



Sisters of the Precious Blood

Volume 2, Issue 9 August, 2017



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

GED Success!

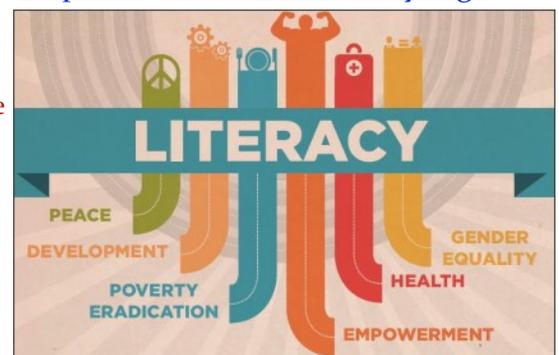
In August, 2016 the Brunner Literacy Center partnered with the Day Reporting Center at the Bennett J. Cooper Reentry Center on Gettysburg Avenue. It is here that BLC tutors work with short-term, non-violent residents, who are battling heroin addiction, to help them get a G.E.D. Through a grant from the state of



Ohio the Montgomery County Courts are creatively reaching out to young adult offenders by providing a plethora of coping resources. Getting a G.E.D and/or improving literacy are two of the best ways to ensure non-returns to prison. Sister Maryann Bremke joins six other tutors on Wednesday mornings to help with this needed service. Site Coordinator of this program is Barbara Maloney with assistance from Kateri Dillon. Sessions are held Monday through Thursday mornings-8:30 until noon. Since the program began twenty-one participants have earned their G.E.D. These individuals now have necessary skills to reenter society successfully. This picture is of Andre, one of our 21 G.E.D. recipients in the program.

Learn more about the Literacy Center at <https://www.brunnerliteracy.org/>

- Submitted by Sr Maryann Bremke
- **Emergent Future Directive:** Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God’s people.



LITERACY Changes Lives

The Brunner Literacy Center, in Dayton, OH, will hold its 5th annual 5-K RUN/WALK Saturday, October 28, 2017 beginning at 10:00 am. For more information and/or to register for the event, go to:

www.brunnerliteracy.org

Also, you can purchase Raffle Tickets and the prizes are: \$500, \$300, \$200. Tickets are available at the Brunner Literacy Center at www.brunnerliteracy.org/donate or call 937-567-9600. Proceeds benefit the BLC. Drawing is after the 5K on Sat., Oct. 28.

I am a strong promoter of the Brunner Literacy Center and therefore I am selling Raffle Tickets, \$5.00 a ticket or 6 for \$25. Just contact me, Sister Margie Zureick at Salem Heights. This is a very good way to support one of the sponsored ministries of our Congregation. By the way, last year I sold the winning ticket to Sister Eleanor McNally. Carole LaCombe Muhlenkamp is presenting the check. Carole and her husband John Muhlenkamp are coordinating the 5-K Run (and have been since 2012).



Submitted by: Sr Margie Zureick

Emergent Future Directive: Stand with the marginalized, make a collective commitment to promote and witness nonviolence, and strive to effect reconciliation among God's people.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR — PLAN TO ATTEND

UPCOMING EVENTS AT SALEM HEIGHTS open to anyone interested.

AUGUST 19th – *“Awakening the Dreamer: Changing the Dream”* 9:00 -12:00
(Hosted by the Sisters of the Precious Blood)

This symposium is being led by facilitators from Cincinnati who have been involved in the program for the past several years. The best way to learn about it is by accessing the trailer at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MoXJZ_3-J9w

In this age of so much negativity and uncertainty about world events, this presents options toward building a better world through grassroots organizing around what can be, not what is. To register contact Sr. Jeanette at jbuehler@cppsdayton.org. Please do so by **August 18th**.

AUGUST 26th – *“A Closer Look at White Privilege”*

9:00 – 11:30 (Sponsored by the Anti-Racism, Anti-Discrimination Task Force of the Cincinnati Archdiocese and the Sisters of the Precious Blood)

This morning will bring people of diverse backgrounds together to share what they have read or experienced regarding White Privilege. The goal is to become more knowledgeable about this issue as we strive toward racial solidarity. To register contact Sr. Jeanette at jbuehler@cppsdayton.org by **August 11th**.



