



SHCJ ASSOCIATES NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN PROVINCE

ACTIONS NOT WORDS



Associate Sophie Rudge and Sr. Veronica Openibo, Society Leader, at the 2018 Associates National Gathering in June.



Associate Rita Fortner volunteering at South Central Los Angeles Ministry Project (SCLAMP).



Associates Tricia Fell, and Marie Ryan enjoying the Paint and Pinot social during the 2018 Associates National Gathering.

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From the Director

What a wonderful Associate gathering we had in June! It seemed to exceed expectation of participants – both Associates and Sisters. We were grateful for the wisdom of Sr. Judith Lancaster and Sr. Elizabeth Mary Strub. We had opportunities for prayer, spiritual growth, community, and ministry – all the pillars of the Associate relationship!

I am personally grateful for all the Associates who took leadership roles in the planning and delivery of our prayer and grace opportunities, meals and ambiance, communications, facilitation, general oversight, and so much more! It was a team effort and the long weekend was enjoyed by all.

The presentations of Sr. Judith and Sr. Elizabeth Mary were recorded so I hope to provide the links for them soon. Consider reflecting on each as part of a faith-sharing group this autumn. There is so much to glean from each! This fall we will continue conversations about co-creating our future.

My hope is that each of you are finding opportunities for rest, relaxation, and rejuvenation this summer. May you find time to deepen relationships, refresh your soul, and engage your spirit passionately!

May you joyfully experience the God of abundant Love in new ways this summer!

Cathi

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Sharing the Journey

by Anne Ayella

At the recent National Gathering, SHCJ Associates continued to explore the varied ways that SHCJ' Sisters and Associates are "sharing the journey" with our migrant and refugee sisters and brothers.

Pope Francis began a church-wide Share the Journey campaign to promote a "culture of encounter" with the aim of increasing opportunities for "strangers" and communities to come together and learn about and from each other.

The Society has a long tradition of encounter beginning with Cornelia Connelly herself who met the needs of young Irish immigrants whom she met in Derby, England. She met their needs by teaching their classes on Saturdays.

Before encounter with migrants and refugees was even on the radar for most people, the Society reached out to newcomers and the marginalized in Southern California through Casa Cornelia Law Center and in the Philadelphia area through Providence Center.

When we encounter others, we step outside of ourselves and look at the needs of others. We're accustomed to a "culture of indifference" but we're called to a "culture of encounter." Pope Francis has challenged us as did Cornelia. Some of their words sound very much alike.

Pope Francis- "Lord, teach us to go out into the streets and manifest your love" CC- "As you step through the muddy streets, love God with your feet."

Pope- "Let us overcome the fear of getting our hands dirty so as to help those in need." CC- "When your hands toil, love Him with your hands."

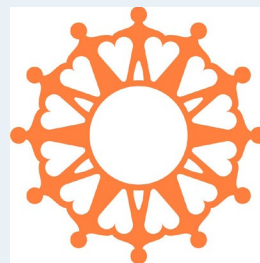
In the course of the Share the Journey session, Barbara De Concini shared about the institutional ministries that have made an impact for over 25 years; with the help of Sophie from England who shared about the work of the European Province, we shared about some of the more current work and Anita Martineau shared her very special personal story of encounter with Stephany, a young woman from El Salvador who has been welcomed into Anita's home, along with her little son, Benjamin.

The panel bore immediate fruit in the form of over 100 advocacy cards that were signed and sent to U.S. Senators across the country asking for co-sponsorship of S. 1580 (Protecting Girls' Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings). In addi-

tion, participants are asked to be open to future individual and collective actions on behalf of our migrant and refugee brothers and sisters.

If you are currently working or volunteering with a group that serves migrants and refugees, grants are available to support your efforts. Contact WOTA@shcj.org for more information. Additionally, Barbara DeConcini shared excellent information about the work of Casa Cornelia Law Center and the ways to support their work.

