



# ASSOCIATING *News*

PHJC ASSOCIATE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2014

## Associate Ripples: “I want some of that.”

By Jane Bomberger, PHJC Curator, Ancilla Systems Inc.



Associates Pennie and John Becker pictured with their daughter, Gracie.

Ask Pennie and John Becker if their 11-year old daughter, Gracie, knows what Associates are, and their response is an immediate, “Yes.”

While Gracie may not be able to explain that Associates are people who embrace the core values of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ foundress, Blessed Catherine Kasper – namely the core values of community, dignity and respect for all, simplicity, and openness to the spirit – she knows that her parents make it a monthly priority to attend the West Region Associate meetings in Hammond, Indiana.

“Oh, she has grown up with it – I took her to her first meeting in her baby carrier – she was that little,” Pennie said. “She doesn’t understand all of it, but she listens, I believe. She’s usually doing homework or something, but she knows everybody there. It’s so warm and welcoming.”

The Associate Community is divided into seven regions reaching from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Quincy, Illinois. Some of the 20 West Region members travel to their Hammond meetings from such distant cities as Portage, Michigan

City and Lakes of the Four Seasons, but “we feel great when we get together,” Pennie says. It’s a good, strengthening bond with a good support system... with time to slow down in a busy-paced world... and converse about the ministries where we serve and how things are going in our lives.”

### Pennie’s Associate Beginnings

Pennie’s life, back in the early 1980s at age 20, was full of turmoil. Her father had just died, a nephew died of SIDS, and her brother-in-law died in a car accident.

“It was just a bad year – tough – kind of like you weren’t really picking yourself up from one thing before you got hit with the next one,” she said. “I found myself just needing church, needing something to help.”

Pennie, in her admiration for Father Tim Benanti, attended church at St. Catherine of Siena in Hammond, but was also drawn to Sister Lorine Huelskamp, PHJC, who worked in pastoral care there.



Sister Lorine Huelskamp, PHJC

“I’d watch Sister Lorine while she was praying. Her face was so relaxed, and she looked so blissful and with everything going on then, I thought, ‘I want some of that.’”

Luckily, at a Donaldson retreat some time later, Pennie became reacquainted with Sister Lorine and a lifelong relationship ensued.

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continued on page 2)*

*(Associate Ripples: "I want some of that", continued from page 1)*

"We just started meeting and talking about how God was working in my life," Pennie said. "Sister Lorine was pretty much everything to me – like a mentor, mother, grandmother, a best friend – we ended up becoming so close," she said, both during and after the time Pennie considered becoming a Poor Handmaid, and culminating with her desire to "remain connected" as an Associate – and she has remained an Associate for 24 years.

### **Donaldson – "It just feels like home"**

Trips to Donaldson were less frequent after Sister Lorine died in 2009, but the Beckers still visit what is now known as The Center at Donaldson for Associate retreats and gatherings – still attracted by the charm, hospitality, and charism of all the Sisters.

"When Pennie first introduced me to Sister Lorine and we went to the Motherhouse, there wasn't one Sister who didn't say hello or, 'Oh, you're Pennie's husband,'" John said, "and I thought, 'What have I been missing!' You can be having a bad day but... by the time you leave the Motherhouse it would be one of your best days. It just feels like home."

"Each Sister has something to give, often putting others ahead of themselves," Pennie said. Sister Agnes Muehlenfeld, PHJC, also known as "The Cookie Lady," often appeared downstairs after Mass, ready to deliver her delectable baked goods.

"She really cared that every single one of the kids who came in got a cookie – being proud of what she did and she did it so well," Pennie said. "I don't think a child left without a cookie and, well, the adults too! She was just very inviting, but no Sister ever seemed too busy to just rush by."

### **A continued connection...**

Pennie served as co-director of the Associate Community at one time with Sister Cathy Schwemer, PHJC, and appreciated expanded Associate energy with groups in Chicago and at other locations where shared beliefs of servant leadership and the ripple effect of putting others before self prevailed.

