

A Cause to Dine For

On June 18, two Providence Pariseau ministries – Providence Hospitality House and Sojourner Place – joined forces to host a benefit breakfast to provide women and children in need with safe and supportive housing and resources. “Blossoming Futures” was the theme of the annual gathering at the Westin Hotel in downtown Seattle that brought in \$90,000 thanks to the generosity of donors. Sponsors of the event included the Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province; Providence Health & Services and PH&S Washington/Montana Region, MARSH, St. Joseph Residence, Seacast and Swedish Medical Center.

Providence Hospitality House helps mothers in crisis and their children, while Sojourner Place offers a haven for women in transition to independent living. Both provide shelter, food and resources to help these women and families live successful and fulfilled lives.

Sister Charlotte Van Dyke, provincial councilor and Providence Pariseau board member, set the tone for the morning, using the following song lyrics as an opening prayer:

The Least of These

*There's a hungry one, lives in the street
There's a thirsty one without a cup to drink
There's a little one with no shoes on her feet.
There's a family sleeping in the rain,
And the one abused will never be the same,
The addicted one with no one left to blame.
And all of these are my people.
And all of these long to be free.
And all of these are my beloved.
And all of these are me.*

*So when you hold out your hand selflessly,
And give help to the stranger in need,
Then whatever you do to the least of these
You do to me.*

*In a prison, so far from home,
I was lonely, so bitter and alone.
Evicted, illegal, incurable.
Different. Despised.
I was locked out – but you took me in.
I was at the end. You helped me to begin.
I'm a lot like you: Sister, brother, and friend.
So follow me into the Kingdom,
Follow me for you have been wise.
Follow me, you who have known me.
I was right before your eyes.*

*So when you hold out your hand selflessly,
And give help to the stranger in need,
Then whatever you do to the least of these
You do to me.*

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Portland library named for sister

Sister Pauline Lemaire received an extra-special 50th Jubilee surprise this summer. A new children's library at Providence Montessori School in Portland, where she was a guide for 14 years, was named in her honor. The school community chose this way to honor her 50-year commitment as a Sister of Providence. Sister Pauline, who teaches reading to children in El Salvador today, has always been devoted to children and families. She was delighted to also receive a stack of children's books in Spanish to take back with her.

The library is a resource for books that will be used by teachers in the classroom and checked out by students. Parents funded the project, building the shelves and purchasing books at a book fair they hosted in May. The library, which can accommodate 500 titles, initially will serve children ages 2 ½ to grade 3. As the elementary program grows, books for grades 4 to 6 will be added. Donations of books and money are welcome. ●

Sister Pauline Lemaire (second from left) is pictured at the new children's library at Providence Montessori School in Portland with former students (L-R) Katie Lesseg and brother and sister Jeremy and Hannah Gatz-

Miller. The siblings, who are Jewish, recalled that Sr. Pauline was very inclusive at this very diverse Catholic-sponsored school, incorporating lessons about various religions and cultures so the children would understand more about their classmates.



WOMEN & spirit CATHOLIC SISTERS IN AMERICA

Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America

This traveling exhibit on the rich history and contributions of Catholic sisters in the United States has been mounted by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR). Through photographs, artifacts and documents drawn from the archives of many organizations, including the Providence Archives, the exhibit tells how sisters played a vital role in shaping American life from before the earliest days of the republic and throughout its history.

The exhibit, which opened in the Cincinnati Museum Center last May, currently is booked at the following locations:

**The Women's Museum:
An Institute for the Future**
Dallas, Texas
September – December 2009

**Smithsonian-International
Gallery in the Dillon Ripley Center**
Washington, DC
January – April 2010

**Statue of Liberty National
Monument/Ellis Island
Immigration Museum**
New York City
September – December 2010

Mississippi River Museum
Dubuque, Iowa
February – April 2011

*Information on additional sites
will be posted when available.* ●

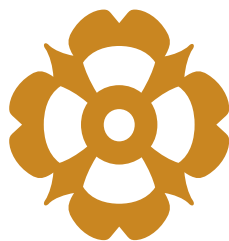
Mother Joseph Province

accepts a new candidate



New candidate Marita Capili (second from left) is pictured with (L-R) Sister Clare Lentz, Provincial Superior Margaret Botch, SP; and Sister Josie Ramac.

