

the acorn

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Presentation Center Fargo, ND Sacred Heart Convent



PRESENTATION PARTNERS IN HOUSING BOARD WITH BREMER CHECK

Seated l-r Ss. Del Rey Rudnick and Jane Walker
 Standing l-r: S. Olivia Scully, Sharon Kleeman, Denise Mullen, Patty Craft,
 S. Eugenia Tessier, Dan Mahli, S. Mary Margaret Mooney, Millie Bach

THANK YOU OTTO BREMER!

Presentation Partners in Housing (PPiH) was one of the 81 fortunate recipients of the January 2009

Bremer Emergency Fund grants in the amount of \$25,000. This fund was

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

FARGO PRESENTATION SISTERS AND ASSOCIATES CELEBRATE 15TH ANNUAL WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE



L-R: Associates Sandy Larson, JoEllen and Don Smith, Tom and Lois Sinner, S. Del Rey Rudnick, and Associate Betty Nilles prepare for discussion

On January 6, 1997, Pope John Paul II designated February

2nd, the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, as World Day for Consecrated Life. The purpose of such a day is threefold: a) to answer the intimate need to praise the Lord more solemnly and to thank him for the great gift of consecrated life, which enriches and gladdens the Christian community by the multiplicity of its charism and by the edifying fruits of so many lives totally given to the cause of the Kingdom; b) to promote a knowledge of and esteem for the consecrated life by the entire People of God and; c) to invite conse-

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MMMMUSINGS

HURT FEELINGS...

A few weeks ago, a priest said that he did not refer women interested in religious life to our congregation because he did not know who we were or what did or what we stood for. My feelings were hurt.

I can understand how this man might not like us or approve of what we do, but how could he not know us? We are the teachers who together with members of other religious orders made Dakota Catholic Schools a reality. We are the risk-takers who criss-crossed the Territory begging (aka fundraising) to establish the support system that became Catholic Charities. We are the women who mothered many children from homes disrupted by death or social factors. We are the facilitators who managed the forging of Fargo Catholic Schools into a network. We are the administrators who loaned money to the diocese so it could avoid bankruptcy when we ourselves were living hand-to-mouth.

So what? That was then; this is now. Who knows us now? Police and social workers know what we do when they have to find a safe place for children at 3:00 a.m. Policy makers know we stand for justice. The stranger far from home dealing with a family tragedy knows where we are. Men and women moving along their spiritual journey to union with God know who we are.

We are a religious congregation of women who have

pledged to live a spirituality that flows from our charism and reflects and nurtures our experience as an interdependent apostolic community who reverence God in all creation. We bumble and we stumble, but we continue to work to bring about the kingdom as sinful but faithful servants of Him who came to serve.

So, to anyone who asks I report that the mainstream and the marginal are welcome in our home; that babies' bottoms are covered; that lives broken are helped to heal with quiet listening; that women dealing with difficult pregnancies are supported to bring their babies into the world; that the dead are buried with dignity; and the poor have the Gospel preached to them in the vernacular of tangible aid. That is who we are; that is what we do; that is what we stand for.

Oh—and my hurt feelings—I got over it. Life is too short to sweat the small stuff.

—S. Mary Margaret Mooney,
President, Fargo Presentation Sisters



S. Mary Margaret Mooney

THANK YOU OTTO BREMER! CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

created jointly by the Otto Bremer Foundation and Bremer Bank. Grantee organizations were selected based on demonstrated community need; geography; organization's experience and capacity; and the ability to provide follow-up and support, including links to additional community resources. PPIH was invited to apply for a supplemental Bremer Emergency Fund grant in November 2010 for which we were approved and received in December 2010.

Our region is very blessed to have a compassionate man like Otto Bremer settle here. He came to Minnesota as a German Immigrant in 1886 and started a career in the St. Paul banking industry working his way from book-keeper to chairman of the American National Bank. His concern went beyond his banks and he created the Otto Bremer Foundation in May of 1944. A partial list of purposes of the Foundation outlined by Bremer, were to: relieve poverty; promote citizenship; aid persons suffering from catastrophes that affect a portion of a community; and aid those who live in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota or Montana. Bremer optimistically believed people could survive and flourish if they had help at crucial times which is perfectly in sync with the mission of Partners in Housing.

Based on the average amount of \$300 we provide to most households, this \$25,000 will enable us to assist 80 families and individuals. Most are households who are doing all they can to maintain their housing and support themselves. The assistance from PPIH will allow them to continue their lives and move on from the crisis.

