



Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters

called by the Spirit • embracing the world

PROVINCE BULLETIN

Vol. 39 No.6—USA—JUNE 2019

Reflective Rambling...

While sipping coffee on an autumn-like foggy morning, three days before the summer solstice, I tried to get sympathy for my gloomy mood from my elderly companion. Instead, I heard a decisive: "It doesn't matter as long as I have sun in my heart." Awakening!

A little later, during Morning Prayer, we recited, "the dawn from on high will break upon us" (Lc 1:78). Her luminous face flashed in front of the eyes of my mind and heart. Unequivocally, God, the 'Rising Sun', broke into her heart and released a fountain of light, love, and joy that directs her life to spill over. Through her, I have experienced the indwelling of the Holy Triune God as a living reality. It felt like the fog, which is wrapping people into the almost invisible, yet immanent veil and was inviting me to dare union with the Trinity and with my fellow pilgrims from darkness to light, from separation to communion. Now is the time for communion! Herself, you, and I commune, to become the Body of Christ for each other and together for the world. 'It doesn't matter as long as I have Sun in my heart'. Bit by bit, the theme of the General Chapter becomes a longing; *Immersed in the life of the Trinity, transforming the world with compassion.*

May the summer's bright sun light effect growth and produce harvest of trust, courage, hope, beauty, and love in our lives through all our activities and relaxing moments!



Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters: in the United States and in the Caribbean

Northfield, IL Grayslake, IL Epworth, IA Antigua New York, NY
Waukegan, IL Chicago, IL Memphis, TN Jamaica St. Kitts

SPIRIT FILLED

Written By:
Sr. Betty Tranel, SSpS

It was more than just another annual trip to the Deep South, Arkansas and Mississippi, to coordinate the SSpS Vacation Bible School Program; it was a Spirit-filled experience. Several Sisters went to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, others to Indianola, MS. Sister Marie Eunide, pre-novice Yvette Dorce and I went to Sacred Heart Parish, in Greenville, MS. where we truly experienced a Spirit-filled community.

Because this year's program was scheduled to take place the week prior to Pentecost, it was decided that the theme for this year would focus on the Holy Spirit, "the power and love of God at work in our lives and in the whole world". By allowing the Spirit to work in our lives, together we would all experience the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in ourselves as well as in others.

We Sisters and many dedicated lay co-workers presented to the children these faith concepts with much joy and enthusiasm through prayer, scripture stories, drama, role playing, music, arts and crafts. All this may seem to be "normal"; however, having previously coordinated Vacation Bible School programs, I experienced something special in Greenville. It was much more than coordinating a program. The Sisters, Priests, Directress of Religious

Education, teachers, co-teachers, helpers, those who prepared the lunches, and parents all worked so harmoniously that it was truly a community building experience. Everyone radiated joy and happiness in sharing his/her gifts; the children responding with equal joy and excitement. **(Continued on Pg.3)**



For me, everything seemed to climax on the last day of the program. Several times I had questioned if driving approximately fifteen hours to and from our destination, adjusting to the possible 103 degree temperatures, Sisters and teachers staying up some nights till 1:30 a.m. preparing, was really worth our endeavors. The answer came during the special luncheon on the final day of the program. As I was mingling among the children in the lunch room that final day, a third grade boy named Tom jumped up from his place at the table and said, "Hey, Sister, I really like Bible School. Can we come all summer?" "And can you tell me why you like Bible School?", I asked. Tom said, "Cuz all the teachers seem kinda like Jesus." I responded, "Great! Can you tell me a little more?" Tom quickly replied, "Cuz, they're all kind, and you know, they love us like Jesus in the Bible loved all the kids." With that, four or five other children chimed in and said, "Please, Sister, can't we come all summer?" As if that were not enough to answer my question, there was another highlight that same evening.

