true educator as she dedicated her life to spreading the Gospel message.

Celebrating Consecrated Life

In most dioceses, one Sunday in February is set aside to celebrate Consecrated Life. In the diocese of Norwich, Connecticut this celebration was held on Sunday, February 8th. A part of this program for the day included testimonies by Religious Sisters relating personal aspects of the joy experienced in the service of the Lord. Sister M. Rafael, a member of our Community, was among the four Sisters chosen to speak on this topic. She concluded her testimony with the following.



**Sr. M. Rafael SCMC
Principal of St. Joseph
School
Baltic, CT**

"We as Religious can be compared to the stuffing in different types of sandwiches. There's always the peanut butter that sticks with us, or the personality that is as sweet as strawberry jam. On at least one occasion, I've been called a bit of 'marshmallow' fluff. Someone else suggested that there are fair amounts of hams and maybe some turkeys. We have layers of "Let us pray" in quiet prayer and peace in our hearts and we have times of great activity when we wonder if we can fit it all in. Most important is the Bread that holds us together--the Eucharist, which binds us as one and makes our joy complete."

Sister's concluding remarks were a highlight among the many thoughts presented during this portion of the program.

Bread of Life Weekend October 2006

Preparation for a *Bread of Life* weekend for youth in the fall is now being planned. Lovers of Jesus in the Eucharist will unite on the weekend of October 27-29, 2006, at Saint Michael Center, located at Holy Family Motherhouse, in Baltic, Connecticut. The purpose of this Eucharistic Retreat is to provide young people with the opportunity to worship, praise, learn, and rejoice together in the Lord, with hundreds of other young people from the area. The full weekend of adoration, prayer, sacraments, talks, and music is meant to renew spiritual devotion, to gain strength and courage from our Eucharistic King, and to obtain many graces for our needy world. The weekend begins Friday afternoon with registration and continues until the final Mass and witness talks on Sunday morning. Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the focus, and we are all the beneficiaries of His merciful Presence. Participation is open to people ages 14-25 and cost of the weekend is \$40. For more information, please contact Sister Marie Andre at 1(860) 822-8241.



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*Rejoice in the glory of the Lord
during this Sacred Easter Season
and come to know the peace
that only His love can bring.
Our Prayers are always with
you.*

