

HOLY CHILD ASSOCIATES

AMERICAN PROVINCE - USA



Cheers
to
20
Years

You must not hide
the gifts God has given
but use them in His service.
Cornelia Connelly

Photo by Gerry Tarney

ACTION NOT WORDS

Vision of Associates

*One in Spirit,
Holy Child Associates
collaborate with the Society
of the Holy Child Jesus to
embody the charism of
Cornelia Connelly
in our everyday lives while
responding to the
wants of the age
with generosity.*

Mission

Holy Child Associates of the United States are women and men rooted in the charism of Cornelia Connelly who want to grow in her spirit. The Associates strive to bear witness to a life grounded in the Incarnation. Associates are called to help others believe that God lives and acts in them and to rejoice in God's presence in our midst.

The charism of Cornelia Connelly is grounded in the gospel message of the Word Made Flesh and centered in the mystery of God's life and presence in the lives of women and men.

Leadership

Reaching Out

Dear Associates,

Friends, I call you such because Jesus called all his disciples, friends. We need to be friends: friends of the Father our Creator, Creator of all; of Jesus Son of the Father and Son of Mary; of the Holy Spirit of all Comforters the best; friends of one another, of all creation. Indeed in our times we seek to reach out in friendship to the poor, the migrants, the abused, the earth itself, even the unjust. Yes, we need to reach out in hope of friendship to those whom we may feel to be enemy.

Friendship is fundamental to our lives. The interactions of friendship are precious because we connect with one another on a personal and intimate level. Being together in a place fosters the unexpected word or gesture that may lead to friendship. In my own experience of apartment living I was able to become friend through contact in elevators, laundry rooms, and in hallways over floral arrangements, in the garage or parking lot.

As women and men on the horizon of new developments in the community we call Associates let us ponder new ways to be friends. Let us create ways of inviting the other to belong to the families of Cornelia Connelly. We are all poor, incomplete in and of ourselves. We need the other who is also vulnerable and longing for understanding or respect. We all need security, not of wealth but of friends. Let us imagine our way into a gentler world by making friends with the other.

Gratefully,

Catherine Quinn, SHCJ

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Support Cornelia's Canonization

The Cornelia Connelly Promoters Committee is an international group of SHCJ religious sisters and Associates working together to promote the canonization of Cornelia Connelly to sainthood recognized by the Roman Catholic Church. The foundress of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus continues to impact the lives of people today through her example of faithfulness to God in all things, resiliency in the face of adversity, her teaching of incarnational spirituality, and creation of a model of excellence in education that remain relevant around the globe.

You, too, can support this Cause by undertaking the following actions:

- Promote Cornelia through your intentional actions of love as an SHCJ Associate.
- Tell the story of Cornelia's life and history to all you know in casual conversations and share the impact she is making in your life.
- Circulate materials about Cornelia to all you know. An excellent source of information is the online Cornelia Connelly Library at <https://corneliaconnellylibrary.org/>
- Put literature and flyers on Cornelia in parish churches and introduce her to those who participate with you in parish ministries.
- Share Cornelia's words of wisdom published for each day of the year in the perpetual calendar.
- Apply Cornelia's educational philosophy in schools and other institutions where you work.
- Discuss Cornelia in your existing prayer groups or work with others to establish new prayer groups that incorporate her teachings.
- When invited to contribute a special intention during group prayer, raise your voice to request prayer for the canonization of Cornelia.
- Add a prayer for Cornelia's canonization when saying grace before meals or when praying the rosary.
- Collaborate with others who share Cornelia's spirit to care for the earth and its people.
- Encourage family members and friends to pray through Cornelia for their needs and especially for miraculous healing through her intercession.
- Recite the Prayer to Obtain the Beatification of Venerable Cornelia Connelly daily.



The Committee urges all to report any miracles or favors received through the intercession of Cornelia Connelly to any members of the Cornelia Connelly Promoters Committee. Favors of the spiritual order (e.g. personal conversion, settlement of family or other disputes) are welcome. No favor is too small to report. Representatives for the USA are **Sr. Mary Broderick**, marybroderick10@gmail.com, **Sr. Carmen Torres**, ctorresshcj@gmail.com, and **Anita Martineau**, SHCJ Associate anitamartineau@verizon.net.

You are also invited to reach out to these members with any questions or ideas you may have. The Promoters Committee sincerely appreciates your contribution to provide a comprehensive, persuasive record of Cornelia Connelly's widespread popularity, fame, miracles and favors received, and impact on the life of God's people globally.

<https://www.shcj.org/pray-with-us/prayer-to-beatify-cornelia-connelly/>

Eco-friendly Vehicles?

When you start shopping for a new vehicle will you take into consideration what is best for the common good, for all of God's creation?