"Pennie is a woman of great passion; the fire of the spirit burns within her," Sister Cathy said.

"For Pennie and John, being a PHJC Associate is a calling, a way in which they live their lives."

Beyond busy work schedules – Pennie as a hospice nurse and John as a midnight-shift truck driver – they reach out to others. Pennie included Gracie in delivering a dozen hams one Thanksgiving to Sojourner Truth House – the Gary, Indiana day center for homeless and at-risk women and children – where Gracie realized that not everyone has a house or clothes or "Mac 'n Cheese," as her mom explained. Pennie's Girl Scout Troop has since organized food and clothing drives for the Gary center, and Gracie, her dad says, has learned to set aside bags of her own things to donate – as long as they're not broken.

***"I think everything you do is going to cause that ripple effect," Pennie said. "Kids will grow up to be what they're going to be, but as long as they develop a heart of compassion, that is really important to us."***

Over in Hobart, Indiana – thanks to her mom and dad and others – is a young girl on the road of Associate ripples who, in her own way, is already saying, "I want some of that."

*Is there someone who had a positive influence in your life? I know for many of us that person would be a Poor Handmaid. If so, would you like to acknowledge her in the Associating News? Please consider writing an article for us. Articles are always welcome!*

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**The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ  
are on Facebook!**

<http://facebook.poorhandmaids.org>

# Thoughts on Association

By Libby Riggs, South Region



Following a reading from the meditation book *Winter's Wisdom*, I thought of how Mary and Elizabeth are similar to our Associate Community. We share and support one another in our commitment

and faith, in times of joy, and as Mary and Elizabeth would find out, in times of sorrow. God truly blesses us with spiritual companions!

Catherine Kasper recognized God in her life; she replied "yes" to his call and planted her feet strongly in the good earth of our God. As she drew others with similar calling to her, she was taking each and building the arbor, each one strengthening the arbor, building the arbor as pieces of lattice intertwining and becoming stronger and larger. Each Sister in turn has planted seeds of faith in those whose lives they touched. Some of these seeds fell upon fertile soil and, inspired by the spirit of Catherine Kasper, they became Associates, entwined like grape vines to grow upon the arbor.

Our lives within the Spiritual Family of Catherine intertwine and grow in strength and support. We each connect our vines to lives spreading across our local communities and throughout the world by mutually sharing in the ministry to others. We continue to intertwine in the lattice and grow in mutual support of Associates, Sisters and Fiat Spiritus Community members. Together we grow the grapes of the spirit. We grow and prosper from the fruits of good works...fruit and wine that is to be shared in the spirit of the Great I Am!

I know that I became an Associate in God's perfect time. So many of the Sisters and Associates have been, and continue to be, a real source of strength in my life. I am so very, very blessed! You are so dear to my heart, and I am so glad our journeys are in many ways running side by side, crossing and strengthening like grape vines growing together.

As we near the feast of the Visitation (this year celebrated on May 31) keep these thoughts in your heart and continue to grow in faith sharing the fruits of our good works.

*Blessings and above all...peace!*

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### 2014 Directories

You received your 2014 Sister / Associate / Fiat Spiritus calendar and directories in our December mailing. Please check your listing carefully to be sure it is accurate.

Please report any errors and any necessary updates to the Associate Office as quickly as possible. Once these directories are published, we keep you updated on everyone's changes through this *Associating News* publication. So watch for Directory Updates each quarter when you receive your mailing.

# Meet the New Core Team Leaders for East One and West Regions

Cindy Schmitz, Core Team Leader for East One



Dave and I were married in 1972 at St. Paul's Catholic Church (Fort Wayne, Indiana), the same church where my parents were married, I was baptized, and I made my First Communion. We were blessed with two great

boys, (I should say men) Matthew who just married a wonderful girl, Lindsey, last October and Mark who has given us two wonderful grandchildren, Levi, 16, and Julia, 12.

