

From the Foot of the Cross



The Passionist Nuns of Saint Joseph Monastery in the Diocese of Owensboro KY

Autumn 2017

Celebrating 100 Years of Fatima: Prayer, Penance, and Passionist Consecration



Sister Frances Marie and Sister Lucia Marie with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in our Chapel

This Fatima Jubilee Year has brought us the joy of the First Professions of Sr. Lucia Marie of the Mystical Body of Christ and Sr. Frances Marie of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus. Sr. Lucia Marie made her Profession on January 5th, the feast of our Passionist St. Charles of Mt. Argus. The Divine Bridegroom delighted His bride on this special day with the gift of snow, the first snow that we saw that winter! No one attending Sr. Frances Marie's Profession had to worry about icy roads, however. The second joyous wedding day came in the heat of summer, on August fifteenth, the feast of Our Lady's Assumption.

Our sisters are blessed to have been able to profess their vows during this Jubilee Year, a year bathed in the light of the tender love and motherly care of Our Lady of Fatima. In fact, Our Lady of Fatima, who is also known as Our Lady of Light, is the patroness of our Sr. Lucia Marie!

One hundred years ago, Our Lady asked three shepherd children, "Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wills to send you, as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and of supplication for the conversion of sinners?" What is our Lady asking of us, through her many messages to these children, but this same life of conversion, prayer and penance? Each one of us is called to hear and respond to this call, a call which is alive and is as urgent today as a century ago.

Our Passionist life is likewise a call to conversion, prayer and penance: to the daily conversion of heart required by the living

of our vows; to intimate union with Our Lord in prayer, and participation in His own prayer of praise and intercession; and to penance, especially offering daily our fidelity to our vows and whatever little difficulties come to us, in union with the Passion of Jesus, for the conversion of sinners and those who do not know Christ.

During this year of reflection on the message of Fatima, our sisters have offered themselves to God, giving a vowed "yes" to the call of Our Lord to Passionist contemplative life, a "yes" to the invitation of Our Lady to conversion, prayer, and penance. Please pray for our newest Professed sisters, and for all of our sisters in formation (Stay tuned for another profession before the end of the year!). And may Our Lady of Fatima watch over all of us her children, and continue to help each of us to hear her voice and to faithfully follow her Son!





Two New Brides of Christ

Sr. Lucia Marie, CP and Sr. Frances Marie, CP

January 5, 2017

August 15, 2017



Above: **Sr. Lucia Marie** professes her vows in the hands of **Mother John Mary, CP**



Above: **Sr. Frances Marie** in offertory procession with her parents, grandparents, and novice directress, **Sr. Mary Veronica, CP**



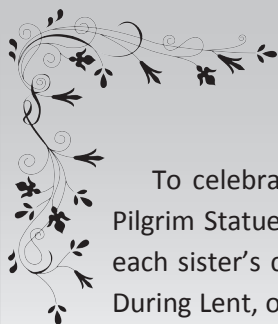
Below: **Sr. Frances Marie** gives the sign of peace to her grandfather, **Phil Campain**



Below: Newly-professed **Sr. Lucia Marie** with her family



For more photos of the two professions, and to read the homilies from the Masses, be sure to visit our vocation blog at www.passionistnunsblog.com!



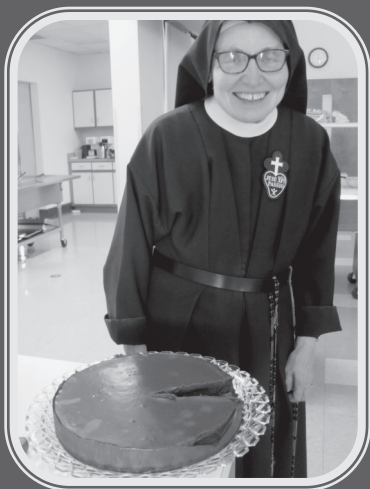
Remember, Holy Mary...

