



DOMINICAN SISTERS
 175 ROUTE 340
 SPARKILL, NY 10976
 WINTER 2010

www.sparkill.org

Women Making a Difference

When you received our September 2009 mailing you were invited to participate in our annual November Calendar Raffle. Yes there were 75 winners – (separate insert) however the Dominican Sisters profited from your generous response! The proceeds have enabled us to support portions of our Sisters' ministries – programs and places that make a difference in the lives of the people we serve:

New Beginnings – at St. John Chrysostom School, Bronx, NY

The flooring/carpeting on the playground that is used by the PreK and 1st graders needs to be resurfaced. This has become a safety issue for the 'little-ones'. The play

yard is used during the school year before, during and after school and also during the school's summer program. It is an area that allows 'children to be children' – in a safe, nurturing environment. The school is



NEW BEGINNINGS
 Sr. Maureen Daly, OP

located in one of the poorest Congressional Districts in the U.S. Sr. Mary Mooney, OP Principal, Early Childhood Education teacher Sr. Maureen Daly, OP and the entire staff at St. John's is committed to offering quality Catholic education to all of their students.

Directed Retreats on the Dominican Tradition – at St. Mary Student Parish, Ann Arbor, MI

Sr. Catherine Patrice Morgan, OP works in the Campus Ministry program at the University of Michigan. Her goal, and that of the retreat, is to



DIRECTED RETREATS
 Sr. Catherine Morgan, OP

enable the students to learn about Dominican spirituality and traditions. Being proud of our roots in St. Dominic, Sr. Catherine is confident that this will be an enriching experience for the students.

Make Every Day Count – Dowling Gardens, Sparkill, NY

This is a series of programs that incorporates cultural, spiritual, educational, and physical training directed towards enriching the day-to-day life of the frail elderly residents that live at Dowling Gardens. An invitation was also extended to the Sisters who live at Dominican Convent (our Motherhouse). Sr. Ursula Joyce, OP, Executive Director, along with the adjunct staff and guest speakers, know that this program will offer a



MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT
 Sr. Peggy McPatland, OP (L)

myriad of opportunities to those who attend the programs.

Respite Care for Mothers & Teaching English to Beginners – St. Rita's Center, Bronx, NY

Child Care is provided for children while the mothers attend classes at the Center - to learn English, especially those first moving into the area, and, for some, to study for their citizenship exam. If a Mom needs to go to an appointment she knows her child(ren) are in a safe place – where they play, learn, and have fun! Sr. Jean Marshall, OP and her staff are committed to empower-



RESPITE CARE
 Sr. Jean Marshall, OP and Sr. Theresa Girolomo, OP



CATHECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PROGRAM

Sr. Margie O'Doherty, OP

ing the women who come to St. Rita's – with success one step at a time as their goal.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program at St. Mary's Rocky Boy, St. Anthony, Box Elder, and St. Margaret Mary, Big Sandy, MT

For children ages 3-12 and with a curriculum that nurtures the faith, moral and psychological 'pieces' of a child's life the program includes formation in scripture, liturgy and morality. Once certified as a catechist the benefits of the program will be passed on to the children. Sr. Kathleen Kane, OP and Sr. Margaret O'Doherty, OP, along with the staff are confident that this program will make a difference in the lives of the Native Americans with whom they work.

*Child Care and After School Program
Enrichment – Thorpe Family Residence,
Bronx, NY*

Thorpe offers transitional housing for women and children. The child care and recreation rooms at TFR need to update educational toys and games, computer

programs, and videos. Additionally staff will benefit from attending on-going in-service programs on child development. Sr. Lesley Block, OP, Residence Manager at TFR, and the staff are committed to their goal of providing the very best services for the families at TFR. They seek to empower young women to become good mothers and develop independent living skills in a peaceful environment where the women are



CHILD CARE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

respected, supported, and challenged to grow.

Infant-Toddler/Parents & Peaceful Homes Programs – Dominican Sisters Family Health Service, Bronx, NY

This program addresses the needs for early care and education for children birth to three years and for family support. It supports very vulnerable young children

in developing an overall sense of their well being while developing skills needed for success in future school settings. Additionally it assists their parents to realize their potential as persons of dignity and strength, with particular focus on their role as parents. The program integrates a holistic approach to family violence prevention and



INFANT-TODDLER/ PEACEFUL HOMES

Sr. Irene Ellis, OP

intervention. The goals of both programs are the well-being of the children and the development of parenting skills. Sr. Irene Ellis, OP co-director of the programs, along with other staff members, commit themselves to the on-going need for such support.

After-School Tutoring Program – The Family Center, (an Outreach of Catholic Urban Programs) East St. Louis, IL

It is the belief of Sr. Carol Lehmkuhl, OP, and the staff at the Center, that improved skills in academics can affect real outcomes for the children who come to the after-school program which is directed by Sr. Ann Gregory Bischof, OP. The staff believes, and has the 'lived experience', of making

an impact in the lives and community in which they work and knows that change for the good is done in a more permanent way. The Family Center, located in one of the poorest cities in the U.S., takes pride in knowing that it makes a difference in the lives of the children and their families.

