



Sisters of Providence
of St. Vincent de Paul
www.providence.ca

PROVIDENCE PAGES

Fall 2019



From left: Hume Martin (CHSO Board Chair), Sister Sandra Shannon (General Superior of the Sisters of Providence) and John Ruetz (CHSO President and CEO).

In a beautiful ceremony which included traditional and modern elements, the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul transferred their home and property to the Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario (CHSO) to be held in trust by the Catholic Congregational Legacy Charity (CCLC). Sister Sandra Shannon handed over the signed documents for the transfer to Hume Martin and John Ruetz.

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Coming home by leaving home



Sisters of Providence
of St. Vincent de Paul

Vision Statement

A world where the vulnerable experience compassion, justice and peace.

Mission Statement

The Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul are a congregation of vowed women religious called to be channels of God's Providence.

Rooted in the mission of Jesus, we empower the vulnerable through compassionate service, advocacy and networking. Sharing our spiritual, human and financial resources, we promote justice and peace for all creation.

Please contact me with your e-mail address if you prefer to receive an electronic version of Providence Pages and discontinue receiving it by mail.

Thank you!

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Providence Pages is a regular publication of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul

You Are Making a Difference in Peru

Your generosity through the Marillac Mission Fund continues to significantly and positively impact the people of Carabayllo where our Sisters and Associates live and are engaged in ministry. Your financial donations provide support in these areas: **education, health, construction projects, disaster relief, poverty relief and rural pastoral care.**

Thank you for your ongoing support of our work in Peru.

Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul

Marillac
Mission Fund
Supporting our Peruvian Missions



Providence Motherhouse has new owners

Sisters of Providence Transfer Their Home and Property to Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario

For 89 of their 157 years of service, the Sisters of Providence of Saint Vincent de Paul have lived and worked from their Motherhouse and grounds at 1200 Princess Street, Kingston, Ontario. With declining membership and the aging of those remaining, the Sisters have been passing along some of their ministries and bringing others to completion.

On Tuesday, October 8, 2019 they took a long-contemplated step. With a careful and beautiful ceremony, the Sisters transferred their home and property to its new owners.

Sister Sandra Shannon reflected that while this was a moment full of hope for the future of Providence Village it was also one full of sadness and grieving for the Sisters.

The ceremony opened in prayer and an honouring of the four seasons, four directions, and the four elements. In a Twig and Turf ceremony the owners to be, the Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario (CHSO), lifted a strip of sod from the ground and placed a found twig into it. This symbol was presented to the Sisters as a pledge that CHSO would hold the land in care. A small statue

of Saint Vincent de Paul and a pin representing CHSO and its vision of Healthy Communities for All were placed into the ground from where the sod had been lifted.

The sod was then returned to its place by the CHSO, sealing the symbols set into the ground.

“All here are witnesses that the Sisters of Providence of Saint Vincent de Paul have transferred the land of 1200 Princess Street, Kingston, Ontario to CHSO to be held in trust by the Catholic Congregational Legacy

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Charity. The placing of the twig in the sod and the two symbols now buried under it signifies that this transaction is complete. This property is now in the care of the Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario,” said Sister Sandra Shannon.

“Providence Village is the newest Catholic health organization in Canada,” said John Ruetz, CHSO President and CEO.

“In Canada, Catholic healthcare’s roots are typically

in institutional care. Some of that history will continue on this site but, in addition, Providence Village will be looking upstream to better understand the social determinants of health and what services are specifically needed in this community to keep the residents of Kingston as healthy as possible. We can now envision the services that will be here on this site. This is not just a concept but an active vision that is already starting to come to life,” Ruetz said.

“To Sister Sandra, and to all of the Sisters of Providence – it has been an honour to work with you as you make plans for your own future. We gratefully accept this gift – which will always be your home – and pledge to oversee its development consistent with your intentions,” Ruetz said.

The ceremony was closed in song, begun by one group and ending with another, a round of voices each singing their part.



Sister Sandra Shannon provided a brief history of the property (above) and welcomed everyone for joining in the ceremony. As part of the ceremony, a chunk of turf was handed to Sister Sandra (bottom left) and a stick placed in it, then symbols of each party in the transaction were placed in the hole (bottom right) and covered with the turf.



ALG Conference in Kentucky

The five of us (Ann Boniferro, Regina Lannon, Barbara Baker, Carol Groten & Valerie Kelly) started our drive to Kentucky Monday, Sept. 16 with a prayer for safe travel to our Lady of the Highway. We arrived and settled into St. Anne's Retreat Centre, once St. Anne's Convent of the Sisters of Divine Mercy.