S. Mary Margaret Mooney and I were invited to receive the large check on January 11 at a Fargo Bremer Bank location. All I have to say is

that the legacy of Otto Bremer is continued, not only by the funds we received, but in the reception we were given by the bank employees. We thank the Otto Bremer Foundation and the Bremer Banks for giving Partners in Housing this great opportunity.

—Sharon Kleeman, Director PPIH

REST IN PEACE

Paul Bujalski

Brother of Associate Jeanne Kelly

Stan Pedersen

Brother-in-law of Associate Dennis Hogan

Alice Law

Mother of Associate Kathy Hogan

Teresa Borth

Sister of Sister Mary Palmer

Melvin Ingebrigtsen

Grandfather of Associate Maren Ortmeier

Veronica Weidenborner

Great aunt of Sister Shawna Foley

Adeline Arendt

Mother of Sister Andrea Arendt

Associate Rosie Rheault

Aleda Lang

Mother of Associate Rosie Rheault

Gladys Hoerner

Aunt of Sister Jan Ihli and Associate Carol Elsberry

Agnes Hoerner

Aunt of Sister Jan Ihli and Associate Carol Elsberry

James Fredrick (Fred) Byrne

Father of Sister Lois Byrne

Mary Kay Hutton

Aunt of Associate Marilyn Hutton

Ira Peterson

Husband of Associate Bernadette Peterson

Gordon (Skip) Glaspell

Nephew of Sister Paula Ringuette

Donald McKinnon

Nephew of Sister Felicitas Kahler

the
acorn

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IN THE MOST ORDINARY OF PLACES...

What a wonderful moment (and all too rare on my part) to notice the “something” deeper in what appears to be an ordinary event in life. This is what happened to me on the day we became the *Riders of the Purple Sage* for a few hours. It all started as we gathered together to prepare for prayer and lunch. As each person entered the room, a new air of energy and excitement blew in—some very seasoned *Riders*, and some brand new. The seasoned folks looked forward to the experience; the newbie’s plunged in and were ready to do what needed to be done!

The energy as we sang “Ride On, Jesus, Ride” filled the chapel. Somehow the words of the prayer service struck me with such import, especially the parts about “A miserable life it is to go from house to house.” (Sirach 29:24) and “...bring timber, and build the house that I may take pleasure in it and receive my glory says the Lord.” (Hag 1:8) S. Stella Olson’s moving reflection on

Jesus standing at the door of our hearts, knocking, waiting for us to respond seemed so real and so appropriate on this day.

Lunch was delightful as the meal became an opportunity for visiting with the sisters, associates, and one another. There was the sense that we all wanted to linger, there was no hurry to jump up and move away.

As we arrived at the YWCA, we were greeted by some very young hosts who showed us the way to the dance studio where the event was being held. Twenty-five teams—we were #20. I quickly spied another team, *Handlebar Honeys* that seemed to have the kind of energy the *Riders* had. It did not take long to figure out they were in it for a good time as were we!

We assembled around Don Smith, our first rider. He was off and ready to go. Joel Rheault got busy on the Conga drums, Brian Arett played his beloved cowbell and the rest of us whooped and hollered and generally



had fun. We all seemed to be able to stay in the present moment. I commented to one of the women next to me that it felt like being a kid out in the schoolyard again! There seemed to be a deep sense of freedom to play, to just be who we were.

When Kathy Schroeder won a box of M&M candy and it was shared all around, I suddenly realized we had just had a Eucharistic moment. I began to think of other elements that made the event feel like so much more than riding the bike. We shared food. We formed community. Our efforts were for the poor. We based

our actions in prayer. We sang. We danced. We invited others to sing and dance with us. It seemed like such a time of deep freedom and unfettered joy.

Prior to the event, a thought had struck me about God loving the cheerful giver and my hope was that we could give God a lot to love that day. I think we must have done so since a mark of God’s Spirit is joy and that abounded. There remains in me such a deep gratitude for being a part of the experience and for being a part of folks who find it in their hearts to give freely.

-S. Francine Janousek



CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK

Bagpipe player, Katie Vogel Shaw (left), (Shanley 1982) visits with S. Paula Ringuette prior to entertaining guests at the Annual St. Patrick’s Day Party at Presentation Center. The festive Irish music, singers, dancers, and Irish treats helped make the occasion enjoyable for all. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the event possible.



