



# Sisters of the Precious Blood

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Please consider saving paper, ink and the environment —print only if necessary. We have eliminated much of the heavy color areas to minimize the use of colored ink. Thanks

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## Enacted in our ASSEMBLY DIRECTIVES 2015 we will remember to...

- Continue to articulate and integrate our Spirituality in our sharing among ourselves and with others.
- Increase our use of social media to promote Precious Blood Spirituality.
- Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God's people.
- Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.
- Network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality.

## Stories from around our CPPS world



### DEATH PENALTY — A BALLOT ISSUE

According to the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, from now until Election Day it's going to be all about **Nebraska** and **California**, because both states are facing critical ballot initiatives.

In **Nebraska** voters will decide whether to keep the repeal bill, which was passed by the legislature in May 2015 over the veto of Governor Pete Ricketts, or turn back the clock and reinstate the death penalty.

**California** has two dueling initiatives: **Proposition 62** would end the death penalty, replacing it with Life Without Parole, and **Proposition 66** would double down on the death penalty, removing important safeguards that protect innocent people from slipping through the cracks and being executed.

You can help by getting the word out to your friends and networks across the country. The more attention these initiatives get nationally, the more attention and exposure they will get in Nebraska and California. And you never know who in your broad networks will be connected to somebody in either of these two states.

However, Ohio has just announced (Oct 3rd) it plans to resume executions in January after a 3 year hiatus. For more details and to learn how you can make a difference in this issue...go to:

<http://deathpenaltynews.blogspot.com/2016/10/ohio-ready-to-resume-executions-with.html>

## Neighbors We Are

Over fourteen years Sisters Joan DeChristopher and Mary Garke lived at 2500 Ardmore Street in the one square mile village of Golf Manor. Mary and Joan were on a first name basis with the police chief and the mayor because of the presence and influence at Concerned Citizens meeting and neighborhood activities.

As Joan orchestrated the numerous tasks involved in the move to Dayton, friends, neighbors and Nativity parishioners pitched in to pack and organize boxes, participated in garage sales, prepared the house for showing to potential buyers and provided transportation for Joan to visit Mary during Mary's rehab.



Sixteen neighborhood folks gathered at Bob Evans Restaurant for a surprise farewell for Joan. On July 4<sup>th</sup> Joan was the grand marshal for the village's holiday parade. Mary was able to accompany her, walker and all, in the red convertible ride. It was a privilege for me to witness the Golf Manor Community mirror love and support for these Sisters.

— submitted by Mary E. Wendeln

This article emphasizes the Emerging Future Directive - **Network with other individuals, agencies and groups to be effective in our current reality** the Focus of Visitation cluster for the coming year.



### NATIONAL MUSHROOM FORAY

### CARING FOR OUR EARTH AND EACH OTHER

Marie Kopin went to the North American Mycological Association (NAMA) [www.namyco.org](http://www.namyco.org) meeting at Front Royal, VA in September of this year with 4 others from Michigan (see photo). She is on the National Board of NAMA, and is a member of the Education Committee. She is listed to receive calls through the U.S. Poison Control Center to identify mushrooms when there is concern about a poisoning.

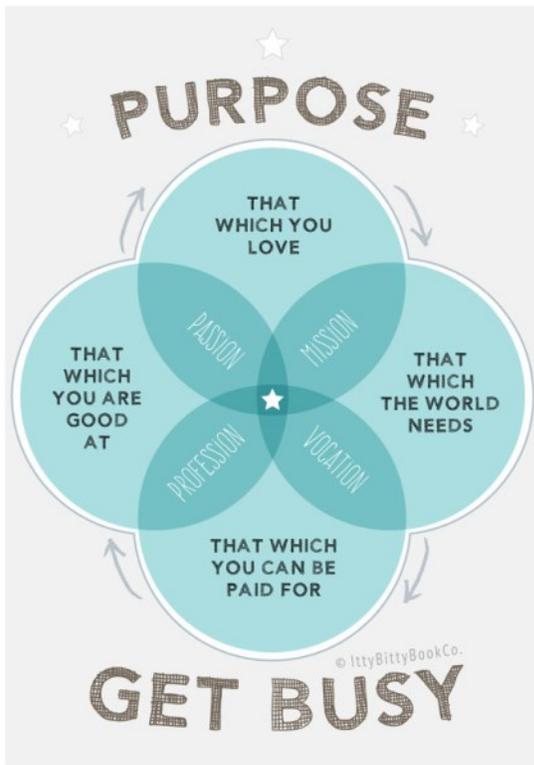
Marie reports that "at NAMA, we worked with the Shenandoah National Park Service staff to collect data for research projects. We also had numerous field trips up to the National Park and collected specimens for display, and for the Herbarium in Chicago for Geno analysis by our Mycoflora Project. Workshops updated participants on various aspects of fungal research and field work, plus others related to photography, art, culinary techniques and use of microscopes. The lead mycologist was from Ohio, Walt Sturgeon."

Through all this Marie endeavors to **Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.**



“My little tomato and other plants are all nicely potted in their "permanent" containers (photos included for those of you who were interested in this little project!) I didn't photo the oregano or the cilantro because they are still rather small but very healthy looking. Sindy has agreed to take charge of checking on the potted garden daily. They will probably have plenty of water because it is still the rainy season. In fact, they might suffer from too much water because of that -- time will tell. We had plenty of plants to share with Cony and Melvin and two other neighbors.”

—submitted by Joyce Kahle



this surprise turned up  
in my garden

I wonder if we are often unwittingly impacted by the mainstream culture around us? Once we become aware of our bias, outlook, attitude or behavior we can respond to the invitation to change.

In August at their Assembly the LCWR had input from a woman who could shed light on an aspect of a history many of us are unaware of.

the Catholic News Service reported the following:

ATLANTA - Black women desiring to serve a life devoted to the Catholic faith were not welcomed by religious communities with anti-black acceptance requirements from the early 19th century to the middle of the 20th century, said historian Shannen Dee Williams.

Those who could gain admittance faced discrimination from their fellow sisters, she added.

“Black sisters matter, but they constitute a dangerous memory for the church,” said Williams, assistant professor of history at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Follow this link to learn more:

<https://cruxnow.com/cns/2016/08/18/racism-faced-black-nuns-america-called-dangerous-memory/>

- response to Assembly Directive: **Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God’s people.**

—Submitted by Mary Lou Schmersal



send us your articles (approximately 125 words or less) for our next issue Grassroots is due **OCTOBER 29** so we can meet our goal of having it in your hands by **11/3/2016**.

Please submit to Marty Bertke [m.bertke@hometowncable.net](mailto:m.bertke@hometowncable.net)

.....or to Mary Lou Schmersal [cppsnews@bright.net](mailto:cppsnews@bright.net)

**Your contributions make all the difference!**

We're on the Web!

[www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org](http://www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org)