The convent, retreat center, and grounds were purchased from the Sisters of Divine Providence in early 2013 by the Diocese of Covington. The Sisters continue to own the Holy Family Infirmary, cemetery, and some other surrounding grounds and structures. The Sisters were also the former owners of the St. Anne Wetlands, a seasonal wetland conservation area purchased and maintained by the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund.

The WPC Associate Leadership Gathering (ALG) started on Sept. 17, 2019 with a history and orientation of the Women of Providence in Collaboration (WPC). We provided the opening prayer for the conference, inviting participants to bring a symbol representing what it means to be an Associate. The following day and a half conference, *Providence Spirituality: Contemplative Dialogue and Listening*, was facilitated by Sister Leslie Keener of the Sisters of Divine Providence of Kentucky. She outlined the key components of Contemplative Dialogue: listening, sharing, silence, and "we space." Sister Leslie would say, "I'm not just going to talk about listening; you're going to practice it!" The 22 of us formed circles of dialogue and listening.



Photo courtesy of WPC
Participants in the 2019 ALG conference.

Sister Leslie presented us with various reflection pieces as we processed through the five Circles: Listening with the Ear of our Heart, Speaking from the Heart, Silence, We Space [community], and the final circle bringing it all together.

We watched a most compelling TED Talk by Brene Brown, *The Power of Vulnerability* (2010). We relaxed in the evening playing cards or singing accompanied by Ann and her guitar. Over meals we learned of Associates who traveled to the Mexico-U.S. border to help in various ways and to share the stories of individuals held in the camps. On the third day of the conference we were guided through St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington, KY. After, from Devou Park we overlooked the City of Cincinnati across the Ohio River and drove through Newport remembering the passage of the slave trade.

Our final day was dedicated to discussing "Hot Topics" out of which we learned of other Associates' group processes, including the Associates from Seattle and Alaska who have become self-governing. However, following IRS directives as a "not-for-profit" proved to be challenging. Many Associate groups are experiencing financial challenges. Barbara shared our voting process, and the overall support we receive from the Sisters. We left knowing how very fortunate and blessed we are as Associates of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul.

■ Valerie Kelly, Providence Associate



Housing and climate change

This is a shortened version of the article published in Horizons, a publication of Queen's Department of Family Physicians Global Health Program. Tara Kainer is employed in the Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Office of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul and a member of Kingston's Task Force on Housing.

From *The Tyee* to *The National Post*, *Globe & Mail*, *Huffington Post* and *The Star*, journalists describe the housing situation in Canada as a “crisis”. Foreign investment, speculation, low-interest rates, inadequate supply, and higher construction costs have all led to a dramatic spike in the cost of housing, leaving even those who earn reasonably good incomes struggling to afford home ownership or rentals. In Kingston, the affordability crisis is acute. At 0.6% the vacancy rate is the lowest in Ontario, 48% of renter households spend 30% or more of their income on housing, and a tenant needs to earn an hourly wage of \$23 to rent a two-bedroom apartment in a province that has frozen the minimum wage at \$14 an hour.

Add climate change, described

by the Centre for American Progress (“A Perfect Storm”, August 1, 2019) as “an affordability housing crisis multiplier” into the mix, and the situation worsens, particularly for our most vulnerable citizens. For them, the combination of the high cost of living and the lack of affordable housing exacerbate the impacts of extreme weather events.

At play are not only the devastating effects of climate disasters including flooding, hurricanes, wildfires, severe cold, heat waves and ice storms, which are increasing in frequency and severity, but also rising inequality. With



Tara Kainer during one of the weekly Friday Vigils held by the JPIC ministry of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul until 2015.

the concentration of income and wealth among Canada's top 20%, who own about 67% of our total wealth, while the bottom 20% of households own less than 1%, we have a wealth gap which Oxfam calls “obscene” (*Public Good or Private Wealth*, January 2019).

Globally, the wealth gap is preposterous. According to a report published by Oxfam in January 2017 to mark the annual meeting of political and business leaders in Davos, Switzerland, “Eight men own the same wealth as the 3.6 billion people who make up the poorest half of humanity”. This inequity penetrates to those most likely to experience the worst and first climate impacts: low-income communities and those experiencing homelessness.

Unlike many homeowners and those of affluent means, the disadvantaged lack housing that is stable, affordable and as able to withstand disastrous events. They are more likely to live in isolated and under-resourced neighbourhoods with poor environmental conditions and shoddy infrastructure. While the hurricane rages or

wildfires spread and officials issue directions to stay inside or leave town to avoid smoke, or retreat to roofs to escape flooding, those without homes and vehicles have few if any options.

