

# F S M MAGAZINE

Franciscan Sisters of Mary

## *Living* green

*Presence of holy  
oneness with all creation  
earth community*



**T**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: Almost Home, SSM Health Care, 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.

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*Nature photos and cover haiku courtesy of Mary Joan Meyer, FSM. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

# Message from Rose Dowling, FSM, President Franciscan Sisters of Mary



## Welcome to the Fall issue of *FSM Magazine*!

Each year the FSM Leadership Team meets to plan what focus we want the magazine to take. We strive to center on issues that we believe to be of great significance in our society at this time. One of the Directives we as Franciscan Sisters of Mary gave ourselves in 2007 was that we “join with others in collaborative actions for justice, peace and ecological harmony, continuing our commitment to nonviolence.”

Ecological harmony calls for us to be one among many as human beings . . . one-among-many with the trees, the water, the land, the birds, the air and each and every other ounce of the cosmos that God loves so deeply.

There are so many reasons for us to live as one-among-many. Some of these you already know and some are articulated clearly in the articles that follow. But the one reason I want to put before you is that the cosmos, especially the Earth with which we are so intimate, is our primary teacher about who God is and how God wants to relate with us. Take some time to think about that: *What is it that the Earth teaches me about who God is and how God wants to relate with me/us?*

Briefly, I see a God who has set into being a creation that continues to grow, evolve, become more conscious, become more complex. I see that as a human I, like the rest of creation, have the potential to grow and become more than I am at any given moment . . . that “more” is built into me too. The difference is that as a human I can choose to grow in consciousness or not.

Furthermore, by seeing how God interacts with the rest of creation, I can see how God wants to interact with me. In his parables Jesus often pointed to creation as a way of teaching us about how God loves us, feeds us, nurtures us, is with us in times of chaos.

All creation, then, is holy ground. It is with great JOY that each of us looks upon creation and sees the God that wants to be so intimate with us. That same JOY compels us to treat all creation with the care and respect it is due.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rose M. Dowling, FSM". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

# SOUNDING THE CALL

to a  
New Stewardship  
of the  
Earth

*The world is charged with the grandeur of God.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
Crushed. Why do men then now not reckon his rod?  
Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;  
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;  
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil  
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.*

—Gerard Manley Hopkins, “God’s Grandeur,” 1–8.



The environmental crisis isn’t new. The Victorian poet Gerard Manley Hopkins was already aware of the many ways that the human touch on the world has been anything but gentle and life-giving. The Industrial Revolution was the beginning—but the tidal wave has been building for more than a century. Today we face the crisis.

We don’t have to look very far to see the ways that humans’ “smudge” on the earth has made that earth a less pleasant, more hostile place for all its creatures—the sprawling cities, the haze and night lights that obscure the stars, the overworked fields, the raw hillsides denuded of trees to make way for yet another subdivision of cookie-cutter houses, the superhighways crisscrossing the nation, our polluted landfills, the rivers and lakes we don’t dare wade into anymore.

Maybe even more ominous are the subtle changes. Temperatures are warmer than when we were growing up. Plants that used to grow well in one area are now struggling to survive. We need protection from the less-filtered sunshine. We're seeing more and more hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, droughts, wildfires, earthquakes—extreme conditions and events that scientists tell us are the result of global warming.

Of great concern are the statistics that we are rapidly using up resources that can't be replaced. Fossil fuels. Fresh, clean water. We've overfished the oceans, lakes, and rivers—and we've made some habitats impossible for the creatures that have lived there for thousands of years.

## An Unprecedented Awareness

The good news? People are listening.



As long ago as the 1950s and 1960s Rachel Carson, for one, was sounding the call for a heightened awareness of the effects our human actions were having on our environment. Her *Silent Spring* helped eliminate some of the deadly chemicals in pesticides that threatened all forms of life on the earth.

