ITEMS OF INTEREST

Christmas gallery
Photographs depict the spirit of Christmas that glimmered throughout the Province in December.
Page 4

NAC in 2019
National Advocacy Center gears up for an active year in the months ahead. See how you can help.
Page 7

Q&A with Sr. Sharon
Sr. Sharon O'Grady discusses the environment and what caring for creation means to her.
Page 10

Spotlight
We begin a column this month that spotlights Good Shepherd ministries beyond PMNA.
Page 13

SISTERS MAKE HEADLINE NEWS

Sisters made front page news in the St. Louis Post Dispatch on Christmas Eve when the paper reported on their move from Immaculate Heart.
Continued on next page

Green Corner
A first of year dialogue with Sr. Sharon O'Grady gives us plenty to think about as we head into 2019 with Planet Earth needing our attention and positive actions. Sr. Sharon is especially concerned about water and how our excessive use of plastic is destroying its quality. She is also deeply saddened that people's continued use of
Continued on p. 10

Post, Cont’d from p. 1

The move from Immaculate Heart Convent to Mason Pointe Care Center went off without a hitch. Sr. Josephine Fritz said, “I am so grateful it went smoothly. I had been praying for the strength to get through it and the wisdom to accept the packing and decisions that had to be made.”

The move took place on December 10 and 11, 2018. The packing and boxing up began a few days earlier when volunteers and other helpers worked with Sisters to clear out their rooms.

“We prayed together the first night in our new home.”

Sr. Nora Pat O’Flannigan

A moving company hauled five truck loads of boxes, furniture and equipment from Immaculate Heart to Mason Pointe before completing its task. An enormous blue and white banner hung at the entrance of Mason Pointe to welcome the Sisters to their new home.

Remarkably, the Sisters were able to hold evening prayers in the newly constructed Good Shepherd chapel on their first night at Mason Pointe.

Sr. Nora Pat O’Flannigan saw to that. She worked around the clock unpacking an endless array of boxes and organizing every detail so that the chapel was ready in time for evening prayers. This included hanging the large crucifix where all of the Sisters could see it easily from any seat in the chapel.

Sr. Nora Pat made the impossible dream come true. “We prayed together the first night in our new home. It was wonderful,” she said.

Her efforts also made it possible for Monseigneur Schneider to hold Mass the following Sunday.

Continued on next page
Post,  Cont’d from p. 2

Mason Pointe Care Center is in the west county of St. Louis. It is one of 21 locations in Missouri and Illinois where Lutheran Senior Services specializes in housing, care, and supportive services for older adults. The Sisters in Community at Mason Pointe share the third floor in three separate wings. The wings branch off of the chapel, making it easy for the Sisters to gather for prayers and Mass. It also makes it easy for them to meet as a community and to visit with each other in their individual rooms. The Sisters sit together at long tables for meals, just like they did at Immaculate Heart Convent.

Most of the staff from Immaculate Heart followed the Sisters to Mason Pointe and are now employed by Lutheran Senior Services, including nursing, cooking and housekeeping staff. This has made the Sisters’ transition much easier. Although they are in a new environment, the Sisters say they feel comfortable and at ease because they are together and surrounded by staff they know. The new people in their lives are rapidly becoming family, like Dr. Itsy, who is assigned to the Sisters and Chaplain Terry Quick who avails himself to the Sisters at every turn. Father Ron Chochol and Monseigneur Nicholas Schneider continue to preside over Mass for the Sisters.

The Sisters are happy at Mason Pointe. When I asked Sr. Michael Maguire what she thought of her new residence, she exclaimed, “I love it here! What’s not to love about it? This place is wonderful.” Now that’s an endorsement.

Written by Jeanette McDermott, Province Communications Coordinator

Sister Josephine turned 100 on December 27. On the day of the move she was determined to unpack her own boxes, including this behemoth.

Sister Sarah gets to the task of emptying her trunk and organizing her room.

Sr. Rosalinda said she was never so happy to see her recliner than when she walked into her new room and saw it there just waiting for her to collapse into.

Immaculate Heart staff, hired by Mason Pointe, lend Sr. Elizabeth a helping hand.
Christmas in the Province

Sr. Dorothy Renckens raised a cup of Christmas cheer with Sisters in her community at Mason Pointe.

This vintage stocking has been a part of Sr. Christopher Mullan’s Christmas celebrations for more than 70 years.

