



Office for Religious
Sister Mary Teresa Cullen, CSB, Director
Archdiocese of San Antonio
September 2009 Newsletter

**“Women and Spirit:
Catholic Sisters in America”
Comes to Texas!**

This new exhibit, sponsored by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, will open in Dallas on September 24, 2009. Those who viewed it in Cincinnati described it as beautiful, hopeful, inspiring, and powerful. It tells the story of who women religious in the U.S. have been, are and will be. It records for history their contributions at pivotal moments in our history from the Civil war to Katrina and beyond.

- The exhibit is scheduled to be at the Women’s Museum in Dallas from September 24TH to December 2009 before it moves to the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. in January 2010. If you would be interested in being part of an organized trip to Dallas to view this exhibit please contact our office.

Religious Retirement Fund 2009

This year again San Antonio based Religious congregations, along with others across our country, have benefitted greatly from the Religious Retirement Fund Collection of 2008. Thanks to all who helped in that effort. It is interesting to note that our Archdiocese received back more than three times what was collected locally. We are indeed grateful for this generosity of people throughout the country!

The 2009 Religious Retirement Fund collection is set for December 12th – 13th 2009. In early October we are sending a letter to pastors from this office requesting that a religious might be able to speak at the Masses on that weekend. Please consider offering your services in this area. We are convinced that it makes a big impact.

Our Archbishop, José Gomez, has studied the report from the Commission of Religious Life and Ministry, and wants to offer his support to this effort.

**"Mujeres y Espíritu:
¡Las Hermanas Católicas en América"
Viene a Texas!**

Esta nueva exhibición se inaugura en Dallas el 24 de Septiembre. Es patrocinada por la conferencia de líderes religiosas. Las personas que vieron la exhibición en Cincinnati la describieron como hermosa, optimista, inspiradora y poderosa. Se ve el trayecto de la historia de las religiosas en los Estados Unidos. Hace incapié en ciertos momentos importantes desde la guerra civil, Katrina y demás.

- ¿Dónde? Museo de las mujeres en Dallas
Cuando: Septiembre – Diciembre
Después: Se irá la exhibición al Smithsonian, Washington D.C.
- ❖ Si usted se interesa en ser parte de un viaje organizado llame a nuestra oficina.

El Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos

Como de costumbre, este año tuvimos un buen resultado de la colecta para religiosos y religiosas jubilados. Gracias a todas las que ayudaron, especialmente hablando en las parroquias. Es interesante notar que la arquidiócesis recibió tres veces mas lo que se colectó localmente.

Volveremos a tener esta colecta el 12-13 de Diciembre. Los párrocos recibirán una carta solicitando permiso para que una religiosa hable en las misas. Todos estaremos agradecidas cuando usted se ofrezca como voluntaria para hablar en una parroquia. Tenga la certeza que usted tendrá un gran impacto.



Advent Retreat

Our Advent afternoon of Reflection for Religious is scheduled for Sunday, December 6th from 2:30pm – 5:00pm at Our Lady of Grace Parish. It is a wonderful opportunity to prepare for the Christmas Season and for the Marian feasts of the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe to be celebrated during that week. We are very pleased to let you know that Sister Brigid Marie Clarke, CCVI (English) and Sister Esther Guerrero, MCDP (Spanish) will be our reflection guides. Please mark your calendar. More details later.

Congratulations

To the newly appointed Marianist Provincial Fr. Martin Solma, SM. He is a native of Cleveland, and will be based in St. Louis and has ministered in East Africa since 1982. One of his new responsibilities will include the role of Chancellor of St. Mary's University.

To the new Provincial Leadership Team of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, Sister Cecilia Marie Rodriguez, Provincial Superior; and Councilors Sister Jo-Michele Sierra, Sister Ernestine Trujillo and Sister Frances Aleman.

Monsignor Thomas French, former Vicar for Religious, celebrated his Diamond Jubilee of priestly ordination in June with a Mass and Reception at the Village at Incarnate Word. The Sisters honored him for his fifty years of service as the chaplain of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word.

Over these past months there have been several ordinations of the religious as well as professions and renewal of vows. We ask God's blessings for each of them: Reverend Ramon Jacinto Gonzalez, OP and Reverend Gerald Martin Mendoza Vasquez, OP were ordained at St. Ann's Church, August 29, 2009.