While the boys were growing up, we attended St. Jude's Catholic Church, where I was active in the Parish Council and Eucharistic and Lector Ministries. For thirty years I worked in the banking industry, but upon retirement, I began a new career in the travel industry, designing and escorting one to thirty day trips. Those were exciting days. I was able to go places I would never have dreamed. I am now retired again and enjoy volunteering at our local Red Cross and SPCA. I also keep busy scrapbooking and reading mysteries.

I have been an Associate for 28 years, thanks to my grade-school teacher (and adopted Mother), Sister Cyril, and have grown ever closer to the wonderful Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. God-willing I will continue to be active in our Associate Community and grow into greater intimacy with our Lord.

Diane Rockhill, Core Team Leader for the West Region



I am originally from Hammond, Indiana where I first encountered the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. I was taught by Poor Handmaids at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School. Later, I attended high school in Donaldson.

Currently I live in Portage, Indiana with my husband, Dennis. I have two sons, one lives in Roselle, Illinois and has a five year old daughter; the other son lives in New Jersey and has three

daughters, eight year old twins and a 5 ½ year old. I attend Nativity of Our Savior Church where I am a Eucharistic Minister, sing in the choir and belong to the Altar and Rosary Sodality.

After retiring from Portage Adult Education, I started volunteering at Sojourner Truth House in Gary. Later, in order to try something different, I became a volunteer at St. Mary's Medical Center in Hobart, Indiana. The volunteering is very rewarding and allows me the joy of helping people.

Since retiring, my husband and I enjoy traveling throughout the U.S. seeing historical sites as well as other beautiful places in this country. So far we have only seen about two thirds of this country so there is a lot more traveling to do! And of course, whenever possible, I enjoy spending time with my granddaughters.

Becoming an Associate has meant a lot to me. It is finishing something that I couldn't finish years ago, only now, as an Associate is it possible. With the help of the Holy Spirit I hope to listen prayerfully, live simply and serve joyfully. I look forward to my time as a Core Team Leader.

## ASSOCIATE COMMUNITY 2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

March 15	Core Team Meeting
April 11-12	Companions on the Journey Retreat
April 20	Easter Sunday
May 2	Associating News articles due
June 26-29	PHJCs Coming Home to Southern Illinois
July 19	Core Team Meeting
October 24-26	PHJCs Coming Home to Fort Wayne

*However busy we may be with our tasks outwardly, let us still be with our loving God and take care to do what pleases Him.*

— Blessed Catherine Kasper

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# Poor Handmaids Coming Home to Southern Illinois

By Sister Margaret Anne Henss, PHJC



The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ are “hitting the road” to reconnect with friends, former co-workers and the people the Poor Handmaids have ministered to for over 146 years in the United States. The Poor Handmaids have a rich history and heritage in many areas throughout Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota and Wisconsin. A trip to some of these areas is being planned. The event is titled “PHJCs Coming Home.”

Why reconnect? The Sisters want to share who they were, who they are now and what they see their future to be. They want to celebrate their heritage that was blessed by so many people over the years.

“PHJCs Coming Home” events will occur over the next three years. The first “road trip” is to Southern Illinois on the weekend of June 26 – 29, 2014. Various events at several of the parishes in the Belleville Diocese and at Mater Dei Catholic High School are being planned. A committee, composed of Sisters and co-workers from The Center at Donaldson, has been formed to plan the weekend. The co-leaders are Sister Michele Dvorak, Sister Kathy Haas, Sister Margaret Anne Henss and Sister Barbara Kuper. They are guiding the work of several sub-committees that are planning housing for the Sisters and co-workers, prayer services, liturgies, a reunion with former Sisters and Ancilla Domini High School Alums, vocation activities, a festival at Mater Dei High School, heritage displays and communication

through newspapers and social media. About 35 Sisters are planning to attend.

Recently, several committee members took a trip to Southern Illinois to meet with Fr. John Myler, Bishop Braxton’s representative; representatives from Mater Dei High School and three pastors: Father George Mauk, St. Mary’s Parish in Carlyle; Father Joseph Rascher, St. Mary’s Parish in Trenton and Father James Brewster, St. Boniface Parish in Germantown.