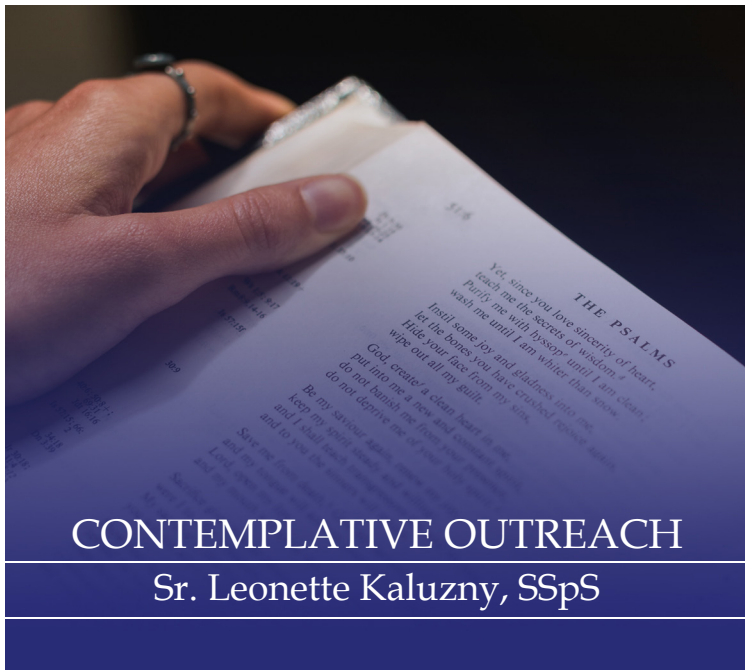
Each morning during the program one "dad" would drop off six or seven children at the parish hall, cheerfully say, "Good morning",

wave good-by and leave. It was this same "dad" and his wife who invited us to their home for dinner the last evening we were there. When I saw that the children in their home were the same ones among several others, who had been dropped off at the parish hall each morning, I was led to believe they were all neighborhood children, who also had been invited. I was wrong. They were all part of a "Spirit-filled" family. This hosting family had taken into their home four other children who had no one to care for them. Most recently, within the last eight months, they had taken in two more little girls whose mother had been strangled and shot in the middle of the night, leaving these two little ones with no one to care for them.

Upon hearing these stories, I was deeply touched by the compassion, love and generosity of these amazing parents. They wanted no praise, no recognition...it was just the "Jesus" thing to do. What an inspiration! We Sisters all agreed we had received far more than we had given. So many wonderful, generous, caring people; all making this world a better place to live. "The Holy Spirit, the power and love of God was and is truly at work in the lives of these people."



Children at play and having a wonderful time during the 2019 SSps Vacation Bible School.



CONTEMPLATIVE OUTREACH

Sr. Leonette Kaluzny, SSPS

*“Be still and know
that I am God.” - Ps. 46:10*

About 2 years ago, Sr. Leonette Kaluzny offered a training course for opening to the presence of God by the method of Centering Prayer. This simple wisdom saying in Psalm 46 is an invitation given to us by God. It is a call to set aside all activity, rest in silence, and come into an intimate relationship with God. As a facilitator in the contemplative outreach, it has been an honor to guide thirty participants on this Spiritual Journey exploring the rich wisdom and teachings of the Contemplative Christian Tradition.

Just recently, a group of eleven participants made a three-day Silent Contemplative Retreat at a sabbatical place, called Bethany, in East Troy, Wisconsin. It is our hope that this journey will transform our relationship with ourselves, with others, and most importantly, with God.



GRADUATIONS
2019

On Pentecost Sunday, we celebrated the gifts of the Holy Spirit embodied in the achievements of our student Sisters. Congratulations!

Sr. Angelica Chavol Oyarzo – Master in Pastoral Counseling from DePaul University

Sr. Monica Zhang – Bachelor in Arts in Social Work from Carthage College

Sr. Selvi Selvaraj – Diploma in spiritual accompaniment from Claret Center

Sr. Viera Klabnikova – Certificate in English proficiency from DePaul University

Sr. Rosalia Galmin – Diploma from the Foramtion Program in Rome, Italy



Prayer
Request

Charles and Aldron Wolff – Sr. Vincent’s brother and sister in law who are seriously ill.

Bernard Kunkel – Sr. Francetta’s brother who passed away on June 20, 2019 in Mapleton, MN, at the age of 91.

For success and safety during summer camps activities.

For the intentions of the General Chapter of the Pink Sisters.

