



Lay MSC Time Capsule – An Artistic Labor of Love

by Jane Martin, LMSC

The year 2017 was significant for the Lay MSC (LMSC) of the Chevalier Family as we celebrated our 25th anniversary. Special events for our bi-monthly all member gatherings in Reading coincided with our theme, "From Root to Blossom to Fruit".

At the initial planning meeting LMSC members decided to end the year by burying a time capsule. Much discussion ensued: Where would we bury it? What would be in it? What material would be used? Where would we purchase it? Lots to consider! Could it be made of wood?

Upon hearing wood mentioned, I immediately thought of Joe Kenas, a fellow parishioner at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Brodheadsville, Pennsylvania. Speak about a busy person! Besides being an avid and excellent woodworker, Joe is a retired Master Chief AFCM from the US Navy. At last count Joe was involved in 13 ministries in our parish where he also attends daily Mass. When I asked him about making the time capsule, he gave a resounding "yes" in true "Joe

fashion". One could almost hear his wheels beginning to spin. When I asked about payment, Joe said, "Three Hail Mary's from each of the Lay MSC." He did, however, later increase payment to a Rosary. As Joe said, "You can't have enough Rosaries said for you." Periodically when we touched base about the progress, Joe's mounting excitement shown in his sparkling eyes: "Wait till you see it!" he would exclaim excitedly.

December of 2017 was the month for the time capsule placement. The LMSC Associates waited anxiously for Joe to arrive in Reading with his masterpiece and we certainly were not disappointed. The

time capsule was beyond our expectations!

Joe had inlayed the anniversary tree logo skillfully and beautifully in the lid of the American Oak box. The tree trunk was made from American Black Walnut, the green leaves were cut from South American Verawood and the logo letters were cut from Mexican Katalox. It could not have been more beautiful and perfect. Joe's love of God and his craft were *continued on page 8*



Joe Kenas shows Sr. Rosemarie Sommers, MSC the completed time capsule.

Stephen's Place Celebrates Silver Anniversary of Service

In 1993 Sr. Virginia Longcope, MSC first opened Stephen's Place, a half-way house in Bethlehem, PA which provides a safe environment for male parolees to address recovery from substance abuse and to develop life skills. Twenty-five years later, Sr. Virginia credits the success of Stephen's Place—73% of the men complete 90 days—to helping the men establish a sense of order in their lives. Longcope requires that the men take up chores in the home, take responsibility for all their actions, attend a 12 step program and attend house meetings. Sr. Virginia also sees that the men receive



Sr. Virginia celebrates with Johnny who earned his GED while at Stephen's Place.

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Sr. Bernard's German Meal

For several years now at our MSC Spring Benefit, Sr. Bernard Overkamp, a German native, offers our guests a chance to bid on an authentic German Dinner which she lovingly prepares for up to six guests in the home of the winning bidder. The 2017 winner, Dr. Mary Jo Bonner, welcomed both Sr. Dorothy Fabritze and Sr. Bernard into her home to dine with family and friends last fall.

Sr. Bernard remarks that she "has come to treasure these special times of sharing my culinary treats with friends who enjoy a taste of Germany." Our banquet guests hope to bid on Sr. Bernard's delicious German cuisine for years to come. This year's winning bid at Oktoberfest went to Diego and Linda Calderin. Prosit! ☩



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IN MEMORIAM



**Sister M. Friedeburg, MSC
(Rosa Clemens)**
1924 – 2017

Sister Friedeburg's family lived in East Germany and she was the oldest of 6 siblings. She and her family faced many difficult times during World War II. Twice during those years Sister Friedeburg was forced into hard labor, the first time in Germany and the second time in Czechoslovakia. She became separated from her mother and her two brothers and

two sisters in 1944 and never was able to find out what happened to them or where they might be living if they survived. This was a cause of great sadness and frustration. However, as time went on, Sister Friedeburg opened herself to the gift of God's healing and received the grace to live her life as a Missionary Sister of the Most Sacred Heart in service to God's People.