To celebrate the centenary of the apparitions at Fatima, we had our own "Pilgrim Statue" who made her way around the monastery, spending a week in each sister's cell as a reminder of the call to prayer, penance, and conversion. During Lent, our novitiate members helped us hear the call of Fatima by posting excerpts from the accounts of the apparitions each day in our main corridor. And on the 13th of each month from May through October, we gathered in the Chapel to pray the Rosary in common before a statue of Our Lady of Fatima to obtain the plenary indulgence of the 100th anniversary year. It has been a year touched with the maternal presence of our Blessed Mother – we pray it was a time of grace for each of you, too.



Celebrating with our Golden Jubilarian

Take a peek at our community celebration in honor of our Sr. Mary Magdalen of the Good Shepherd, who celebrated her fiftieth anniversary of her Profession last year. It was a day of good food, games, lots of laughter, and great gratitude to God.



Rumor has it that our Jubilarian loves chocolate, so a rich chocolate torte was the dessert of the day.



Sr. Therese Marie joins in a "sheep hunt", helping the Good Shepherd seek out lost sheep.



A Gaudeamus-day surprise for Sr. Mary Magdalen was a ride in a 'Pope Mobile' constructed by our younger sisters, with none other than Cardinal Dziwisz as a chauffeur! Isn't the paper Dziwisz mask convincing? Sister's great love for our Shepherds, the Popes, especially Pope St. John Paul II, is an inspiration to all of us.

Sun and Moon, Bless the Lord! Daniel 3:62



"Why do you stand here, looking at the sky?" Acts 1:11

If you got out to watch the solar eclipse on August 21st, the Passionist Nuns were watching with you! What a beautiful image this memorable event is of Christ, the Incarnate Word: as the splendor of the sun is concealed completely behind the humble moon, so the Son of God emptied Himself and allowed Himself to be concealed completely for nine months within the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

New Beginnings

This entire year has been momentous in many ways. In the midst of two religious professions (with another to take place on December 8), our entire community devoted much prayer and time to understand the "Monastic Congregation" that the Holy See wishes to establish among all monasteries of Passionist Nuns throughout the world.

In June Mother John Mary and Sr. Catherine Marie went to Rome to learn about the statutes of this Monastic Congregation. Then in mid-September it was our honor to host an assembly of Passionist Nuns convoked by the Holy See. We welcomed **superiors** and **delegates** from our US monasteries, from the Philippines and Korea, along with **Mother Fernanda Barbiero, SMSD**, the General Delegate of the Holy See; **Fr. Floriano de Fabiis, CP**, our General Assistant; **Msgr Michael Palud, CO**, an expert canonist; **Fr. Giovanni Cipriani, CP**, Provincial of Brazil and assistant to our Nuns there. Assisting as translators were **Fr. Joseph Barbieri CP**, **Fr. Brad Smith, CO**, **Sr. Mary Angelica Neenan, OP**, **Sr. Marianna So, OCD**, and **Fr. Vincent Tobin, OSB**.

Our hearts are profoundly grateful to all who contributed to the spiritual and material success of the assembly by their prayers, their donations and their generous service, among whom are our **Passionist Oblates**; **Kate Mims** of Houston, TX and **Janet Nemec**, of Ellisville, MO



Top: Sr. Catherine Marie, Mother Fernanda Barbiero, SMSD, Bishop William Medley, Mother John Mary, and Fr. Joseph Barbieri, CP during our Visitation of Nov. 2016.

Left: Sr. Catherine Marie at San Clemente in Rome with Msgr. Michael Palud, CO, and Fr. Austin Litke, OP.

Right: Sr. Catherine Marie with Sr. Margaret Corona, CP, superior of the Passionist Monastery in Campagnano, Italy

for serving in the kitchen; **Kevin Schwartz** for renting a translation booth; **Fr. Arthur Carrillo, CP** for delivering the translation equipment; **Ronnie and Patsy Mayfield** and **Kevin Schwartz** for making runs to the Nashville airport; and an **anonymous benefactor**; special thanks goes to our beloved **Bishop William F. Medley** for presiding at the Opening Mass of the Assembly.

