



"To live the Gospel simply and plainly among His people"

Franciscan Voice

Vocation Newsletter of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Paul, MN

August 2010

Volume 17 Number 8



*Sometimes I dream
that I must not
only flourish -- but
take time to rest --
to
gather strength for
new shoots.*

Andrea Schwarz

Artwork by Sr. M. Georgia Andrzejewski

Purpose:

To assist young people in discerning their vocation by informing them about our life and ministries.

Vocation Prayer

God our Father, thank you for Jesus who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Thank you for St. Francis and Mother Rose Fleisch who exemplified the words of the Gospel in their day and who, like Christ, still lives among us simply and humbly.

We ask you to touch the hearts of men and women today and grace them with a sincere and willing spirit to live and serve in ways that truly express Christ's presence in the world. Amen.

Every year we Sisters retreat to a suitable place for a period of time to re- "treat" ourselves. It is a great gift to be able to be away from the noise, activity, and the reports of endless disasters, especially in these days. The scripture passage Luke 10:38-42 comes to mind in which Jesus tells Martha, when she complains about having to do all the work: "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken away from her." There are many opinions on this scripture passage and one that may be helpful is that when we are anxious and worried about many things, we allow the Holy Spirit to inspire us to create times for silence with God; and build them into our busy routine of important work.

New shoots of the beauty of God will surely sprout forth when we are listening to God in times of silence. Mary, Jesus' mother, gave

birth to Him who IS, after she said "yes" to the Angel who spoke the message from God, that she would bear a son, our savior, the Son of God. Thus, we need to be willing, as Mary our Mother was, to say "Yes" to whatever God calls us to do and so that we too will give birth to Jesus in the many, many ways that will be revealed to us.

If you have never been on a retreat, or don't know how to go about setting it up, you can talk to one of us Sisters or ask your youth minister, priest, or other adult who knows where the retreat houses are in the Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis (or your local Diocese). It is common for young women to take time to discern their vocation -- to be married, to remain single, or to enter religious life as a Sister. Retreats can be directed by a Sister or priest whom you can talk to and they can help guide your prayer. Try it for a weekend!

The Assumption of Mary~ August 15th

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII solemnly declared: "By the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by our own authority, we pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." ~*Munificentissimus Deus*

The Catholic Church sees Mary's acceptance into heaven as the symbol of the promise made by Jesus to all enduring Christians that they too will be received into paradise.



Dear Friends in Christ,

During the week of July 12-16 I volunteered at a Vacation Bible School in Shakopee. Our three local parishes combined efforts and held this special event at the Catholic Education Center. We had 150 children in attendance!

Sister Mary Louise Dolezal

Our theme was called "Baobob Blast", which is named after an African tree. The Baobab is a huge tree which serves as a meeting place for people to gather and share stories. Of course then we used African jungle animals in the teaching materials: A zebra, monkey, elephant, meerkat and giraffe brought lessons about trust, love, caring, and sharing, and of course, how to follow Jesus.

I enjoyed working with the preschoolers, doing crafts, singing songs, and introducing them to Jesus.

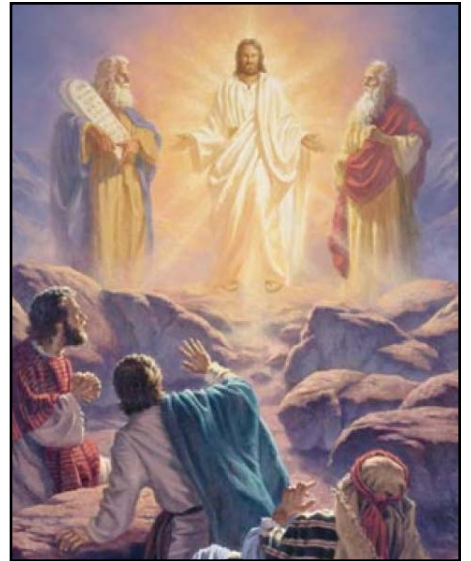
One of the projects we did with older kids was making blankets. We took fleece fabric (all of which was donated) and tied the edges together to make them double-thick. The children made 15 blankets and brought them to Mass where they offered them as gifts to be donated to Children's Hospital in Minneapolis.

It was a great week for me to be with children, and we were sad to see it end. We're already planning for next year! How is your summer?

Sr. Mary Louise maryldolezal@yahoo.com
952-445-2749

The Transfiguration of Christ

(Celebrated August 6th)



"After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There He was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah

and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters - one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, they were so frightened. Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus." (Mk. 9:2-9)

The transfiguration was a unique display of His divine character and a glimpse of the glory which Jesus had before He came to earth in human form. Moses, Elijah and the Father's voice from heaven are the three witnesses required to attest to the fact that Christ is who he claimed to be. (www.allaboutjesuschrist.org)

Franciscan Sisters of St. Paul, MN
Vocation Office
1388 Prior Avenue South
Saint Paul, MN 55116-2659



Assumption of Mary
August 15th

Please note: If you would prefer to receive this free publication by email, please write us with your request at:

spranci@askmotherrose.org

Also, if you know of anyone who would like to receive this free newsletter,

or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact us by e-mail or call us at (651) 690-1501. Thank you!



**"For God, With God,
in Order to Come to God"**

-Blessed Rose Flesch

**Franciscan Sisters
of St. Paul, MN**

**1388 Prior Ave. S.
St. Paul, MN 55116**

**maryldolezal@yahoo.com
www.askmotherrose.org**