



Happy Birthday Mary Catherine Damen (Mother Magdalen)

Mary Catherine Damen, our foundress, was born November 19, 1787, of a poor farming couple Cornelius and Gertrude Damen in Ohe-en Laak area, in southeast Netherland in this simple house. Looking closer at the world then, we see much questioning of the status quo. Religious life, then only in cloistered communities, were closed by the government. The Age of Enlightenment dismissed spiritual values. But the Spirit spoke to the times.

The house which still stands on the “island” in Meuse River on the side of a dike is itself a sign of survival. The enduring gift of faith in an always good and providing God led Catherine on a journey with challenges and fulfillments. Let us join in prayer with Mother Magdalen and her daughters all over the world suffering a pandemic.

Provident God, you who are so very, very good, we daughters of Mother Magdalen come with her to ask for the grace to humbly listen with open and peaceful hearts to the Spirit. We know that “all good gifts” come from you. We ask to grant us as one family to continue in love and faithfulness to follow our call to share the Good News of the Gospel to this fearful, divided, and suffering world. We pray in deep trust in the name of Jesus our Brother. Amen.

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