Sr. Monica Duong kept the convent kitchen filled with sweet aromas throughout the Christmas Season.

Sister Kathleen Moore did her part to assist the US Marine Corps with their Toys for Tots program in Danville, Pennsylvania.

A child smiled brightly as Santa gave her a gift at CORA Services YouthCOR Holiday Party in Philadelphia.

So many opportunities for zeal and witnessing to the merciful love of God in 2019! What are you looking forward to?

Sr. Madeleine Munday, RGS
Clockwise from bottom left: Sr. Mary Carol McClenon brought the electric train set from St. Joseph Residence in Baltimore to the Sisters’ new home at Maria Joseph Continuing Care Community in Danville, Pennsylvania. The train set is a part of the Sisters’ Christmas tradition. Every year Sr. Mary Carol adds a few new tracks to the train set, compliments of a generous benefactor. Sr. Rosalinda Sobremisana hangs an ornament on the Christmas tree at Mason Pointe in St. Louis. Sisters Michael Maguire and Nora Pat O’Flannigan select an ornament for the community Christmas tree at Mason Pointe. Sisters Patricia O’Sullivan and Veronica Ferrao ponder the wonder of peppermint candy canes and snow globes. Rose Haven Executive Director Rebekah Albert (2nd from left, back row) poses with volunteers who helped make Rose Haven’s annual Christmas Kids Party a lot of fun and a memorable success in Portland, Oregon.
Sister Anita Kristofco is the newest member of the Mason Pointe Community.

Sister Maxi Holy Spirit wants to know who designed the Christmas tree on the napkin.

Sisters Josephine (l) and Sarah share conversation after pulling stocking stuffers from their Christmas stockings. Sr. Sarah is crazy about hot sauce!

Young Ella with Crystal the Elf at CORA Services Early Years Christmas party. CORA’s Early Years program serves children between the ages of 2 1/2 and 5 years of age. The 35 year-old program is known as one of the highest quality early educational institutions in Philadelphia.

Sister Dorothy Vogel took time out from daily practices to sip some Christmas punch.

Sr. Josephine Fritz on her 100th birthday celebration December 27th with Sr. Pauline Bilbrough.

Sisters Sharon O’Grady, Marta Ceballos and Madeleine Munday spread cheer and goodwill to staff at the annual Province Center Christmas party. Here, Ian Kidwell reads the card that Sisters’ gave to him at the party.
No slow-down for National Advocacy Center in 2019
By Kathy Dempsey, Communications and Advocacy Consultant, National Advocacy Center

The National Advocacy Center (NAC) has been working in overdrive the last couple of years, and 2019 gives no indication of allowing NAC to take its foot off the pedal.

“Three issues currently dominate NAC’s work: immigration, human trafficking and people living in the margin of society. These are the issues behind the faces of those served by our Good Shepherd community. We expect these concerns to continue to lead our efforts in 2019,” said NAC Director Larry Couch.

Larry will travel with Province Communications Coordinator Jeanette McDermott to El Salvador in March to visit the Good Shepherd Sisters. They will then head to Honduras to stand in solidarity with the people who are struggling against the corrupt Honduran government. Afterwards, they will make arrangements to meet with the Honduran Good Shepherd Sisters.

Immigration system
In May, Larry and Jeanette will conduct a workshop at the Ecumenical Advocacy Days Gathering in Washington, D.C. Their workshop will address the root causes of immigration.

NAC will support legislation to overhaul the immigration system and protect Dreamers and the immigrants who are in the United States with Temporary Protection Status (TPS). Dreamers came to the U.S. illegally as children, not understanding what was happening. Many grew up not knowing they were in the U.S. illegally. TPS holders are under threat of being returned to countries that are not able to adequately welcome them home (such as Haiti, Yemen and the countries of Central America).

Human trafficking and abuse
The year 2018 saw the launch of National Advocacy Center’s successful human trafficking conference. NAC will host another human trafficking conference in the spring.

“Two pieces of legislation related to trafficking and abuse that NAC and our supporters have been working to pass almost became law at the end of 2018. “Unfortunately, political wrangling doomed these important bills at the last minute,” said Larry.

Savanna’s Act would strengthen the federal government’s ability to respond to high numbers of missing and murdered American Indian and Alaska Native women, many of whom have endured shocking levels of violence, including sexual abuse and in some cases trafficking.