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Marita Capili, 43, was moved to tears at the Provincial Chapter meeting in August as she requested permission to become a candidate for the Sisters of Providence. The tears gave way to a smile as she was embraced by

Provincial Superior Margaret Botch and given a medal with Our Lady of Sorrows on one side and St. Vincent de Paul on the other.

Born in the Philippines, Marita is the third oldest of eight children and moved to Guam with some of her family as a teenager. She became an independent, adventurous young woman who went to work for Hyatt International Hotels in Guam, a job that has given her many opportunities to travel the world in the years since then. Five years ago, Marita transferred to Seattle to work as reservation manager of the Hyatt hotel downtown. A year ago, she was promoted to revenue manager for Seattle's two Hyatt hotels.

For the past 11 months, Marita has been in contact with the Vocation Team member Sister Clare Lentz and others as she entered into a long and fruitful time of discernment of her call to religious life. Now she is in the hands of Sister Josie Ramac, her candidate director. Learn more about Marita and her spiritual journey in the next issue of *Caritas*. ●

Rest in Peace

Annette M. Parent, SP (Sister Pascal Marie)

Sister Annette M. Parent (Mary Annette Parent) died May 19 at Holy Family Hospital, Spokane, at 86 years of age after 66 years as a Sister of Providence. Her religious name, received upon profession of vows, was Sister Pascal Marie.

Sister Annette and her twin sister Jeanette, also a Sister of Providence, were born October 22, 1922, in Baker, Mont. They were the children of Louis Joseph Parent and Auxilia Marie Parent, both originally from the Province of Quebec, Canada. Annette and Jeanette were the eighth and ninth of the family's 11 children, four boys and seven girls. They both attended Yokley Elementary School near Webster, Mont., before moving to Springdale, Wash., where they attended public school for three years. In her junior year, Annette attended Marycliff High School in Spokane and graduated in 1940 from St. Joseph's Academy in Sprague, Wash.

Sister Annette entered the Sisters of Providence on July 17, 1942, and then entered the novitiate in Spokane on January 18, 1943. She professed her first vows on July 19, 1944, and her final vows on July 19, 1947.

In 1955, Sister Annette earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from the College (now University) of Great Falls (MT), and in 1958 she earned a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. In 1959, Sister Annette became a registered pharmacist and spent most of her years in ministry working in pharmacies at Columbus Hospital, Great Falls, Mont.; St. Patrick Hospital, Missoula, Mont.; and Sacred Heart Hospital (now Sacred Heart Medical Center) in Spokane. She retired from her ministry as a pharmacist in 1993.

Sister Annette became a resident of Mount St. Joseph in Spokane upon her retirement and enjoyed learning new handcrafts and living the peaceful life through daily prayer.

She was preceded in death by her parents, four brothers and four sisters. Survivors include two sisters, Sister Jeanette Parent at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, and Beatrice Siring, Sidney, Mont.; and several nieces and nephews.

Vigil Service was held May 26 at Mount St. Joseph Chapel, Spokane, and the Funeral Mass was celebrated there the following day. Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery, Spokane. Hennessey-Smith Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions in Sister Annette Parent's honor may be made to the Sisters of Providence Retirement Fund, 1801 Lind Avenue, #9016, Renton, WA 98057-9016. ●



Nellie "Marguerite" O'Connor, SP (Sister Francis Jerome)

Sister Nellie "Marguerite" O'Connor (Sister Francis Jerome) passed away June 20 at Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, at 94 years of age, after 76 years as a Sister of Providence.

She was born Nellie Marguerite O'Connor on November 3, 1914, to Daniel J. O'Connor and Leah Boudreau in Missoula, Mont., the family's tenth and youngest child. She received her elementary education at the local schools in Missoula before graduating from Sacred Heart Academy High School in Missoula, Mont., in 1932.