For more information on any of the efforts described, contact Anne Healy Ayella at aayella@archphila.org.



Share the Journey 
#sharejourney



Answering the Call

by Barbara Deconcini

Courtesy of Casa Cornelia Law Center, here are 5 Frequently Asked Questions regarding Unaccompanied Minors in the United States:

1. Under what circumstances is a minor (17 years old and under) considered an unaccompanied minor under U.S. immigration law?

A person, 17 years of age or younger, who lacks immigration status who is present in the United States either without a parent or legal guardian or whose parent or legal guardian is unable/not available to provide care and physical custody.

2. Under what circumstances does a minor become unaccompanied if s/he entered the United States with his/her parent/s?

A child may be designated as unaccompanied because the immigration authorities:

1. Deem the child at risk;
2. Need to confirm that there is a parent/child relationship;
3. Pursue criminal charges against the parent;
4. Re-instate a prior removal/deportation order against the parent;
5. Decide to detain the parent pending removal proceedings in an adult detention facility.

3. What happens to the minor?

The immigration authorities follow what are known as Unaccompanied Alien Child (UAC) process and procedures, which have been in place for many years. Within 72 hours, the minor must be transferred from immigration authorities to the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the Department of Health and Human Services. The minor will be placed in the "least restrictive environment" depending on the minor's needs and the danger the minor presents to him/herself and the community. All said minors are placed in removal proceedings, which means the immigration authorities will seek to remove them from the United States.

4. What happens to an adult who has been separated from their child?

If the adult presented him/herself at a port of entry and asked for asylum, s/he will likely be processed for detention at an immigration detention facility. Once in the detention facility, s/he will be interviewed by an asylum officer. If the

officer finds the claim credible and finds it possible that the individual will qualify for asylum or other protection, the individual will be placed in removal proceedings. If the officer finds otherwise, the individual has a very limited opportunity to present his claim to an immigration judge. If s/he declines to see the immigration judge, the individual will be removed.

If the individual attempted to cross between ports of entry, s/he is subject to the 'zero tolerance' policy regardless of the reason for attempting to enter the United States or attempting to enter at an undesignated point of entry. S/he will be detained, charged with and prosecuted for unlawful entry (or reentry depending on the individual's immigration history). As of 06/20/2018, it is unclear where and under what circumstances s/he will be detained.

5. Who is providing immigration legal services and representation to the minors and the adults?

In San Diego County, Casa Cornelia Law Center provides free quality legal services and representation to all detained minors. Casa Cornelia is also committed to providing these services to minors who have been released and live in our community.

Additionally, Casa Cornelia represents both detained and non-detained adults facing removal proceedings who have humanitarian claims to protection from deportation. Adults who are detained in San Diego County can access Casa Cornelia's services by telephone, email or fax. All of their services are free of charge.

To read the full article, please reference the following link:

<http://nebula.wsimg.com/009bbf44d1fa27a647dff52b-729b504?AccessKeyId=AC8950C98B3F9D0B13D0&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>



Love Full of Action snapshots



Praying in (Un)likely Places

by Stephanie Terril

Photo Collage Road Map (Ref. Page 4 - Top to Bottom, Left to Right):