As bad as the consequences of the extreme weather event itself might be, the aftermath is worse. Hurricanes, Katrina in New Orleans, Maria in Puerto Rico, and most recently Dorian in the Bahamas, illustrate how those displaced or experiencing homelessness desperately scramble to find shelter while inequities in disaster response systems favour wealthier households and nations. Those displaced by extreme weather – which globally numbered a record 7 million in the first half of 2019 (*The New York Times*, September 12, 2019) are likely to be cut off from basic needs including clean water, electricity and food. They may lack access to transportation, telecommunications, and medical aid. Rents skyrocket due to the sudden supply shortage of housing and damaged affordable housing stock is more often demolished than rebuilt, forcing the homeless to seek shelter in shattered homes, makeshift tents, and



Housing in First Nations communities on display for a 2012 screening of “3rd World Canada” documentary by Andrée Cazabon at the Domino Theatre, Kingston, Ontario.

structures unfit for human habitation. People already disadvantaged are most likely to die in a disaster or live to suffer the consequences of physical and mental illnesses including West Nile virus, cholera, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression.

The reality that some people will feel the effects and health impacts of a changing climate more than others, causing perhaps the most significant threat to democracy and public health this century will experience, prompted Philip Alston, the United Nation’s special rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights to coin a term: *climate apartheid*. He has warned that climate change “threatens to undo the last 50 years of development,

global health, and poverty reduction”, leading to a new era where “an over-reliance on the private sector “ could enable “the wealthy to pay to escape overheating, hunger and conflict while the rest of the world is left to suffer” (UN News, June 25, 2019).

Alston predicts that unless we take immediate action, by 2030 climate change will push an additional 120 million people worldwide into poverty, food insecurity, forced migration, disease and death. “Perversely”, while the 3.5 billion people living in poverty are responsible for just 10% of greenhouse gas emissions compared to the richest 10% being responsible for half, the world’s poorest will bear the brunt of climate change and have the least capacity to protect themselves.

The remedy for climate apartheid, UN rapporteur Alston argues, is to make “deep structural changes in the world economy”, to “decouple from fossil fuel production” and transition to a green, sustainable economy, while providing a fair and stable safety net for workers who temporarily lose their jobs in the interim -- policies

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Sowing Hope for the Planet

Pope Francis has called for an ecological conversion, asking us “to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and to discover what each of us can do about it.”

Laudato Si #19

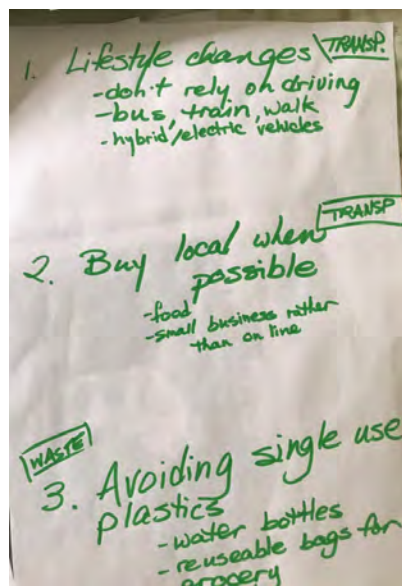
The Congregational Liturgy Committee answered this call and supported the International Union of Superiors General (UISG) Sowing Hope for the Planet campaign. The committee organized an event on Climate Change which was held after Sunday Mass on October 20. The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) office helped organize this workshop which included a breakout session to ‘discover what each of us can do about [Climate Change]’, and a presentation by Bridget Doherty, Director of JPIC.

The science around climate change is not new. The first scientist to conclude that we would affect the climate if we continue to add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere was Svante Arrhenius, a Swedish scientist. He calculated that doubling of atmospheric CO₂ would

lead to an increase in temperatures around 5–6 degrees Celsius. This was in 1896 when the Industrial Revolution was well underway.

Did we have greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions when Jesus was born? Yes we did. There were approximately 278 parts per million (ppm) greenhouse gases in the atmosphere during His time (as reported by the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and other climate research Institutions). When the combustion engine was invented everything changed. Every now and then scientists would raise a concern, but no one was there to listen. In 2009, there were 387 ppm in the atmosphere. Ten years later, today we have almost 415 ppm.

Are we listening now? And what does this increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere mean? It means more extreme temperatures, storms, droughts and floods. It means people, animals and plants will suffer and



Sample of action item list presented by workshop participants.