Violence Against Women Act
The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) needed to be renewed. It is our nation’s single most effective tool in responding to the devastating crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

“VAWA helps close one brutal path to human trafficking.

“The National Advocacy Center will push for these two bills in the new Congress [that begins in January 2019]. We were so close,” Larry said.

“If you are not signed up to receive alerts from us, please consider signing up at http://bit.ly/nacsignup. We could use your help, and so could the women who would benefit from passage of Savanna’s Act and the Violence Against Women Act. Thank you,” Larry said.

Continued on next page
**NAC NEWS**

**Economic justice**
The National Advocacy Center will focus on economic justice with equal fervor in 2019. Larry and Staff Assistant Fran Eskin-Royer will advocate for an increase in the federal minimum wage to lift people out of poverty and pay people fairly.

They also will work to protect safety net programs, such as food stamps and HUD housing assistance, as pressure mounts to reduce or end them due to the spiraling deficit crisis. The deficit crisis is caused in large part by the recent tax “reform” that reduced taxes for wealthy individuals and corporations. Meanwhile, President Trump has proposed a ten percent increase in the military budget.

**Collaborative efforts**
In addition, NAC will continue to play a lead role in the Catholic Coalition, which is made up of eight organizations that are working together for justice. The National Advocacy Center also will participate in the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishop’s Catholic Social Ministry Gathering.

NAC plans to become active in the Latin American Working Group. Since 1983 this group has been bringing U.S. civil society groups and citizens together to influence U.S. policy to promote peace and justice in Central and South America. Larry will continue visiting Good Shepherd programs around the country and coordinating NAC’s work with the International Justice and Peace Office.

Finally, Larry, Fran and the NAC Advisory Board will develop a strategic plan in 2019 for the National Advocacy Center, which includes broadening its financial base.

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**National Human Trafficking HOTLINE**

Call: 1-888-373-7888  
TTY: 711  
Text: 233733

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The power to help people is in your hands

Larry Couch and Fran Eskin-Royer are the heart and soul of the National Advocacy Center (NAC). They understand the tough issues. They know the grave consequences that poor laws and policies can have on people, especially the most vulnerable, like those being served by Good Shepherd Sisters and Mission Partners. The success of their efforts relies on all of us — our voice, our letters, our active participation.

Larry is the only full-time employee at the National Advocacy Center. Fran Eskin-Royer is NAC’s part-time Staff Assistant. They do the heavy lifting and are on the front lines of advocacy in arenas that are important to Good Shepherd. NAC’S Advisory Board of Directors is there to guide and lend Larry and Fran support. But for NAC to be strong enough to make a difference and to carry on into the future, they need the help of each one of us. They need our voice and actions to strengthen their work.

If you have not yet joined NAC’s email network, please sign up today. Get involved in the issues. Sign the alerts and read the legislative sign-ons. Make your voice a voice that calls for equal justice and dignity of all.

Start the new year by signing up for the NAC email network and get active in Good Shepherd issues today.


MINISTRY NEWS

January 11
Human Trafficking Awareness Day

It's hidden, yet all around us. It's invisible, yet in plain sight.

The horror of human trafficking is increasing in our ever-shrinking world with the help of the internet, instant communication and the largest migration of humans in recorded history.

Visit www.gsadvocacy.org/trafficking.html to learn more and find out what you can do.

Human Trafficking Awareness Day

January 11 is dedicated to raising awareness and concern about sexual slavery and labor trafficking worldwide.

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day started in 2007, when the U.S. Senate designated January 11th as a national day to focus attention on the growing problem of human trafficking.

Human trafficking is not limited to foreign countries. According to the 2018 Human Trafficking Search report, the National Human Trafficking Hotline received a nearly 13 percent increase in reported cases in the U.S. compared to 2016. Human trafficking is categorized into three groups:

1. sex trafficking;
2. sex and labor trafficking; and,
3. labor trafficking.

Sex trafficking is the most common among these groups, followed by sex and labor trafficking, and labor trafficking. Learn more at National Advocacy Center. See related story on page 7.

Announcements and News Tidbits

Good Shepherd Arts Center will host its first art opening and artist reception of the new year on January 5, 2019. The new exhibit features the art of four artists who gained inspiration for their works from the Book of Psalms.

Sisters from Province of Mid-North America, Central South and Province of New York-Toronto have headed to the Holy Land on pilgrimage. They return January 9. Look for a story in the February issue of Items of Interest.