The weekend event is opening on Thursday evening, June 26 with a liturgy and reception at the Cathedral in Belleville with Bishop Braxton as the main celebrant. Morning or evening prayers are planned with parishioners at the three parishes listed above. The reunions will be held on Saturday. The festival, with food, games, PHJC heritage and a liturgy is scheduled for Sunday.

*A more detailed schedule will be announced later. For now, “Save the Dates” of June 26-29, 2014. All are welcome. The Sisters are eager to reconnect with friends from the past!*

The picture below is of the group planning the morning prayer and gathering with parishioners at St. Mary’s Trenton.



*Planning Committee members (pictured from left to right): Sister Kathy Haas, Father Joe Rascher, Evelyn Pakosta, Sister Margaret Anne Henss and Carolyn Franey*

# Companions on the Journey and Associate Anniversary Celebration

Please plan to attend this year's *Companions on the Journey* retreat and Associate Anniversary celebration. The retreat will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 11, and conclude with a 4:30 p.m. liturgy on Saturday, April 12. Following the 4:30 p.m. Mass, we will meet in Cana Hall for a catered dinner and to recognize those Associates who are celebrating a significant anniversary this year. Those Associates who will be recognized are listed below.

  <p>Theresa VanNevel</p>	 <p>Joseph Kluszynski</p>	  <p>Judy Rochford</p>	 <p>Margaret Kluszynski</p>	 <p>Donna Grzych</p>	 <p>Corinne Lennstrum</p>	  <p>Richard Mitchell</p>	 <p>Kathy Regnier</p>
 <p>Margaret Weigley</p>	 <p>Annemarie Mandichak</p>	 <p>Shirley Jovas</p>	 <p>Barbara Mitchell</p>	 <p>Carol Puls</p>	 <p>Janet Guernsey</p>	 <p>Martha Smith</p>	
 <p>Helen Snyder</p>	  <p>Elizabeth Sorrill</p>	 <p>Arlene Tudor</p>	 <p>Margaret Bonen</p>	 <p>Ann Kershner</p>	 <p>Marge Kessler</p>		
  <p>Julie Hummert</p>	  <p>Georgia Klingler</p>	 <p>Libby Riggs</p>	 <p>Dorothy Uebinger</p>				

*“Companions on the Journey” and Associate Anniversary Celebration, continued on page 12)*

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# Calling all Associates!

## Contribute to the Catherine Kasper “Oscar” Nominations

*The following articles are part of a new ongoing feature I would like to run which will focus on members of the Spiritual Family of Catherine that have influenced us spiritually and fostered our call. Any Associate is welcome to submit an article. These articles can focus on any Poor Handmaid, Fiat Spiritus Community member or Associate who you feel, because of the important role they played (or continue to play) in your spiritual growth, deserves an “Oscar.”*

— Donna Sikorski, Director of the Associate Community

Many Poor Handmaids have had a special influence in my life, but I would like to especially acknowledge Sister Fernanda Piontkowski, PHJC who taught me typing at St. Augustine High School. She (along with her sister, Sister Anita Piontkowski, PHJC and their brothers) became very close to my entire family. Sister Fernanda and her family always showed care and respect for each and every individual which revealed their Christ-like values. For several years when I was a Franciscan, I would receive visits from Sister Fernanda as well as Sisters Anita and Godfrey. The visits were not only informative but showed the Gospel values and demonstrated to me what Blessed Catherine Kasper would do. Even though I am now 73 years old, their memory is forever etched not only in my mind, but my heart as well.

— North Associate Deacon Dennis Renk

We find ourselves in the season of giving awards – People’s Choice – Oscars etc. I would like to nominate Sister Jolise for an award. During her career as a Sister, her disposition rarely changed, always caring, giving and ready to serve.

Our family has been truly blessed because she has been our mentor whenever the need arose. We could always count on her to be there for us, giving encouraging words, especially in our times of sorrow.

