



FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021
SHP-SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS
NEWS BRIEF

INAUGURATION PRAYER:

O Divine Spirit, may our elected leaders of our country strive
“to honor the dignity of all your creation.”

May they seek to bring from the chaos all about us
a people who devotes themselves to healing division,
that we may be recognized
“as a people grounded in community and care for all,
especially the most marginalized:”
the poor, the immigrant and refugee,
those who have lost jobs and accompanying benefits,
the hungry, the homeless, the inmate on death row,
those who have been stripped of their benefits
for financial support and medication,
those alone drowning in anxiety and fear,
all who suffer from the many manifestations of the pandemic,
and our earth and planet in need of healing ...

May our leaders work
for “an end to structural racism, bigotry and sexism,
so rife now in our nation and in our history.”

“Help us to be a nation where every life is sacred,
all people are loved, and all are welcome.”

“May all people be enfolded in quiet wisdom and profound compassion ...
a deep peace and new hope for” ... our way forward.

With profound hope, we pray. Amen.

By Sr. Sarah Manchester

with inspiration from Srs. Ann Sundberg, Simone Campbell, Debbie Lockwood, and Fr. James Martin

POWERFUL IMAGE, POWERFUL PRAYER ... TIMING

This picture was taken by Sr. Joan Linenbrink on the afternoon, January 5, 2021. The flag was on W 10th Street in Alliance, NE. You can see what happened to it. Sister Wind perhaps did the damage. The wounded flag was a powerful symbol for Sr. Joan. She got this picture just in time as it was in the process of being replaced. The only words, prayer, that came to her mind were as follows:



**“Father, Son, Spirit, Mother Mary come to our assistance.
Make haste to help us.”**

OPEN WIDE OUR HEARTS—THE ENDURING CALL TO LOVE:

Dear Sisters,

The *Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center*, who for the past 30 years have worked for systemic change, are offering a resource on racism. It is a four-session guide, “*Open Wide Our Hearts—the enduring call to love*” with a well-developed process. The documents needed for the study (the USCCB Pastoral on Racism (2020), *Open Wide Our Hearts—the enduring call to love*), *One Asian American’s Voice*, and *White privilege and what to do about it* are included in the resource. These have been offered to us free. If you or your regional community are interested, please let Sr. Sarah Manchester know before January 22nd when she will place our order.



PRAYERS FOR THE RESPOSE SOUL OF:

Sister M. Catherine Tronolone, osf of the Stella Niagara Health Center Community who died Saturday, January 9, 2021. She was born in Buffalo, NY, on August 10, 1924 and professed at Stella Niagara on August 19, 1944. Sister Catherine was a member of Holy Name Province in Stella Niagara, NY.

Sister Agnes Lucille Schubert, osf of the Stella Niagara Health Center Community who died Monday, January 11, 2021. She was born in Buffalo, NY, on January 2, 1923 and professed at Stella Niagara on August 18, 1942. Sister Agnes was a member of Holy Name Province in Stella Niagara, NY.

Juan Mendez Vasquez, (Sister Mica’s brother) who died Sunday, January 3, 2021, in Los Angeles from COVID-19. The family grieves not being with him, not having his body home for burial, and not being able to say goodbye. Mica’s youngest brother, Pedro, who lived with Juan in Los Angeles continues in quarantine with

COVID-19, trying to protect his wife who is three months pregnant. Mica is home with her family as they carry out the traditional nine days of prayer and mourning in their village community. Juan leaves behind a wife and children in Palenque. May he rest in peace.

UPDATE ON CLINIC IN A CAN CONTAINERS:

Palenque's Clinic Interim Director, Claudia Sierra, has been diagnosed with COVID-19. She is home with her family in Mexico City but is having growing respiratory issues due to her asthmatic condition. She has been assured of our prayers and thank you for them. She was to be in Palenque on the 19th to assist with the final work on the Clinic in a Can containers. This will not be possible.