Sister Marguerite entered the Sisters of Providence on July 17, 1932, and then entered the novitiate at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, on January 18, 1933. She professed her first vows on July 19, 1934, and her final vows on July 19, 1937.

She received her two-year normal diploma in 1937 and her bachelor of arts degree in education and social studies in 1942, both from the College (now University) of Great Falls (MT). In 1955, she earned a master's degree in English from Seattle University. She also received CREDO certification from Gonzaga University, Spokane, in 1984.

Sister Marguerite's early ministry assignments were as a teacher and administrator in both elementary and secondary schools, including St. Joseph's Academy, Sprague, Wash.; Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, Wallace, Idaho; and in numerous schools in Montana, including St. Thomas Home, Great Falls; St. Benedict School, Roundup; St. Francis Xavier School, Missoula; St. Raphael School, Glasgow; and St. Gerard School, Great Falls. After her time in the classroom, she was assigned as registrar at the College of Great Falls, a position she held for 24 years, before and after a four-year assignment as a Formation Team member in Spokane and Seattle.

Before retiring from her last ministry in March 2003, she served as the librarian at Mount St. Joseph in Spokane. Sister Marguerite shared that the biggest asset of retirement is that it offered her more time for prayer. She celebrated her 75th Jubilee as a Sister of Providence in 2008.

Sister Marguerite was preceded in death by her parents, six brothers and three sisters. Survivors include nieces Martina Charvet, Mickey Pence and Shirley McCann, and nephews Mike Martinez, Jerry Nelson and Patrick O'Connor.



Vigil Service was held June 25 at Mount St. Joseph Chapel, Spokane, where the Funeral Mass was celebrated the following day. Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery, Spokane. Hennessey-Smith Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions in Sister Marguerite O'Connor's honor may be made to the Sisters of Providence Retirement Fund, 1801 Lind Avenue, #9016, Renton, WA 98057-9016. ●

Jeanne Parent, SP (Sister Paul Joseph)

Sister Jeanne Parent (Sister Paul Joseph) died July 31 at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, at 100 years of age after 71 years as a Sister of Providence.

She was born December 27, 1908, in Rimouski, Quebec, Canada, to Adrien and Cecile (Brillant) Parent. She was the eldest of twelve children. When she was 7, her family moved to a farm in Roxton Falls, near Montreal.

Sister Jeanne entered the novitiate May 18, 1938, made her first profession on November 19, 1939, and made her final vows as a Sister of Providence on November 19, 1942. Three of her siblings (Isabelle, Gilberte and Gabrielle) and two of her aunts (Sister Cresence and Mother Pascal) became Sisters of Providence.



In 1947, she received her high school diploma at Providence Academy in Vancouver, Wash.

In 1956, she attended an "Institute of Spirituality" course at Notre Dame University in Bloomington, Ind. In 1956 and 1959, she took courses in accounting at Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

Sister Jeanne was sent to the West. After arriving in this country, she took care of the sisters at St. Joseph Residence in Seattle and set about learning English. She worked in nursing services at Providence Mount St. Vincent, Seattle (1942-46). She then worked in business offices at the following institutions: Providence Portland Medical Center, Portland, Ore. (1946-47); St. Luke Infirmary, Centralia, Wash. (July to October, 1947); St. Joseph Hospital, Vancouver, Wash. (1947-49); Providence General Medical Center, Everett, Wash. (1949-50); Providence St. Vincent Medical Center, Portland, Ore. (1950-61); St. Mary Hospital, Astoria, Ore. (1961-68); and Providence Heights, Issaquah, Wash. (1970-74).

In 1974, Sister Jeanne began a new ministry, working as a receptionist at St. Vincent Hospital, Portland, for the next 20 years. Sister Jeanne began her retirement in 1995 in Portland, and then moved to St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, in 2002.

Sister Jeanne's parents and six of her siblings preceded her in death. She is survived by two brothers, Edgar (Jacqueline) Parent, Quebec, and Roger (Martine) Parent, Quebec; as well as three sisters, Antoinette Parent, Quebec; Therese Parent Mongeau; and Sr. Gilberte Parent, Seattle. She also is survived by several nieces, nephews, grand-nephews, grandnieces, cousins, friends, and her community of Sisters of Providence.