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

For the sixth consecutive year, *The Riders of the Purple Sage* team composed of Presentation Sisters and Associates participated in the Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity Tour de Habitat, Bike to Build 2011, raising needed funds for the local Habitat Chapter. One of twenty-five teams, *The Riders* rode (on their stationary bikes) away as the top fundraisers, thanks to the generosity of our

donors. Pictured above l-r are Associate Candidate Sarah Piersol, Associates Kathy Schroeder, Mary Feist, Brian Arett, Don Smith, Joel Rheault, Jenny Rheault, and S. Francine Janousek in the convent chapel being blest by the congregation prior to leaving for the event. “It is said that God loves a cheerful giver. I think we gave God a lot to smile about today,” quipped S. Francine.

CONVERSATIONS CREATE ENERGY

For the third year, the Presentation Peace and Justice Collaborative Council hosted a January "Rejuvenation" Potluck gathering that involved 35 people from numerous organizations throughout Fargo and beyond.

The opening question of the evening was: "What is a justice issue you strongly feel needs to be addressed and why?" Within small groups the buzz began, energy rose, issues multiplied and connections were made.

Topics varied. Some examples were: discrimination, human trafficking, corporate power, military spending, food, and homelessness. Though no issue dominated the discussions, all were mutually accepted as worthy of attention and in need of significant

change.

Folks left the gathering warmed by the camaraderie and encouraged by having heard others share concerns similar to their own.

The group was furthermore informed of continuing topics on "Sustainable Living" being presented in the Ministry Building.

Associate Brian Arett, a Collaborative Council member, addressed one of the issues the very next month. On February 16 he continued the topic of "Food" from the perspective of "Buying Locally," or as he put it: "Becoming a Locavore."

A group of 20 interacted to share information especially about organic products, farmers markets and the developing a Fargo Food Co-op.



REJUVENATION EVENT: Foreground l-r Brian Austin, Dean Hulse, Associate Brian Arett, Renee Maas

Continuing the emphasis on Sustainable Living, Associate Maren Ortmeier presented on "Energy" in March, and Associate Ellen Mahli will begin discussions on "Water" on

October 19. All events are held in the Presentation Ministries Building at 3001 11th Street South, Fargo and are free and open to the public.

CREATING A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD

Recently the liturgical musicians at Sacred Heart Convent were asked, "What does it mean for you to be a minister of music?" Their responses are given below.

Associate Mary Hass: It is an honor for me to be one of the accompanists at Sacred Heart Convent.

Accompanying is something I grew up doing. My sixth grade classroom teacher, Mrs. Engesser, was also the church organist. She wanted me to learn the Requiem High Mass so that she wouldn't have to leave the classroom for funerals. That was quite an assignment back in those days. Being the sixth child in a very large family, many of my siblings were in the choir so I felt comfortable on the organ bench. In our home there was always music, especially after a meal when it was time for dishes!

Planning music for liturgy takes preparation. We are fortunate to have a list of choices that are appropriate for the Sunday readings in the current issue of *Today's Liturgy*. The Sunday

scriptures are the focus for the music. St. Augustine says, "Who sings well prays twice," and planning the music then must be praying as well! It feels prayerful to have the melodies in my mind during the week after preparing, especially when my favorite songs are chosen. Some of my favorites include: *We Are Called*, *Sing of the Lord's Goodness*, *In Every Age*, *O Bless the Lord*, and numerous other songs!

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church (1156) it says, "The musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art...it forms a necessary or integral part of solemn liturgy." I feel very blessed to be participating in this integral part of the liturgy.

S. Stella Olson: It is a joy to be part of planning liturgical worship. I not only get to choose the music fitting for the scripture readings but then I have the opportunity to sing with all my heart. The words come alive in song.



L-R: Associate Mary Hass, S. Stella Olson, S. Bernadette Trecker, Associate JoEllen Smith, Associate Kathy Hogan, S. Andrea Arendt, S. Maureen Walker

S. Bernadette Trecker: It is thrilling for me to accompany the Sisters as I love to hear them praise God with song. I rejoice in being able to add to the praise.

Associate JoEllen Smith: Serving as a cantor at the convent, taking part in the beautiful liturgies, and being part of this wonderful faith community is an honor, a privilege, and a joy!

Associate Kathy Hogan: Being part of the music team of the Presentation Community helps me to hear the voice of God in new ways.

