

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020**



**SHP-SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS  
NEWS BRIEF**

**SEASON OF CREATION**

September 1 – October 4, 2020

**FEAST OF THE STIGMATA OF ST. FRANCIS**

September 17, 2020 (attached greetings)

**HAPPY FEAST DAY TO ST. FRANCIS PROVINCE**

September 17, 2020 (attached greeting)

**PRAYER PARTNERS AND SISTERS COMMISSIONING:**

The pandemic has made changes in what we are doing and how we are doing it most apparently. Even though our Provincial Chapter meetings are necessarily postponed until Spring 2021, it seems a good time to recommission each of us and reassign prayer partners. With the positive role technology has assumed in keeping us in touch and being virtually together, both sisters and associates are being invited to this virtual prayer and celebration.

This recommissioning and prayer partner service will be held via ZOOM on **October 8, at 6:00 p.m. MST (7:00 p.m. CST, and 5:00 p.m. PST)**. Below is the ZOOM information:

**ZOOM.COM**

Join a Meeting

**Meeting ID: 940 3744 7204**

**Passcode: 941744**

**WATCH YOUR MAIL! A LETTER WITH MORE INFORMATION, ALONG WITH PRAYER PARTNERS CARDS AND COMMISSIONING CARDS FOR THE SISTERS WHERE MAILED OUT THIS WEEK.**

**CHAPTER OF MATS – GATHERING OF SISTERS AND ASSOCIATES:**

We are happy to announce that our Sisters of St. Francis - **Chapter of Mats** for all sisters and associates in the three US provinces is underway! This event will be held from **August 27-30, 2021**, in Stella Niagara, NY! Please return your registration form (also attached) to Donna Kroll via email, US-mail, or fax by **September 30, 2020**. Thank you and we look forward to gathering with you!



## **EARTHCARE:**

### **SEASON OF CREATION – WEEK 4**

Sr. Liz Fuhr met Carmen Elvira Taywho on a farm in San Martin Jilotepeque, Guatemala. The 9-year-old Kaqchikel Maya girl was picking coffee that would be exported and end up in a mug like the one I desperately caress every morning. Coffee has long been a major export crop in Central America, but the climate crisis is steadily ruining small coffee farmers, leading many to emigrate northward to survive.

An increase in temperatures in recent decades has allowed a fungus known as coffee rust to spread through plantations in the region. Large farmers can often dig up the infected plants and replace them with disease-resistant hybrids, but small farmers seldom have the necessary capital, so they watch their farms fail.



Along with changing patterns of precipitation (also a product of climate change), agriculture has become a risky business in Central America. As stewards of creation, we are concerned about environmental troubles everywhere. As consumers, we are linked in very direct ways to Carmen and others who live from producing coffee around the world.

*How can we use that leverage to heal the planet, so that she and others like her may truly live?*

***For reflection and action:*** How much attention do we pay to the food chain that stretches from farms to our table? Does the coffee and tea we drink carry a fair trade label or come from justice-promoting organizations like Equal Exchange? *Paul Jeffrey, Earthbeat*

### **LCWR – SEASON OF CREATION RESOURCES:**

If you are seeking a liturgical resource for the Season of Creation, check out the link below. This link offers a beautiful booklet complete prayer services for each of the five Sundays of the Season of Creation, plus suggested musical offerings. You can obtain a free copy by going to this link <https://www.dominicancenter.org/season-of-creation-jubilee-time-for-earth/>.

### **FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS (OCTOBER 4) – PREP!**

Through the years, Catholic Climate Covenant has posted great program guides in conjunction with the Feast of St. Francis. Over the next few weeks leading to the actual feast day, we will be sharing a guide a week. This week we share the 2018 program guide (attached). The theme ‘Who is my Neighbor.’ In addition to the attached guide, you also might be interested in the video link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6FbqNt27w0#action=share>



The following week's news briefs will contain years leading up to the 2020 program guide for this year's feast day on October 4, 2020. During the month of October, we will continue to post articles from 2015-2012.

We hope you enjoy these great articles through the next two months. You can also go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTidsA0w6-4>

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE SOULs OF:**

Sr. Arcângela Catharina Brancher, who died on September 13, 2020. She was born on July 30, 1924 and professed on February 3, 1947. Sr. Arcângela was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Province in Santa Maria, RS, Brasil.

Sister Hermine Agnes Bennecker, who died on September 16, 2020. She was born on January 16, 1938 and professed on August 15, 1967. Sr. Hermine was a member of Christ the King Province in Germany.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING REQUEST:**

Robin Caruthers, good friend of and facilitator for the Province, received word last night that her father had been rushed to the hospital. Robin is driving today from Ohio to Tennessee to be with her parents. When there is more word, we will let you know. For now, Robin is asking for our prayers, for which she and her family are very grateful.

**ADDRESS UPDATE:**

**Sr. Margaret Elizabeth (Liz) Fuhr:** [mefuhr@franciscanway.org](mailto:mefuhr@franciscanway.org)

*NOTE: New sisters and associates directories were mailed out 'yesterday'. Please make the following change in your directory:*

**Associate Mary Ann Ross:** 1551 Belsley Blvd. #201, Moorhead, MN 56560 (effective 10/2)

**SR. SARAH MANCHESTER'S SCHEDULE:**

- September 22                      Personal
- October 4-6                        Marian Residence
- October 7-8                        Personal
- October 15-16                      Council Meeting
- October 24-31                      Retreat ☺
- November 23-24                    Council Meeting
- December 16-17                    Council Meeting
- May 28-20                         Pre-Chapter Planning
- May 30-June 6                      XVIII Provincial Chapter