This year, the Come & See Program and the Discernment Retreat for young women who are interested in knowing our Congregation and its Mission, was held from June 19-24, 2019. There were seven participants coming from St. Paul, MN, Columbus, OH, and Haiti. The Come & See started on June 19th in the morning. The Vocation Office engaged some speakers: Sisters, and a lay person, to give a talk about mission, the history of the Province, mission and vocation story, lay missionary program, JPIC, leadership and organizational structure, and the formation stage and program to the participants.

One Sister gave a session in Arts & Crafts: to decorate candles with wax for the retreat purposes. At the end of the retreat, the participants could bring home their candles. The participants also had a chance to visit our Sisters in Maria Hall and two of our communities: Waukegan and Rogers Park (besides the Convent of the Holy Spirit) (the Holy Spirit Life Learning Center in Wheeling and Rogers Park.) Last but not least, the participants had a chance to visit downtown Chicago and experience Chicago-style pizza.

The Discernment Retreat started on June 21st in the evening. Sr. Lidia Kunze gave this retreat with a theme, "My Story is Part of a Greater Story." She conducted the Retreat in a form of Bibliodrama. The retreat ended June

23rd. From their feedback, it is evident that the participants really enjoyed the retreat. Many of them wrote that the retreat has brought them closer to God. They are happy to learn another method of praying and to have a chance to make new friendships.

The retreat has been the fifth Discernment Retreat since 2016. The Come & See Program and Retreat is a means to promote religious missionary vocation, with the hope that one day some participants will join the Congregation and become good missionaries. The Vocation Office is very grateful for the support from the Provincial Leadership Team and all Sisters for their collaboration with the Vocation Promotion Team.



Sr. Lidia Kunze, SSpS along with the women attending the retreat.

Book of the MONTH

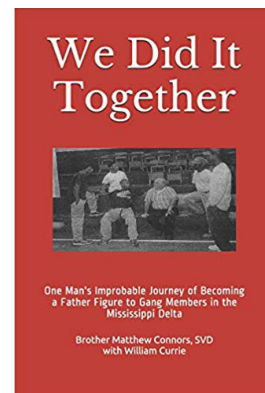
"We Did It Together"

By: Br. Matthew Connors, SVD
with William Currie

WE DID IT TOGETHER is a true story showing how one person can really make a difference in the lives of others. In 1990, Brother Matthew, a Divine Word Missionary, was called by God to put a new spark into the lives of gang members in the Mississippi Delta.

It is a story as much about all the boys and men who walked away from gang violence and crime as it is about the ultimate dedication of Brother Matt who made an impact in the lives of gang members and became a mentor, a father figure to scores of young boys and men on the likely path to prison or death.

- Sister Betty Tranel



ARNOLD JANSSEN SPIRITUALITY CORNER REFLECTION:

Sr. Margaret Anne Norris, SSpS

“June, The Month of the Sacred Heart: Our Call to Intercession”

As members of the Arnoldus family we are blessed and challenged to be called to embrace the world in prayer, to offer our lives as living sacrifices of praise and prayer so that “the darkness of sin and the night of unbelief may vanish before the Light of the World and the Spirit of Grace.” For Fr. Arnold this was especially exemplified by the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and so he strongly recommended devotion to the Sacred Heart to the members of the missionary and contemplative communities he founded.

Frank Laubach, a missionary and committed intercessor wrote: “I personally do not believe the Lord will call anyone into a public ministry unless the ministry of intercession has first become a priority in their life.”

Our Constitutions remind us: Our neighbors and world events stimulate us to a dialogue with the Lord... so that our prayer is imbued with apostolic spirit and our apostolic work with the spirit of prayer. To Him we bring the concerns of the Church together with the anguish and needs of the world. (SVD 408, SSpS 412) As intercessors, we praise God for what he is doing, we also pray with confidence in what God can and will do. We listen to know what we should be praying for and how we should pray, we ask for the things that are on God’s heart.

Some references related to intercession and to the Sacred Heart this month:

Constitutions SVD and SSpS, Proclaiming the Word in the Power of the Spirit – Jakob Reuter, SVD; Jesus the Missionary – Franziska C. Rehbein, SSpS, Our Founder – Stanley Plutz, SVD, Our Holy Ground – Christa Murphy, SSpS.