S. Andrea Arendt: Liturgical music, and for that matter, any music, creates an atmosphere whether it is a simple prayer service, daily Eucharist in our

chapel, the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral, or a Eucharistic celebration at St Peter's in Rome. Words and gestures have more meaning when we sing or play music. I couldn't imagine life celebrations and worship without it.

S. Maureen Walker: I am most grateful to Mary, Kathy, JoEllen, Bernadette, Claudia, Stella, Andrea, and all the sisters for their very active participation in our liturgies. Each person adds a special touch by sharing their talents and gifts. Together with the whole congregation we make "beautiful music" at our Eucharistic Celebrations. I am honored be an active participant by adding a bass note now and then as we make "joyful noise" unto the Lord.

WE GIVE THANKS TO THE KINDNESS OF OUR BENEFACTORS

I am always thankful when Lent rolls around and it's late this year. There has been lots of time to ponder what to do to make this Lent special. Reflection calls for movement and change. Some people do this when they celebrate birthdays but I seem to be in rhythm with the changing church seasons. As I think about life and how God has called me to serve I can't help but be reminded about the generous benefactors the Presentation Sisters have been blessed with over the years. There is nothing that makes us smile faster than when a

particular sister's name is mentioned. With each gift there is a story to share. The sisters who are no longer in active ministry still remember the people they served as well as their children. We have some fourth generation people coming to the convent to visit. We are here to listen and to share your news and the Good News of the living God. Please know you are always welcome when you are in Fargo. Thank you for your generosity.

-S. Stella Olson, Development
Director



FIFTEENTH ANNUAL PRESENTATION TEA A SUCCESS



L-R: Co-chairs, Maureta Studebaker, Geri Weeding, and Kathleen Creighton beam with delight by the joyful sounds of guests enjoying the 15th Annual Presentation Benefit Tea held at Blessed Sacrament Parish, West Fargo, ND on December 5, 2010. The Presentation Sisters are grateful for the efforts of all the volunteers who made the event successful.



BOULGER FUNERAL HOME STAFF L-R: Larry Boulger, Jill Johnson, Jason Vollmer, Jeff Baer, Marty Baumgartner, James Boulger.

IN APPRECIATION

An appreciation dinner was held to recognize the staff of Boulger Funeral Home that has provided funeral and associated services for the Fargo Presentation Sisters since 1897. It was in that year that both the funeral home was founded and the congregation experienced its first death, Mother John Hughes.

A commemorative plaque reading, *In appreciation to Boulger Funeral Home for dedication in carrying out*

the seventh work of corporal mercy "Bury the dead" and providing all that such mercy implies for deceased and for survivors. Sisters of the Presentation 1897-2010+. Among all the attributes of God, although they are all equal, mercy shines with even more brilliancy. (Cervantes), was presented to Funeral Director Larry Boulger by S. Mary Margaret Mooney on behalf of the community.

APPOINTED TO NATIONAL VOCATION CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

S. Shawna Foley was appointed to the National Religious Vocation Conference's (NRVC) Rural Life Committee. The purpose of the committee "is to respond to the unique challenges of doing vocation ministry in rural areas. It may provide workshops, resources and guides to assist vocation directors and other related parties in creating a vocation culture in isolated regions with scattered populations." The committee will meet twice yearly and will do much of their work by e-mail and conference calls. S. Shawna first heard about the committee in November while at the NRVC nation-



al convocation. S. Elsa Garcia, CDP from Texas, contacted S. Shawna in February.

"I look forward to serving on the committee," responded S. Shawna. "Since North Dakota is a rural area, and I have lived in rural areas most of my life, I believe that I have much to contribute to the work of the committee. Hopefully I will gain some valuable insights to help in my own work as vocation director."

NRVC is a professional organization of men and women committed to vocation awareness, invitation, and discernment to consecrated life as brothers, sisters, and priests.

HIGH STAKES



CARD PLAYERS L-R: Ann Berg, Milly Fitterer, Dorothy Monson, and S. Mary Palmer

In 1981 a group of eight women with Fargo's St. Mary's Cathedral connections formed a pinochle club. Four of the group were sisters. Even with one new member, thirty years has taken its toll and the group now numbers only four. But those faithful four continue the third Thursday of

the month tradition of gathering for lunch and an afternoon of fierce completion. This is no casual exercise; money is involved. Each player antes up a quarter and the participant with the most points goes home with fifty cents as does the participant with the lowest score.