Sister Jolise is one of a kind, following in the footsteps of Blessed Catherine Kasper. Her main aim in life is to serve whenever and wherever she is needed, and she does this with complete JOY.

— North Associate Loretta Kania

When the core team discussed asking Associates to submit articles on Poor Handmaids that have touched their lives, I knew immediately I had quite the challenge. I like to compare it to winning an award at the Oscars. When I begin to thank people, I am sure to leave someone out. My life has been so incredibly touched by the Poor Handmaids and the spirit of Catherine Kasper, that I don’t even know how to begin to name all of them. The best I can do is describe them in groups during experiences in my life.

I was touched by those who came to my hometown of Ste. Marie, Illinois when I was a young teenager. I experienced the spirit and dedication of them teaching and reaching out to children in summer bible school. I was captured immediately by the spirit. After several summers as a volunteer at the bible school, I decided to learn more about them. I attended a “Come and See” weekend in

Edwardsville, Illinois where the Sisters welcomed this shy and awkward teenager with open arms, showing what it might be like to live in community. Again, it was their spirit that made me long for more. I became an Associate with the community, where I lived my routine life of going to college, but was assigned to the convent in Mt. Carmel, Illinois to share in experiencing community life. There was a very beautiful, Cardinal baseball-loving, bird-loving soul assigned as my mentor. She exemplified how to reach out to others and have an unconditional love for all of those around. She was like Jesus to young children, watching how they were drawn. This was not only exhibited by this Sister, but by all of those at Mt. Carmel. As an Associate, I interacted with many Sisters in a variety of ways, each one touching my

*(Contribute to the Catherine Kasper “Oscar” Nominations, continued on page 12)*

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# In Memory of Our Sisters



**Sister Mary Philomene Pawlik, PHJC**

**S**ister Philomene Pawlik, PHJC passed away on December 25, 2013 at the Catherine Kasper Home, Donaldson, Indiana. She was born to Hugo and Filomena (Romanovsky) Pawlik in Knox, Indiana on July 6, 1923. She

entered the Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ community and professed her first vows on June 25, 1944.

Sister Philomene began ministering in the medical profession in 1946 at St. Anne Hospital, Chicago. Over the next 51 years she served as a nursing, medical and surgical supervisor; clinical instructor; pediatric playroom supervisor; in pastoral care; or Sister hostess at many medical facilities throughout Indiana and Illinois. When the Catherine Kasper Home opened in 1970, she became the first head nurse and between 1985-1989, she also served as Parish Ministry volunteer at Our Lady of Prairie in Belle Plaine, Minnesota.

Sister Philomene retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 1997.

Once when reflecting back on her life, Sister Philomene said the most comforting word to her was faith – faith in God and faith in the people that touched her life. She said being a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ meant to love and work in the presence of God and in the footsteps of Blessed Catherine Kasper.



**Sister Mary Jane Sloderbeck, PHJC**

**S**ister Mary Jane Sloderbeck, PHJC, formerly known as Sister Irene, passed away on February 17, 2014 at the Catherine Kasper Home, Donaldson, Indiana. She was born to Elijah and Anna (Riplinger) Sloderbeck in

Marion, Indiana on June 22, 1926. She entered the Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ community and professed her first vows on June 25, 1947.

Sister Mary Jane received her Masters of Education and her Masters of Science degrees. She began her teaching ministry in 1946. For 41 years she taught school in the Archdiocese of Chicago, the Dioceses of Belleville, Illinois and Fort Wayne/South Bend, Indiana. In 1987 she became the Head Librarian at Marian High School in Mishawaka, Indiana then served as the PHJC Sacristan and in Ancilla College Library. Sister Mary Jane retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 2008.

In her 60th Jubilee reflection in 2006, Sister Mary Jane stated, “On entering the main entrance of the Motherhouse of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ for the first time, my view was the amazing Annunciation scene above the main altar. Like Mary, I was to be a handmaid of the Lord.”

