

Soundings update

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During November, We Remember...

During our All Souls' Day, Sunday liturgies at Fontbonne Convent, Bethany Health Care Center, and the Motherhouse we remembered Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston and Springfield who have passed away during the last year. Pictured at the right is the celebration at Fontbonne Convent. Dorothea Masuret, CSJ, and Nancy Welsh, SSJ, (in background) read the sisters' names as Lorraine Quinn, CSJ, received commemorative candles. ↪



Honoring Our Ignatian Roots by Nan Bouché, CSJA

Many associates and several sisters gathered in Nahant on October 18 for a day of prayer and reflection. Joanne Fantini, CSJA, offered the day entitled, "Living and Praying as the Family of Joseph: Our Roots in Ignatian Spirituality". As a seasoned director of the Spiritual Exercises and the Director at Eastern Point Retreat House, Joanne brought much knowledge, passion and inspiration to her presentation. She helped those gathered to appreciate how clearly the roots of CSJ Spirituality lie in Ignatian Spirituality.

Participants were introduced to Ignatius' Principle and Foundation which deals with one's foundational experiences of God's deep and unconditional love. It is these experiences which propel us outward, in a love response, to the inclusive love of the "dear neighbor" and all creation. Joanne pointed out that this "attitude" runs through all of the Spiritual Exercises as well as through our CSJ documents and many of the Maxims.

Quiet time for prayer was followed by small and large group sharing. Many commented on the richness of the sharing as individuals spoke of their own personal foundational experience of God's great love for them. Later in the day, Joanne presented a second session on the Ignatian "Election" which is the discernment of a deep consent to God's idea for each of us, God's election of each of us to be and to grow in our unique individuality as one freely created by God and graced with God's own life and love in each moment.

In accordance with the associates' recent decision to pray with five Maxims a month for the next two years, the day included a time of reflection and sharing on the first five Maxims facilitated by Joyce Barney, CSJA. This memorable day concluded with the celebration of a liturgy with Fr. Kevin O'Connell, SJ, presiding. ↪



PICTURED ABOVE: Associates and sisters during the October Associate Weekend in Nahant.

NEW ENGLAND REGION ASSOCIATE MEETING

A Look Back - A Step Forward

On Saturday, November 1, five CSJ associates along with Mary Ellen O'Connell, CSJ, participated in a program at Mercy Medical Center, Springfield, MA, to celebrate 20 years of NERA (New England Region Associates), "A Look Back - A Step Forward". Following a presentation based on NERA's history, Boston CSJ associates, Eva Amott, Elise Cheverie, Carole Anne Scott, Judy Swett, and Kathy Tighe joined associates and sisters from nine other congregations to reflect and share on the past and the future movements among associates and their respective congregations. What needs to be let go of? What are future directions? What are distinctive characteristics among associates? How will Associates continue to move forward in partnership with their congregations?

As associates looked to the future, some of the focal points were living fully and sharing each congregation's unique charism, the deepening commitment to personal/shared spirituality, the development of leadership among the associates, and the attraction of new associates from a variety of cultures and religions. At the closing prayer, we offered one another a blessing that embraced the dream of the day "Bless the work of your hands; bless the work of your heart." How rich is the experience of joining with other associates and sisters to create an atmosphere where "All are Welcome...!" As CSJ associates, enriched by the stories of other communities, we move forward on this journey with all in our "Family of Joseph".



PICTURED AT RIGHT: Boston CSJ Associates and Mary Ellen O'Connell, CSJ, with associates and sisters from the New England region who participated in the November 1, 2014, NERA gathering.

Remembering the Churchwomen of El Salvador



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014, 7:00PM
Our second annual service to remember the Churchwomen and the people of El Salvador will take place at the Motherhouse.

If you are able to participate and/or if you are bringing others please RSVP to helen.sullivan@csjboston.org or 617.746.2102 with your name and the number attending.

A free will offering for the [SHARE El Salvador Foundation](http://www.shareel.org) will be welcome.

For more information see: <http://www.csjboston.org/news-and-events/events/122-el-salvador-martyrs-remembered-/>

**Dear Neighbor Gifts
Christmas Sale Days!**
at Bethany & Motherhouse

BETHANY HEALTH CARE CENTER, FRAMINGHAM
Wednesday, December 3, 2014
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

MOTHERHOUSE DINING ROOM, BRIGHTON
Wednesday, December 11, 2014
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM & 4:00-5:15pm

Saturday, December 13, 2014
1:30 – 3:30PM

Dates to Remember...