• Submitted by Sr Jeanette Buehler

• **Emergent Future Directive:** Network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality



A Feast for Many

Jesus took a few loaves and fishes and turned them into a feast for thousands, an example of faith in action. During this year Holy Trinity Parish in Coldwater, OH is celebrating their 150th anniversary with many activities. One outstanding event is this. The entire Coldwater community was invited to a “free meal” on Wednesday, May 31, 4:30-7:30 pm, held under tents on the Church parking lot. Before the event, parishioners went door-to-door, neighbor-to-neighbor, and handed-out personal invitations. Over 2,000 people were fed a delicious chicken dinner. What a great celebration! What a fine event of faith in action! I served on the planning committee and assisted in various ways.

Sisters of the Precious Blood began the Catholic Grade School in 1913 and it continued for 22 years. In 1935 it was changed to Coldwater Public School. However, C.P.P.S. Sisters have served the parish from 1913 until the present day, or for 104 years.

• Submitted by: Sr. Martha Bertke

• Emergent Future Directive: Continue to integrate our Spirituality in our sharing with others

National Black Catholic Congress Conference

July 6-9th I was very fortunate to attend the 12th Annual National Black Catholic Congress Conference with Srs. Patty and Paula. While they staffed the vocations booth I attended sessions such as ‘Why Others Aren’t Inspired: Being Intentional With Your Faith’, and found myself very early on talking with Mr. Brian Greenfield who facilitated a session about the orphan mentality of those who haven’t claimed themselves as children of God. A good discussion indeed! Another session, ‘Read on for King Jesus: The Basics of Sight Singing’, found me in the choir for the closing mass where all choir members wore African dress.

It was great to connect with the Josephte fathers and brothers, a Maryknoll priest who told me what my Namibian sisters were up to these days, and the Sisters of the Holy Family who joyfully threw beads in the Mardi Gras parade this year!

Not to mention the good 10 minutes Sr. Paula and I had talking with his Excellency Archbishop Christophe Pierre- the Papal Nuncio to the U.S., who was waiting for his car to the airport. He now knows the Sisters of the Precious Blood in Dayton Ohio and he gave me his blessing which I share with you all!



Lakesha with Excellency Archbishop Christophe Pierre- the Papal Nuncio to the U.S.

• Submitted by Sr. LaKesha Church

• Emergent Future Directive: Continue to integrate our Spirituality in our sharing with others



Title: Central MI Area Children's Foray in Isabella County By Sister Marie Kopin, C.PP.S. MMHC Secretary

Five children along with their accompanying Mom/Auntie attended a Kid's Hunt at Isabella County's Coldwater Lake Trailer Park. The children got to hear about timely fungi and handle them. They also were treated to viewing sample spore prints and getting prizes after a mushroom scavenger hunt.

Title: Educating Educators about Fungi
By Sister Marie Kopin, C.PP.S. MMHC Secretary

On July 14, 2017, Sister Marie gave a mycological presentation to a group of teachers from Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG), an International Teacher's Society alerting them about the availability of K-12 to adult curriculum materials about Fungi available for free download from our North American Mycological Association (NAMA) website (www.namyco.org) . She used Power Point to demonstrate some techniques for teaching and to show pages of material and teaching resources. Marie also participated in a choir and played prelude and postlude music on international themes for the gathering of the main meeting for this North East Regional group. This Conference was sponsored by local DKG groups in Canada and included over 400 delegates from Iceland, our N.E. states and Canadian Provinces. This meeting was located in Windsor, Ontario. Marie is pictured here with the DKG president of the state of Michigan.



- Submitted by Sr Marie Kopin

- **Emergent Future Directive:** Network with other individuals, agencies, and groups to be effective in our current reality.

ANNOUNCING

Nuns on the Bus Retreat

Sisters of Charity Motherhouse
August 17-19, 2017

Sisters of Earth International Gathering

Mt. St. Joseph University
July 12-15, 2018

For further information,
contact this email address:
cjwilliengo@gmail.com



Watch for the *"Befriend the Wolf: Blessing All God's Creation"* a 90 minute educational program developed by Catholic Climate Covenant to be released in mid August. Get a glimpse of what it will involve by clicking on this link for a short presentation: <http://tinyurl.com/ya6q73cv> . It will give us some practical ways we can use our gifts to better serve those with whom we interface each day, making the world a better place for everyone. Materials for prayer, meditation and group discussion will be offered. Sign up for your program kit at www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/FOSF.