Sister Friedeburg was received as a candidate in Hiltrup on July 2, 1947. In 1951, as a temporary professed Sister, she was sent on mission to the USA. She made her Final Profession of Vows in Reading on February 2, 1954. Four years later, on August 28th, 1958, she became a U.S. citizen.

Sister Friedeburg attended the University of Dayton and spent 30 years working in the accounting department at Sacred Heart Hospital in Norristown. She also worked briefly in the business office at St. Mary's Hospital in Athens, Georgia. From 1974–1978 Sister Friedeburg served as the Provincial Treasurer. She was very competent in every position she held but also was kind and patient when helping those who found working with numbers very challenging.

Sister Friedeburg resided at the Motherhouse since 1992, helping with various tasks and serving as convent librarian for several years. She was very welcoming to all who visited but was especially happy when babies and small children were brought to her. She loved holding them in her arms and interacting with them. It brought the biggest smile to her face.

Soon after Sister Friedeburg's health began to deteriorate she started to receive hospice care. Following her reception of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, Sister Friedeburg remarked how wonderful our church is because it provides what we need throughout our life. What a grand reunion it must have been when she was reunited with her loved ones after all these years. †



**Sister M. Irene, MSC
(Margaret Turek)**
1925 – 2017

Sister Irene was always very proud of the fact that she was born on the day that St. Therese of Lisieux was canonized and would say that she was the first rose the Little Flower sent from heaven. She now has joined St. Therese and all the saints and angels in the heavenly kingdom.

Sister Irene was born and grew up in Palmerton, PA with two sisters and one brother. Her father worked for the zinc company and her mother was a housewife. She was taught by our Sisters in Sacred Heart Parish School and so decided at a young age that she wanted to enter religious life. She attended our aspirancy, Mt. St. Michael High School, from 1939–1943 and then was received as a candidate. Because of poor health Sister Irene had to leave the community when she was a novice but was able to return two years later in restored health to complete her formation.

Both Sister Irene and her younger sister, Sister Margaret, entered our congregation and were given each other's baptismal names for their religious names. The sisters were very close. Sister Margaret died in 1998 and Sister Irene mourned the loss of her dear sister for many years.

Sister Irene received her teaching degree from the University of Dayton and then taught in elementary school for 39 years. During those years, she taught every grade from first to eighth in Allentown, Coaldale, Coplay, Nazareth, Northampton, Lansford, Palmerton and Palos Heights, Illinois. Several of her former students commented that she was a creative and caring teacher who made learning interesting and exciting, often making up games to keep the students' attention. She also instilled in her students a great mission awareness especially during the years that her sister Sr. Margaret was a missionary in Papua New Guinea.

From 1966–1971 Sister Irene was the principal of our high school aspirancy and was also on the provincial council. After she retired from teaching Sister Irene served as a receptionist at Sacred Heart Hospital in Allentown from 1989–1998. Her welcoming smile and friendly manner put many of the patients at ease when they came for outpatient procedures. She retired to the Motherhouse in 1998.

In her last few years Sister Irene was a patient at a nursing home nearby where she could receive the full-time care that she needed. When it was evident that Sister Irene was beginning her final journey, we brought her home to Sacred Heart Villa to be with the Sisters and the staff who lovingly cared for her. God called her to her heavenly home two days later. †



Sister M. Angela Tiencken, MSC
1929 – 2017

Sister Angela grew up in New Jersey very near to New York City where her father owned a paper company and her mother worked as his bookkeeper. She was taught by the Sisters of Charity in elementary school and then came to our aspirancy, Mt. St. Michael High School. She entered our congregation as a candidate in 1946 and would have celebrated her 70th anniversary of profession in 2018.

Sister Angela was a teacher for 17 years and taught the younger children in Kindergarten and Grades 1 through 4 in Reading, Philadelphia, Nazareth, Northampton, and Coplay. She was a kind and caring teacher for God's little ones. When asked what she enjoyed the most about teaching, Sister Angela responded: "The children were my delight." That was also very evident when she was assigned every summer during those years to help in our orphanage in Coopersburg. She loved caring for the children "outside the classroom" where she was not restricted by lesson plans to be completed and strict schedules to be kept.