- NOV. 12, WED., 5:30PM — Motherhouse Liturgy — all welcome
- NOV. 13-14 THURS., 12:00-5:00PM; FRI., 9:00AM-1:00PM — BETHANY HOLIDAY BAZAAR
- NOV. 13, THURS., 7:00PM —TAIZÉ PRAYER — Motherhouse — all welcome
- NOV. 16, SUN., 9:30AM — SUNDAY LITURGY, Fontbonne Convent, Milton — all welcome
- NOV. 20, THURS., 5:30PM — Motherhouse Liturgy — all welcome
- NOV. 23, SUN., 9:30 AM — SUNDAY LITURGY, Fontbonne Convent, Milton — all welcome
- NOV. 30, SUN., 9:30 AM— SUNDAY LITURGY, Fontbonne Convent, Milton — all welcome
- DEC. 2, TUES. 7:00PM — Prayer Service Commemorating the Women Martyrs of El Salvador
- DEC. 3, WED., 5:30PM — Motherhouse Liturgy — all welcome
- DEC. 11, THURS., 5:30PM — Motherhouse Liturgy — all welcome

Associate Commitment

Our CSJ associates from Albuquerque, Santa Rosa, and Clovis gathered on Saturday September 20 to witness and celebrate the initial Commitment of Lydia Villa, our newest Associate from Clovis. Though not all could be present, all 43 associates in New Mexico renewed their commitment. Our Charism of inclusive love, unity and reconciliation is alive and active in New Mexico. Our associates reach as far as Santa Fe, Grants, and Roswell, New Mexico, sharing their ministries, their caring compassion, and their gifts. Whether to the homebound, those in nursing homes, parishioners, those with physical or special needs, CSJ associates bring the active inclusive love of God into many lives.

After Maureen Doherty, CSJ, received their commitment, Associates gathered with Mary Ellen O'Connell, CSJ, Rena Foley, CSJ, Ann Kaufmann, CSJ, Marcella Campos, CSJ, Rose Agnes Urban, CSJ for a celebratory luncheon provided by the Santa Rosa associates.

Truly, we are grateful for the wonderful work begun by sisters in 1950, continued by associates in 2003, and sustained by sisters and associates who continue to foster and support this special part of our CSJ family. Let us to hold each of them in prayer as "we journey into the future with sisters and associates throughout the world."

— CSJ and CSJA Vision Statements 

PICTURED ABOVE: Associates and sisters gathered in Santa Rosa for the 2014 New Mexico Associate Commitment; Lydia Villa, CSJA, with Sisters Ann, Maureen, and Mary Ellen; Ron Joy, CSJA, with Mary Ellen O'Connell, CSJ; Linda Boothroyd, CSJA, offers reflections based on "The Lace is Not Finished," a Federation program designed by Jane DeLisle, CSJ.

Sharing "The Lace is Not Finished"



In late October Mary Ellen O'Connell, CSJ and Linda Boothroyd, CSJA travelled to New Mexico and experienced again the wonderful hospitality of our Albuquerque, Santa Rosa and Clovis sisters and associates. In Clovis, we joyfully welcomed Ron Joy as our newest associate with a shortened version of our September Commitment Ceremony.

At each gathering, Linda presented a portion of last summer's Federation program "The Lace is not Finished." For Linda, "It was an unexpected delight to be invited to visit our New Mexico associates and share the beginnings of our first six sisters in Le Puy, France. Our sisters and associates in Albuquerque, Santa Rosa, and Clovis were invited to reflect on these women and see their relationship with our lives today. The needs of their times and our own are great and we are called, as they were, to

reach out to the dear neighbor however we are able. The journey to New Mexico was one of gift and renewal. We shared stories of how we can become the eyes, ears, hands, and heart of God in our world. Those six women of courage and call were not different from those of us who share the charism today. We renewed our common threads of relationship and know that we travel together into the future as one family of Joseph. Only miles separate our Boston family from our New Mexico family." 



"Coping with Loss During the Holidays," Presented by The Women's Table will meet on consecutive Tuesdays, Nov. 4-25. We will gather in the Motherhouse Garden Room (lower level of the Administration Wing, accessible through the back door) from 6:30-8:00 pm. It's fine to attend a few or all of these sessions. Nancy Papp, CSJA, and Mary Rita Weschler, CSJA, will lead participants in prayer, discussion, and time for personal reflection. There is no charge for the series, but a free will donation is welcome. Please register by calling Mary Rita Weschler, CSJA, at: 617.746.2056 or maryrita.weschler@csjboston.org