

# FSM

Winter/Spring  
2006

MAGAZINE

Franciscan Sisters of Mary

## FOR SALE




 he reunited  
 Franciscan Sisters of  
 Mary is a religious congregation  
 of women within the Roman  
 Catholic Church. Founded in  
 1872, the Franciscan Sisters of  
 Mary sponsor the following  
 ministries: SSM Health Care,  
 Almost Home, Woman's Place  
 (St. Louis); co-sponsor Holy  
 Family Services (Weslaco, TX),  
 and collaborate with four  
 other religious congregations  
 of women in The Sarah  
 Community.

President:  
 Jacqueline Motzel, FSM

Councilors:  
 Judith A. Bell, FSM  
 Sherri Coleman, FSM  
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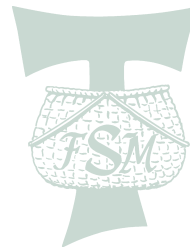
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Joan E. Pace  
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PPCT Research Publications

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### **Franciscan Sisters of Mary**

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 St. Louis, MO 63117-1826



Dear Friends:



Human trafficking is out of the closet! It is operative in virtually every country of the world – in our hometowns, as well as oceans away. Astonishingly it is one of the fastest growing criminal activities following only drugs and arms. Human trafficking is a serious and urgent problem around the globe. Indeed, it is a paramount issue for the universe.

Human trafficking is a horrendously grave and consequential violation of human dignity. In a deliberately planned and dangerously insensitive enterprise, perpetrators dishonor the fundamental human rights of persons who are most vulnerable. At the top of this list are women and children. They are primary victims of this modern day slavery.

In this issue of *FSM Magazine*, you will learn more about this activity. Who is trafficked today and why? What is the extent of the problem? What are the causes? Who are the major agents in the trafficking business? What are their techniques? What can be done about it? How might gender relationships be transformed so all persons are treated with dignity?

Trafficking is a justice issue of humongous magnitude. It needs addressment in areas of prevention, rehabilitation, advocacy and political action. Perhaps you will feel called to explore one of these dimensions. Responses are available to all. For some, it is a thoughtfully whispered prayer; for others, it is study; and for still others, it is active participation to change the system that promotes this behavior.

Assuredly, there are many ways to make a difference. If you feel that gentle urge as you read these pages, it may well be the Spirit stirring your heart to create a culture where each person's human dignity is revered and respected.

With a prayer,

*Jacqueline Motzel, FSM*

*human dignity*

# *human trafficking* **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

*He could end up  
slaving long hours  
for pennies at a  
Chinese buffet restaurant . . .*



*She could be a teenager from Mexico  
who was promised a job  
as a waitress but  
is made to work as a prostitute  
to pay off exorbitant  
transportation fees . . .*





*She could be a Thai woman  
who thought she was  
coming to the United States  
to be a housekeeper but,  
under threats of bodily harm  
to her and her loved ones,  
waits on her masters hand-and-foot  
eighteen to twenty hours a day,  
seven days a week . . .*

# HUMAN

*"Ponder if you will the next time you go to a restaurant or have lawn service or have a friend or acquaintance that has a nanny or housekeeper," challenges Jeanne Meurer, FSM, "and ask yourself who is this person? Are they part of the human trafficking problem that is a global issue as well as a local issue?"*

...report criticizes 14 nations  
...that are failing to adequately address trafficking problems. The State Department said the 14 nations if they did not crack down on trafficking, 800,000 people are at risk of being sold across national borders and lured to other countries. The State Department said the nations have trafficking programs but their governments are not doing enough to combat the problem.

## Human trafficking nets big profits, expert says

U.S. official warns that terrorists are taking advantage of sophisticated smuggling operations to obtain counterfeit passports and transit to Western countries to plot or carry out attacks, he said.

## Human trafficking is a domestic problem, U.S. report says

State Department report shows more than 15,000 people enslaved into U.S. each year

When Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice released the State Department's Fifth Annual Trafficking in Persons Report in June, she identified the situation as "nothing less than a modern form of slavery."

The report revealed that human trafficking, far from being a rare occurrence, is a widespread cross-border practice that crosses international boundaries. We estimate that up to 800,000 people are trafficked across borders each year.

Terrorists also are taking advantage of sophisticated smuggling operations to obtain counterfeit passports and transit to Western countries to plot or carry out attacks, he said.