- Photo 1:** Visit to Christ Church burial grounds during Cornelia's Philadelphia tour, Thursday, June 21st
- Photo 2:** Paint and Pinot social- Saturday evening, June 23rd
- Photo 3:** Sr. Judith Lancaster - Keynote Speaker, *Living a Love full of Action* - Friday morning, June 22nd
- Photo 4:** Associate Juliet Njoku leads Recessional, Mass in Rosemont College Chapel - Friday afternoon, June 22nd
- Photo 5:** Mass in New Sharon Chapel - Sunday morning, June 24th
- Photo 6:** Associates Dian Taylor-Pringle and Des Pringle
- Photo 7:** In front of Archives building in Rosemont - Sr. Angela O'Connor, Associate Veronica Chisholm and Sr. Judith Lancaster - all visiting from England
- Photo 8:** Associate Marta Carrion with Joseph Cerrone
- Photo 9:** Associate Rita Fortner directs Paint and Pinot - Saturday evening, June 23rd
- Photo 10:** Associate Director Cathi Duffy - Keynote Speaker, *Co-Creating Our Future* - Saturday morning, June 23rd
- Photo 11:** Sophie Rudge receiving one of the candles, a gift from Associates in Chile
- Photo 12:** Associate Fr. David Grover says Mass in Rosemont College Chapel - Friday morning - June 22nd
- Photo 13:** Sr. Elizabeth Mary Strub - Keynote Speaker, *Sending Forth* - Sunday morning, June 24th
- Photo 14:** Tour of Rosemont College Chapel, led by Emily Siegel (furthest right, yellow sweater) - Friday morning, June 22nd
- Photo 15:** Associates and Sisters enjoy one of meals
- Photo 16:** Barbara DeConcini - *Sharing the Journey* panel speaker - Friday afternoon, June 22nd
- Photo 17:** Sophie Rudge, European Province Associate
- Photo 18:** Associate Anne Ayella - *Sharing the Journey* panel speaker - Friday afternoon, June 22nd
- Photo 19:** Associate Bob McHugh, Co-creating our future, Saturday, June 23rd
- Photo 20:** Elfreth's Alley, Walking Tour of Cornelia's Philadelphia - Thursday, June 21st
- Photo 21:** Luncheon at Old City Tavern in Philadelphia

What If God Was One of Us?

A few years ago a friend mentioned a song by Joan Osborne, "What if God was one of us?" I YouTubed it: "What if God was one of us, just a slob like one of us, just a stranger on the bus, trying to make his way home." It became a prayer for me in public spaces - waiting on subway platforms, riding in subway cars or busses, standing in line at Trader Joe's, walking across 14th Street. It comes to mind anywhere there are people, in all their human variety and conditions: worn, energetic, exhausted, blue collar, white collar, babies in strollers, little kids. And I am always touched realizing that God truly is one of us, is intimately present within each one of us.

This little habit tends to make me smile. It counterbalances thinking of God as utterly transcendent, the 'Wholly Other.' I feel like I am looking at God, that God is all around me, right there in Whole Foods.

In my neighborhood in Manhattan there are lots of homeless: bedraggled, sometimes filthy, addicted, sometimes young lost sheep. And then too I know I am looking at God, who is suffering with them and who knows their worry and weariness. This is our God, ever humble and oh so near.

(On YouTube there is a lovely version with a video. It is by Affectemo - see link below)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UYZKZfdr3ac&t=60s>



SHCJ Associates, with a few of the Sisters, attending Jubilee as part of the 2018 National Gathering

Sappho

by Michelle Dugan

Sonnet XII

In a dream I spoke with the Cyprus-born,
And said to her,
"Mother of beauty, mother of joy,
Why hast thou given to men

"This thing called love, like the ache of a wound
In beauty's side,
To burn and throb and be quelled for an hour
And never wholly depart?"

And the daughter of Cyprus said to me,
"Child of the earth,
Behold, all things are born and attain,
But only as they desire,—

"The sun that is strong, the gods that are wise,
The loving heart,
Deeds and knowledge and beauty and joy,—
But before all else was desire."

-- Sappho, translated by Bliss Carman

Sappho's poetry takes us back over 2,600 years to the world before the birth of Jesus; even this translation by Canadian poet Bliss Carman, published in 1904 in *Sappho: One Hundred Lyrics*, belongs to an era that differs from our own. We, for example, can check Wikipedia to learn that Sappho was much admired in Ancient Greece, that most of her work was lost, and that contemporary critics find her worthy of attention for a host of reasons, including her sexual orientation. Does Sappho have anything to offer us spiritually? Is she to be dismissed as a pagan, revered as a feminist icon, or simply appreciated for the beauty of ancient language so carefully reconstructed?