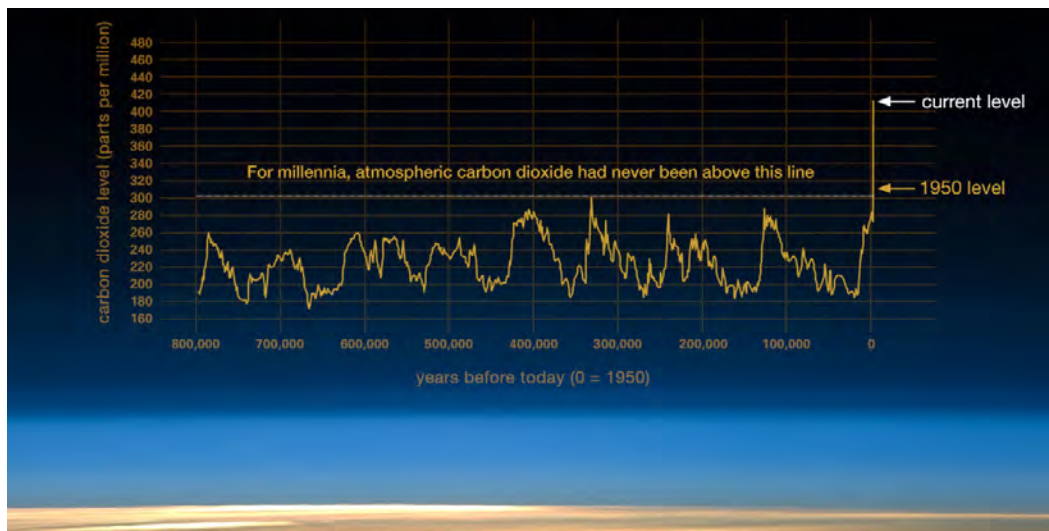


Image Credit: climate.nasa.gov. Data Credit: Luthi, D., et al., 2008; Etheridge, D.M., et al. 2010; Vostok ice core data/J.R. Petit et al.; NOAA Mauna Loa CO₂ record.

This graph, based on the comparison of atmospheric samples contained in ice cores and more recent direct measurements, provides evidence that atmospheric CO₂ has increased since the Industrial Revolution.



die. Insurance companies say it means we are heading towards an uninsurable world; and financial investors are warning it could spell economic havoc.

Pope Francis points out that the “gravest effects of all attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest” in Canada and around the globe.

So what can we do? Lots! Each one of us must begin by answering Pope Francis’ call for an ecological conversation. All of our decisions, from what we eat, buy, how we travel, to how we vote, all decisions must be made through a lens of social justice and care for creation.

After all: “We have caused a climate emergency that gravely threatens nature and life itself, including our own.” Pope Francis

■ *Bridget Doherty, Director of the JPIC office*

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Information on ways to contribute to a healthier planet can be found on many websites including:

- David Suzuki Foundation, article “Top 10 things you can do about climate change”, davidsuzuki.org
- Friends of the Earth, article “What can I do to stop climate change?”, friendsoftheearth.uk
- Government of Ontario, Canada, article “How you can help address climate change”, ontario.ca

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which the Green New Deal and basic income address. “A robust social safety net will be the best response to the unavoidable harms that climate change will bring”, he reasons (UN Report).

In countries as affluent as Canada, climate apartheid manifests itself more often, although not always, as *climate gentrification* instead. The term refers to those who have the means to retreat from floods, storms, heat waves, wildfires and other climate vulnerabilities and move to safer areas,” bringing soaring property

and rental values with them” (Oliver Milman, *The Guardian*, September 25, 2018). A pattern of climate gentrification is taking hold across the United States, Milman notes, with Flagstaff, Arizona, for example, being inundated by climate refugees. “We don’t mind people moving to Flagstaff at all”, says Coral Evans, Flagstaff’s mayor. “But about 25% of our housing is now second homes. The cost of living is our number one issue. We don’t talk much about what climate change means for social justice. But where are low-income people going to live?

How can they afford to stay in this city?” (Coral Evans, quoted by Milman)

Research makes clear that climate vulnerabilities compound already existing inequalities that compromise public health. Local policy makers who implement progressive and equitable housing policies which invest in resilient infrastructure and strengthened building codes will help to protect the supply of affordable housing as well as public health and well-being in the face of extreme weather.

■ *Tara Kainer, JPIC*



Coming home by leaving home

Sister Jeannette Filthaut returned to Providence Motherhouse this Fall after many years of ministry in Western Canada. She wrote about her experiences in a poetic style.