Now more than ever, people are noticing. They're asking, *What can I do?*

Pick up any newspaper and you'll read about companies, nations, and individuals who are finding ways to make a difference, to "go greener":

- The pope has replanted thirty-seven acres of forest in Hungary that had been cut down in the Middle Ages—and those trees will absorb enough carbon dioxide to offset Vatican City's greenhouse gases. He's installed solar panels on the Paul VI Audience Hall that will light, heat, and cool the entire building.
- By 2010 Anheuser-Busch, the St. Louis-based brewery, plans to use renewable energy for 15 percent of its needs, partly by reclaiming energy from the brewing wastewater.
- Preserving the rainforests has become an international concern.
- Within the last decade more than 180 nations have ratified the Kyoto Protocol, joining forces to reduce the effect of greenhouse gases on the environment.
- People are designing houses to channel the sun's energy.
- States are exploring the possibility of harnessing the wind to provide power for cities and regions.

The list goes on and on.

Now as never before we have the chance to work together to make a difference.

In the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary are committed to respecting the earth and all its creatures as gifts of God. We, too, are working toward living in harmony with the rest of creation.



## A Conversion of Hearts

What will it take to make a difference?

A change of heart.

Many of us—maybe particularly here in the United States—have grown up in an atmosphere of staunch individualism. We've valued independence, self-reliance. A competitive spirit was a virtue; our goal was to win.



But this attitude, which sees every obstacle as a challenge and almost every other creature as a resource to be used for our benefit, isn't a viable approach for the long term. All too often we've set out to conquer and subdue our environment, to use it for our purposes with little regard for what will best serve all the creatures in that system and whether we are leaving any resources for future generations—our children and grandchildren.

Margaret J. Wheatley writes compellingly of the need for a new vision of leadership, one that values and respects the gifts, rights, and needs of all creatures.

When a new predator appears in an ecosystem, it acts greedily, consuming far more than its share of available resources. Its greed disturbs the system's balance. Many local species die because their habitat is destroyed. But after a time, the system self-corrects. Either the rapacious species dies off because it has destroyed its food supply and habitat, or it calms down, learns the rules of the neighborhood, and consumes fewer resources. . . .

Today, too many of us have forgotten that we live in a web of life. . . .

Life will continue to teach us that we can't make up our own rules. There's only one way to run this planet, and life is pushing back forcefully right now, insisting that we learn this. We are experiencing dramatic and frightening climate changes all around the globe, destructive floods, more deserts and barren soil, new diseases and pandemics. . . .

We need to learn how to be good neighbors.<sup>1</sup>

## Learning to Be Good Leaders

Any good leader can tell you that outstanding leadership has much more to do with responsibility than it has to do with power. When God told Adam and Eve to fill the earth and subdue it, God gave humans responsibility for the earth and the creatures in it.

Good leaders know that with authority comes the responsibility of developing those they lead—of ensuring that they have the support, encouragement, resources, and environment to become the best that



<sup>1</sup> Margaret J. Wheatley, *Turning to One Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future* (San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler, 2002), 107–108.

they can be. Good leaders nurture the gifts and talents of those they lead—and make sure they have what they need to grow and flourish.

We're recognizing that we need to be better stewards of the earth and its bounty—and of one another.

Good leaders also understand that strong leadership is rarely solitary leadership. Great leaders cast visions, make powerful decisions, and lead only after they've taken the time and effort to learn what those they lead know. Truly great dreams and visions arise from the solid reality of existence. And great leaders explore that reality *before* they lead.

## Walking on Holy Ground

A true understanding of our relationship with all creation and especially the earth goes much deeper than a halfhearted commitment.

For the poet Hopkins, as shown in his conclusion to "God's Grandeur," nature reveals in itself the hand and heart of its Creator:

*And for all this, nature is never spent;  
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;  
And though the last lights off the black West went  
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs—  
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright  
wings.*



Once we become conscious of the deep sacredness of creation and all creatures, we can no longer in conscience wield power and domination as our right. Like many of the peoples who have lived closest to nature, our attitude moves toward one of reverence, respect, even awe.



Now more than ever, we are called to a spirit not of independence but of interdependence. And it is this spirit of cooperation rather than competition that will help move us out of the quagmire into which our collective human greed, arrogance, and selfishness—however unintentional they may have been—have landed us.