Sonnet XII is a dialogue in a dream: the poet is speaking to Aphrodite, "the Cyprus-born" (later called Venus by the Romans). Sappho addresses her as "Mother of Beauty, mother of joy" and also refers to her as "the daughter of Cyprus"; in turn, the goddess calls the poet "Child of the earth." Within this framework of familial trust, the poet expresses frustration with her experience of love: "the ache of a wound" that will "never wholly depart." Sappho wants an explanation for her suffering – she hasn't quite reached acceptance yet.

In answer to the question "Why" – one that clearly continues to bedevil the human race ("men," as they called us in 1904) – the word "Behold" immediately alerts us to expect a divine perspective. The connection that exists between Aphrodite's answer and our own incarnational spirituality is not easy to discern across millennia. The imagery, however, resonates now as always: strong sun, wise gods (communion of saints?), and loving heart. Yet the conclusion – that "before all else was desire" – challenges us to find the deep thread running through Creation. Desire debased in a culture of commerce has little in common with the deep yearning we feel for communion with one another and with God.

Sister Judith Lancaster, speaking at our Associates gathering in June, asked us to consider Cornelia's passionate nature – so perhaps our "woman styled bold" was much like Sappho! If Love binds the Universe, then truly "Deeds and knowledge and beauty and joy" can be understood as manifestations of Divine Desire, God's underlying energetic power that courses through everything. Perhaps "a new heaven and a new earth" are already here, hidden in all of our questions, dreams, longings – "all things are born and attain,/ But only as they desire."



Care of Creation

by Kay Rowan and Linda Tarney

Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life. (Laudato Si, # 207)



While walking around the square patterned carpet of the children's story time room at my library, I thought to myself. "Why am I not walking outside among God's beautiful creations?" I could be enjoying His beautiful presence, as well as, getting my steps in for my 6-week county wide stepping challenge. Besides the humidity, I had no excuses for my indoor stepping. I could be sharing my carbon dioxide with the trees, while they supplied me with life giving oxygen. This is all part of God's bigger plan.

Of course, trees provide many resources for a variety of God's creatures. The wood from trees is biodegradable and compostable, as well as the corrugated cardboard created from them. And if we reuse and recycle our (clean) cardboard boxes less trees will be needed to create more. A corrugated cardboard box is made out of 50% timber and 50% recycled cardboard.

Cardboard use jumped and online consumer sales surged over the last 5 years. Yet last year, 300,000 fewer tons of corrugated paper were recycled in the United States than in the year before. Why is less cardboard being recycled when we are using more of it over the last 5 years? According to the USA Today newspaper about 40% of Americans either don't have access to or don't sign up for curb-side recycling. Nationally consumers only send 25% of their cardboard back for reuse. At the same time, China, a big buyer of recycled boxes is buying less from the United States. These are a few major reasons unpurchased(new) and not reused boxes are ending up in the landfills.

We need to step up to encourage and reeducate our communities on recycling clean corrugated cardboard boxes or composting them. Also, if we see our neighbor's recycling

bin is full we can offer the use of our bin space permitting. We need to walk together among God's majestic, living trees and learn to respect these treasured gifts for the future generations of all of God's creatures.

While you are surrounded by the Spirit's presence whispering to you among the vibrant trees let it inspire you to participate in a care of creation action during the 2018 Season of Creation. The theme for the Global Catholic Climate Movement's Season of Creation (from September 1st [day of prayer for Creation] through October 4th [Feast of St. Francis of Assisi]) is "walking together". Visit www.seasonofcreation.org for more information on acts of care of creation and prayer services.

Did You Know?

Did you know that with the surge in on line shopping and home delivery more and more of the boxes that were previously sold for reuse by major retailers are ending up in our homes? The responsibility for recycling is now ours.