Sixteen years at home in the west (2003-2019)

These days were some of the challenging best!

Nine years after leadership – a creative sabbatical on Salt Spring Island

With hiking, basketry, painting, Tai Chi – Island Rain forest was truly grand!

Pastoral ministry in Calgary Diocese for only one year

Called forth several teams who became so dear.

Home in Edmonton where I was born

Brought 15 years of a gift I can't scorn.

My family became ever dearer to me

As with newer ones I became the Grantie. (Great Auntie)



Last meeting with Friday morning prayer group.

A career in teaching hatched to process facilitation with travel and experiences in a variety of places in the U.S.A. and Canada.

Facilitation with various religious communities and their Associate memberships; Retreat and workshop ministry at PRC (Providence Renewal Centre) all enriched me through the research in preparation, as well as the diversity of the groups.

Community building with diverse groups of people called me forth as I lived alone. Teaching ESL (English Second Language) at Changing Together Centre for Immigrant Women and research work in Human Trafficking called forth compassionate presence in the midst of tears and learning and built a unique support community.

A second bout with Cancer in the middle of training for Spiritual Direction called forth the deeper contemplative listening, so that being a Spiritual Director allowed me to be the broken vessel present to embrace the rich stories others offered for their discernment.

Volunteer ministry with JPIC (Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation) and the Boards of Western Catholic Reporter and Star of the North Retreat Centre called forth and challenged my reflective and strategic thinking.

Being closer to my family has



Facilitation work with Star of the North Board of Directors.

been a gift these past 16 years for they have blessed my life through their generational openness to life, love and acceptance. Elderly friends who've embraced their own journeys of life in aging gracefully, have shared with me a richness that mentors me forward in my own aging process.

The collaboration I have so richly experienced in working with others; broken bones and reliance on the help of others; have each taught me vulnerability that has carried me forward to new horizons.

I can't begin to describe how much I value all I have learned and how much I treasure the beautiful memories I have. Living alone has called me to become more contemplative and to treasure the varied community experiences I have enjoyed. God's creation in front of me each day reminded me to trust that "ALL SHALL BE WELL!"

And now a new journey begins at home in our Motherhouse in Kingston where I have been warmly welcomed "home" by our Sisters, staff and friends. JPIC is still on the agenda, and so is Spiritual Direction and Retreat ministry, along with being a presence with our Sisters in these changing times.

With Gratitude to our Provident God for the lessons of each day.

■ *Jeannette Filthaut SP*



Sister Josephine McCaffrey

Josephine McCaffrey was born on March 2, 1918 in Fermanagh N. Ireland, the seventh of ten children to Mary Hamilton and Patrick McCaffrey. Her father worked in a mill where flax was prepared for a linen mill in Belfast. Her mother made Irish lace for a company in Montreal and New York. When Josephine was 16 years old she followed some of her older brothers and sisters to Montreal where one of her aunts found employment for her at the Mount Royal Hotel. While working there she attended night school until she obtained her Grade 12 Diploma. She then took courses in shorthand, typing and filing while she worked at Noordyne Aviation in Cartierville, Quebec. She boarded with the Sisters of Service in Montreal and again in Toronto where she went to work in a bank.

She entered the postulancy of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul on Feb. 2, 1946 after having met the General Superior at Rosary Hall in Toronto who invited her to Heathfield where, in her words, she said, "I became like the

star of Bethlehem; I stopped and stayed." She made her first profession of vows on March 19, 1948 taking the name, Sister Mary Kathleen. Sister's ministries included sacristan, housekeeping and office work at Providence Manor, Kingston, St. Joseph's Vocational School, Winnipeg, Rosary Hall, Edmonton, St. Anthony's Home, Moose Jaw, Providence Hall, Belleville and St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital, Kingston. Sister Josephine was called home to her loving God on August 6, 2019 at Providence Motherhouse.

Sister Josephine died peacefully in the infirmary. She will be remembered for her cheerfulness and her wonderful Irish sense of humour. She brought joy and laughter to everyone with whom she lived and to whom she ministered.

The Mass of Christian Burial held on Aug. 12, 2019 in the Chapel of Mary, Mother of Compassion was presided over by Friar Edward Debono, OFM Conv., who also delivered the homily. Internment was at St. Mary's Cemetery, Kingston.



Sister M. Anne Louise Haughian

Sister Mary Anne Louise (Rita Mary Haughian) of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul died peacefully at Providence Motherhouse, Kingston on September 18, 2019.