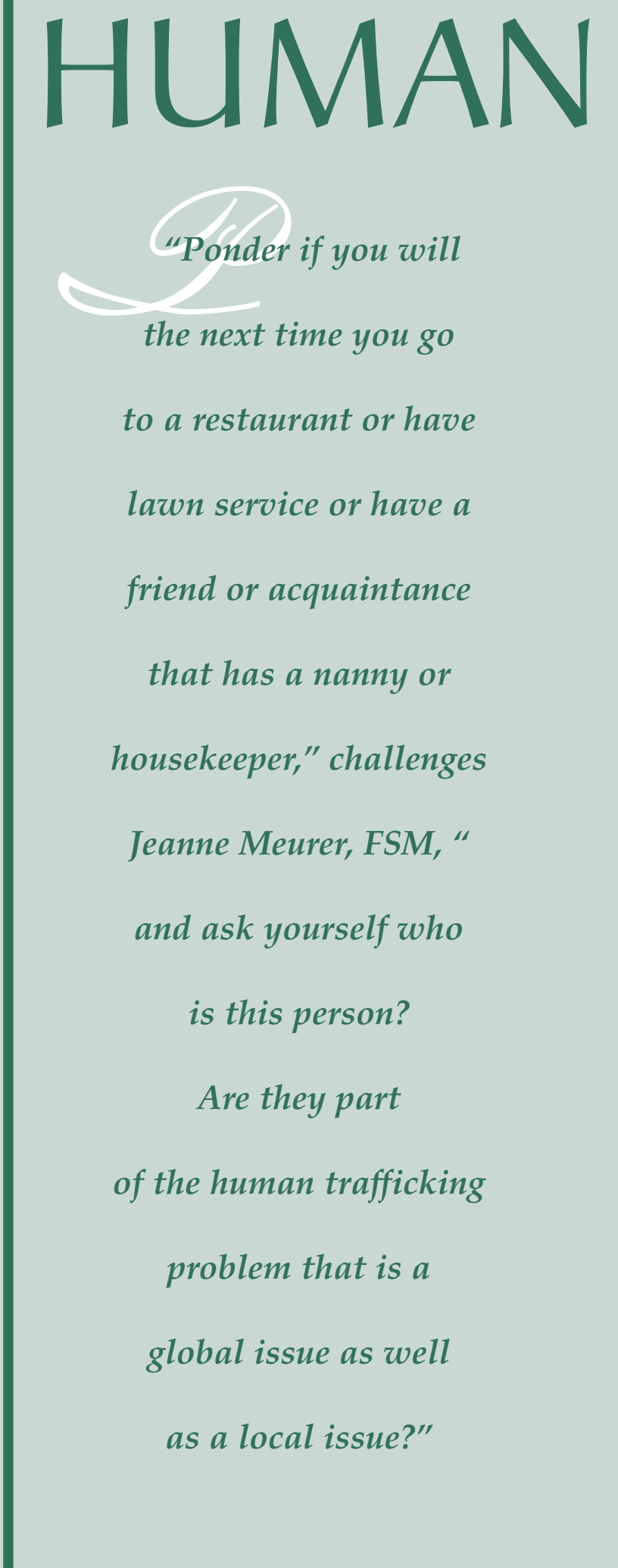
Orphans spur trafficking fears



## METRO PAGE 2

## Public's help is sought in bringing sexual slavery

Other victims may be in domestic service or working in sweatshops



# TRAFFICKING

*As co-director of Woman's Place, a sponsored ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, Sr. Jeanne is well aware of the need to be sensitive to the issue of human trafficking, which affects women, children and men.*

*"Woman's Place is an active member of the **Rescue and Restore Coalition Against Human Trafficking**, in St. Louis," says Sr. Jeanne. "The approach of the coalition is to bring the perpetrators of trafficking to justice and to assist their victims. The coalition offers compassionate care for the basic needs of victims, and offers them protection under our immigration laws."*



Sr. Jeanne Meurer

## *What is human trafficking?*

*"As unimaginable as it seems, slavery and bondage still persist in the early 21st century. Millions of people around the world still suffer in silence in slave-like situations of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation from which they cannot free themselves. Trafficking in persons is one of the greatest human rights challenges of our time"*

*(U.S. State Department, Trafficking in Persons Report, June 2003)*

*Human trafficking, which is also known as trafficking in persons, is modern-day slavery. It is the third largest and fastest growing criminal industry in the world, victimizing millions of people and reaping billions in profits.*

*Victims of trafficking often come from vulnerable populations. Traffickers specifically identify and pursue individuals in these populations because they are often easiest to recruit and control and are least likely to be protected by law enforcement.*

*Most are women and children.*

*"One thinks of some of the darkest, most egregious examples: children sold to the sex 'trade', families desperate for sustenance selling their expendable children into human bondage and it was just a few years ago that a woman in a large east coast city was caught after enslaving women into indentured servitude," says Jeanne Derer, FSM. "The commoditization of human beings is one very good definition of human trafficking: people are things for gratification, engines to do work that is degrading or dangerous; they must be stripped of their humanity so that one is not bothered by how they are treated."*



Sr. Jeanne Derer

*The underlying causes of human trafficking are related to major trends in the new global economy. Increased flow of goods, people and capital has yielded net gains for entrepreneurs of all kinds – legal and illegal – while desperation and vulnerability continues at the margins. The displaced persons, the war victims, the poor, and those seeking the opportunities of the West to improve the quality of their lives, have all helped to make trafficking a booming business as well as a tragic fixture of our times.*

*As many as 800,000 people are bought and sold across national borders annually or lured to other countries with false promises of work or other benefits, according to the U.S. State Department in its annual survey of international human trafficking. It's estimated that between 15,000 and 18,000 of these people are trafficked into the United States each year.*

*continued*

Modern traffickers have many faces. They are diplomats who import domestic workers and hold them in isolation and forced labor in their homes. They are members of organized criminal networks that move people into forced prostitution. Some of them are men who import foreign-born women, ostensibly for marriage, but in reality for the purpose of holding them in servitude and subjecting them to sexual abuse. Others are families that import men, women and children to work in forced labor in their offices, factories, and homes, and subject them to sexual and physical assault.

“Human trafficking victims may be employed as hotel workers, lawn services employees, construction workers, roofers, in factories and in restaurants,” says Sr. Jeanne Meurer. “They may also be employed as nannies, housekeepers, in nail salons, as hairdressers, in spa and massage parlors, in low end retailers, and in the sex industry.”

“A recent example is the importation of Asian and Mexican workers to clean up the debris in the aftermath of Katrina.”

*There has been an increase in people of both sexes trafficked into restaurants, construction and factories, according to the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking.*

“Human trafficking is close to the hearts of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary because it violates the basic Christian message that all persons have dignity and are not to be considered the property of others,” says Donna Steinman, FSM. “This is an area of suffering that calls forth compassion and action for justice.”

“To live the gospel means to recognize those who are victims and those who perpetrate the crimes as our sisters and brothers who need protection and healing of their minds and hearts as well as bodies.”

“In knowing the history of Mother Mary Odilia Berger, I am aware that she had a special concern for young German women who had come to France to find work,” reflects Joanne Klenke, FSM. “They were often met at the train by those who would exploit the fact that they needed money, and although they came looking for honest work, dire financial circumstances made them vulnerable to disreputable people.”

“The trafficking of humans is a violation of their fundamental right to freedom and self-determination, and for children, their right to safety, protection and care,” Sr. Joanne continues. “All trafficking is abhorrent, but especially sexual trafficking because it is degrading and detrimental to the physical, emotional and spiritual life of any person.”



Sr. Donna Steinman





“For years, we as Franciscan Sisters of Mary have focused on women and children – their welfare, development, concerns, needs and dignity,” adds Jacqueline Motzel, FSM. “Human trafficking, as modern slave trade, denies one’s human rights, making persons a commodity to be used, sold and re-sold.”

“Human trafficking is an issue for the universe. Human persons have a pre-eminent place in creation. They are to be respected for their dignity simply because of their existence. Traffickers exploit this dignity especially in women and children through exploitation in all forms.”