Please note the new address for the Immaculate Heart Sisters:
Name, Sisters of Good Shepherd
Mason Pointe Care Center
3rd floor
13190 S. Outer Forty Road
Chesterfield, MO 63017

Angela Aufdemberge, named notable woman

Congratulations to Good Shepherd Mission Partner Angela Aufdemberge, President and CEO of Vista Maria. She is recognized as one of Detroit’s notable women in nonprofits.

Vista Maria was founded 130 years ago as an orphanage by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. The Sisters’ legacy of rescuing and restoring women and children provides the foundation for Vista Maria’s mission today: to deliver innovative care, support, treatment and education so that vulnerable youth heal, believe in their worth and build the skills needed to succeed.

Learn more at https://www.vistamaria.org
plastic isn’t helping to turn things around for the environment.

**What weighs heaviest on your mind and heart when you reflect on the status of the environment?**

We live lives where so many of us are no longer affiliated with the poor of this world. We need to keep our connection with them and always remember the poor when we make lifestyle choices. Poor people and their communities are impacted the most by our degradation and destruction of Earth. Our actions - our consumer choices, our wasteful use of natural resources - affect the poor unjustly. We heed the call of what Pope Francis encourages us to do; that is, to undergo an ecological conversion to help heal the earth and reach out to the poor.

**Can you explain what Pope Francis’ call for an ecological conversion means to you?**

In his encyclical *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis issues a warning on the “destruction of the human environment” and challenges all of us to be better stewards of creation. For me, this means being aware of our complicity in harming the earth and, therefore, the poor through the choices we make. It means shifting our attitudes and changing our behavior so that we truly care for people and safeguard the planet. It means living a simple lifestyle that does not waste resources. It means being a part of the solution rather than the problem.

Last year at the Spring Area Meetings the Eco Zeal group gave a summary of the community reports regarding our efforts to be aware of our use of water. We are hoping to continue with this. After the meetings the Eco Zeal group sent out information about the UN’s concern regarding plastic. I hope that communities are also seeking to use less plastic.

**What is it about plastic that concerns you most?**

Plastic is destroying the waterways. It is killing aquatic life in all of its forms. Sea animals are starving to death because they eat plastic bits thinking it’s creel or other food. Their bellies fill up on plastic, and they starve to death. Plastic is commonly found in our drinking water and even in our salt. It is difficult to keep the plastic out of the water and difficult to purify the water that contains it. It is not yet known how damaging this is to us at this point.

**Realistically, what can be done about plastic? It’s ubiquitous.**

I know that our actions can make a difference. I mentioned in the province assembly reflection in October that as I try to conserve water and deal with plastic, I am becoming increasingly aware that I am part of a culture that mindlessly wastes and pollutes. In fact, I am aware that I, too, mindlessly waste and pollute water all the time just in the way I use the faucet, and by what I allow to go down the drain. I struggle with this issue. As one Sister said to me, “Plastic is everywhere and on everything.” My simple efforts to conserve are making me more aware. Hopefully, all of us are growing in awareness.

Continued on next page

**Sr. Sharon O’Grady gives Sisters foldable reusable bags made from recycled plastic as an incentive to say “no” to disposable plastic bags when they go shopping.**

Sr. Sharon would like for everyone to stop using plastic. When using plastic proves impossible and simply can’t be helped, she encourages us to recycle every item of plastic that can be recycled, even plastic film wrap.
through our efforts. I must admit that I often find myself weak and hypocritical; it is difficult after living so many years with so much.

I am proud of the efforts of the Province Center Sisters regarding their efforts with plastic. We do not buy water in plastic bottles. We purchased some glassware with lids to use for leftovers instead of covering bowls with saran wrap. We need to do more of this. We recycle plastic containers and we have a special bin for plastic wrap. Plastic wrap includes bubble wrap and the film that covers bread, newspapers, fruits and vegetables and beverage bottles and many other common foods. When the bin gets full, I take the film wrap to Target, a collection point in St. Louis. Target has large bins for the plastic. A company picks up the film routinely and transports it to locations where the film wrap is used to make recycled products.

I also buy reusable bags (for 99 cents) from IKEA that fold up and fit easily into a purse. I have passed them out to our Sisters at the Province Center and to our staff. I’ve been doing this to discourage the use of one-time-use plastic bags. Our oceans are full of them.