7 STEPS FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER

1. Since it is the prayer of the righteous that is powerful and effective (*James 5:16*), examine your conscience before you pray, and *repent* of any sin or harsh feelings you may have against other people.
2. Spend a few minutes in silence, to *quiet* your mind and come into God’s presence.
3. During this time, ask the Lord to give you a sense of the things God wants you to pray for. Put aside your own agenda, concerns, and desires and unite yourself to Jesus’ heart. You may want to write down the things that God places on your hearts. (*Listen*)-
4. Briefly reflect on what you wrote down. What do you think God is leading you to pray for? (*Reflect*)
5. Then *ask* for the things on God’s heart—for those

who have no faith; for those who have fallen away from Jesus; for renewal and unity in all the Christian churches; for respect for all life; for all the lost, abandoned, or forgotten children of the world; for those under the power of addictions or bound by depression, anxiety, or bitterness; and for prisoners and service men and women. And, of course, pray for your own intentions and those of your loved ones.

6. As you pray, take *confidence* in God’s power to overcome any obstacle. Stand firm in faith, and wait to see God work in power.
7. In your prayer *journal*, keep a record of what you prayed for, and of the ways God answered those prayers. Thank and praise him for all the ways he has worked through your prayer.





God shares His secrets today, as He did in biblical times, with people whose hearts and motives are pure and who frequently intercede for others.

How to Intercede

1. Ask God for His miraculous intervention in the circumstances. (*Jer. 32:27*)
2. Ask that God be glorified in the lives of those you are praying for since as His ultimate goal for every believer is to be more conformed to the image of His Son (*Rom. 8:29*) Ask that God will pour His abundant grace upon them.
3. Ask God what He is trying to teach through the situation and give Him time to speak to you.
4. Thank God for the blessings received through these friends.
5. Ask God to show us if there is anything in our own hearts blocking our prayer.
6. Ask God to fill us with love for our friends and receive that love by faith.
7. Ask God to reveal Himself to our friends, giving them a greater understanding of His character and of His ways.
8. Ask God to show you practical ways of communicating love to them.



We need to have

1. Purity of motive and to ask God to purify our motives so that our requests come from a genuine, deep desire for God to be glorified. When we pray that we will be tested...
2. Lessons God wants us to ask "What is it you are trying to teach me? I want to learn."
3. Total relinquishment. (*Phil. 1:20*)

For your parish

1. Thank and praise God for who He is and for the privilege of cooperating with Him. Thank Him for what He has done and is doing in this parish.
2. Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to come upon the parishioners. (*IIs. 64:1-3*)
3. Pray for God to unite the Body of Christ.
4. Humbly admit that there are sins that need to be forgiven.
5. Pray for leaders.
6. Pray that the Word of God will come alive to all.
7. Pray that God's priorities may become our daily priorities.
8. Pray for the children and the youth.
9. Pray for the evangelization programs.

Because God says, Righteousness exalts a nation, (Prov. 14:34a) will you commit yourself to God on a regular basis to pray that righteous leaders be placed in the Church, the government, the judicial system, education, business and commerce, the medical profession, the media, sports, the arts and entertainment?

(Continued on Pg.8)

For our Sisters working in other lands

1. Worship and praise God, thank Him for what He is already doing in that country and through our Sisters there. Meditate on these Scripture passages: *1 John 4:4, Psam 47:2, 8; Job 12:23; Isaiah 52:10; Revelation 5:9; Psalm 22:27-28.*
2. Humble yourself before God and ask forgiveness for the ways that missionaries have sinned against the people.
3. Ask God to have mercy on us and on His people (*Habakkuk 3:2*)
4. Pray that God will unite the Body of Christ
5. Pray that God will stir up many people who, empowered by the Holy Spirit will pray for this nation.
6. Pray for strength and vision and courage for our Sisters working there.
7. Ask God to send laborers into the harvest there.
8. Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Sisters.