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*May Sisters Philomene and Mary Jane rest in peace!*

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## Bethany Retreat House

**B**ethany Retreat House continues to offer individual spiritual direction, group spiritual direction, dream groups, individually directed retreats and private retreats.

**Drawing [on] Dreams Workshop with Cheryl Kaper • Saturday April 26, 2014**

**Volunteer Garden Day • Saturday May 3, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

*Please note: after May 16 the retreat house will no longer offer overnight retreats*

*For further information please contact Bethany Retreat House at (219) 398-5047 or email [bethanyrh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bethanyrh@sbcglobal.net).*

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# Upcoming MoonTree Studios Events

MoonTree Studios and Gallery has experiences, art exhibits and events scheduled this spring to appeal to every type of creative appetite or yearning, including quite a few that are new offerings. In March there's [Crocheted Jewelry](#) with Janet King and [Capturing Land and Seascapes in Watercolor, Part 1](#) with Dan Slattery, both on Saturday, March 22. For the intergenerational crowd, [Build a Catapult](#) on Saturday, March 22 as well; then you'll compete in the second annual Catapult Contest, part of The Center at Donaldson's Earth Week celebration, on Saturday, April 26.

In late March, Jayne Jacobson leads you in [Artistic Fusion Series: Enameling—Painting with Colored Glass](#) over two Monday evenings. Carol Fleming is here for [Let the Chips Fall—Chip Carving](#) and the new [Turn, Turn, Turn—Basic Woodturning](#).

In April, [Chinese Calligraphy—Understanding the Four Treasures of the Study](#) with Jane Everhart on April 2 or April 3 and 4. Cindy Agan is at MoonTree for [Children's Portraits in Watercolor](#) April 7 through April 9.

Come to MoonTree Clay Studio and learn how to [Throw Pottery on the Wheel](#) with MoonTree's new Clay Facilitator, Frederick Herczeg, over six Wednesdays: April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21 and 28. Or discover [Creating Pottery with Slabs and Extrusions](#) on five successive Thursdays beginning April 24.

Feed your inner child with [Flights of Fancy: Kite Building](#) with Sister Mary Baird, PHJC or partake of [An Exercise in Tranquility: Painting the Landscape in Pastels](#) with pastel artist and NIPS founder, Catherine McCormick, both on Saturday, April 5. There's [Intermediate Drawing](#), a Saturday of [Enameling](#), [Needlepoint for Beginners](#), [Mandala-Making with Seeds](#), and the intricate art of [Filet Crochet](#), all happening in April.

In May, you can [Build an Owl House](#) or [Capture Land and Seascapes with Part 2](#) of Slattery's

instruction. You can enjoy [Advanced Drawing/Pen and Ink](#) or [Paint with Multi-Colored Wool](#), when you [Make a Nuno Felt Scarf](#) with Meredith Setser. You'll discover the [Spirituality of Plein Air Painting](#) (outdoor location painting) with Diane Overmyer or [Enrich Your Artistic Flow](#) and reveal [The Power of Color](#) with Andrea Harris.

Barb Kobe with her [Art of the Doll](#) experiences is offered the last Saturday in May as well as Monday, June 2. Then Wednesday, June 4 through Saturday, June 7, Barb offers [Art of the Healing Doll: A Process to Deepen Your Connection to Your Creative Soul using Doll-Making and Journaling](#), which has never been offered before in our region.

In June, MoonTree is pleased to present a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in the original and unique [Love Story of Creation Retreat](#) with Rev. Edward Ruetz and others. It takes place Sunday, June 1 through Friday, June 6. This retreat includes art and music, nature and spirituality, field trips, boat excursions and more.

Mark your calendar for art receptions at MoonTree Gallery this spring, including the [Michiana Calligraphy Guild's All Members Exhibit](#) and Calligraphy Fest on Saturday, April 5 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and [My Infinite Journey](#) an exhibit of photography by Sister Damian McNamara, PHJC, opening on Saturday, May 17.