**What other decisions have you made as a part of your ecological conversion?**

I love to read books, and I have always enjoyed buying books. Books mean a lot to me. But I have made an active choice not to buy them. This does not mean that I would not buy one on occasion, but not as often as in the past. Books require cutting down trees and using tons of water.

Another decision I have made is to reduce my consumption of meat. I have been working at not eating meat. The meat industry is cruel and wasteful. It is one of the biggest polluters of air and water, and is an enormous consumer of fresh water. I am working on an article for Items regarding meat. I am not alone in this. There are a number of Sisters in my community that are models for me in this. To reduce consumption of meat, particularly beef, is always on my to-do list for the environment.

**What is at the core of your personal ecological conversion?**

The core of my personal ecological conversion is that I see abuse of the earth and its peoples as integral to Good Shepherd concerns regarding the poorest and most vulnerable in our world of today. I believe God speaks to us from the reality in which we live. Enlightenment comes from the lens of our Good Shepherd charism encountering the reality of our world of today. And, God’s call to us within the world of today challenges us to be in solidarity with the poor and hopeless of our world. And to take off our blinders and see that God challenges us to be attentive to our Sister Earth, “the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor.” (LS 2). It is one call really as we are such an interconnected whole.

**Q&A, Cont’d from p. 10**

**Can you recycle coffee cups or greasy pizza boxes?** If you are tossing things in the recycling bin out of sheer hope, you might be an “aspirational recycler.” Learn more at https://nyti.ms/2IXGNdF

**Things you might be recycling wrong**

Can you recycle coffee cups or greasy pizza boxes? If you are tossing things in the recycling bin out of sheer hope, you might be an “aspirational recycler.” Learn more at https://nyti.ms/2IXGNdF
Laetitia Hughes, RGS

January 18, 1929– December 10, 2018

Born in Philadelphia and raised in Washington, D.C., Sr. Laetitia began her religious formation in Baltimore in 1955 at the Convent of the Good Shepherd at Mount and Hollins Streets.

After Religious Profession, she received her Masters Degree in Social Work at St. Louis University. Sister Laetitia returned to the Baltimore program and became an influential figure in the juvenile justice and children’s protective service systems through her work in the treatment of adolescent girls.

Sister Laetitia worked with the team that planned for a new building in Halethorpe, Maryland. At its completion in 1970, she was appointed Administrator of the new program, to be known as Good Shepherd Center.

In 1973 the program received accreditation. Sister believed in and fostered teamwork and often repeated what she had learned from her father at an early age: “Surround yourself with good people.”

Sr. Laetitia had a hospitable nature. She opened the facility to the Halethorpe Improvement Association and attended the monthly meetings. She made the facility’s gymnasium available to the basketball team at Mt. DeSales Academy. The team practiced faithfully at Good Shepherd each Saturday morning until a gym was built at their school.

**Distinguished service**

For 20 years Sister Laetitia served as Administrator of Good Shepherd Center. In 1992 she was honored by the Archdiocese of Baltimore and received the Pro Ecclesia award for her distinguished service. She was asked by the Superior General to begin service as Congregational Director of Communications at the Good Shepherd Motherhouse in Angers, France in 1990.

Upon her return to Baltimore in December of 1993 she again served the program by assisting in the Performance Improvement Department. In later years she continued to serve through visits and phone calls to former students. She kept in touch with benefactors and inspired many Good Shepherd lay Mission Partners.

Sr. Laetitia had a gift for writing, which she used effectively throughout her life to advocate for the needs of the children and youth of Maryland. She also had a deep love for poetry and would often recite lines from her favorite poems.

As Sister Laetitia’s health deteriorated, she was missioned to St. Joseph Residence on the same grounds as the Good Shepherd program she loved and served in Halethorpe.

After the Good Shepherd program in Halethorpe closed in 2017, Sister returned to St. Louis. She was missioned to Immaculate Heart Convent and was accompanied by her blood sister Susanne Hughes, RGS. The two sisters enjoyed daily Mass and their great devotion to the Blessed Mother as they prayed the rosary together each day for former students and the special intentions of family, friends and benefactors.

On December 10, 2018, Sister Mary Laetitia Hughes went peacefully home to God. At nearly 90 years of age, she had been a Sister of the Good Shepherd for over 60 years. May she rest in peace.