We *can* make a difference. But we have to work together, and the time is now. 🌸

# A New Call to Care

**A**s Franciscan Sisters of Mary, we have always stood by those who are poor and marginalized, those most in need of our care and concern.

Our foundresses Mother Mary Odilia Berger and Mother Mary Augustine Giesen opened themselves to the needs they found and trusted God to guide them. They and the sisters they led cared for the poorest of the poor, nursing those with smallpox, yellow fever, tuberculosis. These sisters recognized in each person the face of Jesus, and they cared regardless of the person's ability to pay. They heard the Lord's call and followed it wherever it led them.

Over the years we've built and staffed many hospitals and other care facilities. Our sisters continue to be involved in health care and in ministries that reach out to the poor and oppressed.

But we have heard a new call—a call to yet a new way of life. A call to simplicity.

A call to live in harmony with the earth.

During the past year, as the desperate situation of the ecological crisis has unfolded more compellingly than ever before, we have resolved to make a difference in any way we can.

We are striving to find substantive ways to live more lightly on the earth, to help heal the earth and our relationship with it.

We're finding more earth-friendly cleaners and detergents. We're recycling—paper, aluminum, plastic. We're planting trees, using energy more frugally, repairing and reusing rather than tossing. We're making wiser choices—and learning everything we can about how our choices affect the earth and all the creatures who live here.

We invite you to join with us in our efforts to live more simply and more integrally with all those who share this beautiful earth with us. 🌱



Mother Mary Augustine Giesen



Mother Mary Odilia Berger

# Answering the Call

Besides the formal initiatives taken by the “Going Greener” team, many Sisters are finding creative ways to achieve the goal of becoming “good neighbors” on earth. Here are just a few.

## The Box Project

Three of the sisters at St. Mary of the Angels Convent have joined forces to support the FSM effort of going greener through what they call the “box project”—and the money they earn is touching the lives of poor families in a south St. Louis neighborhood.

Sr. Cecilia Lackman uses Origami—the Japanese art of folding paper into decorative or representational forms—to create beautiful boxes of varying sizes, mostly from used greeting cards or outdated calendars. Small boxes sell for a quarter, larger ones for up to 55 cents. The boxes make ideal gift boxes for jewelry and small items—or party favors filled with small candies.

An added incentive: Sr. Cecilia Rose Boucher has pledged to offer a Hail Mary for each person who purchases a box—“and I have personal experience with her powerful prayers,” Sr. Cecilia Lackman comments.

The proceeds for this “green” initiative go to fund Sr. Mary Cecilia Pribil’s special charity—the Franciscan Connection.

“Sr. Cecilia, who radiates a peacefulness from deep within, is always thinking of how she can help others on life’s journey,” says Sr. Fran Haarmann. About two years ago Sr. Cecilia placed a piggy bank in the main convent dining room to collect pennies to sponsor various Franciscan missions. The idea caught on. “Sisters living away from the convent, even as far away as Pilot Knob, would bring me envelopes full of pennies, dimes, nickels, and quarters whenever they came to the convent,” Sr. Cecilia Pribil said.



(Left to right) Srs. Cecilia Pribil, Cecilia Rose Boucher, and Cecilia Lackman

# Answering the Call

Her special project has helped fund the Franciscan Connection, a group of Franciscan Friars based in south St. Louis who provide emergency assistance, home repairs, pastoral listening, and other support to the poor of the area—“to single mothers, to under-employed dads, and to the frail elderly of the community.”

So the coins collected from the sale of the pretty boxes go to make life a little better for struggling families.

## A Pet Project

Sr. Robert Marie Manthey is doing her part in the effort to recycle and reuse: She has volunteered to shred the hundreds of sensitive documents that end up in the “shredding room” each month. Since she began earlier this year, she has filled more than a hundred garbage-sized bags with this shredded paper.

What happens to all that paper? The shredded paper becomes soft bedding for the dogs and cats at the Humane Society of Missouri. Since 1870 the Society has provided a safe, caring haven for abused, neglected, or abandoned animals.



Sr. Robert Marie Manthey

## A Proactive Approach to Paper Waste

How much junk mail do you toss daily? Do you always seem to be getting unsolicited catalogs in the mail?

