



## Golden Jubilee

### "Bearers of Light on the Pathways of Resurrection"

On June 17th, as Bearers of Light, the paths of the journey in the lives of our sister's lives are lined with gold:

Elaine Poitras, Inomine Codio, Lucienne Landry, Denise Martin.



Theresa Malouin



The reception, by the members of the General Council, took place in the entrance of St. Joseph Pavilion—a beautifully decorated entrance that illustrated the theme for this jubilee celebration. It was a festive atmosphere as corsages were distributed, and friendly exchanges took place around a light snack with many taking photos for the occasion.



The Eucharistic celebration, presided by Father Claudel Petit-Homme, CSC, highlighted the life of these women, "Bearers of Light" in the diversity of their culture and their mission. The renewal of their vows reminded us of fidelity to their first Love.

This time of thanksgiving led us to another table ... that of a hearty meal prepared by the staff of the Pavilion. Yes, "Blessed are you, Creator God, for this meal that strengthens the bonds of friendship among us."



In the afternoon, the party continued with many surprises. Under the direction of Sister Andrée Bessette, young musicians (Andrée's former students) mingled their joyous chords with the tributes paid to the jubilarians. Each piece was dedicated to one of them. What a beautiful musical performance ... Congratulations to these young people!



A special choreography prepared by Sister Marlene Bosch, the distribution of gifts which was Sister Trinh Ta's art work, and wishes expressed by Sister Kesta Occident completed this portion of the program. Handel's "Alleluia" and Sister Kesta's note of gratitude addressed to the whole assembly, concluded this time of grace lived in friendship.



Thank you very much to all who helped make this celebration a success, especially to the Jubilee Committee: Sister Denise Desrochers, Laurette Desjardins, and Evelyne Desjardins. And equally deserving of recognition is Sister Lise Durocher and the St. Joseph Pavilion choir.

Evelyne Desjardins, CSC



## Justice Craft - June 2017

Offered by the Holy Cross International Justice Office  
at St. Mary's College, South Bend, Indiana

Approximately twenty-five participants representing twelve women's religious communities including Sisters Sylvia Landry from the Western Sector, Anne Hoffler and Denise Turcotte (from the US Sector) participated in this week-long session. Sponsored by the HCIJO and the Sisters of the Holy Cross, **Justice Craft** is an intensive seminar that prepares participants to lead and coordinate justice activities of religious congregations. This opportunity empowered the women present to become renewed in their specific mandates. All learned essential approaches / elements to the Justice picture, to be used in their ministries.

A different theme was offered each day: *Catholic Social Teaching and the Spirituality of Social Justice* and *Global Economic Justice*. *Peacemaking and Nonviolence* was presented by Marie Dennis from Pax Christi International, *Ecological Sustainability* by Gail Worcelo, SGM, and Denise Turcotte, CSC, who included The Family of Holy Cross Statement on Climate Change. She shared our commitment to calculate our carbon footprint and the concrete actions to offset our footprints through grants offered from a fund designated for this purpose.

On Friday, Barbara Ziliak and Marilyn Zugish, CSC, presented their experiences with *Shaping Ritual, Seeking Justice*.

At the end of the week, Mary Turgi, CSC, Dana Taylor and Florence Deacon, OSF, offered very practical suggestions as to organization, topics, and a particular planning process using the theme from *Laudato Si': Integral Ecology*. All participants experienced an opportunity to enliven the models and strategies in small groups.

At the Community Eucharist on Sunday, all were *SENT* forth by the assembly to live and promote the ministry of justice.

One of the special features of the week was sharing the dining room with the Sisters of the Holy Cross including candidates, novices, sisters coming for renewal arriving from four

countries. It was an experience of the greater Women of Holy Cross. One evening we visited neighboring University of Notre Dame – Fathers and Brothers of Holy Cross. We were on American Holy Cross *HOLY GROUND*.

Sylvia Landry, CSC



L-R:  
Anne Hoffler, CSC  
Denise Turcotte, CSC  
Sylvia Landry, CSC



L-R:  
Denise Turcotte, Sylvia Landry,  
Comfort Arthur, Dana Taylor, Mary Turgi,  
Nilu Suting, Lina Mrong, Dolly Joya Tozu,  
Sakhi Chiran, Anne Hoffler



## Mystical Perspective of Earth and Cosmic Consciousness

### Walking the Sacred By-Paths

During the past years, Berakah hosted four fourteen-day programs: *Mystical Perspective of Earth and Cosmic Consciousness - Walking the Sacred By-Paths* facilitated by Norman Comtois, OMI, Dorothy Landry, CAGS, and Denise Turcotte, CSC. The forty-two participants included twelve sisters from Holy Cross. In response to the current realities, the team was inspired to transform the workshop into an eight-day retreat.

In June, fifteen participants from the United States, Haiti, and Canada participated in the creative and inspiring retreat. Look closely at the photo below and you will see Sisters Doreen Cloutier, Rachel Jette and Pauline Maurier.

#### Quotes from participants:

"I experienced a spiritual joyride, exploring the gifts and challenges of an ever-expanding Cosmos. The journey was deep, transformative, and full of surprises."

"The retreat allowed me to come home to my inner self with all the time and space I don't often have."

"The retreat affirmed my experiences

of Divine presence in all of nature  
and challenged me to embrace the world  
in which I live with a transforming presence.”

Encouraged by the retreatants, Norman, Dorothy, and Denise are willing and eager to bring  
this retreat to other retreat centers.

Denise Turcotte, CSC



Look closely and you'll see  
Sisters Doreen Cloutier, Rachel Jette  
and  
Pauline Maurier



Encouraged by the retreatants,  
Denise, Norman, and Dorothy  
are willing and eager to bring this retreat to other  
retreat centers.



The month of July is coming to an end. I do not want to let  
it go by without thanking you for your many good wishes  
and thoughtfulness on the 10th. Even in the middle of the  
Congregational Chapter, I was able to enjoy and offer  
them in thanksgiving for a year filled with graces. Thank  
you to each and everyone of you from the bottom of my  
heart! Peace and blessings!

Kesta Occident, CSC



## SISTERS OF HOLY CROSS ~ FAREWELL

Infant Jesus Church - St. John XXIII Parish  
Nashua, New Hampshire

The Sisters of Holy Cross have recently  
announced that they will be relocating from  
our parish, effective July 17. This decision is  
prompted by the dwindling number  
of religious sisters who are available to  
assume the ministries that the sisters depend



on, especially for their health and well being.

**Sister Lorraine Choiniere**, the animator of our convent here, will become co-animator of St. George Manor and the sisters' Health Center on Island Pond Road in Manchester; **Sister Evelyn Boucher** will move to retirement at St. George Manor; **Sister Anne Marie St. Pierre** (after 25 faithful years at Infant Jesus Convent) will move to a new Manchester residence, and work with the children at Holy Cross Early Childhood Center; and **Sister Catherine Poirier** will be transitioning to a new ministry in the Tampa, Florida area.

While the Sisters of Holy Cross will be greatly missed, we want them to know that our love and concern goes with them as they continue their journey in the years ahead.

To better express our appreciation, our parish community is cordially invited to a Sunday reception at Infant Jesus Church, following the 10:30 AM Mass, on **August 13**. More details will follow!



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