



FSM MAGAZINE

Franciscan Sisters of Mary

Awakened to Mystery

SPRING 2012

Founded in 1872, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary is a religious congregation of women within the Roman Catholic Church. Committed to standing with the poor and marginalized, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary sponsor the ministries Almost Home, SSM Health Care, and Woman’s Place, and collaborate with four other religious congregations of women in The Sarah Community.

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FSM Magazine is published twice yearly by the Public Relations and Development Department. To obtain more information or make a correction to our mailing list, please contact us at (314) 768-1824 or e-mail us at info@fsmonline.org.

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Table of Contents

Message from Our President.....1

Awaken!.....2

Sr. Mary Jean Ryan,
Champion for Children.....10

Sisters in the Spotlight.....12

Gifts Received.....14



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

We, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, have begun a journey. Actually, we are joining more consciously a journey that began nearly 14 billion years ago. Listening to the call of creation and the call of the Spirit within us, we have set out on an expression of our Mission (*to be the presence of the loving, serving, compassionate, healing Jesus*) that fits us in our times.

The pain in our world today is far greater than the human suffering we see on our TV every day. The planet itself is groaning in pain because of many of the practices in which we humans engage. Becoming conscious of these harmful practices and choosing to live in ways that will respectfully and compassionately connect us with all God's creation is our FSM Focus.

Are we willing to make the difficult choices that lead us to have less, consume less, "need" less, want less—so that not only humans can thrive, but the planet herself can live? Or will we continue to act and support behaviors in our personal and national life that choke the very soul out of the planet without whom we humans cannot live . . . without which our children and grandchildren cannot live?

Do we have the will to live with the truth that we are dependent upon this diverse, life-giving planet—and make choices that reflect this dependence?

This is the challenge we—each Franciscan Sister of Mary—set before ourselves and before you today . . . and every day. Do we choose life for our planet, for ourselves—or do we choose death? How we choose to live each day reflects how sincere we are about respectful and compassionate care of God's creation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rose Mary Dowling, F.S.M." The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Awaken!

Ninety-nine women. Average age 81.

Their message: ***“We care passionately about future generations!”***

Last April the Franciscan Sisters of Mary chose a congregational Focus to lead them forward into the future. Beginning with the FSM Mission—“to be the presence of the loving, serving, compassionate, healing Jesus”—the sisters found themselves in complete unity on the direction the Spirit was summoning them to follow:

Flowing from our Mission, we focus the power of our intention on compassionate care of creation in collaboration with others.

Compassionate care of creation—in collaboration with others.

Journeying with Creation

Opening themselves to the Spirit and asking for God’s guidance, the FSM heard this call clearly—a call to connection with all God’s creatures great and small.

As followers of St. Francis of Assisi, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary have always seen themselves as sisters to all creatures. But in the past century our understanding of creation and of our place in creation has deepened and broadened.

Scientists and theologians have gained vast new insights about how the universe began and the implications of that image of creation for us. Scientists now believe the universe began nearly 14 billion years ago in a flaring forth of energy in a single moment—and it is still expanding and developing even now.

From that single moment and single speck of energy, billions of galaxies and stars have continued to burst into being, reaching light-years out into space. And creatures themselves have also continued to evolve, with increasing degrees of consciousness, to the point when creation gained consciousness of itself in humankind. We know that we exist, and we know that we know. A quantum leap forward!



Development was never random—scientists can affirm just how critical timing was at every step. This vision of creation points out the absolute connection of every creature to every other creature. We are all born of the same energy and matter. As Judy Cannato puts it, we are *stardust*, born of the same particles of life that have made up all creatures before us. As she says,

I sometimes wonder, Whose energy do I share? Do I have within me some of the “being” that flowed through my ancestors? Do I contain some of the same energy particles that lived and moved and had their being in Jesus, the Christ? Has some of the energy within me once flowed through the veins of a great genius, a passionate lover, some figure who changed the world? Has part of my being once been a flower of great beauty or a breath-taking sunset? Have my molecules known unimaginable grief or shared in great suffering? My intuition tells me that the response to each question is “yes.”