Multiply the volume of unwanted mail you receive by about a hundred, and you can appreciate the scope of the problem in a community the size of St. Mary of the Angels.

In June the “Going Greener” team took a proactive approach to conservation by sponsoring a drive to help sisters reduce the number of unwanted catalogs and mass-mail items that come to the convent. Members of the team helped sisters go online and register to have their names removed from mass mail lists.

In the months since the campaign, the FSM community has seen a substantial decrease in the volume of junk mail.

While the sisters have for a long time recycled paper, preventing the printing of unwanted mail is even better conservation of precious trees and other resources. 🌿

# Live in Harmony

## Ways to Live in Greater Harmony with the Earth

Ideas for “going greener” abound. Some are sound, some verge on “urban legends.” Here are some practical suggestions for becoming earth-friendlier.

### Recycle and Reuse

- Recycle aluminum cans, plastic bottles and bags, papers, and glass.
- Use sturdy cloth bags for shopping.
- Use washable dishes and flatware instead of disposable.
- Repair and refurbish clothing and furnishings.

### Simplify

- Distinguish between *need* and *want*. We tend to buy more than we need.
- Renting a storage locker? Could others use what you’re storing?
- Buy food grown close to home—save on the cost of transport.
- Better yet, grow your own food. You can’t get fresher than that!

### Cut Down on Home Energy Use

- Turn thermostats lower in winter, higher in summer.
- Use attic fans and ceiling fans.
- Buy energy-efficient appliances, windows, doors.
- Insulate attics and crawlspaces.

### Conserve Gas

- Buy energy-efficient cars.
- Combine errands into one trip.
- Drive 55 miles per hour on the highway.
- Consider walking short distances.
- Commute by bus or light-rail.
- Rake leaves instead of using leaf-blowers.
- Keep cars and lawn mowers tuned up so they use gasoline efficiently.

### Save Water

- Collect rain water from downspouts to water plants—it’s better for them.
- Take shorter showers.
- Turn off the tap while you brush your teeth or shave.
- Install modern flush toilets.
- Drink tap water rather than bottled water.
- Consider alternatives to lawns that need heavy watering.



# Sisters in the Spotlight

**Noreen McGowan, FSM,** has been honored for her more than 50 years of service at SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.



On May 28 the ground floor conference room in Glennon Hall was dedicated and named the *Sr. Noreen McGowan Room*. Sr. Noreen, the first director of nursing when the hospital opened in 1956, still contributes to Cardinal Glennon's daily operations. ❁



**Mary Louise Jaegers, FSM,** received a *Recognition of Support* award in April for her fifty-five years of continued support for the American Dietetic Association and the Missouri

Dietetic Association (MDA). ❁

**Marylu Stueber, FSM,** received the *Lifetime Achievement Award* from the Association of St. Louis Area Archivists in recognition for her contributions in the fields of history and archives in the St. Louis area. The award was presented on March 11 at the Soldier's Memorial in downtown St. Louis. ❁



**Ramona Meurer, FSM,** was scheduled to receive the *2008 Peacemaker Award* at the Franciscan Federation Conference in Denver in July but was unable to attend. Instead, she lived out the meaning of that award by working side by side with her neighbors to clean up the destruction left by Hurricane Dolly. She serves as a volunteer with both the national and her regional Red Cross.



# Spotlight

Sr. Ramona finally received her Peacemaker award on Sunday, October 5, during the October Franciscan Sisters of Mary Gathering at St. Mary of the Angels Convent, St. Louis, Missouri. ❁

**Mary Jean Ryan, FSM**, president and

CEO of SSM Health Care for twenty-two years, has for the sixth consecutive year been named one of the *100 most powerful people in health care*



by *Modern Healthcare* magazine. This year she ranked 13 on the list.

On May 5, Sr. Mary Jean received the *Joseph M. Juran Medal* for distinguished performance in quality leadership from the American Society for Quality at the annual conference in Houston. At the same time she was named an Academician to the International Academy for Quality.