Sister Merys Josephine and Sister Maria Patricia, Hermanas Catequistas Guadalupanas, renewed their vows on August 15, 2009, Andrea Jimenez was formally accepted as a postulant.

The Dominican Missionaries for the Deaf Apostolate celebrated the final vows of Rev. Thomas Coughlin, OP and the first vows of Br. Joseph Thermadom, OP, Br. Eric Kumana, OP, and Br. Alexis Marie Secondeaire, OP at San Francisco di Paolo Church on June 14th.

Sr. Joyce Dexel, CDP, made her first vows as a Sister of Divine Providence on June 13TH.

Retiro de Adviento

Nuestra tarde de reflexión de Adviento para Religiosos será el 6 de Diciembre 2:30pm – 5:00pm en la parroquia de Nuestra Señora de la Gracia. Es una buena oportunidad para preparar las fiestas de Maria, y la Navidad. Con gusto les anunciamos que las hermanas, Brigid Marie Clark, CCVI (Ingles) y Hermana Esther Guerrero, MCDP (español) se encargarán de guiar nuestra reflexión. Por favor marque su calendario. Más detalles más tarde.

Felicitaciones

Felicizamos al Padre Martin Solma, SM por su nombramiento como provincial de los marianistas. Nació en Cleveland y trabajará en San Louis, MO. El trabajo muchos años en Africa. Ahora, parte de su responsabilidad sera el canciller de la Universidad de Santa María.

Felicizamos al nuevo equipo de liderazgo de las hermanas del Sagrado Corazón. Cecilia Marie Rodriguez, Provincial; Jo-Michele Sierra, Ernestine Trujillo y Frances Aleman Consejeras.

Felicitaciones al Padre Thomas French, vicario anterior para Religiosos, por sus 60 años de sacerdocio. Festejó con una misa en la hermosa capilla de las hermanas del Verbo Encarnado. Las hermanas lo honraron por 50 años a su servicio.

Sobre éstos meses pasados ha habido varias ordenaciones de las religioso así como profesiones y renovación de votos. Preguntamos las bendiciones de Dios para cada uno de ellos:

Felicizamos a:

- Padre Ramon Jacinto Gonzalez, OP
- Padre Gerald Martin Mendoza Vasquez, OP por su ordenación sacerdotal en Santa Ana el pasado 29 de Agosto. Que Dios los siga bendiciendo.

Felicizamos a las hermanas Catequistas Guadalupanas

- Hermana Merys Josephine
- Hermana Maria Patricia por renovar sus votos y
- Andrea Jimenez por ser aceptada formalmente como postulante el 15 de Agosto.

Felicizamos a los Misioneros Dominicanos de los Sordos

- Padre Thomas Coughlin, OP - votos perpetuos
- Hermano Joseph Thermadom, OP – Primeros votos
- Hermano Eric Kumana, OP – Primeros votos
- Hermano Alexis Marie Secondeaire, OP, en la iglesia de San Francisco Di Paolo el 14 de junio.

Felicizamos a

- Hermana Joyce Dexel, CDP, por sus primeros votos como Hermana de la Divina Providencia.

New Beginnings

The Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate have made the big move from their former Motherhouse to their new building across the street at 300 Yucca St. We wish them every blessing in their new convent.

In May the Cordi- Marian Sisters had the groundbreaking for St. Joseph Chapel at their Retreat Center. We rejoice with them in this wonderful development.

During the months of May and June Sister Carla Marie Lusch, SSND, was honored for her dedicated years of service to Catholic Schools, most recently as Superintendent. We wish her well in her new ministry at St. Peter St Joseph Children's home where she continues her education ministry.



Comienzos Nuevos

Las Hermanas del Espíritu Santo se cambiaron a la nueva Casa Madre justo frente a la Antigua en la calle Yucca. Los deseamos muchas bendiciones en su nuevo convento.

Las Hermanas Cordimarianas comenzaron la construcción de la nueva capilla a San José en su centro de retiros. Nos alegramos por este nuevo desarrollo.

Recibió un homenaje la Hermana Carla Marie Lusch, SSND por sus años de dedicación al servicio de las escuelas católicas y últimamente como superintendente. Que el Señor la bendiga en su nuevo ministerio en St. Peter-St. Joseph's Children's Home donde continuará en su misión de educadora.