... We are all one—all of creation, all that now live, all that have ever lived. And I am an integral part of that great mystery.¹

When we see ourselves as connected, mysteriously a part of every other creature in this world and beyond, we can no longer be casual about how our actions affect others.

Back in 1624 John Donne shared this insight in his beautiful meditation:

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friends or of thine own were. Any man’s death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls: It tolls for thee.

We are all connected at the deepest, most basic level. Knowing this deep connection changes us. If we believe we are stardust, and a word or a gesture of ours has the potential to affect a flower or a child a full continent or even a galaxy away, we begin to care about other creatures. We care for our neighbor as ourselves because, in a very real sense, we and our neighbor are one.



¹ Judy Cannato, *Quantum Grace: Lenten Reflections on Creation and Connectedness* (Notre Dame, Indiana: Ave Maria Press, Inc., 2003), pp. 18–19.

All creatures—not just humans—are our neighbors. We start to see all creation as a single organism. The choices we make have consequences—not only for plants in third-world countries or marine life in the ocean—but for us. Our choices have a real—and lasting—effect on our environment, our neighborhood. If we are one with creation, we learn to treat all creatures with the reverence we have for God, who is so clearly reflected in the beauty and richness of creation.

Intention

When the Franciscan Sisters of Mary adopted their Focus on compassionate care of creation, they recognized that they are called to more than a vague sense of wishing the Earth well. We are called to bring about the change we'd like to see in the world.

Certainly part of what is needed to make such a change is education. Thoroughly knowing and understanding how our current approach to living is damaging our world is crucial. But understanding the problem is not enough.

And seeing what needs to happen—having a basic idea of what might fix the problem—isn't enough.

Even compassionate caring in itself isn't enough.

Crucial to any decision to make a difference, to live out the vision of the universe we embrace, is intention. In *Field of Compassion*, Judy Cannato uses this definition of *intention*: “a purposeful plan to perform an action, which will lead to a desired outcome.”² To act with intention is to decide to take specific actions that will bring about the effect we want.

Hope is not a plan. Nor is wishful thinking. To care for creation, we need to listen, to hear what the world is asking of us, to learn how we might bring about change, and then to take specific and determined action, changing our own behaviors, to bring that change about.

²Judy Cannato, *Field of Compassion: How the New Cosmology Is Transforming Spiritual Life* (Notre Dame, Indiana: Sorin Books, 2010), p. 135.



Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream

The Franciscan Sisters of Mary are passionate about nurturing the Earth and all the creatures who dwell here so that future generations can also enjoy the beauty and richness of God's dwelling among us.

In October 2011 the Franciscan Sisters of Mary took part in the workshop *Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream*, which helped give substance and direction to their goals for compassionate care of creation. *Awakening the Dreamer* challenges the current dream of the Western world, revealing the true and immense cost of our present way of life on the environment and on the poor, who are often subsidizing the luxuries we take for granted through the loss of their own resources and the cost of their labor. The symposium questions the fairness of a dream based on the inequality of distribution of resources and responsibility for waste.

The workshop offers an inspirational and hope-filled look at how we can live out our deep connection with our neighbors. Its goal is “to bring forth an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, socially just human presence on this planet.”

Besides “awakening the dreamer,” the symposium encourages each person to “change the dream,” to examine the ways she or he takes for granted the way of life we have been living—and to explore ways to make that way of life fairer and more sustainable. Millions of people are already actively involved.

To find out more about this group—or to schedule a workshop for your workplace, congregation, or organization—visit their Web site at www.awakeningthedreamer.org.

Carrying the Dream Forward

Once awakened, what can we do to change the dream and follow through on our intention to live as a good neighbor on our earth and in the universe?

Environmentally Sustainable

Finding ways to tread more lightly on the earth (to reduce our carbon footprint), especially in our industrial cultures, is crucial. When the Franciscan Sisters of Mary chose to leave St. Mary of the Angels Convent, for instance, it was primarily a decision of good stewardship. The sisters who lived at the convent now live in a modern retirement facility, and the FSM administrative offices have moved to an energy-efficient, well designed office building less than a half-mile from the sisters. While leaving the convent was a heart-wrenching decision, it was the right thing to do for the FSM and for the Earth.