Sister Angela was a wonderful teacher but, deep in her heart, she felt a strong calling to serve God's people as a nurse. She had received a teaching degree from the University of Dayton in 1955. In 1967, she attended Sacred Heart School of Nursing in Norristown and then went on to receive a degree in nursing from Georgia State University in Atlanta. In the following years, Sister Angela worked as a nurse in our Motherhouse Infirmary, as well as our hospitals in Pottsville and Athens, Georgia.

During this time, Sister Angela also became a certified chaplain and ministered in pastoral care in Georgia and in parish ministry at St. Ann's in Naples, Florida. In her later years, Sister Angela cared for our elderly and infirm Sisters at Sacred Heart Villa and at Seton Manor nursing home in Orwigsburg. She was a loving and compassionate presence to all whom she met.

When it was evident that Sister Angela was beginning her final journey, she was grateful for the care and kindness shown to her by our nursing staff and by our Sisters. She welcomed visits from her nephews Tom and Jim and her niece Carol who were able to say their final good-byes to their dear Aunt.

The day before she died, Sister Angela was asked by one of her visitors if she was afraid. She responded very simply: "I trust Him." May that trust be rewarded as she begins her new life in Him. †

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2017 MSC Sisters Donor Report

The MSC Sisters express joyful gratitude for all who support our mission. Each of your gifts, whether time, energy, treasure or prayer supports our mission to be God's Heart for others in the United States Province and around the world. Your generosity also enables us to care for ourselves as we age. Thank you for sharing your resources with us. Your gifts make a positive difference every day!

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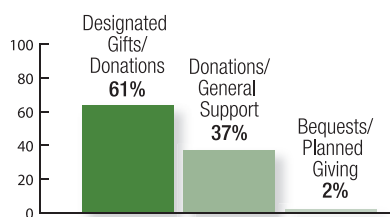
"God surrounds each person he creates on earth with a network of love."

- Rev. Jules Chevalier, MSC

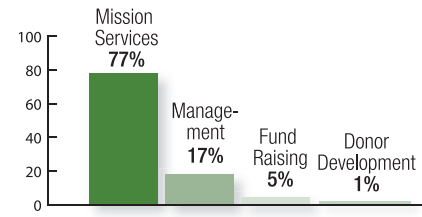
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IN MEMORIAM



Sister M. Teresita Nolden, MSC

1928 – 2017

Sister Teresita was the middle child in a family of 5 siblings. Her oldest sister died of leukemia at the age of 15. Her family were parishioners of St. Henry's in Philadelphia where she was taught by our Sisters in the parish school and also at Little Flower High School. She worked as a secretary before entering as a candidate in September of 1947.

For ten years (1950–1960), Sister

Teresita taught in elementary schools in Coplay, Nazareth, Ottsville, Philadelphia, and Hilltown. She was an excellent teacher who was committed to helping the children learn to the best of their ability, but she also made learning fun. I, Sr. Rosemarie Sommers, was one of her first grade students who benefitted from her teaching skills and have many fond memories of being in her class.

From 1960 to 1965, Sister Teresita was on the faculty and eventually was principal of our Aspirancy, Mount St. Michael High School where she taught English, Typing, and French.

Her French class was taught while she was attending evening classes to learn French herself. She did a wonderful job. She really was faithful to her vow of obedience and always said yes to whatever the community asked of her.

As the Vatican Council ended in 1965, Sister Teresita was appointed Postulant and Novice Director. The community seemed to know that she would be the best person to form the young women who entered during this time of great changes in the church and in society. Those of us who were blest to have her as our formation director are grateful for her leader's vision, her foresight and her insight, for preparing us for our vowed life and ministry as MSC Sisters.

In 1979, Sister Teresita worked in parish ministry at St. Michael's in Lansford and from 1980–1984 at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg, West Virginia.