Additionally you are helping us establish a *Building Fund for the Dominican Study Center*, Bahawalpur, Pakistan. Despite tension and political unrest our Sisters continue their various ministries, especially that of educating children. We are grateful for your support and for helping us assist in planning for the re-building of the Dominican Study Center, a school attended by the children of poor Christian families. Originally begun by Sr. Suzanne Dolan, OP, (RIP) the Study Center has become a 'place of opportunity' for children who otherwise might not receive an education. With the determination of Sr. Catherine Bashir, OP, Principal, the staff, and our Sisters - their dream will hopefully become a reality. *Please: we ask you to pray for the safety of our Sisters in Pakistan and for a peaceful end to the unrest in their country.*



AFTER SCHOOL

Sr. Ann Gregory Bischof, OP

The Dominican Sisters of Sparkill describe themselves as *'Women Making a Difference'* - a group of women religious who *'hear'* the cry of the poor... respond to the needs of the *'powerless'*...see the *'signs of the times'* and say *yes!* to sharing the Good News with people throughout our world. Your friendship and support enable us to be this difference - to live our goal and mission as a congregation. In the name of all of our Sisters - **THANK YOU!**

IN MEMORY OF...



Sr. Margaret Mary Rankin, OP
September 16, 2008
Dominican Sister for 65 Years

Sr. Virginia Marie Huels, OP
October 20, 2009
Dominican Sister for 66 Years

Sr. Maureen Archdeacon, OP
November 5, 2009
(formerly: Sr. Jean Angela)
Dominican Sister for 66 Years

Sr. Suzanne Dolan, OP
November 27, 2009
Dominican Sister for 71 Years

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

GATHERING OF THE FRIENDS of the DOMINICAN SISTERS ~ Sparkill/St. Louis

Saturday evening, November 14, 2009 close to 350 people came together for a Gathering of *'our'* Friends. The event was coordinated by a Steering Committee of twelve graduates of St. Mary Magdalen School in Brentwood, MO. The goal was to raise funds for the retirement needs of the Sisters who taught them and who they call friend and confidant. Contact from



our Development Office and Bob Laughlin (brother of our Sr. Suzanne) was on-going for the past year. The evening was a time to renew connections with classmates and to reminisce about their grade school days. The Dominican Sisters are VERY GRATEFUL to the Committee and those who worked with them to make the evening the success it was. We are especially thankful for the \$35,000 that was realized from their efforts. Yes! the Dominican Sisters know how blessed we are! For more information about our Friends visit their website.

Friends of the Dominican Sisters / Sparkill-STL

**LET'S HELP THOSE, WHO HAVE HELPED US
BY RAISING FUNDS BENEFITING RETIREMENT NEEDS.**

WWW.FRIENDSOFDOMINICANSISTERS.ORG

On behalf of all of the Dominican Sisters, Thank You for your generous Christmas gifts. As promised you and your intentions were remembered in our prayers throughout the Christmas season and especially during the Christmas Novena of masses December 17th-25th in Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel at our Motherhouse, Dominican Convent. For us this is both a privilege and honor. We thank you not only for your generous support but your friendship. It enables us to respond to the needs of people throughout our world and to live our goal/mission of being:

'women of prayer and compassion...proclaiming the reign of God through a ministry for justice...with reverence for all creation.' (Mission Statement)



Chapter 2010 ~ April 7th -11th

During these next few months the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill will be preparing for a General Chapter (meeting) at which all members will gather. At the Chapter we will be electing new (Sister) leadership and setting a direction for the next six years – determining how we will continue to live our goal and mission as a congregation. We ask you to pray for and with us.

Give Something SPECIAL

- Consider remembering us in your will. Our legal title is:
Dominican Convent of Our Lady of the Rosary
- Pledge a monthly gift (either by check or credit card)*
- Make arrangements for a Matching Gift from your place of employment or retirement
- You can make a donation via our website: www.sparkill.org
- If you live in New York, Missouri, Florida, or Connecticut, consider arranging a Charitable Gift Annuity with us. This will assure you a life-time income and help to support our ministry and retirement needs. Contact the Development Office for a proposal. More states will be added in 2010.

For more information regarding the above gift opportunities please contact: Sr. Peggy Scarano @ 845-359-4173 or via e-mail: peggy.scarano@sparkill.org

*See insert with this issue with suggestions of 'Ways of Giving'

HEARTS OF GOLD PROJECT CONTINUES...

We are reaching out to our families, friends, and benefactors to assist with a unique project. In this economic environment we realize that monetary donations are many times difficult. One of our Sisters, Lillian McNamara, OP suggested the following:

"Perhaps you would like to donate pieces of gold jewelry that may be broken, partially lost (single earrings), old class rings or jewelry no longer being worn.

Alone, this jewelry has little value, but when put together with other gold items, it has greater monetary value."

Thank You for the response to our Hearts of Gold Projects. Even the smallest donation is appreciated. Send your contribution of gold to:

Sr. Peggy Scarano, OP
Development Office
175 Route 340, Sparkill, NY 10976

We Invite You to Visit our Website

www.sparkill.org

LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE DOMINICAN SISTER OF SPARKILL

- Click the link [Who We Are & Our Mission](#)
- Click the link into [The Center Shop](#) located at Dominican Convent for sale items that range from books, cards, candles, CD's + much more
- Click the link into [Faith Life](#) and read about Retreat and Vacation opportunities at Villa St. Joseph, Saugerties, NY and/or Villa St. Dominic, Glasco, NY
- Click the link into [Development](#) for Special Events, Ways to Help, our most recent newsletter, and how to make a donation via our site

CONTACT INFORMATION:

The Center Shop: 845-359-4070
Villa St. Joseph: 845-246-4531
Villa St. Dominic: 845-246-8941
Development Office: 845-359-4173

The Dominican Sisters are members of:



The National
Catholic Development
Conference



The Rockland
(County)
Development
Council, Inc.



LOOKING AHEAD

Save the Date

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2010
Annual Golf Tournament

For Advance Information
Contact the Development Office
845-359-4173
peggy.scarano@sparkill.org

 To Make a Donation, go back to Development's Home Page and **Click: Make a Donation.**
Thank You!