Choosing energy-efficient transportation (hybrid cars, public transportation) also helps reduce carbon dioxide and other pollution in the atmosphere. Walking rather than driving (one of our sisters regularly bicycles to work!), combining errands—all help reduce our dependence on fossil fuels like gasoline.

“Reduce, reuse, recycle.” The FSM have taken to heart the need to cut back on “things” and are striving to live more simply. How much is enough? Often we’ll find the answer is, much less than we have. Repairing and reusing rather than replacing. Recycling clothing and items we no longer need, but also the many items—plastic containers and bags, paper, cans, bottles—that can be reused. And reused. The FSM are dedicated to “going greener.”

Besides their commitment to personal recycling, the FSM collaborated with the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Kirkwood, Missouri, to encourage QuikTrip, a fuel and convenience store with nearly 600 locations across ten states, to install recycling bins and shift to recyclable containers for snacks and drinks in their St. Louis area stores.

Supporting others’ efforts to promote environmental sustainability is another way to further this goal. The FSM regularly support ecological endeavors, including:

- Sponsoring a well in Tanzania to bring clean water to an entire village
- Sending solar ovens to Haiti and the Congo; the ovens use solar energy exclusively, which prevents smoke pollution, destruction of trees for fuel, and the danger to humans, especially children, from the open fires inside the huts
- Supporting Rockhaven Ecozoic Center in St. Louis, Missouri; White Violet Ecological Center in Terre Haute, Indiana; and other centers that promote and teach sustainable ways of living
- Contributing to ecological endeavors to reverse climate change and global warming, clean up pollution, preserve the rain forests and other wilderness areas, and promote recycling and reduction of waste
- Investing in socially and environmentally responsible corporations. The Franciscan Sisters of Mary have consciously favored investments in socially responsible companies—funding for community development and housing loans in low-income areas, for instance. Our investments have always reflected our values and our mission. But in line with our Focus we will be proactively moving to an even “greener” approach, choosing to invest in companies that promote a sustainable approach to living in this world—and that honor all creatures as our sisters and brothers.



Finding ways to preserve this lovely planet of ours for future generations isn’t hard. It just takes *intention* to bring about the changes in our lifestyle that will ensure that our children’s children can enjoy Earth’s bounty and goodness as we do.

Socially Just

Compassionate care of creation includes social justice as well—ensuring that all our sisters and brothers have what they need to survive and thrive.

For many years now wealthy nations have claimed a disproportionate share of the world's resources. Often third-world countries provide industrial nations with oil, coal, precious metals, gems, timber, and other natural resources at a pittance of their worth. The loss of the resources—and the destruction of the local habitat for humans and other creatures—is often ignored as developed nations scramble for the lion's share of finite, often nonrenewable goods. Even the people in the poorer nations become seen as resources—cheap labor to harvest, refine, and create supplies and luxuries for the wealthy minority. And the gap between the haves and have-nots continues to grow.

Even more: The negative impact of climate change, caused primarily by the excesses of the wealthiest nations, will fall most heavily on the poor of the world—global warming, catastrophic earthquakes, tornados, tsunamis, flooding, drought, famine, disease. God calls us to question the unreflective acceptance of inequality and to work for a fairer distribution of resources.



Social injustice doesn't just take place in third-world countries, of course. The number of people in the U.S. who have no access to health care, for instance, is astronomical. In 2010 alone, SSM Health Care, founded and sponsored by the FSM congregation, provided more than \$100 million in free or discounted care to uninsured or underinsured people in the four states in which the system operates.

The FSM regularly contribute to local food pantries and programs to help the poor, as well as national and international endeavors like Bread for the World. Like many, they have provided support for victims of disasters here

and across the globe—Joplin, Japan, Haiti, Texas—reaching out with food, clean water, medical care, legal services, education, and other caring help for those in need.

Conserving resources. Living more simply. Researching fair pricing and following through on that knowledge when we do buy. Feeding the poor and sheltering the homeless. Teaching. All these can help us cut back on the world's inequality.