Sister Teresita spent many years serving on several provincial councils and then as provincial from 1990–1996. She was a leader who encouraged personal growth and initiative in the Sisters and wanted them to respond to their call to be a prophetic witness in today's world. She had an energy and a vision which enabled us to respond to our call as MSC—to truly be the Heart of God on Earth.

Having entered a missionary community, Sister Teresita always had a great desire to be a foreign missionary. Her wish finally came true when she was sent to Korea to teach English to the sisters from 1997–2002.

Sister Teresita also served as Provincial Archivist for many years. She believed in the importance of preserving the history of our province for future generations.

In her later years, Sister Teresita cared for our Sisters in Seton Manor Nursing Home in Orwigsburg where she lived close-by so that she could visit every day and take care of their needs. She continued that care for our elderly and infirm sisters until she herself was in need of care from others.

For the last few years, Sister Teresita's health began to decline. She fell and fractured her hip and spent some time in a nursing home for physical therapy and eventually returned home to us to receive hospice care. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for the 68 years of life and mission that Sister Teresita shared with us as a Missionary Sister of the Sacred Heart. †



Sister Marianne Baker, MSC

1950 – 2018

Sister Marianne was born in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and grew up in a loving and faith-filled family. She was the third of six children with 2 older brothers and 3 younger sisters. For several years her family lived in Arizona where she experienced people of different cultures such as Native Americans and Mexicans living together in peace and harmony. This influenced her openness and acceptance

of all people throughout her life. Also, from childhood on, she had a love and appreciation of nature and the beauty of God's creation. How fitting it was that she was born on April 22nd, the day we celebrate Mother Earth.

Sister Marianne came to our Aspirancy as a freshman in 1964. She entered the novitiate in September, 1968. This year she is celebrating her 47th anniversary of vows.

During those many years she taught every grade from one through eight in Pennsylvania parish schools in Reading, Nazareth, Philadelphia, Ottsville, and Coplay, in Palos Heights, Illinois, and in Athens, Georgia. Sr. Marianne also served as principal in elementary schools in Coplay, Nazareth, and in Moundsville, West Virginia. As a teacher and as a principal she was kind and caring and very creative especially when confronted with challenging situations. During her tenure as principal of Holy Family School in Nazareth, she oversaw the construction of an addition to the school while classes were in session. And when asbestos was discovered and the school building could not be used for a time, Sr. Marianne arranged for temporary classrooms in other places including the local Moravian Church. And she was able to accomplish this in two days so that the students were ready to begin classes Monday morning.

Sr. Marianne served in leadership as a provincial councilor from 1996–2005 and again from 2011–2017. During her first term on the council she began graduate studies at Loyola College in Baltimore where she received her degree in pastoral counseling. She ministered in several places as a family therapist since 2000. Sr. Marianne was a loving listener who helped many people when they were in crisis and felt most vulnerable.

After completing her term on the council which included 4 years as coordinator of the community at Sacred Heart Villa, Sr. Marianne returned to Naples, Florida where she had ministered previously in St. Anne School as an administrator and counselor.

Sr. Marianne became ill last month and was admitted to the hospital on April 13th. After several medical tests she was diagnosed with terminal cancer even though she had no symptoms until recently. Sr. Marianne made a valiant effort to not give in to the cancer while believing that "this is the ministry that God is asking of me right now—the ministry of suffering." She began to receive hospice care on Monday evening and died peacefully Wednesday morning surrounded by her dear friend Sister Maureen, her sister Jacinta and her brother Tom. When I visited Sr. Marianne recently her last words to me were: "Tell the Sisters I love them and thank them for their prayers." †

T H A N K Y O U

The Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus extend deepest appreciation to

"The Holleran Donor-Advised Fund of Berks County Community Foundation"

for their generous \$7,000 gift to replace antiquated and inefficient windows in our Chevalier House Convent in Muhlenberg Township. Our Sisters are looking forward to more temperate condition inside their home and to saving money on heating and cooling expenses.