Did you know there is a web site where you can find all the recycle places for any variety of materials within a given zip code?

Go to www.recyclenation.com, put in your zip code and select a material for recycling such as packing boxes. It will show all the locations in that area for drop off.

Did you know you can fill a packing box with gently used clothes, house hold items, etc. and ship it free of charge to a major retailer for distribution?

Go to www.givebackbox.com and follow the simple directions. Choose a participating retailer, Amazon is one, and print out a shipping label. Your package is mailed free of charge and you will receive a receipt for tax purposes!

An awareness of the gravity of today's cultural and ecological crisis must be translated into new habits. (Laudato Si, #209)



Spiritual Formation Resources

Judy Talvacchia

In her address on Sunday morning, Sr. Elizabeth Mary Strub, SHCJ encouraged Associates to make spiritual formation a priority. In the booklet given to all new Associates, *Introduction to Incarnational Spirituality* (2010), one of the pillars of association is “spiritual development.” The term “spiritual formation” used by Sr. Elizabeth Mary encompasses “spiritual development” but has a particular focus. It reinforces that spiritual development isn’t just learning about God and the spiritual life, it is developing in a way that produces personal change. By engaging the whole self, we draw closer to God and are moved to action on behalf of God’s creation. If we Associates truly engage in a process of spiritual formation, we cannot go back to “business as usual.” We become more of the persons God means us to be. We become more Christ like. We become more zealous partners with God in bringing about God’s dreams for creation.

After Sr. Sister Elizabeth Mary’s talk, questions came up about what resources are available, besides those that Associates already receive. There are many online websites that offer a variety of ways to grow spiritually. Some of these resources can be accessed via mobile apps, often listed on the websites. It would be impossible to include all of them here; but if there is one that you find particularly helpful, send them along! Below are a few that support SHCJ Incarnational and Ignatian spirituality.

Prayer Resources

Books in the Ignatian Tradition by Carol Ann Smith, SHCJ and Eugene Merz, SJ

- *Moment by Moment: A Retreat in Everyday Life* – based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius; available in paperback; soon to be reissued in Spanish.
- *Finding God in Each Moment: The Practice of Discernment in Everyday Life* - an invitation to become more attentive to the way the Spirit leads you and perceive more clearly God’s presence and action in the world; available in paperback and Kindle format.
- *Moments to Remember, Ignatian Wisdom for Aging* - offers a faith perspective for reflection upon the experience of aging, drawing upon the wisdom of St. Ignatius of Loyola; available in paperback and Kindle.

Ignatian Spirituality/ Loyola Press –

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com>

Loyola Press has many good basic resources for Ignatian prayer and spirituality, beginning with “What is Ignatian Spirituality?” and moving on from there. They also have specialized websites and blogs that are listed at the bottom of the home page.

Creighton University Online Ministries –

<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online>

This website offers many opportunities for guided prayer in the Ignatian tradition – too many to list here. The emphasis is on engaging in prayer, although there are explanations of many Ignatian practices. The site can be accessed in a number of different languages. Check out the home page to see what is offered.

Jesuits in Britain – <http://www.jesuit.org.uk/>

The website of the Jesuits in Britain offers many resources for spiritual development, especially under the tabs Ignatian Insight and Pause for Prayer. They also sponsor the popular website/app Pray as you Go (<https://pray-as-you-go.org>) which offers guided meditations, lasting between ten and thirteen minutes. They combine music, scripture and some questions for reflection.



Particular Topics

Eco-spirituality – <https://ecospiritualityresources.com/>

Terri MacKenzie, SHCJ offers many resources that connect care for creation with faith. Individual and communal prayer, reflection and rituals are available, as well as educational material.

Social Justice – Ignatian Solidarity Network –

<https://ignatiansolidarity.net>

A central location of Ignatian resources for social justice issues. The site includes educational and reflective material.

In the Autumn Issue, we will share more about online lectures and courses.