*Concerned members of the public and government officials at all levels can help to improve the situation for victims of human trafficking by better understanding the problem and the law and by identifying potential victims in their daily work and life, according to Ann Jordan, director, Initiative Against Trafficking in Persons International Human Rights Law Group.*

“In 2003, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary formed focus groups among the membership to identify an urgent concern that was consistent with our mission and identity statement and identified populations of women and children and those persons on the margins of society,” responds Sr. Joanne. “This has been a prophetic choice for us, since it was only afterwards that the topic of human trafficking has surfaced as a far reaching yet hidden abuse of human beings.”

“The congregation is engaged in education of its members and society around this previously little known crime. It is essential that the public know about trafficking because each of us can play a part in recognizing its occurrence. It is our intent to increase the level of awareness of FSM and to determine ways the congregation can address the issue.”

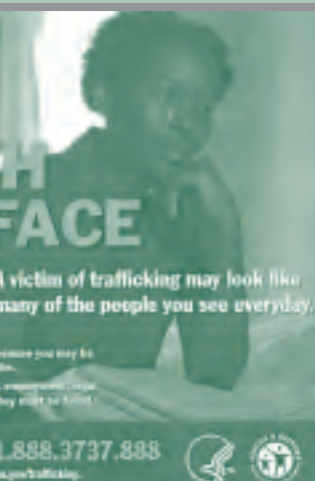
“We’re researching human trafficking,” adds Mary Ann Linhoff, FSM. “We’re trying to become much more aware of it as we consider what we can do.”

“Our congregation collaborates with the Intercommunity Justice Ministry, whose members are represented by many women religious congregations and who network with law enforcement and social agencies to provide services for trafficked individuals.”



Sr. Joanne Klenke

“Communication networks are making the facts known to more people and women religious have taken up the issue/cause as part of their action for justice,” adds Sr. Donna. “A workshop held here in St. Louis last fall on the issue of human trafficking drew a crowd beyond capacity.”



*continued*

*“Human trafficking is out of the closet!” . . .  
“Indeed, it is a paramount issue for the universe.”*

“Our commitment to human trafficking will be long-term because of the immensity of the trafficking activity. How much can be done by us as Franciscan Sisters of Mary will depend on the discernment and strength of our sisters and the presence of skills needed to counteract the abuse.”



Sr. Jacqueline Motzel

“There is heightened awareness internationally, which I consider progress because it – human trafficking – is no longer secret and hidden,” says Sr. Jacqueline.

“There certainly has been progress in exposing a previously hidden crime,” adds Sr. Joanne. “That exposure helps individuals within communities to help identify possible victims in their neighborhoods as they bring their suspicions to the attention of law enforcement and social agencies.”

“States are increasingly passing laws that criminalize trafficking and on the international scene, countries are beginning to collaborate with one another to detect and deter it.”

“Curiously, though, while knowing of this growing threat, the United States has refrained from signing the UN Declaration of Human Rights and other similar documents,” suggests Sr. Jeanne Derer. “In fact, we have often aligned ourselves with nations with some of the worst records in this form of human rights abuse.”

*Human trafficking is so extensive that every country in the world can be considered to be a country of origin, transit or destination. Primary countries of demand include Western Europe, North America and parts of the Middle East and Southeast Asia.*

*Frequent sources of child trafficking include the Pacific Islands, the former Soviet Union, Latin America, Southeast Asia and Africa, as well as developing countries.*

“There are organizations that have taken on this hugely complex issue, including the Salvation Army, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, Human Rights Watch, the Polaris Project and the U.S. Department of State,” says Sr. Jeanne. “These organizations are easily accessed on the Internet.”

“Search for the keywords ‘human trafficking’ to find a chilling abundance of information.”

“The trafficking of women, children and men is such a large and terrible situation,” notes Sr. Mary Ann. “We have begun the educational process, the collaborative relationships will help identify where we can help.”

“Even if we make a positive impact on just a few in this seemingly hopeless situation, our efforts will certainly bear good results...with the Lord’s help.”

“Trafficked people have no voice of their own,” says Sr. Jeanne. “Learn whatever you can about this horrendous business and join with others in advocating international protections for all who fall into the grasp of human traffickers.”



Sr. Mary Ann Linhoff

**“After all,” reflects Sr. Mary Ann, “we are responsible for our sisters and brothers.”**

## Resources:

The campaign to Rescue and Restore Victims of Human Trafficking at [www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/coalition](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/coalition)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at [www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking)

Stop Trafficking! Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter (co-sponsored by Sisters of the Divine Savior, Capacitar International, Inc. and Sisters of Mercy International Justice Network)

Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking at [www.castla.org](http://www.castla.org)

Frontline: Sex Slaves at [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org)

The U.S. Department of State at [www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2005](http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2005)

Lifetime-Television for Women at [www.lifetimetv.com/doc/20050829/nathan](http://www.lifetimetv.com/doc/20050829/nathan)

U.S. State Department Trafficking in Persons Report, June 2003

[www.humantrafficking.com](http://www.humantrafficking.com)

St. Louis Post Dispatch at [www.STLtoday.com](http://www.STLtoday.com)

Sex Trafficking of Women in the United States, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women March 2001

Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline 1.888.3737.888

YaleGlobal Online at [www.yaleglobal.yale.edu](http://www.yaleglobal.yale.edu)

Slavery Without Borders - Americas Program - Center for Strategic and Int'l Studies at [www.csis.org](http://www.csis.org)

Salvation Army at [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org)

United States Department of Justice at [www.usdog.gov/trafficking](http://www.usdog.gov/trafficking)

Polaris Project at [www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)

U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime at [www.undc.org](http://www.undc.org)

*The only certain way to end human trafficking is for people to recognize the signs of trafficking and report them to law enforcement authorities.*

Some of the signs that a person you meet might be a victim of human trafficking include:

- evidence of being controlled
- evidence of an inability to move or leave job
- bruises or other signs of battering
- fear or depression
- non-English speaking
- recently brought to this country from Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America, Canada, Africa or India
- lack of passport, immigration or identification documentation.