"The Holleran Donor-Advised Fund of Berks County Community Foundation" truly is a blessing to us and to the entire Berks County Community.

MSC Fest: Oktoberfest in April

The joyful celebration of the MSC Sisters' first *MSC Fest: Oktoberfest in April* event cannot be overstated. Joined by 170 guests and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC Fathers and Brothers), this April 22nd spring Oktoberfest celebrated faith, service and abiding friendships as the Sisters recognized the MSC Fathers and Brothers with their Founders' Legacy Award and named Fr. E. Michael Camilli, MSC their Mission Partner Awardee.



Father and daughter Joe Kollar and Michele Chisholm jumped at the chance to celebrate Oktoberfest early this year with the MSC Sisters. *Prosit!*

In addition to award presentations, the Sisters, whose congregation was originally founded in Germany, and their guests enjoyed the Oktoberfest traditions of an authentic German meal, plenty of beer and dancing to the music of the Josef Kroboth Band. German polkas abounded!

The Sisters are extremely grateful to their friends who both sponsored and/or attended their party, to their volunteers, and to those who participated in the Bead Raffle and Silent Auction.



Fr. Ray Diesbourg, MSC Province Superior and Fr. Mike Camilli, MSC enjoy light moments with friends Rachel and Carol Cinelli at Oktoberfest in April.

The generosity of these wonderful people brought the Sisters very close to their \$50,000 goal for their inaugural *Oktoberfest in April* event.

If you would like to help the MSC Sisters reach this goal, please contact Carrie Whitmoyer, Mission Advancement Director, at cwhitmoyer@mscreading.org or 610-929-2802.

The Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus are excited to enjoy another Oktoberfest in April event in 2019! Be sure to invite your friends and family and join us! †

And the winner is...

During *Oktoberfest in April*, MSC Sisters happily announced the winner of their \$10,000 **Heart of Mission Raffle**—Rick and Terry Mazich of St. Mary's Parish, Kutztown! The Mazich's who purchased 2 of the 230 chances sold were thrilled with their winnings and their odds.

Thank you to all who helped us raise \$23,435 for the MSC Sisters by purchasing chances or sending donations! We hope you play again in 2019; if you didn't play, the odds say you should play next year!

Thank You

to our major sponsors who celebrated with us our first Oktoberfest in April:

Platinum Sponsors:

Joseph & Barbara Alber • Diego & Linda Calderin

Gold Sponsors:

Marcia Finisdore • Gethsemane Cemetery & Mausoleum

Silver Sponsors:

Performance Toyota • Dr. & Mrs. J. Michael Pressimone

Thanks also to the many friends who attended our event and/or donated in any way to its success!

YOU are the reason we are able to continue our mission to share the Heart of Christ. †

Congratulations 2018 MSC Jubilarians

70 YEARS



Sr. Bernice Domitrovitz

60 YEARS



Sr. Virginia Chnapko

50 YEARS



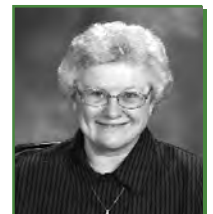
Sr. Barbara Daniels



Sr. Dorothy Fabritze



Sr. Christine Kotwicki



Sr. Rosemarie Sommers

Join our prayers of joyful gratitude for our Jubilee MSC Sisters!

Celebrating various years of service in vowed religious life, our Sisters gratefully thank YOU, their family, friends and benefactors for your support.

To honor or remember one of our Jubilarians with a gift, please print the Sister's name on your check memo and remit your gift to: MSC Mission Advancement, 51 Seminary Ave., Reading, PA 19605.

Mission Update

KOREAN PROVINCE

The Korean Province of the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (MSC) includes 196 Sisters who are alive with the love of the Heart of Christ. In their zeal to serve, these Sisters are engaged in various ministries including education and social welfare. Province-sponsored ministries include: two adult dementia facilities; a home for elderly women; homes for children from broken families and special needs children; homes for unwed mothers and immigrant women fleeing domestic abuse; and an adoption center. Sisters also are engaged in special ministries focused on the blind, suicide prevention, family outreach, migrants, art therapy, spiritual accompaniment and enrichment, counseling, and clinical pastoral ministry.