The International Energy Agency is being proactive by predicting that by 2030, 125 million electric vehicles will be owned around the world. Will you be driving an EV or an internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle by 2030? There are pros and cons to both EVs and gas-powered (ICE) vehicles that you need to be aware of in making an informed choice. The chart below reviews the pros and cons of EVs and ICEs.

Also, keep in mind that EVs have one moving part inside, the drive shaft, attached to the motor and the battery. Gas vehicles have many moving parts that require tune-ups, oil changes, belt and filter replacements and fluid replacements, etc. which add up.

EVs not needing a tailpipe have zero emissions and are quiet greatly reducing air and noise pollution. Although the charging stations produce carbon emissions if the electricity is generated by burning coal or gas. Charging stations that produce electricity with renewable resources (hydropower, wind or solar) are much more eco-friendly. Right now, the charging stations are scarce unless you have one installed in your home. The electricity that you use to charge your EV is added to your electric bill which today is not cheaper than gas on the average. Most electric cars can travel over 100 miles before needing to be charged depending on the type of car and where it is being driven.

The biggest expense to the environment and your bank account for an EV is replacing the battery. The battery if not defective (usually covered under the warranty) will need to be replaced every 3 to 7 years. Not many of these batteries are able to be recycled at this time and are using lithium, cobalt and copper." For every car on our roads to be zero emis-

sion by 2050, just under double the current total annual world cobalt production, 75% of the world's lithium production (in the future, we may be able to extract lithium for seawater) and at least 50% of the world's copper production would be required."¹

Today, 60% of cobalt comes from the Dominican Republic of Congo with children as young as 7 years old mining it. This mining process is causing terrible pollution in the local rivers. Lithium mining at present with more than half coming from Australia and the rest supplied by Chile, China and Argentina is located near some of the most sensitive ecosystems in the world. Deforestation, water shortages and toxic leaks are unfortunate consequences of lithium mining. In the future other safer resources must be looked into as well as the use of less fossil fuels to power the ICEs.

Before your next vehicle purchase, check the differences of the purchase cost, fuel cost, maintenance cost and the cost to the environment to make the best decision for the common good.

Additional Resources

Check out <https://www.energy.gov/> to learn more about fuel costs for electric vehicles.

See Energy Sage's guide to electric car credits to see if your state has EV incentives.

<https://electricvehicles.energysage.com>



Electric Vehicle Vectors by Vecteezy

¹ Johnson, S. (2021, April 2). *How 'green' are electric cars?* Renewable Energy World. <https://www.renewableenergyworld.com/blog/how-green-are-electric-cars>

Pros and Cons of EVs vs. Gas Vehicles

Pros of EVs

- Environmentally Friendly and Very Quiet
- Low Maintenance
- Low Cost per Kilometer
- Good Performance
- Some States Have Financial Incentives

Cons of EVs

- Higher Purchase Cost
- Limited Fast Charging Network
- Range Limitations
- Battery Life

Pros of Gas Vehicles

- Easier to Find Refueling Stations
- Cheaper to Purchase
- Cheaper to Fuel

Cons of Gas Vehicles

- Volatile Price of Vehicle
- Environmental Impact
- Periodic Maintenance

Photo by Gerry Tarney



“The economy accepts every advance in technology with a view to profit, without concern for its potentially negative impact on human beings.”

Laudato Sí (109).

Poetry Off the Shelf

"For the Bird Singing before Dawn"

*Some people presume to be hopeful
when there is no evidence for hope,
to be happy when there is no cause.
Let me say now, I'm with them.*

*In deep darkness on a cold twig
in a dangerous world, one first
little fluff lets out a peep, a warble,
a song—and in a little while, behold:*

*the first glimmer comes, then a glow
filters through the misty trees,
then the bold sun rises, then
everyone starts bustling about.*

*And that first crazy optimist, can we
forgive her for thinking, dawn by dawn,
"Hey, I made that happen!"
And oh, life is so fine."*



Photo by Nick Sokolov on Unsplash

Born in 1949 in Portland, Oregon, Kim Stafford is the son of esteemed American poet William Stafford (1914-1993) and was himself named poet laureate of Oregon, 2018-2020. Kim Stafford's website describes him as "a writer in Oregon who teaches and travels to raise the human spirit." As you read "For the Bird Singing before Dawn," consider our Holy Child motto of "Actions, not Words." How might poetry, the art of words, call us to action as well as contemplation? Kim Stafford offers us a possible answer in this poem: by expressing hope.