She was born on June 19, 1914 in Stanleyville, Ontario to Mary (Egan) and Francis Haughian. Her mother died when she was about 5 years of age. Since her father was not able to look after the 3 youngest children she went to live with her father's sister. When she completed High School she took a business course, after which she worked at the Beamish Store in Perth. Later she was transferred to the head office in Ottawa. Because she had a great interest in health care, she took some courses in home nursing.

She entered the novitiate Feb. 2, 1951. After her First Profession in 1953, she worked in the office at Rosary Hall in Toronto until 1957. Over the next twelve years she carried out office duties in Athabasca, AB, St. Joseph's Vocational School in Winnipeg, the Admitting Office at Providence

Hospital, Moose Jaw and the accounting office at St. Vincent de Paul Hospital, Brockville. She returned to Kingston to work at the Diocesan Office in the Marriage Tribunal doing secretarial work. After two years, she was assigned to Brantford where she ministered in Home Care.

In 1980 Sister returned to the Motherhouse to work at the switchboard. Following this she spent a number of years visiting the sick Sisters in the infirmary until she was unable to continue this ministry. Sister Anne Louise was always interested in current affairs and enjoyed good conversation. She looked forward to visitors even though her hearing had deteriorated.

She will be fondly remembered by her relatives, friends, and by the members of her religious congregation. The Mass of Christian Burial, held in the Chapel of Mary, Mother of Compassion, Providence Motherhouse on Sept. 24 was presided over by Friar Ed Debono, OFM Conv., who also delivered the homily.



Sister Sheila Brady

Sheila Brady was born in Perth, Ontario on March 28, 1936 the youngest of four children of Marguerite Wilson and Hugh Brady. She attended St. John Catholic School and Perth Collegiate. She entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Providence in Kingston September 15, 1954. After her First Profession she trained as a nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Montreal and graduated with her RN in 1961, receiving an award in Bedside Nursing. Her nursing career began in obstetrics. Later she became Director of Nursing, then Assistant Administrator and finally Administrator. She was missioned to St. Francis Hospital, Smiths Falls, St. Vincent de Paul Hospital, Brockville, Providence Hospital, Daysland, Alberta, St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital, Kingston, and St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose, Alberta.

In September 1987 she and Sister Muriel Gallagher were asked by the Leadership Team to form the Providence Health Team to advise them on concerns in the health ministry and to be members of the western Hospitals and Home Boards and committees in Vancouver, Edmonton, Camrose and Moose Jaw. In 1990 she moved back to Kingston to be Vice-President of the Providence Health System. She was missioned to oversee Providence Manor and St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital in Kingston and St. Vincent de Paul Hospital in Brockville. In 1994 she was elected as Councillor and Assistant General Superior for a 5-year term.



In 1999 she enjoyed a sabbatical year which included eight weeks at the desert House of Prayer in southern Arizona and six weeks at Queensland in Victoria, BC. By the end of this sabbatical time, she felt drawn to prison ministry which she pursued upon her return to Kingston. She remained in this ministry until her health necessitated her retirement in 2015.

During her years in health care she was a member of the Canadian College of Health Service Executives for 12 years. While in the Providence Health System, she completed a course in Facilitation of Adult Groups in Huntsville in 1993 which was helpful in mission integration programs.

As well she served on all eight Hospital/Home Boards and committees and on the Catholic Health Associations of Alberta in the mid 1980's and in Ontario from 1995 – 1999. She was also the Chair of the Sponsors Alliance in Catholic Health Care in Ontario from 1997 – 1999. As CEO of St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital and on the Governing Board, she was a member of the Queen's Health Sciences Council.

Sister Sheila died peacefully at Providence Motherhouse on Nov. 25, 2019.

■ *All obituaries written by General Secretary, Sister Barbara Thiffault*

Complete obituaries online at www.providence.ca/obituaries

Associates refresh manual and logo

When the Providence Associates gathered in October to ratify their new manual they also went through a simple exercise to determine a new cover page and a new logo. A graphic designer was hired to create four different styles of covers for the manual and four ideas for a new logo. The Providence Associates present were each given

two small stickers. They were asked to put one sticker on the cover design they preferred and one sticker on the logo of their choice. The cover design chosen will be distributed to all Associates to put on their manual and the new logo chosen is the one you see here.



■ *Barbara Baker, Associates Director*



Printing Room Museum closes

The Printing Room Museum at Providence Manor closed this fall. The Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul ran a print shop from 1897 until 1989. Over the course of its history, the printing room produced two magazines, congregational material and commercial work such as dental charts, business cards, invitations, etc. When the Printing office was closed in 1989 everything was left – including all the type, tools, ink tubs and presses – forming a sort of time-capsule. It opened as a museum in 1999 and tours were available by appointment.