Ultimately, social justice comes down to this: Visualize all the people in the world—the woman in the Congo who walks five miles a day to get water; the young man in Haiti who cannot find work; the 4-year-old child in India who has not eaten for three days; the African American teenager living without hope in an inner-city high-rise. If you would not be willing to trade places with anyone in this world, you are not living in a just society.

Spiritually Fulfilling

The Mission of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary is “to be the presence of the loving, serving, compassionate, healing Jesus.” Over the years, how we have been called to live out that mission has shifted. Mother Odilia and her companions cared for the poorest of the poor in their homes — without that care they would have died alone.

The call we 99 sisters hear today is the call of a creation burdened. In the months and years ahead we will be seeking concrete ways we can relieve the distress of our Sister Earth. We will be striving to live more simply and responsibly, to enlighten others about the plight of our world, to find ways to support those who can make a positive difference. We will use whatever influence we have to urge corporations to use clean energy and manufacturing processes as well as recycling programs. We will insist that government officials on the local, state, and national levels preserve, conserve, and clean up. We will urge our country to support action against climate change.

As Franciscan Sisters of Mary we live a life of voluntary poverty, outside the culture that strives for power and riches. In our words and in our actions, in the way we live and in the initiatives we sponsor, we will try to live the change we want to see. We encourage you to join with us to create a healthy planet and a just society that future generations will be proud to call their own.

*“to be the presence
of the loving, serving,
compassionate,
healing Jesus”*



Sr. Mary Jean Ryan, *“Champion for Children,”* Receives Crystal Wagon Award



On Friday evening, September 23, Cardinal Glennon Children’s Foundation honored Sr. Mary Jean Ryan with the prestigious Crystal Wagon Award.

Sr. Mary Jean was sole 2011 recipient of the award, presented “to those individuals who have significantly contributed to the care and welfare of our children.”

Mr. Doug Ries, president of SSM Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center for 25 years (1983–2008), praised her as a true leader. “Sr. Mary Jean has a superlative vision of what we are all about, and her commitment to that vision and values means not just planning but execution—and execution with results that show,” he said.

“Hope is not a plan. A plan requires that strategic vision that she exudes. It requires that execution toward results that then can be measured against that plan.”

In the 1990s the Board seriously considered other, more viable options for Cardinal Glennon: relocating to West County or to another SSM hospital, or even merging Cardinal Glennon with a local competitor. Sr. Mary Jean remained adamant that the hospital stay at its current location, serving the very vulnerable population of children in the city. Through her vision and courage—her personal commitment to the children—Cardinal Glennon was reborn, staying where it is, serving its special population.

“Today, Cardinal Glennon is second to none in terms of its opportunities as well as the results that are shown,” Mr. Ries said. “Her ability to motivate, her ability to profoundly determine what it is we are all about and then commit to that and hold it fast has stood with me over the years. And that motivation is in large measure why in 2004 Cardinal Glennon was blessed to receive the Missouri Quality Award.”

Mr. Bill Thompson, President and CEO of SSM Health Care, told her, “I can think of no one more deserving than you to receive this very special honor.” He pointed out that Sr. Mary Jean always said that “All employees are leaders in this organization” and then empowered others to live out that vision.

Dr. Robert Wilmott, Cardinal Glennon’s Chief of Pediatrics, commented: “It’s refreshing to work for a leader whose focus is not on the bottom line, on dollars and cents. Sr. Mary Jean’s focus has been very much on quality, safety, excellence, and patient satisfaction.”

Through her visionary leadership, Cardinal Glennon has become famous for its excellent and caring doctors, nurses, and staff; for the little red wagons used to transport the children. “She has a special place in her heart for the poor and vulnerable,” Bill Thompson said—and maybe especially for the very vulnerable children who make up the population of SSM Cardinal Glennon.

Sr. Mary Jean thanked SSM Cardinal Glennon President Sherlyn Hailstone and the Board of Governors for all they have done for children all over the world: “Over the years, your support and generosity have helped Glennon grow from an excellent community hospital to a world-class children’s medical center. You are truly some of the finest people I have ever known. You have been faithful to the original intent of the founders to accept all children in need, regardless of their ability to pay. And you’ve ensured that Glennon remained in the city, where the needs are so great.

