

Volume 9, Issue 1
Spring, 2015

The Vine

*I am the Vine, you are the
branches. Whoever remains
in Me and I in him will bear
much fruit, because without
Me you can do nothing.*

John 15:5

A Newsletter of the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Glory be to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus



O Most High and Glorious God, and my Lord Jesus Christ,
enlighten, I beseech Thee, the darkness of my mind. Give me right faith, certain hope,
and perfect charity; grant that I may know Thee, Lord, in order that I may always
and in all things act according to Thy most holy and perfect will. Amen.

—Our Holy Father St. Francis of Assisi

Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus



Letter from Mother Jacinta Miryam, SSCJ

Provincial Superior

Dear Friends,

Each time our Holy Fathers declare that a year will be dedicated to a particular aspect of our Faith or the structure of the Church, I feel a greater eagerness to grow in an appreciation and knowledge of this gift of God. At the close of the 20th century, 3 consecutive years were dedicated to the 3 Persons of the Blessed Trinity. Although I always believed this great mystery and had grown in recognizing how incredible this mystery was, those years had me focus more on my spiritual life and my relationship with each of the Persons of the Trinity. It impacted my prayer life tremendously, and I remain ever so grateful for the graces of those years.

As you know the First Sunday of Advent 2014 until the Feast of the Presentation, February 2, 2016, has been declared a year dedicated to Consecrated Life and our Holy Father charges all consecrated persons to use the year to Wake Up the World. For some or perhaps many that may sound strange, but I personally like the challenge. What does it mean to wake up the world but to make the world aware of their call to holiness, for the call to holiness is rooted in our Baptism. Religious life, unlike marriage and the priesthood, is not a sacrament. St. Paul commented on this in his letter to the Corinthians (1Cor. 7:25-40). Religious life is a call to live our Baptism promises more directly and fully, or as some like to say it, more radically.

We know that Baptism is that first sacrament received as infants by most of us, but as adults for others which won the grace of the remittance of not only original sin but also all actual sins and the punishment due to sin. Yet that gift is superseded by the gift of sanctifying grace. This grace makes us a 'new creation,' as the Church puts it, making each of us a child of God - He dwelling within us. We become members of the Mystical Body of Christ which unites us all together. In the Baltimore Catechism this reality is one of the first questions presented. Who are you? I am a Child of God. This simple answer is profound. At one point we all ask it. When we really consider the profundity of the answer, we can be awestruck at all that this means about our dignity and our call to truly be children of God. God loved me into existence. God is my Father. God died to save me. God lives in me. Jesus allows me to receive Him that His image and likeness may be more perfectly realized in me.

As a parent one of the deepest desires you have is for you to know your children know you love them and that they love you. Why should God be any different? He made us in His image and likeness. I remember reading a little directive of St. Augustine, "love God and do what

you will". Isn't that great?! God, however, knows how easy it is for us to get blinded by the world we see, hear, and touch, so He gave us the 10 Commandments. Later he gave us the Beatitudes. These help us to strive for that which will last and buy us true happiness. By abiding by these rules of life many self-wrought crosses are avoided. It is the living out of these commandments and beatitudes with the addition of the 3 counsels exemplified in the life of Jesus that consecrated persons hope to give God the honor and love He so rightfully deserves. Thus should we be faithful, we can serve as a reminder to lay persons that our "end" is not this world and thus awakening the world to the true light and source of all joy.

Entrusting you to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,

Mother Jacinta Miryam Hanley, SSCJ

Mother Jacinta Miryam, SSCJ
Provincial Superior



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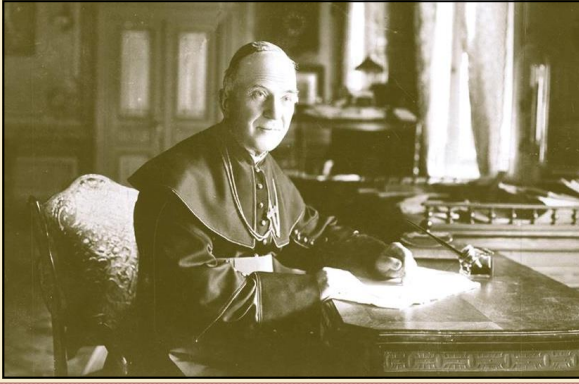
Website: www.sacredheartsisters.org

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Our federal ID Number is: **20-8127262**

Cover Photo: Painting in Sisters' Motherhouse Church, Garncarska Street, Krakow, Poland

Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus



From the Writings of our Founder
ST. JOSEPH SEBASTIAN PELCZAR
(1842-1924)

THE LOVE OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

The Passion of Christ is the eternal monument of the love of God, and it inspires our love toward God in return. We should meditate upon it with a living faith and love, and with the feeling of true contrition and expiation for our sins. St. Joseph Sebastian Pelczar writes: “The cross is the pulpit of the Divine Master and the book from which people learn the ways of God and the Christian virtues.” God could have left people to their sins and rejection, deprived of the life of grace and condemned to eternal death. Indeed the people for whom the Son of God offered Himself were not faithful and grateful friends but many were even enemies to Him, bold rebels and at once ungrateful wretches who reject His truth, trample His law, despise His grace and run blindly into an abyss of ruin. Yet God not only forgave them and restored them to His friendship— but He also made them His brothers. In this way where sin abounded, now grace even more abounds.

The love of Christ is likewise manifested in His choosing the cross as the instrument of His death whereby we could know the love of God that empties itself to the depths for us and the Divine wisdom that uses what is shameful and weak to defeat Satan and conquer the rebellious world; and by which we might perceive the justice of God that requires even the sacrifice of the cross for its satisfaction. Jesus desires that we might recognize on one hand the holiness of God and on the other, the gravity of sin —so heavy that for its remission the Son of God poured out His very Blood, so that from now on we would have no reason for excuse but would be somehow obliged even to love God who desired to redeem us through His cross.

The cross is the altar on which the High Priest fulfilled the sacrifice for the salvation of humanity. The cross is also the key, by which the Savior unlocks the heavens and the seat from which He speaks. It is also the sword by which Jesus conquered Satan and the world.

The Lord Jesus could have redeemed us with a lesser suffering yet still having infinite value, for example with but one of His tears. However, He took upon Him-

self all pains and humiliations and these He suffered not merely a few days but throughout His entire life. He suffered – in poverty, in the loss of His good name, in His body and soul. He suffered from various people –Jews and Gentiles. He even suffered on account of His Mother in seeing her beneath His cross; on account of His Heavenly Father, in His crying out from the cross: *My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?* (Mk 15:34). Jesus suffered without any consolation, without relief and yet with the greatest thirst and with the greatest love.

Could the Lord have done anything more for us? Was His love not extravagant? He has given us all things: His sufferings, blood and merits. He has given us His Mother and His very self. Indeed, He calls the whole world to deliberate: Judge between me, and the vineyard that is the human soul: What more was there that I could have done for my vineyard that I have not done? (cf. Is 5:3-4).

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BECOME A SISTER SERVANT OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS?



- PONTIFICAL
- FRANCISCAN
- CONTEMPLATIVE—
ACTIVE
- DEVOTED TO THE SA-
CRED HEART
- FOUNDED IN POLAND
IN 1894 BY ST. JOSEPH
SEBASTIAN PELCZAR &
VENERABLE MOTHER
KLARA SZCZESNA

Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE OF THE VINE:



Women's Discernment Weekend
November 28-30, 2014



Gala Dinner & Presentation on the SSCJ's & Pope St. John Paul II
Mother of Divine Mercy Parish, Detroit, MI, Oct. 24-26, 2014



Women Religious Day of Renewal
January 17, 2015



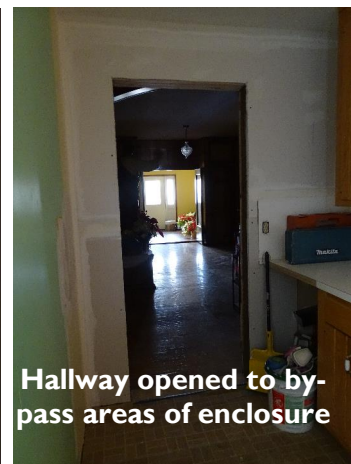
Lenten Lamentations
Sundays of Lent, 2015



Vocation Event, Baltimore, Maryland—March 14, 2015



Sacristy Renovations
Sacred Heart Provincialate, Cresson



Hallway opened to bypass areas of enclosure

Renovations are now underway at our Provincialate to better accommodate visitors entering by way of the back door, so that the integrity of the Sisters' restricted areas of enclosure would be preserved. The sacristy was also relocated to allow for a separate hallway instead of people walking through the sacristy to enter chapel.

Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

THANK YOU to our *Special Angels of Assistance!*

Mainline Pharmacy

Cresson, Portage and Ebensburg



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Paul and Marcella Cooney



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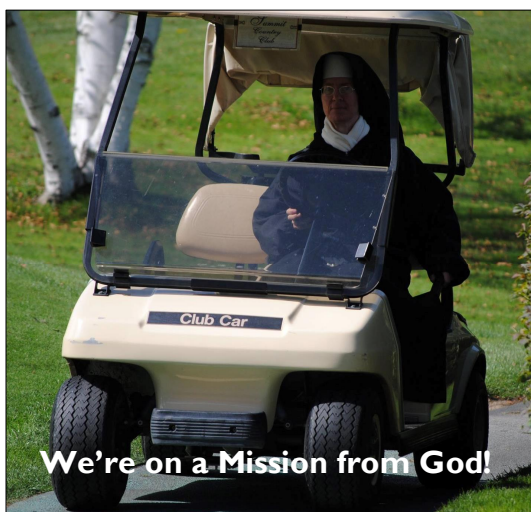


**AND ALL OUR TOURNAMENT
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
PLAYERS, SPONSORS
& STAFF! Thank you!
We deeply appreciate your help!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF OUR 2014 GOLF INVITATIONAL
GERRY MOSCHGAT & MAINLINE PHARMACY TEAM!**



READY, SET, GO!

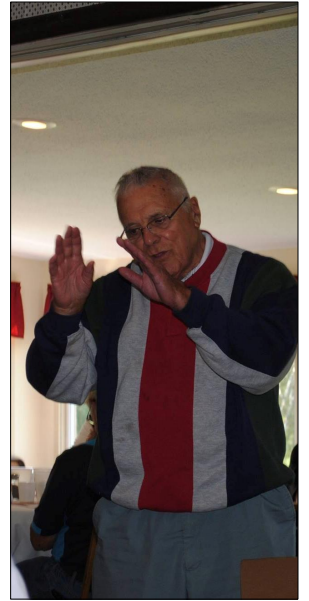
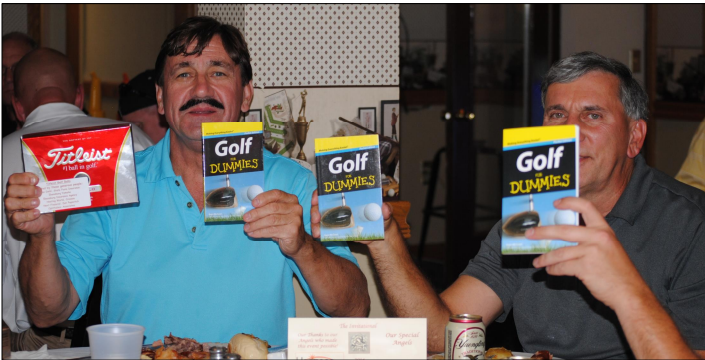


We're on a Mission from God!



Father Robine reminds God
of optimum weather for Golf.

Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus



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OUTINGS & ACTIVITIES



Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

ONE-TO-ONE ACTIVITIES



PERSONAL DIGNITY



CARING SISTERS
& STAFF

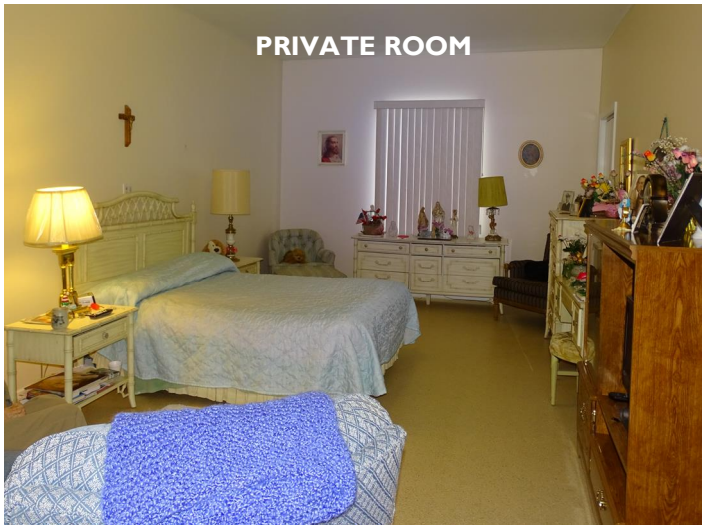


MEDICATION MANAGEMENT



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for yourself or a loved one?
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John Paul II Manor in Cresson, PA
where our Sisters offer
24-hour care
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For information, please contact:
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PRIVATE ROOM



SEMI—PRIVATE ROOM