**Shake off the winter doldrums and come to MoonTree Studios soon, to mindfully and fearlessly explore the interconnectedness of art, nature, and the Spirit within.**

Request a MoonTree catalog of events or look online at [www.moontreestudios.org](http://www.moontreestudios.org) to get all the dates, times and details.



**MoonTree Studios**  
*Fearlessly Creating*



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# Upcoming Events at John XXIII Retreat Center Hartford City, Indiana

March 20, 2014

## Lenten Prayer and Lunch Reflection

Join us for one, two, or three prayer experiences followed by lunch and a talk on John's Gospel.

Reflection will be on John 4: 5-42,  
"The Samaritan Woman."

Speaker: Sister Pauline Bridegroom, PHJC

*Register by March 18*

March 21-22, 2014

## Growth in the Spirit

If you are hungering for a deeper walk with God, this series is for you. This series meets five times, every other month.

Leaders: Roger Evans PhD and Sister Joetta Huelsmann, PHJC. Must attend all sessions.

*Register by March 14*

March 27, 2014

## Lenten Prayer and Lunch Reflection

See March 20 listing for details. Reflection is on John 9: 1-41, "The Man Born Blind."

*Register by March 25*

March 29, 2014

## Women's Lenten Retreat

Topic – "The Journey"

Presenter: Pastor Laura High

Spa Sessions will be available.

*Register by March 8*

April 2, 2014

## Day of Renewal

Topic: "Intuitive Understanding of the Mystical Path" and "The Expansive Space of the Mystic"

*Register by March 31*

April 3, 2014

## Lenten Prayer and Lunch Reflection

See March 20 listing for details. Reflection is John 11: 1-45, "The Raising of Lazarus."

Speaker: Pastor Troy Kaufman.

*Register by April 1*

April 4-6, 2014

## Exploring Pope Francis' Spirituality

Presenters: Patrick Cleary-Burns and Sister Joetta Huelsmann, PHJC

*Register by March 28*

April 14-19, 2014

## Holy Week Directed Retreat

Come to as many days as you can.

*Register by April 7*

April 16, 2014

## Natural Egg Decorating with Vicki Peterson

Free will offering.

*Register by April 14*

April 17, 2014

## Seder Meal

Experience the ancient prayers of the Seder Meal and enjoy fellowship with others over a festive meal.

*Register by April 10*

April 25-27, 2014

## Men's Spring Retreat with Dave Jolliff,

## Father Keith Hosey and Rick Wilson

*Register by April 18*

April 27, 2014

## Mass and Dinner with Father Keith Hosey

Join us as we rejoice in the canonization of Pope John XXIII. *Register for dinner by April 21.*

May 3, 2014

## Caring for Those with Memory Loss

A retreat for caregivers. Led by Dorothy Weber.

*Register by April 25*

May 3-4, 2014

## Woman at Prayer

Travel with some of the women of the Bible to grow deeper in your prayer life.

Leader: Father Donald Halpin, OFM.

*Register by April 25*

May 7, 2014

## Day of Renewal

Topics: "An Experience of the Holy" and "Cloud of Unknowing and John of the Cross"

*Register by May 5*

May 9-10, 2014

## A Retreat with the Mystics

Learn more about Hildegard, Bernard of Clairvaux, and Teresa of Avila – three mystics.

Led by Anne C. McGuire.

*Register by May 2*

*(Upcoming Events at John XXIII Retreat Center,  
continued on page 11)*

## Lindenwood Retreat Offerings

March 28-30, 2014

**2014 Lenten Retreat: Got Service?**

Leader: Father Jerry Schweitzer

Using the Gospel of Mark, this retreat challenges us to ask: What does it mean to be a servant of the Gospel? How does our Lenten journey help to prepare us for this role?

April 4-7, 2014

**Women's Spring Retreat**

Leader: Jay Landry

On this retreat we will encounter Jesus as he walks and talks with us through His encounters with the woman at the well, the man born blind, and finally the raising of his friend Lazarus. What a beautiful way to prepare yourself for the upcoming Easter celebration.