Victims of human trafficking may be employed:

- as lawn service/landscapers
- as hotel workers
- in construction/roofing
- in restaurants
- in factories
- as hairdressers/nail technicians
- in spa and massage parlors
- by low end retailers
- in the sex industry
- as nannies or housekeepers

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*“Even if we make a positive impact on just a few in this seemingly hopeless situation, our efforts will certainly bear good results...with the Lord’s help.”*

# The Rescue and Restore Coalition

Woman's Place, a sponsored ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, is an active member of the Rescue and Restore Coalition Against Human Trafficking in St. Louis.

This coalition is located throughout the United States and membership is open to all interested persons. The two-fold approach is to bring the perpetrators of trafficking to justice and to assist their victims, and to offer compassionate care for the basic needs of victims, as well as protection under our immigration laws.

Woman's Place participated in a survey to address ways to be of help to the Rescue and Restore Coalition. What kind of services could we offer as an agency offering domestic violence services? How do we offer direct services for the victims of trafficking? After much thought, we realized that our poverty was our inability to speak many different languages, which is crucial in assisting victims of trafficking through the maze of social services, police protection and legal services.

We concluded that our goal would be to become active members of the Rescue and Restore Coalition and to cooperate with other coalition members in assisting in the critical immediate needs after the trafficking victim is identified.

The critical needs include – identifying housing for the first 48 hours after a victim of human trafficking is identified – assist in providing the person food and clothing – assist in finding legal advocacy – obtain interpreter services – and cooperate with other local members of the Coalition to publicize key actions and successes in the struggle against human trafficking.

## What can you do?

- be active in your local Rescue and Restore Coalition
- participate in related education programs
- educate yourself on who the victims are and where they are employed in the community.

*Jeanne Meurer, FSM*

# *Prayer for an end to Trafficking*

*O God, our words cannot express  
what our minds can barely comprehend  
and our hearts feel  
when we hear of women and girls deceived  
and transported to unknown places  
for purposes of sexual exploitation and abuse  
because of human greed and profit  
at this time in our world.*

*Our hearts are saddened and our spirits angry  
that their dignity and rights are being  
transgressed through threats  
deception and force.*

*We cry out against the degrading practice of  
trafficking and pray for it to end.*

*Strengthen the fragile-spirited  
and broken-hearted*

*Make real your promises  
to fill these our sisters with a love  
that is tender and good*

*and send the exploiters away empty-handed.*

*Give us the wisdom and courage  
to stand in solidarity with them  
that together we will find ways  
to the freedom that is your gift to all of us.*

# 2005 *Jubilarians*

## Congratulations to our 2005 Franciscan Sisters of Mary Jubilarians!

*Creator God, you call your creation to freedom and fulfillment. Look upon these women who give praise for your fidelity and renew this day the offering of their lives to you.*

*On the occasion of this celebration, help them to enter more deeply into the mystery of the divine incarnation and dedicate themselves more generously to the reign of your love.*

*We ask this through Jesus, the Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

*Amen*

# 70 YEARS *Carnelian*



Sr. Florence Kremer



Sr. Murl Margaret Steffens



Sr. Helen Wyrwich

# 60 YEARS *Diamond*



Sr. Mary Mark Massman  
(deceased January 18, 2006)



Sr. Elizabeth Ruppert

# 50 YEARS *Golden*



Sr. Mary Doris Ashcraft



Sr. Marie Christine Berner



Sr. Mary Jo Kahl



Sr. Mary Ellen Lewis



Sr. Sarah Alma Sykes

# Our Sisters Are in the Spotlight

The 2nd Annual **Sr. Betty Brucker** Charity Golf Tournament was held for the benefit of Father Tolten and St. Jane Center, St. Louis, MO, in October.

**Mary Angelita Terrio, FSM, Mary Francine Burkert, FSM and Evelyn Marie Peterman, FSM,** helped St. Mary's Health Center, Jefferson City, MO, celebrate its 100th anniversary as they were featured in anniversary materials, including a series of billboards in the community!



**Donna Marie Steinman, FSM,** is in her third year of ministry as a volunteer reader for Mind's Eye (formerly Radio Information Services) at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL. About 1,400 homes and nursing homes within a 50-mile radius of the radio station receive the service. Radio Information Services at the Shrine was begun by Father Boniface Wittenbrink, OMI, a brother to **Mary Dorine Wittenbrink, FSM.**



**Mary Noreen McGowan, FSM,** was honored as an "Ageless Remarkable St. Louisan" during the 3rd annual celebration hosted by St. Andrew's Resources for Seniors, in November, 2005: "Sr. Mary Noreen's volunteerism is more of a ministry. She is a patient representative in the surgical unity of SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center where she is an advocate and comforting presence for the families of sick children. As a retired nursing school faculty member, Sister is an honored 'pioneer humanizing health care for children.' But her best reward and sweetest recognition come from the families and children for whom she cares."



St. Francis Hospital and Health Center, Blue Island, IL, in celebration of its 100th anniversary, honored **Franciscan Sisters of Mary** who have ministered at the hospital. A basket, designed after Mother Odilia's basket, was presented to the sisters and is displayed in St. Francis' new lobby. FSM were

**Susan Scholl, FSM**, has been appointed as President of SSM St. Mary's Health Center, Richmond Heights, MO.



honored at a special luncheon and the health center's anniversary gala.



**Mary Antona Ebo, FSM**, was a recipient of the Herschel-King Award, presented to her by *Jews United for Justice*, in January 2006.



**Mary Inez Kennedy, FSM, Gerylne Marie Schneider, FSM, and Marylu Stueber, FSM**, attended the 20th anniversary celebration of *Shhh* (Self Help for Hearing Impaired Persons). *Shhh* is the chapter Sr. Gerylne and Inez co-founded in 1985. The *Shhh* chapter merged with the Cochlear Implant Hospital, of which Sr. Marylu had been a member, in 2005.

Nearly 50 people participated in a commemorative walk in honor of SSM St. Joseph Health Center's 120th anniversary. The walk from the original hospital on Chauncey Street to St. Peter Catholic Church signified the dedication of the founders of the health center, the **Franciscan Sisters of Mary**.