The Printing Room is located in the basement of the Chapel at Providence Manor in downtown Kingston. Providence Manor is currently a long-term care home run by Providence Care and is in the process of planning a brand new building in Providence Village on the Providence Motherhouse grounds. When Providence Manor moves, the museum would be forced to close and new homes found for the equipment at that time.

This year the opportunity



Archivist Veronica Stienburg and Sister Gayle Desarmia at the Printing Room Museum.



Final open house of the Printing Room Museum on August 22, 2019.

arose for the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul to donate the equipment, tools and furniture to Carleton University in Ottawa. Carleton University Library and the Department of English Language and Literature are collaborating to establish a Book Arts Laboratory. It will be an experiential learning lab that will have exhibition space, active printing space and teaching space. The Lab will be located in the Carleton Library. This is the perfect opportunity for the congregation to pass on their printing legacy, where the craft of printing will be actively taught to students, and the Sisters' printing history will be preserved through Carleton's use of the equipment and tools, in exhibitions and in their archives, as well as in our own

archives.

We had an Open House on Thursday, August 22, to give the public one last chance to see the museum. 107 people visited the Printing Room that evening. What a great turnout! We heard some great stories from people who had connections to the Sisters and even a few to the Printing Room itself. We advertised the event in the parish bulletins, among other places and we had visitors from across the Archdiocese. Archivist Veronica Stienburg, Council Liaison, Sr. Gayle Desarmia, and Librarian Anna Soper staffed the event. Ron Kelly, a friend of the Foundation House Sisters, volunteered to explain how the linotype and the presses worked. The event was a great success!

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ARCHIVES

On October 21st, the majority of the equipment was removed from the Printing Room to be transported to Carleton University. One of the heaviest items in the Printing Room was an imposing stone, a large piece of granite, just over five feet long, 3 feet wide and 6 inches thick. It provided a level plane when typeset was assembled and tapped flat against it before being put through the presses. Five movers had quite a difficult time moving this approximately 2000 lb.

slab of granite off the wooden cupboard it sat on, and onto a dolly. One man pulled, while four men pushed the heavily laden dolly up a steep ramp that they had placed over the stairs, to get it out of the Printing Room, and onto the truck. The movers really had their work cut out for them!

While it is sad to see the Printing Room dismantled, we are pleased to see the majority of the equipment go to Carleton University where the craft of printing will be



The imposing stone prepared to be put into the moving vehicle.

actively taught to students and the Sisters' printing history will be preserved through Carleton's use of the equipment and tools, in exhibitions and their archives.

■ *Veronica Stienburg, Archivist*

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Creation is the Imprint of the Glory of God

INCARNATIONAL CYCLE 2019-2020: ADVENT • CHRISTMAS • EPIPHANY

November	30	Saturday	6:30 pm	Evening Prayer <i>Incense & tapers will be used</i>
December	1	Sunday	10:00 am	1st Sunday of Advent
	5	Thursday	6:30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	8	Sunday	10:00 am	2nd Sunday of Advent
	15	Sunday	10:00 am	3rd Sunday of Advent
			2:00 pm	Cantabile Choirs
	22	Sunday	10:00 am	4th Sunday of Advent
	24	Tuesday	6:30 pm	Christmas Eve Mass followed by reception
	25	Wednesday	10:00 am	Christmas Day Nativity of the Lord
	29	Sunday	10:00 am	Holy Family
January	1	Wednesday	10:00 am	Mary, Mother of God
	5	Sunday	10:00 am	Epiphany of the Lord
	12	Sunday	10:00 am	Baptism of the Lord
Save the Date:				
January	30	Thursday	6:30 pm	Taizé Prayer

Chapel doors open one half hour prior to liturgies.



Winter offerings at the Spirituality Centre

WHO SAID THAT? WINTER READING SERIES

An Astonishing Secret - The Love Story of Creation and the Wonder of You" Daniel O'Leary

Thursdays Jan 16, 30, Feb 13 & 27
1:30pm – 3:30pm

Lucy Bethel, SP

Register by Monday, January 6

Cost: \$40/series (*Bring your own book*)

A few books are available: \$30

We are invited to "Read the book as one would a love-letter from God" and allow the content to "transform your life". As we open the book we hear the desire of the Publisher and the Author: "OUR HOPE... is that readers will be attracted to the astonishing story spread across these pages. Inspired by selected writings of Pope Francis it offers an exciting revelation about God, about Creation, about Incarnation, about the Wonder of You. Be prepared to fall in love again with a God, a Creator whose only concern is your happiness and well-being. For your own sake, for the sake of your children and the world they will inhabit, you just cannot afford to ignore it."

