



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

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

- Season of Creation: September 1 – October 4, 2020.
- Labor Day: Monday, September 7, 2020 (offices closed)

NEW DIRECTOR OF ASSOCIATES

OF ST. FRANCIS OF PENANCE AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY, SACRED HEART PROVINCE

Sr. Gloria Shuffer is the new Director of the Associates for Sacred Heart Province! She is also the convener for the Denver Associates. Sr. Gloria also will meet with the conveners in each area: Minot, O’Neill, Alliance, and in South Dakota and has wonderful ideas in mind about revitalizing these special groups who are a part of us. You may call or text Sr. Gloria at 915-539-4969. *Thank you, Sr. Gloria, and may this ministry be most blessed!*

✓ JUST DO IT!

Put a leader in every chair – with a pen! Sisters, please help and share the responsibility of writing a brief greeting for our feast days listed below. These greetings are usually only a paragraph. They are distributed to our sisters, associates, and other provincial councils. Please contact Donna Kroll within the next week to schedule your preference. Donna will also help with layout, artwork, and distribution. Thank you! *(Note, if we do not hear from you - you will be hearing from us! 😊)*

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|--|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> November 17 th | Feast of St. Elizabeth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> November 19 th | Catherine Damen’s Birthday |
| <input type="checkbox"/> November 26 th | Thanksgiving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December | Christmas Card |
| <input type="checkbox"/> January 1 st | New Year’s |
| <input type="checkbox"/> February 14 th | Valentine’s Day |

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 2

PAUL JEFFREY INTRODUCING EARTHBEAT'S 'LENS ON CREATION' SERIES FOR THE SEASON OF CREATION 2020

This series reminds us that the Season of Creation is a time for reflection on our personal relationship with nature. Paul Jeffrey tells a story of three orphan boys he met who were cared for in a church-night shelter in India. They smuggled him in (journalists are not allowed entry) to the large smoking dump where daily the boys salvage things such as metal scraps that have more value than even food that is still edible.

Reflection: The excess we have that may become waste that often goes to distant lands where the very poor try to live on the scraps that come from our tables and homes. "In the United States, we generate 4.4 pounds of municipal solid waste per person per day." What can I do to reduce my waste?



FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS – 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 an guide a week, starting with 2016 (attached) and leading up to 2020 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://catholicclimatecovenant.org/program/feast-st-francis?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=0968c0cd-827b-4e11-af8e-fb5bf7b9b770>

LCWR WEBINAR: SPIRITUALITY AND RACIAL JUSTICE FOR OUR TIME

In view of LCWR's five-year focus on racism, Sr. Theresa is writing to let you know that Dan Horan, OFM, will present a webinar on "Thomas Merton and Black Lives Matter: Spirituality and Racial Justice for Our Time," on **September 8th at 8:00 PM ET / 7:00 PM CT**. This is the first in the "Tuesdays with Merton" webinar series sponsored by the Bernardine Center at Catholic Theological Union International and the International Thomas Merton Society. The webinar is free and open to the public. See the attachment for more info. Registration is required. Please share this announcement with your sisters and others who may be interested. *Theresa Sandok, OSM*

Register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpceGqrz0uH930mrgKtM6fX6ilxECotROF>

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND THE CHURCH – PRESENTATION

Many of us have lived experience among indigenous peoples, especially among the Lakota in South Dakota or with our sisters in Chiapas, Mexico. You might be interested in this prayer service and panel presentation by the Catholic Theological Union. This virtual presentation is Sunday, September 20, 2020 at 3:00 pm. See attached for more details.

CHIAPAS CLINIC-IN-A-CAN

... The clinic-in-a-can containers continue to be held at the Houston Port as we await approval from Mexican authorities to allow them to be shipped by cargo to Port Progreso in Merida, Mexico. Once they arrive, they must pass through a rigorous inspection by Customs Authorities before they can then be transported by land to Palenque. We continue to work diligently to meet the constant requests for information about the containers from the Federal Commission for Protection against Sanitary Risks (COFEPRIS). It has been a grueling and frustrating experience over these past two months. Claudia Sierra, Interim Clinic Director, has met with the officials in Mexico City twice and they still are not giving us the required permit. We have two teams of consultants in Mexico helping us fulfill the meticulous paperwork and still of no avail. Of course, the limitations due to Covid-19 are an added challenge. Offices are not open and so many permissions have been put on hold.



In other clinic news, permaculture project is almost complete (organic and medicinal farm that will contribute to the support of the Clinic). We were granted our Tax ID number and we are now working on the legal-corporate-financial relationship between the clinic and the Sisters of St. Francis. We have an HR person in place and have begun the process of marketing the job opportunities at the clinic with subsequent hiring procedures. Things continue to progress ... *Sr. Maria Elena*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE SOUL OF:

Sister M. Vera Kirbiyastari, of Semarang-Indonesia, who died on August 29, 2020. She was a member of the Ambarawa Community. Sister Vera was born on March 22, 1963 and professed on August 5, 1987.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING REQUEST:

Germaine Little Bear (SHP, Rapid City Associate) had a stroke about a week ago and received immediate care which was very helpful. She is asking for prayers for an upcoming surgery to close a hole in her heart. She thanks you ahead of time for these prayers.

Our congregational sisters who are ill ... see attached.

THIRD TIMES THE CHARM –
SHP'S PROVINCIAL CHAPTER – RESCHEDULED

Due to the restriction of COVID, SHP has rescheduled **their Provincial Chapter to Sunday, May 30 through Sunday, June 6, 2021.** Your council and facilitators have lots of activities and ideas to keep the motivation going for the next nine months, prior to chapter! Stay tuned!

SR. SARAH MANCHESTER'S SCHEDULE:

- September 10 Zoom w Facilitators
- September 14-15 Council Meeting
- October 15-16 Council Meeting
- November 23-24 Council Meeting
- December 16-17 Council Meeting