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Holy Names Sisters From Around the World Gather In Lesotho, Africa

The “younger” Sisters of the Holy Names, from the United States, Peru, Brazil, Canada and Lesotho, gathered at Mmelesi Lodge in Lesotho, Africa, for a forum in January. The forum provided them with an opportunity to meet and develop personal relationships; to have a voice in determining who among them would be at the international gathering of SNJMs in 2011; to determine how they would participate; and to present concerns and questions to the Congregational Leadership Team (CLT).

Each of the 50 participants shared experiences of her life as a woman religious in her culture today; articulating the unique challenges particular to her country. The Sisters discussed the SNJM charism, community identity, and current demographic data of SNJMs throughout the congregation.

“We are grateful for all the prayers and support we received. We know our gathering will bear much fruit in the coming years, and we leave with a great sense of global SNJM solidarity.”

The idea for the forum came at the Sisters of the Holy Names International Meeting in 2006. The Chapter recognized an increasing need to develop leadership among the newer and younger Sisters. A planning team involved Sisters from various countries: Sister Mary Haupt, chair, and Sister Susan Wells (U.S.-Ontario Province); Sister Ana Maria Vilca Mamani (Peru); Sisters Leticia Rannoni and Eugenia Sefele (Lesotho); Sisters Margaret Kennedy and Dolores Wehle of the CLT.

Attending the Forum from the U.S.-Ontario Province were Sisters Crystal Clark, Mary Haupt, Anna Keim, Yurita Son, and Susan Wells. Gratitude for the opportunity to meet and to share the call to religious life, lived as a daughter of Blessed Marie Rose, was echoed in the words of the participating Sisters.

Basotho Sisters of the Holy Names

In 1931, six Holy Names Sisters from North America went to Lesotho to bring Christianity to the children. Once there, they quickly realized the needs of the people for health care and a basic education. The Sisters established a novitiate to expand their community and today have 95 indigenous (Basotho) Sisters and 61 associates.

Their initial ministry has developed into a number of elementary schools, four crèches (pre-schools), four high schools, St. Angela’s Home for Disabled Children, St. Rose Health Centre, and three other clinics—all headed by Basotho Sisters of the Holy Names.
California Partners in Mission

Through MedShare, Chuck Haupt and Sister Mary Haupt have already coordinated the shipping of four 40-foot containers of supplies to Lesotho. The most recent shipment just left at the end of June. Many Holy Names Sisters, schools, parishes, businesses, and individuals made significant contributions to make these shipments possible.

We highlight one family making a difference!

In 2007, Chuck Haupt traveled to Lesotho with his sister, Sr. Mary Haupt, and saw firsthand the needs of the clinics and hospitals. On his return, Chuck was hired by MedShare as the West Coast Executive Director. He and his wife, Mary Louise, received the lists of needed medical supplies and equipment requested by the clinics and hospitals. The first container was filled from the available inventory at MedShare in 2008. Sr. Mary, Chuck and Mary Louise enlisted the help of local parishes and friends to fund the shipment of the container and its contents. The St. Vincent de Paul Chapter at St. Theresa Parish in Oakland and the Catholic Community of Pleasanton continue to financially support the shipments.

A second container was sent in December of 2009. In addition to medical supplies and equipment, it included educational supplies and gifts for children. Spearheading the acquisition of educational supplies were Jim and Margaret Haupt. They gathered, or purchased, over 2,000 pounds of resource books, new learning materials from local school districts, candy, yarn, toys and games, and delivered them to MedShare. Jim passed away in May, 2010 but Margaret keeps gathering materials.

Stephen Haupt, a farmer and horseman in the Sacramento area, researched appropriate seeds for the Lesotho area, and obtained donations of these seeds from a national seed company. Rebecca Levy, daughter of Barbara Haupt, is a member of a Girl Scout Troop in Bethesda, MD. The troop chose Lesotho as a service project and collected ten boxes of backpacks and school supplies to include in the container. The scouts have become pen-pals with students at St. Bernadette Primary School in Lesotho.

Chuck and Sr. Mary also involved Diane Eskenazi, who obtained donations of clothing, shoes and other items from Gymboree. Sr. Mary Haupt sent an email to the SNJMs who responded with great enthusiasm and generosity—involving ministry partners, parents, students and parishes to provide educational supplies. Many of the Sisters, Associates and friends in Spokane, WA made bears, which were received with great delight by the children at several preschools just in time for Christmas.

For information about MedShare, please visit their website www.medshare.org. For more information on this project, please contact Sr. Mary Haupt through the California Development Office.

About Lesotho, Africa

The Basotho people live with the dire effects of years of drought—malnutrition, poverty and disease—made worse by the HIV/AIDS pandemic which is severe (over 40% are infected). Many children are orphaned and there are fewer and fewer people healthy enough to work to produce food or to support families.