Working together with the Church and our other monasteries has reinvigorated our hope for a future revitalization of our own monastery and those throughout the world. Please unite with us in asking Our Lady of the Paschal Mystery to continue to lead us forward on the path of juridical communion!

Below: A Swiss Guard poses with Sr. Catherine Marie and Mother John Mary in Rome. We didn't know they were allowed to smile!



Right: Mother John Mary and Sr. Catherine Marie were delighted to meet the nuns living at **Tarquini**, the first Monastery of Passionist Nuns, founded in 1772 by St. Paul of the Cross. This community was comprised of nuns from Italy, Indonesia, Brazil and Columbia.





American - Korean - Philippine Assembly September 19 - 21, 2017

Fr. Joe Barbieri CP, Msgr Michael Palud CO, Fr. Giovanni Cipriani CP, Mother Fernanda Barbiero SMSD, Sr. Mary Catherine, Mother Mary Ann, Mother Mary Veronica, Mother John Mary, Sr. Paulina, Mother Maria Socorro, Mother Maria Theresa, Sr. Teresita, Sr Marianna OCD, Sr Maria Magdalena, Sr Catherine Marie, Sr Joyce, Sr Mary Elizabeth, Mother Margaret Mary, Fr Floriano de Fabiis CP



St. Joseph's Helpers

Our monastery's patron has been hard at work finding carpenters to help us out. **Kate Mims** (right) rallied her sons and a friend last November and trekked out here from Texas to build a bridge on one of our hiking trails leading to a shrine for St. Michael the Archangel.

Local friend, **Bruce Hagan** (below), recently made a beautiful display shelf for a statue of St. Joseph, Protector of the Church.



So Very
Thankful

Special thanks also go to all the generous souls who brought us fresh produce all summer long, and to our friend who recently brought us "Lady Moo" - a whole lot of fresh beef!



St. Michael, defend us!

Vocation Visitors

The nuns have been hard at work promoting vocations this year by prayer, words, and deeds. Over the summer, we were visited by a high school girls' Nun Run from Minnesota. Our March and June vocation retreats brought several young women to the monastery to learn more about discernment and Passionist Life – one of them returned in October to begin the 3-month aspirancy program! Please pray for **Emily** as she seeks to hear and follow God's plan in her life.



Aspirant Emily with Mother John Mary & Sister Mary Veronica

Interested in making a vocation retreat here at St. Joseph Monastery?

Visit www.passionistnunsblog.com and click on **Vocation Retreats** to sign up.

The next opportunities are March 23 – 25, 2018 and June 22 – 24, 2018.



Erin and Autumn at the March Vocation Retreat



Jessica, Rosa, and Emily at the June Vocation Retreat



A Loving Remembrance of Our Deceased

William “Bill” Guy Aull

William Guy Aull, 88, of Philpot, the older brother of our Sr. Marie Michael, went home to God on Friday, Dec. 9, 2016. The eighth of fifteen children, Bill was born on Jan. 19, 1928, in Knottsville to the late Michael (Harry) and Mary Pauline Aull.

Lovingly remembered for his ready smile, his twinkling eye and his mischievous humor, Bill was full of fun and always there to help

After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II, Bill met and married the love of his life, Wanda L. Gilbreath, and had the joy of celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary before Wanda died Dec. 18, 2003. He retired from Green River Steel where he had served as a superintendent and spent seven years as an adviser to U.S. Steel, located in Venezuela, South America.

Bill was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Wanda; his son, Patrick; his parents; his brothers Joseph Harry "Jack," James L. "Jim," Joseph "Joe" A. and Charles T Aull; sisters Elizabeth (Jakie) Baron, Sister Margaret Joseph Aull, Beverly Clark, Thomasine "Tommie" Higdon and Hazel Ruth Aull; and his great-granddaughter, Emma Michelle Howard. He is survived by his sons Chris (Peggy) Aull, Michael Aull and Steven Aull, all of Owensboro; his grandchildren Nick (Jamie) Aull, Carrie (Scotty) Howard, Matthew Aull and Ashley Aull, all from Owensboro, Jarrod (Deborah) Aull of California, Jessica Aull of Florida and Daniel Aull of South Carolina; a former daughter-in-law, Lisa Alloway of South Carolina; great-grandchildren Madison and Shelby Aull of Owensboro and Juniper and Willow Aull of California; a brother, Robert Aull; sisters Carolyn (Joe) Lyddane, Joy Dunn, Sister Naomi Aull O.S.U., Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, and our own Sister Marie Michael Aull C.P.