MSC Sisters of the Korean Province are making many contributions to the ministry of the Church and to Korean society. As in other parts of the world, Korean society is experiencing the effects of global challenges and the

influence of consumerism and technology. Young people have stopped coming to church, expressing interest in religion or practicing their faith.

At the same time there exists a strong longing of the Korean people to be reunited as one country. In an effort to aid this reunification, the Catholic Church built a beautiful Church of Reunification and an accompanying Center in Paju near the demilitarized zone where people are engaged in activities for promoting greater understanding and efforts toward reconciliation and reunification. In keeping with this initiative, MSC Sisters recently built The Spirituality Center to provide spiritual guidance for all. Recognizing the great needs of the Korean people and the evils of our times, MSC Sisters in the province continue to reach out and respond to constantly changing realities with their mission to share the Heart of Christ with all people everywhere. †

Find more mission stories at www.mscreading.org

Lay MSC Time Capsule *continued from page 1*

in every cut of wood he incorporated in the capsule.

During our ceremony we named and placed a variety of pertinent LMSC items in our hand-crafted capsule including: a statue of the Sacred Heart, a picture of Bishop Barres, a picture of Pope Francis, a monthly newsletter, an agenda from a meeting, a list of activities of our area groups, the Lay MSC prayer book, a list of the original members, and a photo book of our Valentine's Day Tea. We then placed the capsule on a shelf in the Archives Room of the MSC Province House to be opened in 25 years.

The celebration of our Jubilee year truly was glorious! We now look to the future and we recommit ourselves to continuing the legacy of Fr. Jules Chevalier, MSC through our sharing in the charism of the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus as Lay MSC Associates. "May the heart of Jesus be loved everywhere. Now and forever." †

Stephen's Place *continued from page 1*

education when appropriate and helps them to secure jobs in the community when they are ready to leave Stephen's Place—some stay up to a full year.

Stephen's Place is a win/win ministry for the men and for the community. The men, often from dysfunctional backgrounds, experience family and spirituality—some for the first time in their lives. These experiences provide them the opportunity to return to their community as sober, productive citizens ready to take on jobs and to have a future filled with positive relationships.

Stephen's Place has been a blessing on so many levels for so many people. The Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus celebrate their decision so many years ago to assist Sr. Virginia in opening Stephen's Place and congratulates her on fulfilling her mission as an MSC Sister: to share the love of the Heart of Christ with ALL God's people, especially those who often find themselves on the margins of society. †



Engage with the MSC Sisters by liking us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/MSCSisters>
and visiting www.mscreading.org

2018 EVENTS

- May 16 FiresideChat** 
Fireside Chat Meets Berks County Rocks at Sacred Heart Villa.
- May 19 Jubilee Celebrations** at Sacred Heart Villa for Sisters Bernice Domitrovitz (70), Virginia Chnapko (60), Christine Kotwicki (50), Dorothy Fabritze (50), Barbara Daniels (50) and Rosemarie Sommers (50).
- June 8 Feast of the Sacred Heart** On this date the June Calendar Sweepstakes \$500 prize winner will be drawn. Be sure to play and it may be you!
- June 16 Annual Lay MSC Retreat**
- Sept. 15 NUN RUN**  Sacred Heart Villa Reading, PA
Online registration now up at www.mscreading.org
- Nov. 22 Happy Thanksgiving!** On this date the November Calendar Sweepstakes \$500 prize winner will be drawn. Be sure to play and it may be you!
- Dec. 3 Advent Agape and Tea** with the MSC Sisters at Sacred Heart Villa, 6:30 PM. All are welcome! RSVP to MissionAdvancement@mscreading.org
- Dec. 25** Our Sisters welcome you to join them for **Christmas Mass**; call ahead for the Mass schedule at 610-929-5751.



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