## Sr. Madeline Mary Coens

February 10, 1910 - September 17, 2005

Madeline Mary Coens, born February 10, 1910, in Reedsburg, WI, was one of three children born to Edward and Florence M. (Van Basselaere) Coens. At the age of twenty, Madeline began working at St. Marys Hospital and Medical Center in Madison, WI, before deciding to enter the convent, joining her sister, Sr. Margaret Mary. In November, 1934, she traveled to St. Louis to enter the convent and become a postulant. She was received as a novice in June, 1935, and given the name Sr. Mary Lois; after Vatican II she resumed the use of her baptismal name. She made her perpetual vows on September 17, 1940.

In 1943 she went to St. Marys Hospital School of Nursing in Madison, WI, to become a registered nurse, graduating in 1946. After she passed her state board of nursing exam, Sister ministered in various hospitals: St. Francis Hospital and Health Center, Blue Island, IL, (the former) St. Mary's Hospital, Kansas City, MO, St. Mary's Health Center, Richmond Heights, MO, (the former) Mount St. Rose Hospital, St. Louis, St. Clare Hospital and Health Services and St. Mary's Ringling in Baraboo, WI. She served in central service, nursery and delivery room, general nursing, TB nursing and geriatric nursing. She found nursing a very fulfilling ministry, a place to show God's love to others.

Sr. Madeline Mary returned to St. Louis and St. Mary of the Angels Convent in 1998, and transferred to Our Lady of Victories this past August. Here her ministry was that of prayer for her family, friends, congregation and world. She knew in this time of prayer she was where God wanted her to be. Sr. Madeline Mary and her sister, Sr. Margaret Mary, enjoyed a close relationship. They gave each other strength, courage and consolation.

Sr. Madeline Mary died in Our Lady of Victories on September 17, 2005, at the age of 95. Her death, a final surrender of herself to God, occurred on the 65th anniversary of her perpetual profession. Now Sr. Madeline Mary can, once again, share with Sr. Margaret Mary, in a very special gift, that of eternal life with God.

“I know that my Redeemer lives.”



## Sr. Leo Marie Gollhofer

March 29, 1922 - November 30, 2005

Virginia Gollhofer, born March 29, 1922, in Murphysboro, IL, was the seventh of eleven children born to Jesse and Elizabeth Tonner. She entered the congregation in 1940, and professed her final vows in 1945.

While in the novitiate and after making vows, Sister worked in housekeeping and linen service at St. Mary of the Angels Convent. Her first mission was to St. Mary's Infirmary where she worked in the dining room and dormitories. Most of her subsequent ministry was in the convent dining room and as sacristan at St. Francis Health Center, Blue Island, IL, St. Eugene Hospital, Dillon, SC, Mount St. Rose, St. Mary's Infirmary and SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's, all in St. Louis; she was also missioned to St. Marys Hospital Medical Center, Madison, WI.

Sister spent over 28 years at SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. She had a heart for and loved to be around children, caring for them or helping in any way. The elderly were also favored by her. Her heart was with the poor and downtrodden and she would give someone the proverbial “shirt off her back” to be assistance to them, a most generous person with an immense heart. She enjoyed a hearty laugh and had a sense of humor, as well as a yen for dancing that is a testimony to her Irish heritage. She liked to read, pray and enjoyed the beauty of creation. She loved the rosary, her family and the members of the congregation. Sr. Mary Alma Toon was a faithful companion Sister, along with her sister, Sr. Mary Jeanne Gollhofer, who preceded her in death.

Certainly God received Sr. Leo Marie with open arms for her great love and faithfulness.

“Here I am Lord, I come to do your will.  
I may be busy and forget you,  
But do not Lord forget me.”



## Sr. Mary Maxelinda Heimericks

February 25, 1903 - November 7, 2005

Frances Heimericks was the oldest of seven children born to Gerhard and Caroline M. (Weber) Heimericks, in Wardsville, MO, on February 25, 1903. The family later moved to Taos, MO. Her mother died when Frances was eleven years old. She then did housework in Jefferson City to help support her family. She met the Sisters of St. Mary (now known as the Franciscan Sisters of Mary) when she would visit at St. Marys Health Center, Jefferson City, and spoke with Sr. Mary Theobalda Kamper about entering the congregation. While she was concerned about entering since she was hearing impaired, she learned that silence was a part of daily life in the convent, in those days.

Frances entered the congregation in 1921, and professed her final vows in 1926. The first ministry for Sr. Maxelinda was in the laundry where she served for 38 years. She ministered at (the former) St. Mary's Infirmary, SSM St. Mary's Health Center, and (the former) Firmin Desloge Hospital, all in St. Louis; she also served at St. Marys Hospital Medical Center, Madison, WI, and St. Mary's Hospital, Kansas City, MO, where she also cooked for the Sisters.

Sr. Maxelinda was one of the collecting Sisters and told of collecting funds at the St. Louis Union Station offices where the Sisters were known, and on the St. Louis riverfront.

Since 1977 Sr. Maxelinda resided at St. Mary of the Angels Convent. Living with her sisters, she gifted many by sharing herself with them, making a difference in the lives of Sisters and employees alike.

On November 7, 2005, Sr. Mary Maxelinda left her earthly home to live with her best friend, her God. Her companion Sisters and her family now know they have a pipeline to heaven who will intercede for them in their needs.

---

“My Spirit Rejoices in God my Savior.”

Luke 1:47



## Sr. Mary Olivet Zielinski

February 13, 1909 - December 7, 2005

A bookkeeper for many years, Sr. Mary Olivet kept track of many different contracts. However, she dealt with her first contract early in life when she promised God she would enter religious life at the age of twenty-one.

Leona Marie Zielinski was born in St. Louis on February 13, 1909, the sixth of eight children to Peter and Mary (Czecholewski) Zielinski. Leona attended St. Casmir's School. Shortly after graduation from elementary school, Leona began working at the Era Shirt Company. She entered the congregation in 1930, and professed her final vows in 1936.

Careful, accurate and orderly, Sr. Olivet was ideally suited for the business office. While she had no formal accounting training, she did attend classes at Saint Louis University. Sr. Olivet ministered in the St. Louis area throughout her life, serving in offices at SSM St. Mary's Health Center, SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, SSM St. Joseph Health Center, the former hospitals St. Mary's Infirmary and Mount St. Rose, and St. Mary of the Angels Convent.