“While I am very honored that you’ve singled me out for this recognition, the honor truly goes to my congregation—the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, for the commitment of the sisters over the 55 years of Glennon’s existence. The spirit of the sisters can be felt in every part of the hospital. . . . The hospitality, the heart, and the love of the employees and physicians for the children is one of the greatest gifts of the spirit I’ve ever seen.”

Sr. Mary Jean’s name is inscribed on the Crystal Wagon Award Recognition Wall at SSM Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center.

Congratulations, Sr. Mary Jean!



Photo courtesy of Jimmie Carter, Cardinal Glennon Children’s Foundation



Sherri Coleman, FSM, gave the invocation at the January 6 ribbon-cutting ceremony of the 60-bed SSM Rehabilitation Center on the campus of SSM DePaul Health Center in Bridgeton, Missouri.

Sisters in the Spotlight



Connie Fahey, FSM, has been chosen to receive the 2012 Franciscan Federation Award for the Franciscan Sisters of Mary on July 29 in Cincinnati, Ohio. This year's conference theme is *Releasing Energies to Love: Creative Fidelity in the Church*.

Sr. Connie developed the 11th Hour Program for St. Mary's Janesville Hospital, training people to offer a comforting presence to those who are dying. The program will begin later this year. Sr. Connie has also been gathering children's books and spiritual enrichment books to send to people of the Diocese of Solwezi in Zambia.



Mary Jean Ryan, FSM, and Rose Mary Dowling, FSM, took part in the December 3–4 dedication of the newest SSM hospital, St. Mary's Janesville Hospital and Dean Clinic—Janesville East, in Janesville, Wisconsin. Sr. Mary Jean invoked God's blessing on the new hospital and all present, and added, "May all who enter these doors—now and in the future—experience exceptional health care services that reveal the healing presence of God." Sr. Rose encouraged the staff to carry on the FSM legacy of exceptional care by being the "presence of the loving, serving, compassionate, healing Jesus" and assured all those who would serve at the hospital that the FSM would hold "each one of you in prayer and deep in their heart each day."



Mary Jean Ryan, FSM, was presented May 20 with the Distinguished Service Medal from the American Society for Quality (ASQ). She was nominated for this honor by her colleagues from the International Society for Quality (IAQ), a section of ASQ. The Distinguished Service Medal, the highest distinction accorded by ASQ for service, honors the lifetime contribution of one who is recognized as a long-term enabler, catalyst, or prime mover in the quality movement. "It is granted only to those people who have clearly driven progress by promulgation of quality principles, methods, or science for the good of the society at large or who have exemplary, sustained service on behalf of ASQ that has benefited the whole Society." Congratulations, Sr. Mary Jean!



Antona Ebo, FSM, has been honored with the *St. Louis American's* Lifetime Achiever in Health Care Award in recognition of her hard work and commitment to the St. Louis community. Sr. Antona received the award at the 12th annual Salute to Excellence in Health Care Awards Luncheon on Saturday, May 5, at the Frontenac Hilton. She was also highlighted in the May 3 *St. Louis American's Salute to Excellence in Health Care* commemorative tabloid.

On October 23, Sr. Antona spoke for the annual Elder's Day at St. John the Apostle Church in Evansville, Indiana.

On November 14, Sr. Antona addressed the Mission Awareness Team at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin, encouraging them to keep alive the FSM spirit at St. Mary's and in the Wisconsin community. Sr. Antona spent close to fourteen years in Wisconsin, as executive director of St. Clare Hospital, Baraboo, and assistant executive director of St. Mary's Hospital, Madison.

On February 11, Sr. Antona spoke at the Black History Month Celebration of the Fourth Degree Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver. The Gracious Ladies of the Auxiliary of the Knights of St. Peter Claver, chapter 47, have named their Washington, D.C., chapter the Sister Antona Ebo Chapter.