LENTEN GUIDED RETREAT

Rend Your Hearts, Not Your Clothing

Fri Mar 6, 7pm- Sun Mar 8, 1:15pm

Deacon Bill Gervais

Register by Friday, February 14

Cost: \$165 (\$25 deposit)

JANUARY GUIDED RETREAT

Praying with the Gospel of Matthew

Jan 20, 6:30pm – Jan 24, 1:15pm

Deacon Bill Gervais

Register by Monday, January 6

Cost: \$360 (\$35 deposit)

Every three years the Church invites us to listen to the Gospel of Matthew. This five-day guided retreat provides an opportunity to explore the major themes of Matthew, such as the heartwarming story of the Magi, the famously complex Sermon on the Mount and Jesus' teaching on prayer. Through a series of talks, silent reflective prayer, and small group discussions, participants will be provided with Matthew's blueprint for living our faith and praying as Jesus did.

DAY OF REFLECTION

Conversations with GOD

Monday March 23, 9am-3pm

Deacon Bill Gervais

Register by Monday, March 2

Cost: \$25

This day of reflection invites participants to enter into a conversation with God through the psalms, the prayer-book of the Church. Through a combination of talks, guided prayer, silent reflection and small group discussions retreatants will discover how psalms offer a unique way to deepen our relationship with God.

HOLY WEEK DIRECTED RETREAT

Two options:

Sun Apr 5, 4pm - Sun Apr 12, 1:15pm

Cost: \$495 (\$35 deposit) OR

Thu Apr 9, 2pm - Sun Apr 12, 1:15pm

Cost: \$225 (\$35 deposit)

Register by Friday, March 20

PSC Team

DAY OF REFLECTION

Honouring the Mystic in You!

Monday, April 27, 9am – 3pm

Lucy Bethel, SP

Register by Friday, April 10

Cost: \$25

Drawing from the writings of renowned theologians and mystics, and grounded in Scripture, we will spend time reflecting together on the call to acknowledge the 'mystic' within each of us. We will explore what Father Karl Rahner, SJ, Roman Catholic priest and theologian names "The Mysticism of Everyday Life".

SPRING SENIORS CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY SERIES

Leading Ladies from Scripture

Thu May 7 + May 21, 9:30am - 1:15pm

Jeannette Filthaut, SP

Register by April 23

Cost: \$20/session (*includes lunch*)

These two mornings will allow us time for reflection in response to the question: How are these women - Puah, & Shiphrah, Miriam, Deborah, Ester - inspiring us in our present reality? *Senior or not – you're welcome!*

Please visit our website for full details on offerings at the Providence Spirituality Centre and for contact information, www.providence.ca



Providence Archivists get together!

The Sisters of Providence in Montreal were founded by Emilie Gamelin in 1843. In 1861 four Sisters of Providence began a new congregation in Kingston, now known as the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul. In 1873, the Kingston Sisters founded a mission in Holyoke, MA. This mission became a separate congregation in 1892, known as the Sisters of Providence of Holyoke. Three separate congregations with shared roots.

In September, Phyllis Ladd, the archivist for Holyoke, MA, came to Kingston for two days to visit our archives and see the city. It was a pleasure to spend time with her in the archives talking about the shared history and showing her historic records concerning Holyoke, and some of the oldest records in the archives. Sister Pauline Lally, Sister Catherine Cannon, and Sister Ellen Murray spent a morning with Phyllis showing her the Foundation House at Providence Manor and talking about the early history of the congregation with her.



Left to Right: Veronica Stienburg, Archivist of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul, Kingston; Phyllis Ladd, Archivist of the Sisters of Providence Holyoke; Marie-Claude Béland, Sisters of Providence, Montreal. Photo: Nadia Bertoluci.

After soaking up the history in Kingston, Phyllis and I drove to Montreal to visit the Sisters of Providence archives. Archivist Marie-Claude Béland organized a wonderful visit for us. We visited the Place Emilie Gamelin and some of the historic sites and the next day we had a wonderful tour of the archives, visited the archives of the Cause for Emilie Gamelin and enjoyed the museum.

Phyllis was particularly interested in Kingston's early documents dealing with Holyoke and I really enjoyed seeing Marie-Claude's archival storage vaults. Most of all we enjoyed getting to know each other better, comparing archival notes and sharing our enthusiasm for the history of the Sisters of Providence.

■ *Veronica Stienburg, Archivist*