In 2015, Pope Francis called on Catholics to join in the World Day of Prayer for Creation on September 1, a day first proclaimed by the Orthodox Church and now celebrated by many denominations. And in last year's [letter for the Day of Prayer for Creation](#), <http://tinyurl.com/zcn4558> Pope Francis talked about a "Time of Creation" or Season of Creation, the five weeks between the Day of Prayer on Sept. 1 and the Feast of St. Francis on Oct. 4. Plan to be part of this endeavor.

LAUDATO SI'S CHRISTIAN PRAYER IN UNION WITH CREATION

Father, we praise you with all your creatures.
They came forth from your all-powerful hand;
they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender
love.
Praise be to you!

Son of God, Jesus,
through you all things were made.
You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother,
you became part of this earth,
and you gazed upon this world with human eyes.
Today you are alive in every creature
in your risen glory.
Praise be to you!

Holy Spirit, by your light
you guide this world towards the Father's love
and accompany creation as it groans in travail.
You also dwell in our hearts
and you inspire us to do what is good.
Praise be to you!

Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love,
teach us to contemplate you
in the beauty of the universe,

for all things speak of you.
Awaken our praise and thankfulness
for every being that you have made.
Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined
to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in this world
as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth,
for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
Enlighten those who possess power and money
that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good, advance the weak,
and care for this world in which we live.
The poor and the earth are crying out.

O Lord, seize us with your power and light,
help us to protect all life,
to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom
of justice, peace, love and beauty.
Praise be to you!
Amen.

A CHANGE OF HEART IS REQUIRED

Pope Francis' revolutionary encyclical *Laudato Si* calls for a "broad cultural revolution" to confront the environmental crisis. At heart, *Laudato Si*, addressed to "every person on the planet" is a call for a new way of looking at things, a "bold cultural revolution" (No. 3, 114). We face an urgent crisis, when, thanks to our actions, the earth has begun to look more and more like, in Francis' vivid language, "an immense pile of filth" (No. 21). Still, the document is hopeful, reminding us that because God is with us, we can strive both individually and corporately to change course. We can awaken our hearts and move towards an "ecological conversion" in which we see the intimate connection between God and all beings, and more readily listen to the "cry of the earth and the cry of the poor" (No. 49).

To use religious language, what the pope is calling for is conversion. James Martin, S.J.

- Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.



The Grandeur of God

God, the Creator, gives us the earth to cultivate and the sun to serve our needs (from a prayer for Monday of the Sixteenth Week of the Year).

Step into creation and see, touch, feel, hear the gift of God, the generosity and trust God has for humans. Take in all that is there and know the love of God. Fully absorb that love given in nature, and become one with God. Hold on to the gift and watch it flow right on through to others. United with the Creator we are "blessed" in the generative process desired by God for "filling the earth" and taming it.

Watch the clouds, hold a leaf or flower, listen to the sound of a cricket and in that minute piece of nature be awed by the gift of God. Give place to the impulse to share it. Stand on the firm earth. Dig in its soil. Drop seed there. Watch for its shell to break and a spear of life to appear. Honor the gift of sun and rain. Know the power of creation right there before your eyes. Note the beauty. Taste its fruit. Collect the seed and start all over again. Experience the multiplication of creation's gift. Experience the Creator's love. Step into nature and never be the same!

- Submitted by Sr Barbara Ann Hoying
- Emergent Future Directive: Act responsibly in the use and care of our planet's resources.

Send us your articles (approximately 125 words or less) for our next issue. Next issue articles for Grassroots are due August 27 so that we can meet our goal of having it in your hands by 09_01_2017.

Please submit to Marty Bertke m.bertke@hometowncable.net

.....or to Mary Lou Schmursal cppsnews@bright.net

Your contributions make all the difference!

A graphic with the words "Thank You" written in a large, elegant, black cursive font. The text is set against a white background that is slightly tilted and has a soft shadow effect.

We're on the Web!

www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org