She is also on the *St. Louis Business Journal's* annual list of *Most Influential St. Louisans*. ❁

**Antona Ebo, FSM**, received an honorary *Doctor of Humane Letters* from the College of New Rochelle, New York, at its 101st commencement on May 22, 2008, at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. The college honored her courageous involvement in the Civil Rights Movement and her continued witness in living out the Gospel in America. She asked Sr. Mary Teresa Noth to accompany her to the ceremony.

In January she spoke at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago on the occasion of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. The Office for Black Catholics in Trenton, New Jersey, invited her to participate in its Black History Month celebrations, which included showing *Sisters of Selma*, the PBS film featuring Sr. Antona. In March she traveled to Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, to speak of her involvement in the Civil Rights Movement.



In July, Sr. Antona and Sr. Thelma Marie Mitchell attended the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus (May 1968) and the National Black Sisters' Conference (August 1968) in Montgomery, Alabama.

Sr. Antona was one of the original founders of the National Black Sisters' Conference. ❁

*Congratulations to*  
**Our 2008 Franciscan Sisters of**

*70 years*  
in religious life

**CARNELIAN**



**Veronica Boss**

**Helen Marie Norko**



*60 years*  
in religious life

**DIAMOND**

**Rosanna Marie Carter**



**Mary Inez Kennedy**



**Jeanne Marie Meurer**



# *Our 2008 Jubilarians* of Mary Jubilarians

**Jane L. Rombach**



**Jovita Marie Stenger**



**Mary Unterreiner**

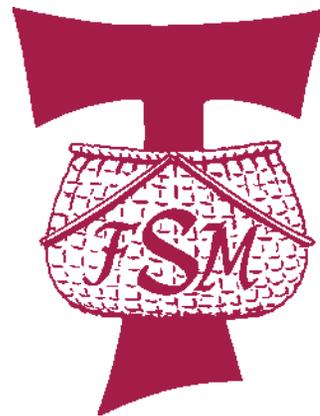


*50 years*  
in religious life

**GOLD**



**Rose Mary Dowling**



# Transitions

## Transitions

### Sr. Louise Hirner

September 28, 1911 – March 1, 2008

Originally a Sister of St. Francis before the order merged with the Sisters of St. Mary to become the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, Sr. Louise longed to tell the story of the OSF tradition. Her dedication and love led her to put together the history *Called to Be Faithful*.

Louise Caroline Hirner was born September 28, 1911, in Ralls County just south of Hannibal, Missouri, the fifth of seven children born to Melchior and Angelique (Becker) Hirner. Louise met the Sisters of St. Francis while visiting St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Hannibal and entered the congregation in 1936, receiving the name Sr. Bonaventure. She professed her final vows in 1942.

She earned her RN certification from St. Anthony School of Nursing in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; her bachelor's degree in home economics from Marymount College in Salina, Kansas; and her master's degree in dietetics from Saint Louis University.

Sr. Louise ministered at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; St. Elizabeth Hospital in Hannibal, Missouri; and at St. Francis Hospital and Health Services and at Mount Alverno Convent, both in Maryville, Missouri. A member of the Renewal and Process Team (RAPT), she helped reunify the OSF and SSM traditions in the refoundation of the order.

Driftwood, gleaming bright and smooth though twisted and bare, reminded Sr. Louise that God writes in crooked lines, and that the "whole of one's life will be washed in beauty when the results of all the tumblings, bouncings, burnings and washings are displayed in heaven for all to see."



Reflecting on her relationships, she observed that "there is a time to give and a time to receive, and we need to be as comfortable in receiving as in giving."

Sr. Louise died on March 1, 2008, receiving at the hands of her Spouse for all eternity the fruit of her faithful life here on earth.

"Called to be faithful"

### Sr. Raymond Marie Kopmann

March 26, 1914 – April 26, 2008

Adelaide Mary Louise Kopmann was born in St. Louis on March 26, 1914, one of three girls born to Alvin and Elizabeth (Jasper) Kopmann. After two years at Rosati-Kain High School, she attended a business course and then worked as a secretary at Anheuser-Busch brewery.