An unassuming, faithful, prayerful, grateful women, Sr. Olivet enjoyed nature, good reading, and music. She was quiet by nature, had a shy smile, and eyes that twinkled during a hearty laugh.

Sr. Olivet's family and friends were blessed with her peace and happiness during their various encounters.

On December 7, 2005, God called Sr. Mary Olivet home in fulfillment of a life well-lived for 96 years, accepting the contract made many years ago, as completed.

---

“I have loved you with an everlasting love.”



# Gifts Received

May 26, 2005 to December 31, 2005

## Gifts Made In Memory:

*In memory of Hubert and Edna Barten*  
Mr. and Mrs. Roman Barten

*In memory of Andrew Bast*  
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Oliver

*In memory of Carole Becker*  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Becker

*In memory of Mary Mercedes Becker, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Becker

*In memory of Kenneth Bell*  
Rose Mary Dowling, FSM  
Mary Jordan, FMSA  
Ms. Lenita Moore

*In memory of Richard Berner*  
Ms. Lenita Moore

*In memory of Helen Bentsen*  
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Tayon

*In memory of Francis Marie Bettels, FSM*  
Ms. Freda A. Tilling  
Ms. Eva T. Tilling  
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Tilling  
Mrs. Aladene Lesmeister

*In memory of Bernard Marie Boland, FSM*  
Ms. Rebecca B. Lovingood  
Mrs. Marion E. Olmon  
Mr. and Mrs. John Boland  
Ms. Nancy I. Barnes

*In memory of Mary Hugh Boente, FSM*  
Michelle M. Donahue, SFO

*In memory of Aloysius Marie Borst, FSM*  
St. Clare Hospital and Health Services,  
Baraboo, WI  
Ms. Frances Dalton  
Ms. Mary Ruth Kettenbach  
St. Francis Hospital and Health Center,  
Blue Island, IL

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Ms. Alice A. Jensen  
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Ms. Janet H. Meinholz  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Keogh  
Ms. Virginia L. Boerger  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Hilgers

*In memory of Joyce Britton*  
Mr. Bearl Britton

*In memory of Frances and Bohumil Cerny*  
Mr. William Cerny

*In memory of Miriam Joseph Clem, FSM*  
Mrs. Helen B. Little

*In memory of Madeline Mary Coens, FSM*  
Mrs. Sally A. Dreher  
Ms. Donna Wilcock

*In memory of my aunt, Madeline Mary Coens, FSM*  
Ms. Dolores Weekly

*In memory of Eva J. Coleman*  
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Nicholson

*In memory of Mary Martin Courtney, FSM*  
Ms. Debbie Courtney

*In memory of the William Dahmen Family*  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ripp

*In memory of Mary Amadeus Danmeyer, FSM*  
Michele M. Donahue, SFO

*In memory of Mary Helen Louise Deeken, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Deeken  
Mrs. Tharsilla Lieneke

*In memory of Mary Joanna Dierker, FSM*  
Mrs. Rita O. Denne

*In memory of Charles Dillon*  
Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester H. Twele

*In memory of Arthur E. Dreher*  
Mrs. Sally A. Dreher  
Mrs. E. Ruth Schulte

*In memory of Richard J. Durban*  
Mrs. Mildred F. Durban

*In memory of Marvolene Figgemeier*  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary

*In memory of Nancy Finkle*  
Mrs. Mary Margaret Kettenbach  
Mr. and Mrs. Arch Spencer

*In memory of my husband, Dr. Joseph V. Finnegan*  
Mrs. Joseph V. Finnegan

*In memory of Joseph V. Finnegan, M.D.*  
Dr. and Mrs. Carl J. Dreyer

*In memory of R. S. Foster*  
Mrs. Dolores Foster

*In memory of Vera Gallio*  
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Parham, Jr.

*In memory of Mary Jeanne Gollither, FSM*  
Mr. Martin Will

*In memory of Leo Marie Gollither, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Bailey  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gollither  
Ms. Suzanne M. Magoc  
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Ms. Lenita Moore

*In memory of Assunta Guittar, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marsh

*In memory of Joseph and Marie Haarmann*  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Moffett  
Ms. Rita Habing

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Ms. Dorothy A. Sullivan

*In memory of Lawrence and Sylvia Hamtil*  
Ms. Laura H. Klages

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Mr. and Mrs. John Avery  
Ms. Dorothy Brauner  
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Ms. Betty Hammond  
Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Heimericks  
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*In memory of Mary Johnetta Hoffmann, FSM*  
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*In memory of Mary Beata Hritz, FSM*  
Rev. Donald H. Salisbury

*In memory of Ethel M. Hurley in remembrance  
of your kindness to a young girl so many years ago*  
Mrs. E. F. Schullenberg

*In memory of Florence Mary Imhoff, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lacy  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baker  
Ms. Jennifer L. Wade

*In memory of Mary Josepha Imhoff, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lacy  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baker

*In memory of Margaret Mary Jarvis, FSM*  
Mr. Oscar P. Hampton, III

*In memory of Mary K. Jones*  
Mrs. Mary Kathryn Jones Godar

*In memory of Patricia Kahl*  
Ms. Lenita Moore

*In memory of Lillian Kennebeck*  
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Eversgerd  
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Ms. Lenita Moore  
Ms. Joan E. Pace

*In memory of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Kennedy*  
Mr. James A. Hyde

*In memory of Mary F. Kettman*  
Ms. Bertha Kettman

*In memory of Catherine Kleineweber*  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary

*In memory of Mary Augustine Koeller, FSM*  
Michele M. Donahue, SFO

*In memory of Charles J. Kolb*  
Mrs. Charles J. Kolb

*In memory of Rose Koleski*  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary

*In memory of Laverne Kreitler*  
Ms. Lenita Moore

*In memory of Charles W. Kull*  
Ms. Ernestine C. Kull

*In memory of Anthony Leveling*  
Ms. Ernestine C. Kull

*In memory of Teresa Lezon*  
Ms. Mary Helen Perlman

*In memory of Herbert Lieneke*  
Mrs. Tharsilla Lieneke

*In memory of Joe B. Little, my nephew*  
Mrs. Helen B. Little

*In memory of Pedro A Lopez, Jr.*  
Mr. and Mrs. William P. Thompson

*In memory of Mary Joan Lueckenhoff, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. James Lueckenhoff

*In memory of Marta Mancillas*  
Ms. Arminda F. Mancillas

*In memory of Mary Bonita Mans, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Hulbert

*In memory of Marie McDonough*  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary

*In memory of my husband, Robert B. McFarland*  
Ms. Rose McFarland

*In memory of Margaret Meurer*  
Mrs. Eugenia M. Jamison

*In memory of Mary Alfreda Meyer, FSM*  
Lt. Col. Frederick V. Meyer, Ret'd.