In The News!

In a May ceremony at Our Lady of the Lake University the Divine Providence Sisters signed a formal sponsorship document with OLLU to ensure that their mission and charism are carried out by the University.

Sister Dot Ettlting, CCVI, PhD, was selected as Piper Professor of 2009 by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. Currently she is professor to doctoral candidates teaching Organizational Leadership at the University of the Incarnate Word. She is one of only 15 selected throughout the country. Congratulations, Sister Dot!

Did you read that wonderful article by Cary Clark in the San Antonio Express-News entitled "Sisters' Century of Love" It featured two MCDP Sisters - also blood sisters - Sister Maria Elena Lopez, MCDP, and Sister Rosita Lopez, MCDP, both of whom were Golden Jubilarians this year. It was an inspiring tribute to them.

¡Noticias!

Las Hermanas de la Divina Providencia firmaron un acuerdo para asegurar que la misión de la congregación continúe en la Universidad de Nuestra Señora del lago.

La Hermana Dot Ettlting, CCVI, PhD fue nombrada la profesora piper de este año por la fundación Minnie Stevens. En todo el país, solamente 15 profesores son nombrados. Ella enseña liderazgo educacional a los candidatos de doctorado en la Universidad del Verbo Encarnada. ¡Felicidades!

Leyeron el magnífico artículo por Cary Clark en nuestro periódico, "Hermanas: Cien años de Amor" donde se habla de dos MCDP Hermanas que además son hermanas de sangre - Hermana Maria Elena Lopez, MCDP y Hermana Rosita Lopez, MCDP Ambas celebraron sus cincuenta años de profesión este año. Fue un buen homenaje a ellas lleno de inspiración.

Dates to Remember

- **Sisters Appreciation Dinner**
Hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council 4140 on Sunday September 20, 2009 from 3:00pm – 6:00pm at Camp Bullis Road. Please reply by Monday, September 14th to 647-4983.
- **OST Continuing Education**
 - **Meditation 101: Resting in God**
September 11, 2009 – October 9, 2009
 - **Cultivating the Fruits of the Holy Spirit**
October 23, 2009 – December 4, 2009
 - **Christian Mysticism: History, Wisdom and Insights** (Begins September 12, 2009)
Please call (210)341-1366 ext 226 for information.
- There will be a presentation on “**Interrupted Lives – Catholic Sisters under European Communism.**” in Regan Hall, Our Lady of the Lake Convent. October 20, 2009 at 6pm
All are welcome.
- “**Providence and Catholic Higher Education**” is the title of a presentation by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI on Monday, October 5, 2009 from 12:00 noon – 1:30pm at the Library Community Room, Our Lady of the Lake University. RSVP by September 30, 2009 to 434-6711 ext. 2193

Archdiocese of San Antonio Directory Update

By now you will have received the request to update your congregation’s information for the Archdiocese Directory. Please return the update listing as soon as possible.

Wheelchairs

The Knights of Columbus expect to receive a consignment of more than 100 wheelchairs by mid October. They wish to give first preference to religious. They are brand new, mechanical wheelchairs of various sizes. Please contact our office if you are in need of one or more.

In Memoriam

Sister Roberta Hayes, SHSp, September 8, 2009
Sister Marie Theresa Gubbels, CDP, September 1, 2009
Sister Mary John Buckley, PBVM, August 30, 2009
Sister Marie Torno, SSND August 20, 2009
Brother Sylvester Krus, CSC, August 19, 2009
Sister Mary Blandina Paul, CDP, July 9, 2009
Sister Michalina Jaronczyk, OLS, July 8, 2009
Brother John Michael Klein, SM, July 4, 2009
Sister Odetta Daigle, STJ, July 1, 2009
Brother Paul Novosal, SM, May 24, 2009
Sister Sara Margaret Carter, CCVI, May 18, 2009
Sister Reparara Glenn, CDP, April 20, 2009
Sister Mary Kostka Martinka, CDP, April 20, 2009
Sister Mary Immaculate Gentemann, CDP, April 14, 2009
Sister Jane Jasso, FMA, April 7, 2009
Sister Margaret Clare Mathews, CDP, April 2, 2009

May they rest in the
Peace of Christ