On August 11, 1939, at age 25, she entered the congregation now known as the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, receiving the name Sr. Raymond Marie after her cousin, Fr. Raymond Rau. She professed her final vows in 1945.

Serving in the medical records, business, and social service offices, Sr. Raymond Marie worked at St. Mary's and Firmin Desloge hospitals in St. Louis; at St. Mary's in Madison and St. Mary's Ringling in Baraboo, Wisconsin; and the St. Mary's hospitals in Kansas City, Blue Springs, and Jefferson City, Missouri.

In 1988 she began volunteering at SSM St. Mary's in St. Louis, visiting patients and staffing the information desk. Beloved by all, she lived out the Franciscan value of hospitality in all that she did.

Her rich creativity was evident in the *Canticle of Praise* that she wrote. She loved reading, crocheting, knitting, and listening to music. She enjoyed spending special times with family and stayed close to them always. She was proud and happy to be a Franciscan Sister of Mary.



On the afternoon of April 26, 2008, Sr. Raymond heard God's call to everlasting glory.

"I have called you by name."

## Sr. Mary Louise Mayer

April 17, 1909 – June 16, 2008

Catherine Ida Mayer was born in Oklahoma City on April 17, 1909, the fifth of ten children in this close-knit family. She came to know the Sisters of St. Francis at St. Anthony Hospital there in the city and entered the order now known as the Franciscan Sisters of Mary on March 4, 1927, receiving the name Mary Louise.

Sr. Mary Louise received her nurse's training at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville, Missouri. Using her skills and gifts in nursing, medical records, teaching and administration, she ministered in hospitals in Nebraska City, Nebraska; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and Pilot Knob, Missouri. In Maryville, Missouri, she served as secretary general of the congregation and as local superior at Mount Alverno Convent.

In 1985, just before the reunification of the Sisters of St. Mary and the Sisters of St. Francis in 1987, Sr. Mary Louise was one of the first to pioneer the refoundation, choosing to live in community with several Sisters of St. Mary in Pilot Knob.

Sweet and gentle in nature, Sr. Mary Louise had a grateful heart for all she was given in her life. Her spirituality was rooted in the wisdom of St. Francis and St. Clare. Her sense of humor and liling laughter were well known to all the sisters who knew her. She used her creative gifts to write scripts for a number of plays, and she loved to decorate. In her later years, she graciously accepted her dependence on others and deeply appreciated the care given her in Our Lady of Victories at St. Mary of the Angels Convent. She supported many in her prayer ministry and embraced all of life with gratitude.



At the age of 99, having celebrated her pearl jubilee for 80 years in religious life, Sr. Mary Louise was called home just minutes before midnight on June 16, 2008.

**“How can I repay the Lord for all God’s goodness to me?”  
(Psalm 116:12)**

## Sr. Mary Rosina Higgs

June 17, 1911 – September 5, 2008

Born June 17, 1911, in Marshall, Oklahoma, Idella Catherine Rose Higgs was second of four children born to Riley and Victoria (Behle) Higgs.

After speaking with Mother Augustine Giesen, she entered the convent on September 8, 1933. She received the name Mary Rosina in 1934 and made her perpetual vows May 6, 1939.

She specialized in nursing education, attaining her bachelor's in 1942 and master's in 1948. For many years she served as instructor, education director, supervisor, and director at St. Anthony School of Nursing and at St. Anthony's Hospital. For her outstanding service in nursing education she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in 1993 from Oklahoma City University.

Sr. Rosina's gifts for leadership were recognized in other ways as well. She served as superior general of the Sisters of St. Francis of Maryville for three years and in other leadership positions in the congregation as well.

But those who knew her well remember her for her deep and generous heart. For many years she sewed charming clowns and stuffed animals for the Sisters' Fund, a joint venture with the Oklahoma City Salvation Army that helped people who couldn't afford their medicines. Her creations delighted people all over the country.

Sr. Rosina often said, “My life has been touched and made richer by the people in my life.” She too touched the hearts of many, making her a most successful fundraiser for St. Anthony's Hospital. In spite of her positions of prestige and power, she never lost her love and care for others.