VOLUNTEERS ROCK AT NANO'S HOUSE

Incredibly, August, 2011, will mark the beginning of the seventh year of the *Presentation Sisters Nano's House Emergency Foster Care* ministry to children in crisis.

One hundred ninety-nine children have made momentary pauses here to catch their breath. True visible signs and gifts from God, they come in sadness, but soon settle in and gave joy with their antics, laughter, and reciprocal love. What treasures!

A recent mandate from the government obligates the county to place siblings together. This has sometimes brought the number of children at Nano's House to five. Children must also be kept at their school unless they are moved out of the area. Often this causes a struggle with schedules and transportation. Between the county and volunteers, everything always works out. Truly, sometimes I feel Nano is following me around, or is ahead of me filling in the blanks.

It seems appropriate at this time to publicly express my great appreciation for the gifts that the children and I continuously receive. The support of my religious community (both financial and moral), donations of clothing, Christmas, birthday, and monetary gifts from local and MN churches and friends, and students from area schools who wow the children and often perform tasks around the house.

Above all, my **committed VOLUNTEERS** deserve a paragraph all their own. Their generous giving of time, skills, and open hearts, provides *me* support, strength and rest. Thank you! Susan, Cindy, Carol, Maren, Dennis, and *each and every one* who has given of yourselves. You are brilliant jewels in this ministry mosaic. I could not keep Nano's House going without you!

With a grateful heart, S. Jan Ihli

PRESENTATION PRAYER PARTNERS

A few years ago S. Shawna Foley, Presentation Sisters' Vocation Director, and Michael Hagstrom, Shanley High School Religion Teacher, met together to discuss the possibility of initiating a project which could somehow connect our sisters with today's young people. Since very few sisters are involved with formal education in school classrooms, they discussed various possibilities. It was their discussion that resulted in the "Prayer Partner" project as we know it today.

The idea was presented to the Freshmen of Shanley. Students were simply invited to sign up for a sister to be their partner in prayer. When the names of the students were sent to the Presentation Prayer Center, the Sisters were free to choose any student on the list to be their Partner. As Partners they were invited to pray for each

other and to contact each other through letters, calls, e-mails, and to share whatever they wished about themselves, their interests, family, and other topics. The first year of the program only four students signed up; this year there are 16 in partnership.

This is my second year for signing up. Just a short time ago I received a beautiful letter from my Partner. What a blessing it was for me! She included "small talk" regarding weather and such. As her message went on, however, it was evident to me that she has a very deep spiritual life. Her words gave me much to pray about, in terms of praise and thanks, for what has been important for her, where her personal life is now, and what it might be in the future.

-S. Irene Schuster

WORKING TO END POVERTY

Concerned about world-wide growing poverty, the group pictured chose to participate in a consultative process set in motion by the UN Human Rights Council to improve its draft guiding principles correlating human rights with extreme poverty. By contributing their views, comments, and suggestions on the recommendations being circulated for review, this group hoped to illustrate how human rights failings create increased poverty. They met at least twice in March to respond to the

questions asked of them, and by the deadline of April 1 they were ready to submit their best recommendations.

Though having an NGO Representative at the UN is not essential to being able to submit information, it was helpful in this instance that S. Fatima Rodrigo, PBVM, our IPA Representative and active member of the NGO Committee for Social Development, was not only inviting us to participate in this project but also providing all the necessary information and guidelines we needed.



L-R: Papo Fernandez, S. Maris Stella Korb, Barry Nelson, Mary Tintes, S. Rosaria Acton, Associate Ellen Mahli, and Jessica Arneson