Irma Kennebeck, FSM, cofounder and director of Woman's Place for fourteen years (1998-2011), was honored Friday, October 14, at the center's Iris Ball. Sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, Woman's Place is a safe drop-in haven for women suffering from domestic violence; besides helping them find immediate safety in a crisis, the center empowers women to break the cycle of abuse through counseling, support groups, and education.



Mary Joan Meyer, FSM, has had five of her poems accepted for publication in the 2012 issue of *Cantos: A Literary and Arts Journal* of Missouri Baptist University. The book was available for purchase in April 2012. Two additional poems appeared in the inaugural issue of *Fireflies' Light: A Chapbook of Short Poems*, also in April.

Gifts Received

July 1, 2011–December 31, 2011

Gifts given in memory of:

In memory of Antonio Alagao
Ms. Teresa Yu Lim Alagao

In memory of Mary Bernetta Armstrong, FSM
Ms. Lois Bollinger

In memory of Theresa Bess
Mr. James D. Bess

In memory of Howard Bettinger
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Koehl

*In memory of Marietta Bida, FSM,
My Aunt Jenny*
Gary and Joyce Ann Pahoski

In memory of Ludger Bierhaus
Mr. Walter H. Giepen

In memory of Martha Borgmeyer
Ms. Alverna A. Buechter

In memory of Herman Buechter
Ms. Alverna A. Buechter

In memory of Rose Ann Chemielecki
Mr. Thomas M. Schmitt

In memory of Margaret Mary Coens, FSM
Ms. Dolores A. Weekly

In memory of Eva June Coleman
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin C. Nicholson

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

In memory of Richard O. Durban
Mrs. Mildred F. Durban

In memory of Mary Damien Francois, FSM
Ms. Doris Bourret

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

In memory of Sylvester Gezella
Ms. Margaret M. Pedtke

In memory of Jose B. Gonzalez
Mrs. Griselda Gonzalez Paz

In memory of Mary Rosina Higgs, FSM
Ms. Janet G. McCubbin

In memory of Louise Hirner, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Stone

In memory of Delia Hixson
Mr. and Mrs. George R. Fowler

In memory of Richard Hixson
Mr. and Mrs. George R. Fowler

*In memory of Ethel M. Hurley,
My mother*
Ms. Jean H. Schulenberg



In memory of Carmela Kaptur
Mrs. Phyllis L. Clinton

In memory of Mary Eligia Koehl, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Koehl

In memory of Charles W. Kull, Jr.
Ms. Ernestine C. Kull

In memory of Susan Latanzo
Mr. Frank Latanzo

In memory of Teresa Semtner Lezon
Ms. Mary Helen Perlman

In memory of Mary Mark Massman, FSM
Sr. Christine Massman, CSJ

In memory of Mary Regina Massman, FSM
Sr. Christine Massman, CSJ

In memory of The Rev. Mr. William J. McKenna
K. M. Foundation

In memory of Mary Wilbur McKenzie, FSM
Mrs. Georgia A. George

In memory of our beloved aunt,
Mary Carmella Mossinghoff, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Murphy

*Thank you*
to all our
generous donors!

In memory of Annella Marie Orf, FSM
Ms. Jane Majeska
Ms. Connie A. Marshall
Ms. Dorothy A. Meyer
The Family of Sr. Annella Marie Orf
Ms. Marcella Smith
Ms. Alice D. Zinky

In memory of Flora Lou Bethea Parham
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Parham

In memory of my nephew, Rudolf Pendall
Mrs. Joanne S. Pendall

In memory of Mary Concordia Puppenthal, FSM
Mrs. Joanne S. Pendall

In memory of Laura, Rocco, Toni, Mom, Dad,
and Kenny
Mr. Joseph G. Petrelli

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

In memory of Dorothy Rufkahr, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. Bua Van Le
Mrs. Beatrice Terbrock

In memory of Lura Lynn Ryan
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Koehl

In memory of M. Constantia Schmitz, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. J. Kelly Tobin

In memory of Kenneth Scholl
Mrs. JoAnn C. Scholl

In memory of Mary Elaine Schornak,
My Aunt Agnes
Mrs. Marilynn A. Barone

In memory of Agnes Schultz
Ms. Joann T. Keller

In memory of Lawrence Schultz
Ms. Joann T. Keller

In memory of Rosemary Schultz
Ms. Joann T. Keller

In memory of Mary Carola Sellmeyer, FSM
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Evans