“What you are speaks so loud I can't hear what you're saying” was a favorite comment of hers. What she has been to us will continue to sound in our hearts, reminding us of the woman one sister describes as “unforgettable.”



After a long, faithful life of 97 years, Sr. Rosina joined her beloved Spouse on September 5, 2008.

**“I will sing God's goodness all my days.”**

# Gifts Received

**Gifts Received January 1, 2008–June 30, 2008**

**Thank you to all our generous donors!**

## *Gifts Given in Memory of—*

*In memory of Wilma Basler, sister of Mary Rosaleen Dorlac, FSM*

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*In memory of my husband, Elmer E. Brothers*  
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*In memory of Charles Calvert*  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Elmendorf

*In memory of Madeline Mary Coens*  
Ms. Dolores Weekly

*In memory of my great-great-aunt, Mary Mechtildis Danner, and the Sacred Heart of Jesus*  
Mr. Edwin M. Finney

*In memory of Agnes Fluech, sister of Ann Miriam, Jovita Marie, Mary A. and Mariella Stenger, FSM*  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary

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*In memory of my friend, Louise Hirner, FSM*  
Mr. Kenneth L. Dowden

*In memory of my aunt, Louise Hirner, FSM*  
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Ms. Regina A. Howard

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through a tax-deductible  
contribution.**

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Mrs. Catherine Quante  
Mrs. Rose Marie Renz

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Ms. Germaine Kremer  
Ms. Marcella Maassen  
Ms. Thelma M. Schaefer  
Mr. and Mrs. David Troesser  
Mr. Donald E. Troesser

*In memory of Mary James Krieg, FSM*

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Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Rudroff  
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Schulte  
Mr. Norbert Schulte  
Ms. Jocelyn R. Skidmore  
St. Mary's Health Center

*In memory of my cousin, Mary James Krieg, FSM*

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert A. Brune

*In memory of Charles Kull*

Mrs. Ernestine C. Kull

*In memory of Bill Longust*

Mrs. Susan Scalise

*In memory of Mary Louise Mayer, FSM*

Mr. and Mrs. James Margrave  
Ms. Barbara Nagel  
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Patric

*In memory of Joseph Mestres*

Dr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Mestres

*In memory of June Orf, sister-in-law of  
Annella Marie Orf, FSM*

Franciscan Sisters of Mary

*In memory of my husband, Robert E. Osterholt*

Mrs. Henrietta B. Osterholt

*Presence*

*Hospitality*

*Compassion*

*We're the Franciscan Sisters of Mary,  
Standing with those who need us most.*

*In memory of Jeanne O'Toole*

Dr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Mestres

*In memory of Mary Imelda Pingel, FSM*

Ms. Joan F. Marasco

*In memory of Mary Rose Reese*

Ms. Angela Piros

*In memory of Joseph Marie Schuermann, FSM*

Ms. Marjorie Sneed

*In memory of Mary Jo Sparkman, sister of Betty  
Brucker, FSM*

Mr. Edward J. Barni

*In memory of our parents, Barthol and Clara Steinman*

Mr. and Mrs. Alphonse W. Steinman

*In memory of Anita Woods, sister of Veronica Boss,  
FSM*

Franciscan Sisters of Mary

*Gifts Given in Honor of—*

*In honor of Francita Barringhaus, FSM*

*On her birthday*

Ms. Ruth C. Barringhaus

Mrs. Norma J. Schraut

# Gifts Received

*In honor of Rita Blau, FSM*

*Every day is a gift and she is a special lady. I am blessed to have her touch my life.*

Ms. Virginia Becker

*In honor of Veronica Boss, FSM*

*On her Carnelian Jubilee*

Ms. Dorothy Kunz

*In honor of Mary Francine Burkert, FSM*

*For her many years of caring and dedication*

Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Burkert, Sr.