*In memory of my daughter, Mary*  
Mr. Norman E. Meyer

*In memory of Janet Meyers, FSM*  
Mrs. Mary Joy Feeney

*In memory of Edna C. Morrison*  
Ms. Clare M. Wells

*In memory of Mary Carmella Mossinghoff, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Murphy

*In memory Loretta E. Nahhik*  
Mrs. Frances Zagorski

*In memory of Frank Oswald*  
Ms. Lenita Moore

*In memory of Flora Lou Parham*  
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Parham, Jr.

*In memory of my dad, Alfred J. Petti*  
Mrs. Dolores Foster

*In memory of Mary Cloud Poetz, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eckstein

*In memory of Milton L. Politte*  
Ms. Elizabeth D. Politte

*In memory of Mary Gerardette (Anna Christine)*  
*Printing, FSM*  
Michele M. Donahue, SFO

*In memory of Bob Ramirez*  
Ms. Theresa Ramirez

*In memory of Emilia Ramirez*  
Ms. Theresa Ramirez

*In memory of Juan Ramirez*  
Ms. Theresa Ramirez

*In memory of Mary Reardon, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ortleb

*In memory of Mary Leo Jerome Reilly, FSM*  
Michele M. Donahue, SFO  
Mrs. Elaine Rattunde

*In memory of Agnes Reinkemeyer, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rummel

*In memory of Lloyd Reinkemeyer*  
Ms. Marie Reinkemeyer

*In memory of Matt and Theresa Reinkemeyer*  
Ms. Marie Reinkemeyer

*In memory of the Herman Ripp Family*  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ripp

*In memory of my husband, Dr. Herman E. Russell*  
Ms. Lillian M. Russell

*In memory of Nicole Marie Russell*  
Ms. Lillian M. Russell

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Mrs. JoAnn Scholl

*In memory of Mary Elaine Schornak, FSM*  
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Ms. Rita M. Szarama

*In memory of Vincent Schwartze*  
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Frank

*In memory of Mary Benigna Semtner, FSM*  
Ms. Mary Helen Perlman  
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Rodgers

*In memory of the family of John Sloan*  
Murnane Family Foundation

*In memory of Kathryn Sloan*  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary

*In memory of Eugene Marie Smith, FSM*  
Ms. Delia Greer

*In memory of Arlene Speidel*  
Ms. Mary E. Burt

*In memory of James F. Speidel*  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D. Cox  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary  
Mr. Victor G. Speidel

*In memory of Mary Vincentia Steffens, FSM*  
Ms. Shirley Bednarz  
Mrs. Mary Kathryn Jones Godar  
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*In memory of Mary Camilla Stotko, FSM*  
Ms. Elizabeth M. Rauch

*In memory of Mary Paulette Swoyer, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Ted L. Kelley

*In memory of Basilisa Tenebro*  
Ms. Teresa Y. Lim Alagao

*In memory of Clara K. Theissen, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Davis

*In memory of our mother, Margy Thompson*  
Mr. and Mrs. William P. Thompson

*In memory of Helen Vaughan*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grellner

*In memory of Margaret Mary Vehige, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. William Vogt

*In memory of Irlie M. Walker*  
Mrs. Kathleen E. Rincher

*In memory of Mary Olivet Zielinski, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Dominic A. Iannicola  
Ms. Margaret Pedtke  
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon J. Purk  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Spiess  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Slocum

*In memory of our aunt,*  
*Mary Olivet Zielinski, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Downey

*In memory of our great-aunt,*  
*Mary Olivet Zielinski, FSM*  
Mr. Joe Downey  
Mr. and Mrs. James Wyatt

*In memory of my sister-in-law,*  
*Mary Olivet Zielinski, FSM*  
Ms. Mildred S. Zielinski

## Gifts Made In Honor:

*In honor of all the men and women in the service*  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kleine

*In honor of Christopher Barrett*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Barrett

*In honor of Francita Barringhaus, FSM,*  
*on her birthday*  
Mrs. Norma J. Schraut

*In honor of Francita Barringhaus, FSM*  
Ms. Roselyn Barringhaus

*In honor of Dolores Bast on her birthday*  
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Oliver

*In honor of Judith A. Bell, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. N. Gary Wages

*In honor of Rita Blau, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Becker  
Ms. Ginny Becker  
Mr. and Mrs. Philip P. O'Dea  
Ms. Bonnie Pellegrini

*In honor of Veronica Boss, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. James Woods

*In honor of Lorraine C. Brennan on her birthday*  
Dr. Robert A. Brennan, Sr.

*In honor of Lorraine C. Brennan*  
Dr. Robert A. Brennan, Sr.

*In honor of Betty Brucker, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Langsdorf

*In honor of Mary Francine Burkert, FSM*  
Col. and Mrs. Lloyd R. Cain  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Sandbothe

*In honor of my mother, Hilde Degenhardt*  
Ms. Joan E. Pace

*In honor of Mary Rosaleen Dorlac, FSM*  
Ms. Elizabeth D. Politte  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Sweeney

*In honor of my wife, Beverly, and our children*  
Mr. Vernon P. Dunn

*In honor of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary*  
Mrs. Mary Hick  
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon R. Flygare  
Ms. Lenita Moore  
Ms. Barbara Sellmeyer

*In honor of Christ's Birthday*  
Ms. Lenita Moore

*In honor of retired Franciscan Sisters of Mary*  
Mrs. Florence Murphy  
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer J. Silva  
Mr. and Mrs. David Smith

*In honor of the living and deceased members of the*  
*Franciscan Sisters of Mary*  
Mr. Kenneth L. Dowden