In memory of Mary Benigna Semtner, FSM
Ms. Mary Helen Perlman

In memory of the Sisters of St. Mary's Hospital,
Kansas City, Missouri, in the 1950s
Sr. Michele M. Donahue, SFO

In memory of Melba Slattery, FSM
Mrs. Beatrice Terbrock

In memory of Mary Ellen Sloan, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Buns
Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Burkert
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Hanley
Ms. Jayne C. Sullivan
Mr. and Mrs. N. Gary Wages
Mr. and Mrs. Donald S. Weed

In memory of Ruth Speidel
Dr. and Mrs. Frank Cleary

In memory of Mary Leo Rita Volk, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. Domenic V. Antista
Ms. Judy Gander and Family
Mrs. Alma Koeplin
Ms. Orley S. Morgan
Ms. Mary E. Pamperin-Volk
Mr. Jerrold C. Volk and Family

In memory of Marie Weiss, FSM
Rev. and Mrs. Alvin H. Horst
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Obermark
SSM Health Care
Mrs. Beatrice Terbrock
Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Weiss



Gifts given in honor of:

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

In honor of my great-niece Shawn Bertalacci
For her health
Ms. Wilma Zarinelli

In honor of Rita Clara Blau, FSM
My dear friend
Ms. Virginia A. Becker
Mr. and Mrs. Steven L. Drenoske
Mr. Eugene A. Haessig
Mrs. Mary C. Schmitt

In honor of my niece Debra Figge
For her health
Ms. Wilma Zarinelli

In thanksgiving for prayers answered
Ms. Mary Fitzgerald

In honor of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon P. Dunn

In honor of George and Mary Gaffney
Merry Christmas
Ms. Mary Ruth Kettenbach

In honor of my nephew Bill Gisi
For his health
Ms. Wilma Zarinelli

In honor of Mary Ellen Lewis, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. Michael R. Timm

In honor of Marita Anne Marrah, FSM
Ms. Sharon S. Voss

In thanksgiving
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Reinkemeyer

In honor of Jane L. Rombach, FSM
Peace and blessings at Christmas and
in the New Year
Rev. and Mrs. Alvin H. Horst (Al and Marilyn)

In honor of Mary Jean Ryan, FSM
On her retirement as CEO of SSM Health Care
Excellence in Missouri Foundation
Heartland Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. David M. Jelle
Mid-America Transplant Services

In honor of my friend Mary Joan Schieber, FSM,
during her Golden Jubilee Year
Mr. Kenneth L. Dowden

In honor of Susan Scholl, FSM
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Lee Scholl

In honor of Loreda Steinman, FSM
On her birthday
Ms. Alverna A. Buechter

In honor of Loreda Steinman, FSM,
And all the Steinman Family for Christmas
Ms. Alverna A. Buechter

In honor of Ann Miriam Stenger, FSM
Ms. Laura Hamtil Klages

In honor of Mariella Stenger, FSM
Ms. Laura Hamtil Klages

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

**Do you—or does some-
one you know—need
prayer?**

**Sometimes life takes a
turn that leaves you in
unknown territory—or
sometimes in a land-
scape you know all too
well. You may feel lost,
alone, even abandoned.**

**Or maybe you have a
special intention—a
wish, a hope—you'd
like to see fulfilled.**

**The Franciscan Sisters
of Mary—99 women
who are passionate
about all God's crea-
tures—are pleased to
offer prayers on your
behalf.**

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SEND US YOUR PRAYER REQUESTS.

You can e-mail them by clicking on the tab “We pray for you” on our Web site (www.fsmonline.org) and filling out and submitting the form.

You can call us with your prayer requests; St. Louisans can reach us at (314) 768-1748; people outside the metropolitan area can call us toll-free at 1-877-768-1299.

Or mail us:
FSM Prayer Program
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Flowing from our Mission, we focus the power of our intention on compassionate care of Creation in collaboration with others.