*In honor of Marilyn Jean Davis, FSM*

*On the occasion of the Rosen Bodywork sessions*

Ms. Sally Wimberly

*In honor of Reilly J. DeVore*

Ms. Susan DeVore

*In honor of Rose Mary Dowling, FSM*

*On her Golden Jubilee*

Ms. Anne Ortwerth and Ms. Daryl Anderson

*In honor of Gertrude Fruchtl, FSM*

*On Easter*

Mr. Louis C. Kuhlmann

*In honor of Mary Carmelita Hovenkotter, FSM*

Mrs. Marian Hovenkotter

*In honor of Mary Inez Kennedy, FSM*

*On her Diamond Jubilee*

Ms. Anne Ortwerth and Ms. Daryl Anderson

Ms. Toni Steinhoff

*In honor of Joyce Kesting*

*On her birthday*

Mr. and Mrs. George Kesting

*In honor of Eleanor Krieg, FSM*

*For taking such good care of Mary James Krieg, FSM*

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grellner

*In honor of Cecilia Lackman, FSM*

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon P. Dunn

*In honor of Cecilia Lackman, FSM*

*In celebration of her Golden Jubilee*

Ms. Rose Rita Schmidt

*In honor of my granddaughters Adria and Kate*

Mr. and Mrs. M. William Meredith

*In honor of Jeanne Marie Meurer, FSM*

*On her Diamond Jubilee*

Ms. Anne Ortwerth and Ms. Daryl Anderson

*In honor of Mary Joan Meyer, FSM*

*On her birthday*

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Grelle

*In honor of Lenita Moore, FSM*

Ms. Jeanette Lawrence

*In honor of Melania Myers, FSM*

Ms. Catherine Dougan

*In honor of Mary Teresa Noth, FSM*

Ms. Saralou Hendrickson

*For the health of my son, Bill Osterholt*

Mrs. Henrietta B. Osterholt

*In honor of our sisters in Our Lady of Victories*

Ms. Mary V. Statzer

*In honor of Evelyn Marie Peterman, FSM*

Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Light

*In honor of my friends and family*

Mr. Joseph G. Petrelli

If you or someone you know  
has a special need,  
please let us know.

## FSM Prayer Program

314-768-1748 (St. Louis area)

1-877-768-1299

(toll-free outside St. Louis)

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

*In honor of Cornelia Immegart, FSM*

Ms. Rosemarie Hudson

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Immegart

*In honor of Rose Ann Poetz, FSM  
On her birthday*  
Mr. Richard J. Krull

*“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.”  
(Matthew 5:3–5)*

*In honor of Jane L. Rombach, FSM  
On her Diamond Jubilee*  
Ms. Anne Ortwerth and Ms. Daryl Anderson  
SSM Cardinal Glennon Social Service Staff  
Members  
Mary Kay Brasken  
Donna Erickson  
Marian Hartung  
Marilyn Horst  
Sherry Mitchler  
Pat Moore  
Dianne Neithe  
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Mary Wyss

*In honor of Teresa Marie Schmitz, FSM*  
Mr. and Mrs. M. William Meredith

*In honor of the Schulte Family*  
Mr. Alfred Schulte

*In honor of Lindsey Shekas and baby*  
Anonymous

*In honor of Jovita Marie Stenger, FSM  
On her Diamond Jubilee*  
Ms. Anne Ortwerth and Ms. Daryl Anderson

*In honor of Mary Unterreiner, FSM  
On her Diamond Jubilee*  
Ms. Peggy J. Kelholz  
Ms. Anne Ortwerth and Ms. Daryl Anderson

*In honor of Marie Weiss, FSM*  
Ms. Judy Ayers

*In honor and appreciation of Michelle Yates, FSM  
For her conscientious care of my mother for over  
three years*  
Ms. Mary E. Bickel

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*St. Mary's Hospital,  
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Karen Beck  
Timothy Bergum  
Bonnie Bichl  
Marilyn Biros

*“Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find;  
knock and the door will be opened to you.” (Luke 11:9)*

Ms. Catherine A. Singer  
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The estate of Ms. Virginia Anderson  
The estate of Ms. Lucille E. Bintz  
The estate of Mr. Ray Flesher  
The estate of Ms. Agnes Gahagan  
The estate of Mr. Peter Dimo Gark  
The estate of Rev. James J. Quinn





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*Identity and Mission*  
**Identity and 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.*