April 17-20, 2014

**Triduum Retreat: Non-Directed**

Come and join the worship community of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in this retreat experience which begins on Holy Thursday with supper and concludes with dinner on Easter Sunday.

May 17, 2014

**Day of Reflection: Mary of Nazareth, Wife and Mother**

Leader: Sister Cathy Schwemer, PHJC

Come and reflect on this question: Who is this woman of history and faith that she should be called Mother of us all?

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*(Upcoming Events at John XXIII Retreat Center, continued from page 10)*

May 30-31, 2014

**Growth in the Spirit**

See March 21-22 listing for details.

Register by May 23

June 1-6, 2014

**Quiet Directed Retreat**

Strengthen your relationship with God by entering into the silence of deep prayer.

Register by May 23

June 6-8, 2014

**Pentecost's Fire: A Weekend Experience of the Spirit's Power**

Leader: Patrick Cleary-Burns

Pentecost is one of the most glorious feasts in the Church year. Come and join us and explore the movement of the Holy Spirit in your life and the life of the People of God.

June 21, 2014

**Day of Reflection: Joseph, Husband and Father**

Leader: Sister Cathy Schwemer, PHJC

During this day of reflection and prayer be reintroduced to this simple carpenter of Galilee through the eyes of two faith traditions and explore the impact of this man on our world today.

June 22-27, 2014

**2014 Road Scholar: Religion in American Culture**

Leaders: Dr. Sam Boys, Dr. David Miller,

Sister Connie Bach, PHJC; Sister Nancy Raboin, PHJC

(See Lindenwood's website for more details)

*Register early for savings on the registration fee!*

To register for any of the Lindenwood programs, please visit its website at [www.lindenwood.org](http://www.lindenwood.org) or call (574) 935-1780.

June 11, 2014

**Day of Renewal**

Topic: "True Mysticism Retrieved"

Register by June 9

June 13-14, 2014

**"Like the Deer Panting for Running Streams"**

Approaching the Subject of Mysticism

Leader: LeRoy Friesen

Register by June 6

For more information or to register call John XXIII Retreat Center at (888) 882-1391 or email [john23rd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:john23rd@sbcglobal.net).



*(“Companions on the Journey” and Associate Anniversary Celebration, continued from page 6)*

It promises to be an excellent weekend with tours of the chapel, the Heritage Room, several presentations and discussions. Sister Carole Langhauser has agreed to do a presentation on the history of the Poor Handmaids and Sister Jolise May has agreed to do one on our charism. As a part of the Spiritual Family of Catherine, it is a wonderful time to renew old friendships and form new ones. All Associates, Sisters and Fiat Spiritus Community members are invited to join us in supporting our candidates for the weekend.

***Kindly RSVP as soon as possible and reserve your place for the retreat and/or the catered dinner.  
We would love to have you join us for both!***

*(Contribute to the Catherine Kasper “Oscar” Nominations, continued from page 7)*

spirit and teaching me lessons of life. I remember being in awe of the Postulants and Novices, as we admired them and learned from them.

During this time in my life, I ventured many times to Cairo, Illinois, where I experienced Sisters who served the poor with the compassion and love exhibited by Blessed Catherine Kasper. They served with such strength and consideration, always seeming to stay positive and hopeful in the worst of conditions or circumstances. I spent a couple summers working with Sisters at the Villa on the senior citizens program. These Sisters taught me to

laugh and find God’s humor in all of life. To this day, I love laughter and the elderly or, as I like to refer to them, “forgotten treasures.”

I have been so blessed to learn from so many Poor Handmaids who have loved, molded, and shaped my life, my being, my very core. It has always been my prayer as a mother that my children meet even one person in their life that touches them in the multitude of ways any one of these women has touched me. So, although I am saying the thank you to a few...this “Academy Award” goes to all of these women for their accurate portrayal of Jesus’ love and compassion for the world. They are all truly blessings in my life.

— South Associate Libby Riggs