The needs of the people are great. Holy Names Sisters in Lesotho minister to the poor, orphaned, disabled and sick, through education, nursing and pastoral care. One of the articulated needs of the Sisters is obtaining medical equipment and supplies for the SNJM clinics, as well as other hospitals and clinics in the area.
Sister Sophia Park, Newest Vowed Member of the US-Ontario Province

Sophia Park made her first vows on February 13, in a ceremony at the Holy Names Convent in Los Gatos. Sister Sophia was drawn to join the Sisters of the Holy Names by the deep prayerful life of the Sisters, and charism that emphasizes human dignity and social justice.

Sister Sophia is a native of South Korea. After graduating from Ewha Women’s University in Seoul, she came to the United States to earn an M.A. in Christian Spirituality at Seattle University. She went on to earn her Ph.D. from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California and now teaches theology and spiritual direction at Holy Names University in Oakland.

U.S.-Ontario Province Grant Awarded to Graduates from Holy Names University

Thanks to a ministry grant from the Sisters of the Holy Names, a group of nine 2010 graduates from the Pastoral Ministry Masters Program at Holy Names University were able to enjoy an overnight retreat at Villa Holy Names in Los Gatos. The retreat was an opportunity for the students, from the Diocese of Oakland, to reflect on their three year journey at Holy Names University and to focus on their future in ministry.

“I was able to take a short break from the ‘busyness’ of life to remember why I started the Pastoral Ministry Masters Program, as well as think about where this process will take me. The Villa was the perfect setting, and sharing meals with the Sisters was a great bonus. I thank God daily for the continued generosity and support of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.”

On The Cover: Photos from left to right, top to bottom
Mother and Child at Paki Health Centre
Sister Anna Keim & Sister Agatha Lepolesa
Sister Eugenia Masheane & Sister Ana Maria Vilca Mamani
Children at St. Angela’s Creche
Sister Yurita Son
Sister Julia Phateli
Sister Theresa Habaka & Children at Little Flower School
SNJM Lesotho Forum Participants

SAVE THE DATES
Annual Benefit Dinner
September 17
Harvest Tea & Boutique
October 21
To join our invitation mailing list, or for more information call 408-395-2868 or email snjmcaede@yahoo.com
Diocese of San Jose Celebrates Religious Women

“Called, Chosen, Sent” an Evening Prayer in Thanksgiving for Women Religious in the Diocese of San Jose, was held on May 2nd at historic Santa Clara Mission Church. The prayer service and reception provided an opportunity for the Bishop, and others, to publicly thank the Sisters of the Holy Names, and the 37 other religious communities who live and minister in the Diocese, for their generous and dedicated service to the Church and world through their many ministries.

Bishop Patrick J. McGrath presided over the prayer service. Reflections on the readings were delivered by our own Sister Miriam Malone. Five hundred people attended—rejoicing and celebrating the role of women religious.

Each religious community was honored and presented with a framed “Benedictus” blessing. Ours will hang outside of the convent chapel in Los Gatos. The Sisters are very grateful for the recognition they received and for Bishop McGrath’s loving support. The June issue of The Valley Catholic (San Jose) includes the Reflections tributes, and more photos from the event.

California’s 2010 Jubilarians Celebrate 980 Years of Ministry

50 Years - Golden Jubilarians
Sr. Kathleen Callaway (Marian Roberta)  
Sr. Rosemary Delaney (William James)  
Sr. Anne Dinneen (Michele Denise)  
Sr. Carol Nicklas (Joseph Patrick)  
Sr. Barbara Nixon (Maureen Robert)  
Sr. Della Stanton  
Sr. Domenica Maria Valle

60 Years - Diamond Jubilee
Sr. Bernice Breen (Matthew of Mary)  
Sr. Paul Gerard Gustafson  
Sr. Catherine Nessi (Francis Venard)  
Sr. Francis Paul Peterson  
Sr. Delores Rashford (Rose Dolora)  
Sr. Dorothy Simpson (Catherine Regina)  
Sr. Francesca Cabrini Weber

70 Years - Jubilee of Grace
Sr. Mary Jeanne Cusick (Rose of Lima)  
Sr. Mary Christine Fleitz  
Sr. Helen Walsh (Mary Concilia)

To see photos of our Grace and Diamond Jubilarians visit www.holynames.net

HER VISION - OUR MISSION
Sisters of the Holy Names live in the faith, spirit and charism of foundress, Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, working to fulfill her compelling desire to educate the poor, empower women intellectually and spiritually, and enable the development of others to their full potential.
Becoming an Associate of the Sisters of the Holy Names was probably the turning point of my life. What I learned about the history of the Sisters deepened my spirituality and called to me. I was hooked on the charism of Mother Rose and wanted to be a part of her legacy—her community.

As an Associate, I have made that commitment. I try to stay involved with the Sisters of the Holy Names, in all ways possible, through ministry, community, and prayer.

My husband and our children know how important my connection to the Sisters is in my life, and they are very supportive. They all see how much better of a person I have become through my association with the Sisters.