Vigil Service was held August 5 in the chapel at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, where the Funeral Mass was celebrated the following day. Burial followed at Calvary Cemetery, Seattle. Bonney-Watson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions in Sister Jeanne Parent's honor may be made to the Sisters of Providence Retirement Fund, 1801 Lind Avenue SW, #9016, Renton, WA 98057-9016. ●

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Barbara Dowell, mother-in-law of Craig Cozza, PA, died July 15 in Colfax, IL.

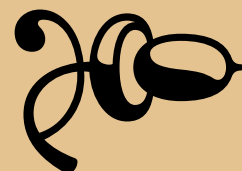
Dwight Dee Davis, uncle of Jessica Taylor, SP, died July 20 in Federal Way, WA

Debbie Herb, sister-in-law of Jo Ann Showalter, SP, died July 21 in Albany, OR.

Calletta LaFramboise, step-mother of Beatrice LaFramboise, SP, died July 30 in Sunnyside, WA.

Chuck Wong, uncle of Jacqueline Fernandes, SP, died August 12 in Vancouver, B.C.

Don Cella, brother-in-law of Clarella Fink, SP, died August 21 in Sammamish, WA.



Caritas

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Providence Women Reunion 2009

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On the sunny weekend of June 12-14, ninety former and current Sisters of Providence gathered for the Providence Women Reunion 2009 in Renton, Wash. The first event was a reception on Friday night at the Hilton Garden Inn, where some of the participants stayed for the weekend. For many, it was a time to reconnect by visiting and sharing with former novitiate class members and others. As the night wore on, the noise level rose higher and higher!

The next day the women gathered at the new Providence Health & Services Conference Center. Mary Kaye Nealen SP, and Provincial Superior Margaret Botch, SP, gave inspiring addresses on "Providence Spirituality in Today's World" and "Providence Women in Today's World", respectively. Their thoughts provided the basis for meaningful small group discussions. Many commented that the input from Sister Mary Kaye and Sister Margaret served to deepen the exchanges that followed. Triads were formed and each person was invited to share how the Providence experience had touched their lives.

A panel of former and current Sisters of Providence: Glenda Moyers, Geni Van Iderstine (Kemper), Barbara Schamber, SP, and Karin Dufault, SP, was very well received. Also, throughout the weekend photos from the Providence Archives ran in a continuous loop and brought back many memories. The Saturday night banquet was sponsored by the Sisters of Providence and gave participants another opportunity to sit and dine with classmates.

There was much unanimity on wanting a future reunion. A number of people volunteered to be part of the planning committee for the next one. Many expressed that the warmth, hospitality and openness that they experienced during the weekend will remain as a wonderful memory. ●

-- Kay Van Stralen



In gatherings large and small, Providence Women reconnected in their reunion at the Providence Health & Services Conference Center. Many classes reunited, including the Class of 1965 (left) and the class of 1959 (below).



What did you particularly like/appreciate about the reunion?

- The women!!
- The opportunity to share and reflect ...
- Just being together sharing our stories in light of how Providence has worked in our lives
- It was all 12 on a scale of 1 to 10.
- Loved the faces and smiles and hugs of beloved friends
- A sincere pleasure to reconnect; visiting, sharing with class was joyful; sharing the Providence Spirit ...
- Enjoyed and found healing (in) the humor, joy and sharing of life stories and the lovely and comfortable accommodations
- Seeing special friends; making new acquaintances
- I appreciated the sharing by individuals; it's inspiring to see how they relate Providence in their life.
- The overwhelming welcome we were given; the reconnecting after 40 years was great
- The open sharing, the common shared love and respect; great beyond words
- Absolutely everything: the honest sharing, the laughter, joy
- Sharing, articulation of what a Providence Woman is; past experiences of classmates; wonderful warmth and hospitality
- This was a wonderful get together; lots of smiles as well as tears.