*When God calls us to pray
about a situation or a person,
He does so, so that we will
surrender that concern to Him.
(Psalm 55:22)*

Prayer directed by the Holy Spirit

- Will be according to God's will (*1John 5:14-15*)
- Will glorify the Father through the Son (*John 14:15*)
- Is based upon God's character, ways and Word (*John 15:7*)
- Comes from a clean heart (*James 5:16*)
- Is prayed in full assurance of faith (*James 1:6*)
- Is asked in Jesus' name (*John 14:14*)

NEWS

Sr. Maria Theresa Nguyen will soon begin the third and final year of 'probation time' with our Congregation. Thank you Sister for nurturing your missionary vocation in our midst and gratitude to the Sisters who guide, accompany and support you in the discernment process.



In response to the continued immigration crisis at the Southern border, the Provincial Leadership Team approved donation to *Casa Cornelia Law Center*, which provides legal services to immigrants, and pathways to citizenship. The Team applauds Sr. Angelica Chavol Oyarzo's desire to serve the immigrants directly. Later during the summer, Sr. Angelica will travel to El Paso for a few weeks. Please pray for her safe travel and guidance of the Holy Spirit.



A donation was given to *Franciscan Outreach*, which provides services to the homeless in Chicago and where several Sisters have helped in the past.

From August 5-8, 2019 the PLT will take time for reflection, togetherness, and planning in East Troy, WI. Please, keep them in your prayers.

Comings & Goings

June 10 – Sr. Selvi Selvaraj departed for Mexico after 16 months in our Province. Thank you so much dear Sister for sharing your experience and being a light to those of us here in the US Province. May God bless your life and ministry.

June 11 – Sr. Gladys Paul departed for Mexico. She was on a 3-month sabbatical in New York.

June 28 – Sr. Viera Klabnikova departed for Slovakia and then Zambia after 20 months in our Province.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT



Please check the Province's new website: www.ssps-usa.org! We would like to thank Sr. Dorota Piechaczek, Abbey Coon, Sr. Nadiya Levchenko, Sr. Mary Miller, Sr. Judy Vallimont, Sr. Rosalia Galmin, and Elsa Loekito for their assistance in offering valuable feedback during the review process. Also, We would like to thank Sr. Monica Mabel for her gracious efforts and involvement not just with our previous site but also her insight during the early stages of the development of the new site. Finally, thank you Andrew Dixon III for your efforts in designing the website with our mission and

history in mind. We hope you will enjoy this effective communication tool to spread God's love and information about our communities. We welcome comments and suggestions, even more so materials to be shared through the site.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Sr. Maria Theresa Nguyen, SSps

The Gospel tells us we are the salt of the earth. Do you ever go to a restaurant and when your meal is served, you immediately put salt on the food in order to experience flavor? What type of flavor do we provide to those in front of us? To others that are looking for a little comfort or a little seasoning we may ask: "What can I do in order to comfort those that need comforting?" Sometimes I don't have much to say. It's how I act that may draw people to Jesus Christ. I am the salt of the earth or at least that's what I want to put into practice. I want to be the light of Jesus Christ so that others may know that Jesus never abandons us. How am I to present my ministry in order to bring Christ to those I meet? Each of us is called as baptized Christians to draw others to Christ. How do we put this into practice, at every moment of each day, to let people know that God never abandons them? We are called to draw others to Christ.

The past school year, eighteen children from Wheeling, Illinois, participated in the various programs at the Holy Spirit Life Learning Center. The participants were touched by the experience, as they made new friends and improved their knowledge.



Children learning and having fun at the Wheeling HSLLC.

A little boy came to us at the beginning of the year speaking limited English. The first thing that we did was help him develop a reading habit. Every day he came into our Center, we added books to our reading group. Eventually, each child picks a book and reads it on his/her own. Secondly, we encouraged him to use English. I started basic conversation with him in English. With patience and motivation, he learned to read, write and utilize English. Trust me; nothing matters most to a child than your love and words of encouragement. It was fascinating to see him grow! At the end-of-the year party, his mother came and thanked me. She said, "Thank you so much! You have made a difference in my child's life. I love to see him learn and grow."

Jesus said, that we, his followers are the "light" of the world and that we, his followers are the "salt" of the earth. By being salt & light, we help others & teach them to know Jesus.