A team of five persons from 'Clinic in a Can, Inc.' in Wichita, Kansas, will be traveling to Palenque on January 19th to put the finishing touches on the containers. This means placing solar panels on the roofs, hooking up utilities, bolting down the units, etc. This will require 10 days of work. Local laborers will be hired to assist, a crane will again be rented, etc. We will be providing for their hospitality at Casa Franciscana. There are many concerns about COVID-19 with the travel and the poor protective conditions in Palenque. With Claudia not being able to coordinate this final phase, it is leaving our Sisters with a lot of responsibilities. Of course, they are rising to the occasion and we have no doubt all will work out. Please pray that this final phase be carried out safely and quickly, without too many difficulties and that no one gets sick.

Here are pictures of sisters Mica, Ilce, Candi and Lety in front of the containers.



25TH WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE:

On Tuesday, February 2, 7:00 – 8:00 PM (ET), several organizations serving religious life will host a virtual celebration open to all women and men religious. Please feel free to extend this invitation to your own members. Thank you for considering at least one leadership team member as a participant. Registration is required.

<https://lcsr.org/sites/default/files/page/files/25-world-day-consecrated-life-use.pdf>

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS:

The members of the Provincial Leadership Team of the Sisters of Divine Providence made this public statement today, January 12, 2021:

Join Us for a Day of Fasting and Prayer:

In the spirit of our Founder, Bishop Wilhelm Emmanuel von Ketteler, who always spoke the truth to justice, the Provincial Leadership Team of Sisters of Divine Providence, along with Sisters and Associates, strongly condemn the January 6, 2021, attacks on the U.S. Capitol and the leaders of our country trapped inside. The blatant racist, white supremacist action that prompted it is even more heinous because it was spurred by those who pledged an oath to protect citizens and uphold the fundamental principles of democracy.

We would be remiss if we did not also acknowledge our own complicity in tolerating systemic racism by unquestioning participation in the trappings of white privilege, by our silence, and our lack of action, both as individuals and as members of a Catholic institution.

We pray that our Provident God will guide and strengthen both our elected leaders and all citizens in the days to come as we work to restore peace, civility, and faith in our diversity.

As a sign of our commitment to strive to make God's Providence visible by presence and advocacy, we will designate January 20, 2021, Inauguration Day, as a day of fasting and prayer. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel at Providence Heights.

We hope you will join with us, either privately or through video stream: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/Q4zW6rUvwP>

United in prayer with you,
Donna Marie Gribshaw, CDP, Sisters of Divine Providence



**WEBINAR REGISTRATION -
DEVELOPING A RESILIENT LIFESTYLE:**

The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) and the Avila Institute of Gerontology is announcing their new webinar, Developing a Resilient Lifestyle, scheduled for Tuesday, February 9th, at 1:00 pm EST. Their presenter, Dr. Francis Battisti, will share strategies for developing practices that promote a resilient mindset. (see attached for more info)

ARCHIVES QUERY:



Do you recognize her? A sister? Do you know where this might be or what year?

It was with photos that Sister Regina had, and it is just such a wonderful photo that Holly had to ask! If you think you know, please email Holly: hollyf@franciscanway.org

SR. SARAH MANCHESTER'S SCHEDULE:

- January 25-29 Virtual Visit to Palenque Community
- January 25 Sisters Zoom Chat
- February 8-9 Council Meetings
- February 10-12 Alliance – Marian Residence Visit
- February 22 Sisters Zoom Chat
- March 1 & 8 8:30 am-12:30 pm, Investors Meetings on Zoom
- March 8 9:00 am Council meetings
- March 22 Sisters Zoom Chat
- April 15-17 (or 19-21) LCWR Region XIII
- May 1 Jubilee in Alliance
- May 10-11 Council Meetings
- May 28- June 6 Provincial Chapter 2021
- June 14 Transition Council Meeting