The Futures Society is made up of people who have included the Sisters in their estate planning. If you are interested in making a deferred gift call Sister Kathryn Ondreyco at 480-395-0259

Give the GIFT OF PRAYER - Kathy Herrington, SNJM Associate

You just got word that a friend has passed away, or someone had an accident. An invitation arrives in the mail to celebrate a special event in someone’s life, or you receive a birth announcement. You want to send a special card, but are not sure what would be appropriate. Send a Gift of Prayer from the Sisters of the Holy Names. Your friends and loved ones will be remembered during Mass and in the prayers of the Sisters and Associates. They will receive a beautiful, personalized greeting card acknowledging your gift.

When my daughter-in-law was having a rough time with her pregnancy, I asked for prayers for a safe delivery. Our granddaughter arrived in very good health. Then a relative of my other daughter-in-law learned her cancer had returned. I gave her a Gift of Prayer from the Sisters and she appreciates that so many are praying for her.

“The Sisters and Associates are powerful ‘pray-ers.’ I encourage you to contact the Sisters when you wish to have someone pray with you.”

GIFT OF PRAYER

FOR: _____________________________________________

☐ IN MEMORIAM  ☐ RECENTLY DECEASED

☐ SPECIAL INTENTION ________________________________

Healing, comfort, strength, peace, speedy recovery, safe trip etc.

☐ TO HONOR/CELEBRATE: _____________________________

Birthday, baptism, anniversary, holiday, promotion, etc.

SEND CARD TO: ______________________________________

Address______________________________

City/State/Zip________________________

SIGN CARD FROM: ________________________________

Address______________________________

City/State/Zip________________________

Enclosed is my/our donation of $______ Check #_______

Bill and Kathy Herrington and Grandchildren

"Bill and I have three grown sons, who have blessed us with six grandchildren. They are all supportive of our decision to include Sisters of the Holy Names in our wills.” – Kathy Herrington

Bill and Kathy Herrington - K&M.png
Ways You Can Support the Sisters and Our Ministries

The Sisters of the Holy Names are both grateful and humbled by the many people who continue to share so generously with us as our “Partners in Ministry.” Your generosity has made a real difference to countless lives through our ministries in education, pastoral services, social services, healthcare, and more. There are numerous ways you can support the Sisters and also realize a charitable tax deduction:

Gifts of Cash or Stock - If you want your donation to go towards a specific ministry, please indicate the intended purpose. If your gift is made in honor or memory of someone, please indicate to whom you would like your donation acknowledged. To increase your gift, find out if your company has a Matching Gift Program.

Legacy Gifts - If you would like to leave a lasting legacy and invest in the future, our advisors can help you plan a deferred gift that has tax advantages appropriate for your circumstances. Deferred gifts can be made through a will, different types of trust funds, retirement funds, and insurance policies. Sisters of the Holy Names also has a Pooled Income Fund, which provides you with income during your lifetime.

If you are interested in making a gift to the Sisters, please call Sister Kathryn Ondreyco at 480-395-0259

In Loving Memory ♦ Entered Into Eternal Life Nov. 2009 - June 2010

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. You will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it.  
~Thomas Merton

Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful; for beauty is God’s handwriting—a wayside sacrament. Welcome it in every fair face, in every fair sky, in every fair flower, and thank God for it as a cup of blessing.  
~Ralph Waldo Emerson

The best “rehearsal” of all is daily enacted for the Great Day to Come. Someday, maybe soon, who but He knows, the King and I are to meet face to face, alone! Tremendous will be that Moment, long-awaited for! His Love will Look—and love me!  
~Therese Rose, SNJM, 1957

The sunflower reminds me always to keep turning to the Light; that if a sunflower can bloom in December, then all things are possible for God.  
~Judy Rinek, SNJM, Dec. 2006

The glory of God is a woman fully alive! For the aliveness you have been among us for the life you have brought forth in each of us for the fullness of all you have been to us…Thank You!  
~Leon Joseph Cardinal Suenens

For information about a deceased Sister visit www.holynames.net and click on Obituaries
The Sisters of the Holy Names values the relationships we have built with our many friends and benefactors. We respect your right to privacy and honor any requests for anonymity. All information in our database is kept strictly confidential. We do not share, loan, or sell any names or addresses, nor will we release any information about you without your prior consent.

Thank you for participating in our Strawberry Day Drawing

With your help, we raised $59,246 to assist in supporting our Senior Sisters in the Los Gatos Convent.

**Drawing Winners**

1st prize $1,000 - Mary Keane, Danville, CA
2nd prize $500 - Ann S. Dickson, Sierra Vista, AZ
3rd prize $250 - Gina Berger, Tucson, AZ

A special thank you to our winners, all of whom donated some, or all, of their winnings back to the Sisters.

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Published By:

Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
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Printed on recycled paper made of 100% recycled fibers and 100% post consumer waste