*In thanksgiving for the Franciscan Sisters of Mary*  
Ms. Barbara Naidl

*In honor of Mary Damien Francois, FSM*  
Ms. Joyce Ware

*In honor of Michael J. Frank on his birthday*  
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Frank

*In honor of Gertrude F. Fruchtl, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. David Mytyk

*In honor of Mercedes Gladbach*  
Mr. and Mrs. John Koehl

*In honor of Dorothy Glueck*  
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Koenig

*In honor of Frances Marie Haarmann, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Will

*In honor of Mary Eloise Haberstock, FSM*  
Mr. Maurice St. Pierre  
Mr. and Mrs. John Schaub

*In honor of Mary Rosina Higgs, FSM,*  
*on her 94th birthday*  
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron F. Duncan

*In honor of Mary Rosina Higgs, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Appleby  
Lt. Col. Dorothea A. Courts  
Ms. Joyce Ware

*In honor of Louise Hirner, FSM*  
Mr. John D. Little

*In honor of Mary Regina Hoff, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gioglio

*In honor of Mary Theodora Hoff, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gioglio

*In honor of Ray Hoven*  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen B. Hoven

*In honor of Raymond Marie Kopmann, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. David Smith

*In honor of Eleanor Krieg, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grellner  
Ms. Marie Reinkemeyer

*In honor of Mary James Krieg, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grellner  
Ms. Marie Reinkemeyer

*In honor of Rev. James A. Krings on his birthday*  
Ms. Carla Baum  
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*In honor of Stella Krus*  
Ms. Virginia M. Krus

*In honor of Cecilia Lackman, FSM*  
Dr. Virginia Billian  
Mr. and Mrs. Joshua C. Hook

# Gifts Received (continued)

May 26, 2005 to December 31, 2005

*In honor of Mary Ellen Lewis, FSM*  
Msgr. Thomas F. Baxter  
Mr. and Mrs. Herman F. Booth  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Timm  
Ms. Glynelle L. Wells

*In honor of Mary Ellen Lewis, FSM,  
on her Golden Jubilee*  
Mr. and Mrs. William Schoenhard

*In honor of the Lueckenhoff Family*  
Mr. and Mrs. James Lueckenhoff

*In honor of Marita Anne Marrah, FSM*  
Dr. and Mrs. Eric Voss

*In honor of Mary Noreen McGowan, FSM*  
Dr. and Mrs. Austin R. Sharp

*In honor of Barbara McPhie*  
Mr. and Mrs. John Koehl

*In honor of Jeanne Meurer, FSM*  
Mrs. Colette Hinkle

*In honor of Ramona Meurer, FSM*  
Mrs. Colette Hinkle

*In honor of Mary Joan Meyer, FSM,  
and her spiritual ministry*  
Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Beermann

*In honor of Mid-County Internal Medicine*  
Dr. Michael Bartell  
Dr. Richard Ihnat  
Dr. Edwin Schmidt  
Dr. Paul Schneider  
Dr. William Sprich

*In honor of Thelma Marie Mitchell, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Fitzgerald  
Ms. Connie Stephens

*In honor of Mary Melania Myers, FSM*  
Ms. Catherine Dougan

*In honor of Joan Pace, my daughter, on her birthday*  
Ms. Hilde Degenhardt

*In honor of Evelyn Marie Peterman, FSM*  
Col. and Mrs. Lloyd R. Cain

*In honor of Joyce B. Remley for her happiness  
and good health*  
Mr. Raymond J. Langhammer

*In honor of Jane L. Rombach, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Darryl Brasken  
Rev. and Mrs. Alvin H. Horst

*In honor of Dorothy Rufkahr, FSM*  
Mr. Maurice St. Pierre

*In honor of Mary Jean Ryan, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Jay C. McCutcheon

*In honor of SSM Health Care St. Louis  
Strategic Council*  
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Susan Scholl, FSM  
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*In honor of Teresa Marie Schmitz, FSM*  
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*In honor of Sandy Schwartz, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Sinnock  
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*In honor of Lois Shepard*  
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*In honor of Muri Margaret Steffens, FSM*  
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*In honor of Mariella Stenger, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Jay C. McCutcheon

*In honor of Agnes Stottmann, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Stottmann

*In honor of Mary Henrica Strassmann, FSM,  
on her 99th birthday*  
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard J. Reitmair

*In honor of Marylu Stueber, FSM, with gratitude*  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ronzio

*In honor of Sarah A. Sykes, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grellner

*In honor of Mary Angelita Terrio, FSM*  
Col. and Mrs. Lloyd R. Cain

*In honor of Cuu Tran*  
Mr. and Mrs. Leo F. Childers, Jr.

*In honor of Mary Unterreiner, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bextermiller

*In honor of Joy M. Venker*  
Mr. and Mrs. David A. Reiter

*In honor of Mary Leo Rita Volk, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. John Schaub

*In honor of Priscilla Weber, FSM*  
Msgr. Thomas F. Baxter  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Breunig

*In honor of Marie Weiss, FSM*  
Ms. Judy Ayers  
Mr. Maurice St. Pierre

*Christmas Greetings to James M. Whyte*  
Ms. Madeleine C. Whyte

*In honor of Helen Wyrwich, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Wyrwich

*In honor of Mary Michelle Yates, FSM*  
Ms. Mary E. Bickel

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 Baraboo, WI  
 St. Francis Hospital and Health Services,  
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 Ms. Julia Zevallos

## Planned Giving

The estate of Agnes Gahagan  
 The estate of Peter Dimo Gark  
 The estate of Helen D. Rehm

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## **Identity & Mission of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary**

*As Franciscan Sisters of Mary, we live the Gospel as sister to all.  
We give our life by being present, hospitable and compassionate,  
choosing to stand with our sisters and brothers  
who are poor and on the margins of society.*

### **FSM Ministries**

*Almost Home, St. Louis, Mo  
SSM Health Care, St. Louis, MO  
Woman's Place, St. Louis, MO*

### **FSM Co-Sponsored Ministries**

*Holy Family Services, Weslaco, TX  
The Sarah Community, St. Louis, MO*

**We also have Sisters serving in other ministries in  
Ohio, Arizona, Missouri, South Carolina, Texas,  
Wisconsin and Oklahoma.**

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