For rest, vacation and for reconnecting with each other:

Junior Sisters meeting: July 27, 2019

The Province retreat: July 28 - August 2, 2019

Province Days: August 3 - 4, 2019 in the morning

The Provincial Chapter: August 4, 2019 in the afternoon



Please join me in welcoming our new weekend receptionist, Ms. Danna R. Toledo.

Welcome Danna!



Being Positive During this Election Campaign through **ACT** ACTION FOR CIVILITY AND TRUTH

From now until November 2020 is the time for election campaigning. Are you ready? There is a group (ACT) from Epworth, Iowa and Divine Word College along with others from this area as well as the SSpS Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation who want this campaign to be positive - not negative. Therefore ACT was created. Act is a non-partisan action for civil and truthful campaigns. We are expressing our voice for how we as citizens and voters would like a vibrant and constructive political process on the local, state and national levels. It is our way of "doing something" rather than just sitting around complaining and feeling hopeless. Civility and truth are essential for the democratic process. Voters have a need and a right to the Truth.

Civility builds trust and promotes peace and unity. It brings about the possibility of cooperation in a government with differing opinions, so that it can take strong actions for the good of those they are elected to serve.

Please visit *ACT's* Instagram Page: www.instagram.com/actionforcivilityandtruth/ and *ACT's* Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/action.civility.truth

We invite you to join this Positive Action by

- 1) Spreading the posts of ACT** with friends, family, Church groups, schools, businesses and the media.
- 2) Sending your own wisdom and posts** to actionforcivilityandtruth@gmail.com and a committee will select what is to be posted: it must be non-partisan, civil and truthful.

3) Praying for our Political Process:

We pray for political leaders who are motivated to serve and are willing to cooperate for the common good of our country and our people.

We pray especially for our political candidates running for office in our country.

We pray for the media personnel who share information during the campaign.

We pray for a government that works together for the common good of all.

Written By:

Sr. Rose Therese Nolta, SSpS



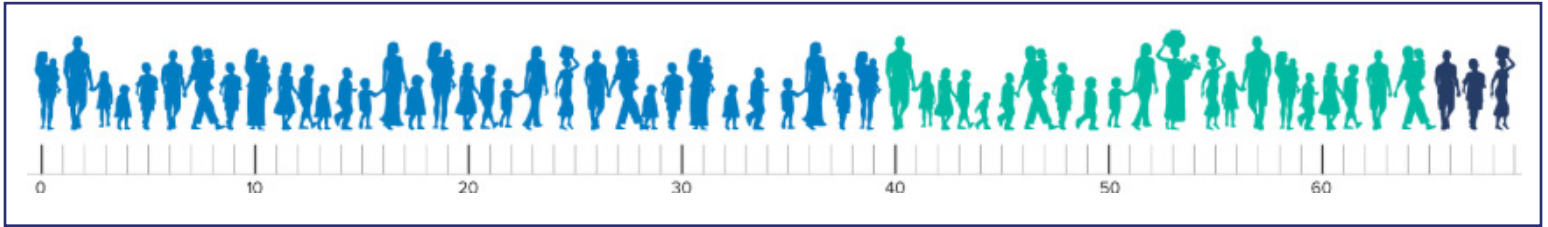
Fahrland, and Mary Joseph Hofschulte and see a short presentation about their lives.

On July 14th, the Generalate Community in Rome will celebrate Sr. Margaret Hansen's Silver Jubilee. We have sent a congratulatory card on behalf of all the Sisters in the Paraclete Province and will have a Mass offered for Sr. Margaret's intentions.



JPIC Corner – June 2019 Children and World Refugee Day

During the month of June, we acknowledge World Refugee Day. Per the UNHCR, there are 68.5 million forcibly displaced people worldwide. You don't think about it but the reality is that more than half of any refugee population are children.



Refugee children, like any others, are children first and foremost. As children, they need special attention and care.