Catherine “Cassie” Rose Schuhmann



Catherine “Cassie” Rose Schuhmann, the beloved mother of our Sr. Catherine Marie, went home to God on August 31, 2017 surrounded by her loving family. Born on July 29th, 1918 to Matthew J. and Rose I. McDonald in Mobile, Alabama, Cassie lived a full and blessed 99 years. After graduating from the Convent of Mercy Academy in Mobile, and attending Nazareth College (now Spalding University) in Louisville, Cassie married Edward Nicholas Schuhmann of Louisville. While raising 10 children, she and Ed took an active part in parish life and in the Christian Family Movement. Later they engaged in a nursing home ministry together, and Cassie became a member of the Passionist Auxiliary of Ladies Society (PALS) while doing volunteer service in the gift shop at Our Lady of Peace.

Sr. Catherine Marie remembers her mother’s strong Catholic faith, her devotion to the Holy Eucharist, her fidelity to her vocation as wife, mother and grandmother, and her sincere concern for family and friends. As her body aged, her inner spirit seemed to grow ever more joyful and youthful. Cassie’s family characterized her as a “conduit of wisdom and love, resilient, frank and quick-witted, ever ready to celebrate, console or give advice.”

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Ed, as well as her siblings: Dennis McDonald of Montgomery, Alabama, Lizette Robinson of McComb, Mississippi, William McDonald and M.J. McDonald both of Mobile, Alabama, and Mary Kalusche of McComb, Mississippi.

Left to cherish her memory are her 10 children: Edward Schuhmann (Wanda); Sister Catherine Marie, C.P.; William Schuhmann (Elizabeth) of Ft. Myers, Florida; Mary Schafrik (Robert) of Williamsburg, Virginia; Dennis Schuhmann (Carole); Thomas Schuhmann (Susie) of Miramar Beach, Florida; Charlie Schuhmann (Sharon); Michelle Hall (Fred); Sarah Doolittle (David) and Paul Schuhmann, along with her 28 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren with two more on the way. Special loving thanks go to her son Paul whose devoted care for Cassie enabled her to live at home during her final years!



We remember also in prayer **Susan Wurth**, sister-in-law of Sr. Mary Magdalen, **Nannie Mae Aull**, sister-in-law of Sr. Marie Michael, and **Kay Rhodes**, sister of our deceased Sr. Ann Miriam Mills, CP, who passed away this year. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and give peace to their families, especially Mike Wurth, Bob Aull and the siblings of Kay.

FROM THE FOOT OF THE CROSS

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May 2017: A visit with our Passionist Fathers from Holy Name Retreat Center in Houston, TX, here for some days of retreat.

*D*ear Family and Friends,

As 2017 draws to a close, we give thanks to God for a year filled with His blessings. We look forward to still more blessings, including the First Profession of our Sr. Maria Faustina on December 8. Please pray for her as she prepares for her wedding day, and pray for many new vocations to keep our Novice Directress busy. She will have lost all of her novices in 2017!

Our hearts are filled with gratitude also for each one of you, for your material and spiritual support of our community, and for the joy that it is to hold you in our daily prayers. The sacred seasons of Advent and Christmas are approaching, bringing us to a Happy New Year. We pray that in this season of welcoming the coming of Our Lord, you may be blessed with moments of grace and deepened awareness of the unspeakable love of Emmanuel, God-with-us. And in the hectic or difficult moments that this time may bring, may you hide in the pierced Heart of Jesus, and know that *From the Foot of the Cross*, you, your needs, and your loved ones are being held and lifted up in the silence and solitude of this Passionist Cloister. Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Mother John Mary and Community