

Venite Adoremus

Spring 2017

The Newsletter of the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration of Sancta Clara Monastery



GREETINGS to all our monastery friends, near and far!

We, your Poor Clares are wishing you many special graces and blessings as we journey through Lent into Easter 2017. May insight and inspiration lead you to a deeper life of prayer and closeness with the God who loves and guides us.

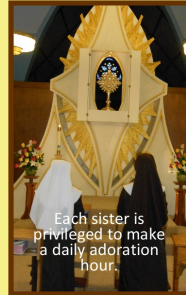
We want to be sure you know that this year, as in past years, our monastery sponsors a FRIDAY WAY of the CROSS at the Sacred Hour of 3:00 pm. We also have Holy Hour that includes the recitation of the Holy Rosary every Friday from 6 to 7pm.

You are always welcome to come and adore with us at this

perpetual Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament, open daily for the public from 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. It is here that multiple times a day our community of Sisters pray aloud in the liturgical voice of the Church on behalf of all God's people, closing with the rosary and its mysteries of the day.

Our happiness is complete in sharing this Holy Place with you!

As we keep vigil before the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in adoration, praise, thanksgiving and intercession, we pray for the need of the Church, the world, our Diocese, our city, and especially for you, because your generosity and loving support makes possible our total dedication to God.



Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the heart of our community and of our lives as adorers.

(from PCPA Constitutions)



The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass



It is our joy and privilege to celebrate the Liturgy which draws us into the hymn of praise and intercessory prayer that Christ and His Church continually raise to the Father. (from PCPA Constitutions)



Monastery News

Now, let us share our most recent news with you:

On a beautiful Summer day, June 4th 2016, we had the joy of celebrating the First Profession of our Tanzanian sister, Sister Mary Justin of the Eucharist. Along with her we offered our hearts and our lives anew. So many nearby friends joined us for the event, and remained in company, to enjoy an aftermath of snacks and greetings. We wish all of you could have been with us for this special event.



Chapter of Elections



*The newly elected Council Members with Fr. Jeff.
From left to right: Fr. Jeff Scheeler, Sr. Magdalen,
Mother Gertrude & Sr. Joan Marie*

On July 29, 2016, we held our Chapter of Elections, initiating a new administration of leadership. We were very grateful for the gracious and wise guidance of our dear Fr. Jeffrey Scheeler, OFM, Provincial Minister of St. John the Baptist Province and the Local Ordinary of the Poor Clares.

With hearts full of gratitude, we happily announce that Mother Mary Gertrude Espenilla was chosen as our new Abbess. Sister Mary Magdalen Colson, who was our former Abbess, is now Vicar. We deeply appreciate her six years of service as the Abbess of Sancta Clara Monastery. Sr. Joan Marie Jones, who was our Abbess through the 1980's is now our Councillor.

We thank God for our new leadership and may we have your good prayers on all our administrative endeavors!

Sister Mary Justin Shirima of the Eucharist Made First Profession of Vows



New Membership



Sister Lianila Mozo and Sister Mary Clare

This past August 6th, a new face arrived among us, Sr. Lianila Mozo. She hails from the beautiful island of the Philippines, as does our dear Mother Gertrude. Sr. Lianila has a background in music and enjoys placing her talent at our disposal. As a religious, she shares with us the charism of St. Francis and St. Clare in the Order of Saint Clare (OSC) and desires to transfer into our Canton membership as a Poor Clare of Perpetual Adoration.

Only one month later, on the beautiful feast of the Nativity of Mary, September 8th, our postulant Elizabeth Mashinga and our third vocation from Tanzania, Africa, responded to God's Grace in receiving the Novice veil and a new name: Sr. Mary Clare of the Blessed Sacrament.

Please pray for them as they pursue the blessed life and service to which God has called each one of us, as Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration.



Sr. Mary Frances & Sr. Mary Assumpta, R.I.P.



Sr. Mary
Frances



Sr. Mary
Assumpta



And while we have been blest with the arrival of new sisters to walk along the way of this vocation, we have also been blest with the arrival of two elder members into everlasting life in God's eternal home.

On August 15, 2016, Feast of Mary's Assumption, our dear Sister Mary Frances Fisher went to her longed-for reward, slipping heavenward in quiet surrender. Then quickly following, our Sister Mary Assumpta Mc Manus passed on September 17th, Feast of St. Francis' Stigmata, to join her co-sister and all the Glorious Ones above.

With all these memorable events, we have every assurance that God is outdoing Himself with countless Graces upon us!

This past Fall, blest with temporal as well as mystical graces, we saw the generosity of an able neighbor at work on our behalf. The welcome result is found in the newly installed airconditioning/ heating system to our Church and Choir area. When Summer arrives, we can say with the Psalmist: we "fear not the heat when it comes" for we shall bask in the coolness of our new Church climate!

2017 SOUP AND BREAD SALE

**April 27, 28 & 29
September 28, 29 & 30
November 16, 17 & 18**

Volunteers Appreciated!

And now, as the concluding news of this correspondence with you, we wish to make one last SHOUT OF GRATITUDE to all our monastery volunteers and all our benefactors and all who wish us GOOD!

At the beginning of this year, during a week in January, three of our sisters made a much anticipated visit, to spend time with our Sister Community in Alabama. It's always a joy for us to have the occasional opportunities to catch up on our mutual interests and endeavors, and to renew our PCPA companionship and get acquainted with new faces of our common calling.

We took occasion to celebrate those connections with a VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT last February 4th. Everyone had a super-good time and it could have only been more complete if everyone of you, near and far, could have been there! But always, we love and appreciate you and pray for you every day!





SANCTUARY GUILD

Join us in our contemplative, Eucharistic mission!

Our mission as Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration reaches beyond the boundaries of our community to enfold all God's people. We are blessed to have so many friends and benefactors who share in our mission in diverse ways. One of these ways is to become a member of our Sanctuary Guild.

In addition to joining us in prayer, members of the Sanctuary Guild assist us financially to maintain the candles burning day and night before the Blessed Sacrament. These candles represent the prayers we hold in our hearts, for ourselves and others. As a member of the Guild, your special intentions will be present to our Lord in a special way.

At this time we wish to express our gratitude for the prayers and assistance of our present Guild members, and to invite others to consider sharing in our mission by becoming members of our Sanctuary Guild.

The financial support of the Sanctuary Guild is used to assist us in procuring candles, fresh flowers, and other necessities used in worship here at the monastery.

To enroll, fill out the enclosed Sanctuary Guild membership form or you can enroll on-line via our website @ www.poorclares.org



From Left to Right: Front Row: Sister Mary Justin, Sister Lianila, Sister Joan Marie and Sister Marion Celine.
Back Row: Mother Mary Gertrude, Sister Mary Immanuel, Sister Marie Dominique, Sister Mary Agnes, Sister Mary Magdalen and Sister Mary Clare.

As we enter Holy Week with Palm Sunday (Mass in the Chapel at 9:00 am), we invite you to join us for the **Easter Triduum:**
***Holy Thursday Liturgy of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 pm;
Good Friday Liturgy at 2:00 pm; Easter Vigil at 8:00 pm
and Easter Sunday at 9:00 am.*** We hope you'll join us for one or more of the liturgies. If not, you can be assured that we are united with you and your family in our hearts and prayers.

May the Risen Christ grant you peace and joy at Easter and always.

Mother Mary Gertrude and Sisters

**Donations to the Poor Clares are
tax-deductible.**

**You can also make donations via PayPal
through our website @ www.poorclares.org**