There are some absolutes we know about children – they are vulnerable, they are dependent and they are developing. These apply to all children. Now imagine refugee children. They are in far greater danger for their health and nutrition, psychological and social well-being and overall developmental growth. They face far greater dangers to their safety and well-being than the average child. Per the UN, “the sudden and violent onset of emergencies, the disruption of families and community structures as well as the shortage of resources can deeply affect the physical and psychological well-being of refugee children.” (www.unhcr.org)

The UNHCR (United Nations High Commission for Refugees) “is a global organization dedicated to saving lives, protecting rights and building a better future for refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people.” (www.unhcr.org) They have defined goals and objectives, as well as principles and practical measures for the safety and assistance of the refugee children. These guidelines focus attention on the children’s developmental needs.



Now let’s look at the situation in the U.S. Children first detained at the time of entry to the U.S., whether they are unaccompanied or in a family unit, are held by U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Border Patrol processing centers. If an accompanying adult cannot verify that he/she is the parent or legal guardian, the child is considered unaccompanied and separated from the adult. After processing from Border Patrol, the children are placed in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and placed in shelters or other government sanctioned facilities.

A point of information - there is a difference between an asylum seeker and a refugee. An asylum seeker seeks protection as a refugee but whose claim for refugee status has not yet been assessed. Every refugee has at some point been an asylum seeker. Those asylum seekers who are found to be refugees are entitled to international protection and assistance. Those found not to be refugees, nor in any need of international protections, can be sent back to their country of origin.

As we have seen, communities nationwide have become homes to refugee children who have fled from countries across the globe. HHS operated about 168 facilities and programs in 23 states. They have taken in **about 40,900 children**

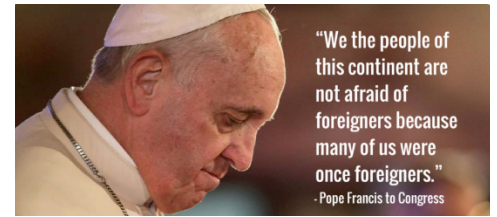


into custody through April 30, 2019. The next plan is to look at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, once used as an internment camp for Japanese Americans during WWII. Not a very welcoming place for anyone. Once the children are in the residence, these shelters are charged with the responsibility to provide food, clothing and shelter for them. In addition, they are to care for their medical needs and overall well-being. Some children have visible health and medical issues. They are supposed to be screened when they first arrive at border stations and before they are sent to a detention center. They must be considered “fit to travel”. Sadly, that is often not the case and illness prevails and can spread in the overcrowded shelters.

HHS is mandated to provide education and recreation for minors in federal custody. Currently, migrant children in these detention centers do not receive any educational services. They do not attend local public schools. The Office of Refugee Resettlement has begun discontinuing to fund activities, such as soccer, that have been deemed “not directly necessary for the protection of life and safety, including education services, legal services and recreation.”

Many of the unaccompanied minors and/or those separated from their families who appear at the border are fleeing gang violence and extreme poverty in Central America. The services they receive at the US shelters are part of their recovery and provide some small amount of diversion as they wait for placement.

Pope Francis addressed the U.S. Congress during his visit to U.S. and urged us not to see migrants as “numbers” but as people. He said migrants should be treated “with the same passion and compassion with which we want to be treated.” (Pope Francis’ joint meeting with US House of Representatives and Senate – 2015) He also shared that the world is facing a refugee crisis of a magnitude not seen since WWII, but also singled out the movement of people from Central America to the U.S. He asked for compassion.



So we too should show compassion and have a welcoming attitude. We are accountable for each other and need to help others in need. As SSpS, we are called to prayer, advocacy and action. There is much that we can each do to participate to help make life better for migrant children.

Loving Father, in your infinite compassion, we seek your divine protection for refugee children who are often alone and afraid. Provide solace to those who have been witnesses to violence and destruction, who have lost parents, family, friends, home, and all they cherish due to war or persecution. Comfort them in their sorrow, and bring help in their time of need. Show mercy to unaccompanied migrant children, too, Lord. Reunite them with their families and loved ones. Guide those children who are strangers in a foreign land to a place of peace and safety. Comfort them in their sorrow, and bring help in their time of need. Show us how we might reach out to these precious and vulnerable children. Open our hearts to migrant and refugee children in need, so that we might see in them your own migrant Son. Give us courage to stand up in their defense against those who would do them harm. For this we pray through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (CRS)



By Sr. Rose Therese, SSpS & Lori Brayer