The poem opens with a declaration that Cornelia would surely find familiar: hope requires no evidence, happiness no cause. "Some people who presume to be hopeful" – doesn't that describe what we associates strive to be "in a dangerous world"? From that "deep darkness on a cold twig" the song emanates; it starts out so small, a "little fluff," "a peep." The second stanza closes with a flourish – "behold:" – telling us great things are about to happen. Stanza three is alight, alive, glorious; "first glimmer comes, then a glow." The "misty trees" seem to breathe "as the bold sun rises." At last it's time for the action that flows from that first initial hope: "everyone starts bustling about."

There is such a lovingly gentle irony in the way that Stafford concludes his ode to "that first crazy optimist," the titular bird who believes her singing "made that [the dawn] happen." I don't believe he intends to mock her, or any of us optimists for that matter, since he's thrown his lot in with hope from the start: "Let me say now, I'm with them." A bird is often meant to symbolize the soul, and this little fluff of a bird participates fully in the miracle of the new day, of returning light, of incarnation, of resurrection – all that our Christian hope assures us to trust, all that strengthens us with the courage to act. "And oh, life is so fine."

Share the Journey

Celebrating 20 Years, a Brief History of Holy Child Associates in the American Province

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the national gathering that led to the formalization of the Holy Child Associates ministry. While the Associates ministry was formally established in 2002, its history reaches back several decades. Archival references to Associates appear in various lists, surveys, and meeting minutes, dating as far back as the late 1960s.



The desire to form an association with a religious order followed the Second Vatican Council's call to holiness, which included a movement in the Catholic Church to engage with the secular. In 1973,

Therese Currie, SHCJ, then Provincial of the Western Province of the American Province, welcomed Helen Castner, in Portland, Oregon, as one of the first Holy Child Associates. Around the same time, Jeanne d'Arc Haynes, SHCJ, at School of the Holy Child, Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania, welcomed Ruth Kugler as a Holy Child Associate.

Initially, Associates connected with the Society through a Holy Child Sister. In some geographical areas, Associates and Sisters started to meet in person. During the 1980s, there was interest in formally establishing an Associates program. In the 1990s, the Formation Commission of the Province encouraged and organized various groups of Associates throughout the American Province. Even with all these efforts, it would take until 2002 to officially launch the Associates ministry program.

In 2000, the American Province Leadership Team appointed a SHCJ task force that was asked to devise an Associates program with a strong foundation and enduring future. The task force consisted of the following Holy Child Sisters: Catherine Quinn, Chair; Margaret Mary Bell; Mary Louise Bishoff; and Mary George O'Reilly. Together, they reviewed the American Province's history and previous efforts to establish a formal Associates program.

In the following months, the task force grew to include lay members who shared a similar desire to create a formal association. On April 12-14, 2002, Holy Child Sisters and existing Associates gathered at Rosemont College to envision a future for Holy Child Associates. Fifty-four men and women from across the United States, Dominican Republic, and Chile attended. This gathering demonstrated the strong desire and enthusiasm for establishing an official association.

Next, a core team of Associates and Society members developed a charter and a manual with policy and procedures. Their planning included actions and events to bring together Associates. They created a

(continued on back)

"God has chosen to need women and men in every age to reveal divine love and to make known the reality of the Incarnation."

- Venerable Cornelia Connelly

Encore

Celebrating Our 2022 Jubilarians

This year we honor and celebrate the Jubilees of eight Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus as they mark their 75, 70, and 60 years of service in the Society. Congratulations!

75 Years

Gloria Coleman, SHCJ
Rosemary Hayes, SHCJ

70 Years

Elizabeth Loomis, SHCJ



60 Years

Marlene Brownnett, SHCJ
Margaret Crowley, SHCJ
Margaret Doherty, SHCJ
Barbara Linen, SHCJ
Elizabeth Muir, SHCJ

Share the Journey

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quarterly Associates Newsletter and offered retreats, including retreats connected to the Society's Foundress, Venerable Cornelia Connelly. These gatherings brought the regional groups together in new and rewarding ways. Currently, Associates hail from more than 23 states, the Dominican Republic, and Chile.

Note: Emily Wells Siegel is a Holy Child Associate and Core Team Member. Research for this article came from the Society of the Holy Child Jesus American Province Archives, Rosemont, PA.

NOTABLE... AND QUOTABLE

Share Your Associate Events

Consider sharing your Associate event details and photos with us to post on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Send your event information to Emily Siegel at esiegel1308@gmail.com.



Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HolyChildAssociatesUSA>



Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/holychildassociates/>



Listen to the Voice of Creation SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The Burning Bush
Ex 3, 1-12

September 1 - October 4, 2022

Start your planning now. Individuals and communities are invited to participate through prayer, sustainability projects, and advocacy—find your way to join the season of creation. Take a few pictures and let us know how you were involved in this year's Season of Creation.