*Submitted by Sr. Pauline Bilbrough, RGS*
ACROSS BORDERS

SPOTLIGHT: Rosa Virginia Shelter, Paraguay

The majority of the children at Rosa Virginia Shelter are victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation within Paraguay.

Items of Interest will spotlight Good Shepherd ministries from across the globe beginning January 2019. The intent of the new column is to raise awareness of the works being performed by Good Shepherd Sisters and Mission Partners in the 73 countries where Good Shepherd serves. We debut the column, called SPOTLIGHT, in tandem with Human Trafficking Awareness Day, held on January 11 of each year, and National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, which Presidential Proclamation declared in 2010 as January. This month spotlights the Rosa Virginia Shelter in Province of South East Latin America.

**Rescued**
The Rosa Virginia Shelter houses children and adolescent girls who have been rescued from human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

**Restored**
The comprehensive program addresses the reality that faces the children and adolescent girls as they rebuild their autonomy, restore a healthy self-esteem, and regain a capacity to trust adults and experience the joy of living.

It is a program of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, in partnership with the National Secretariat for Children and Adolescents in Paraguay.

The program responds to trafficked children in need of recovery from trauma and opportunities for a future free of violence. The center provides a specialized transition space that protects, supports and promotes the rights of children. It is a safe environment that has an integrated holistic approach that is oriented to the children’s health and development.

Aspects of the therapeutic program and skills development include art, dance, computer science, meal preparation, and various crafts.

Through occupational therapy, the residents acquire skills that are designed around their personal interests. Vocational and technical training also help to prepare the children for the future.

The Good Shepherd Rosa Virginia Shelter is the only center of its kind in Paraguay, where there is increasing child sex trafficking.

The shelter can accommodate 12 children, ages ten to 17 years. Many adolescent girls are either pregnant or arrive with their babies. Since opening in 2015, the center has welcomed 95 young children and adolescent girls. Among them were three girls between the ages of two months to two years and four boys between the ages of one month to two years.

The majority of the children are victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation within Paraguay. However, the borders between countries in Latin America are vulnerable and migratory controls are not enforced effectively. Compounding the problem are unsuspected family members who are traffickers recruiting their young relatives.

Please pray for the Rosa Virginia Shelter and its young residents as they work to restore their lives. Pray too for the Good Shepherd Sisters and Mission Partners at the shelter as they seek funding for the program and work to heal the wounds of their young charges.

from Congregation newsletter
## LEADERSHIP TRAVEL

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<th>NAME</th>
<th>DATES</th>
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<td>Sr. Sharon Rose Authorson</td>
<td>No travel</td>
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<td>Sr. Jean Marie Fernandez</td>
<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>Gathering of “Nuns and Nones,” San Francisco</td>
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<td>Sr. Beverly Hedgecoth</td>
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<td>Sr. Maureen Johnson</td>
<td>Jan 5-24</td>
<td>Rome</td>
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<td>Sr. Dolores Kalina</td>
<td>Jan 1-9</td>
<td>Pilgrimage to Holy Land</td>
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<td>Jan 10-14</td>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
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<td>Jan 15-27</td>
<td>Family Support (Florida)</td>
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<td>Jan 28-31</td>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
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<td>Sr. Maureen Kunz</td>
<td>Jan 1-3</td>
<td>Rockaway Beach, Oregon</td>
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<td>Jan 25-27</td>
<td>Gracenter Board Retreat, San Francisco</td>
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<td>Sr. Mary Carolyn McQuaid</td>
<td>Jan 14-15</td>
<td>Good Shepherd Shelter Board Meeting, LA</td>
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<td>Jan 16</td>
<td>Transition Ceremony, Mason Pointe Care Center, St. Louis</td>
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<td>Sr. Madeleine Munday</td>
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<td>Pilgrimage to Holy Land</td>
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<td>Transition Ceremony, Mason Pointe Care Center, St. Louis</td>
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<td>Jan 24</td>
<td>DeNeuville Learning Center Board Retreat, Memphis</td>
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### World Day of Peace

The World Day of Peace is celebrated each year on the first day of January, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Pope Francis compels everyone to be engaged in the work of advocating for and with those whose voices are marginalized, to ensure the protection and fulfillment of the “youngest and smallest.”

"The world must be educated to love Peace, to build it up and defend it." - Pope Paul VI, 1968
“Feel a lovely compassion for persons. Treat all in a large-hearted way.”

Saint Mary Euphrasia

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