LAURA PLACE

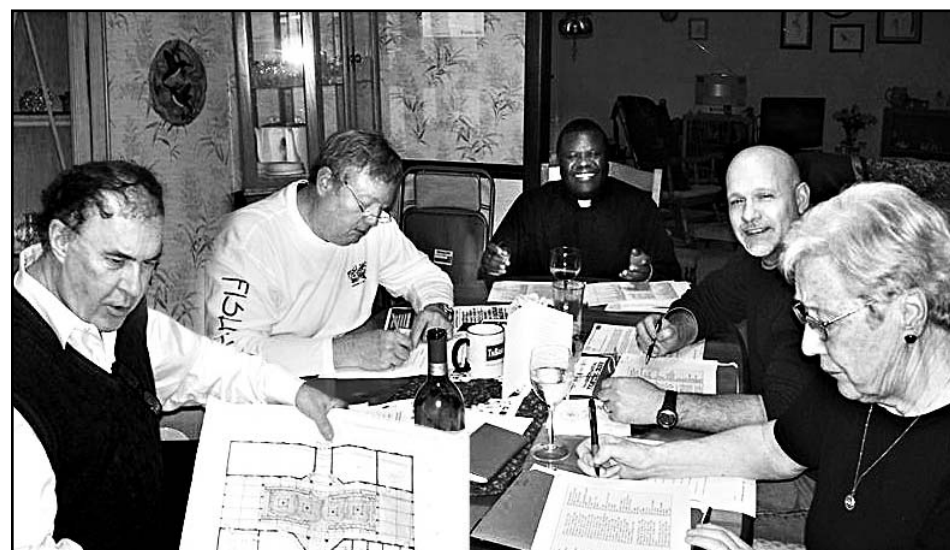
As an Associate of the Presentation Sisters Fargo, ND, my involvement in Laura Place is inspired by Nano Nagle, foundress of the Presentation Sisters, who said "If I can be of service in saving souls in any part of the globe, I would willingly do all in my power."

What is Laura Place? It is soon to be an Educational Resource Center in Orenge Nyaguda, Kenya, Africa. This project received its inspiration from Laura Halstead, a young woman from TN who always offered help and shelter to others without thought, always believing it was just the right thing to do, as did Nano Nagle. Ms Halstead passed away at age 19. Fr. William Oruko who was born and raised in the Orenge Nyaguda community and a member of the Catholic parish in the village was serving at Sacred Heart Parish in Knoxville, TN. when Mr. David Halstead approached

Father and asked him what he needed for the children/people in his hometown in Kenya. Father's desire was to have a Resource Center for his people. So the seed was sown to begin the project four years ago by a generous donation from David and family.

The Resource Center will be key to children of several villages. With this center they will have the resources to compete successfully for the limited secondary education seats available in Kenya. Children will be taught skills necessary for a rewarding and productive life. It will be a safe environment for the children of the village.

A core team of nine was formed in the parish to raise funds for planning and working with a team from Kenya. The land was donated by a village gentleman who was very excited about the project. We are delighted that we are now at a point in fund raising to break ground in May. Two



L-R: Darrell James, Dave Halstead, Fr. William Oruko, Mark Clubb, Associate Martina O'Brien

of our team members will accompany Fr. William, Darrell James, architect, and Laura's dad to Kenya.

Our goal is \$250,000. To date, we have raised \$128,000 through the generosity of people those who became members of Father Williams 500 club,

one time donors, and the widow's mite (lots of them).

For further information please visit www.lauraplace.org. Do keep this effort in your prayers.

-Associate Martina O'Brien

Presentation & Prayer Center Camp for Women
Tales of Wonder
nurturing, healing, and empowering through story and music.

July 29-31, August 19-21,
NEW this year, Sept 23-25,
for women in their 20's, 30's or 40's.

Scholarships available. Registration is limited to 8 participants each weekend. Contact Sr Andrea at 701-237-2857, ext 211 or presprayerctr@cablone.net



Associates Sandy Larson and JoEllen Smith and Sue Garaas, and S. Andrea Arendt

A DREAM REALIZED

Isha H. Kromah came to Fargo on August 29, 2005 from Liberia via Sierra Leone with her children and her sister's children. She came as a refugee sponsored by Lutheran Social Services of Fargo. She secured employment and attended classes in English as a second language. These classes were sponsored by the Giving and Learning Program at Riverview Place, Fargo.

A summer session of that program was held at Presentation Center and many of the sisters were instructors. Isha was a student of S. Rosaria Acton. Through the Giving and Learning program, Isha studied to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). Initially Isha was employed part-time. In 2008 she became a full-time employee at Sacred Heart Convent, Fargo.

Isha's dream was to become a United States citizen. Classes were scheduled around Isha's work schedule. She began her studies under the mentorship of Ss. Rosaria and Olivia Scully. (Ironically, both of whom emigrated from Ireland in 1947 and became naturalized citizens in 1953. When Ss. Rosaria and Olivia were asked about recollections of their own process of naturalization, they responded, "We knew it was important to become citizens of our new country. We studied under the direction of Sister St. James McAuliffe, our directress of formation. We went

with seven other women from Ireland for our interview for naturalization. Sixty years later we have few memories of that historic day. One member of our group had reservations about 'bearing arms in defense of the USA' and had to be reaffirmed by the superior about her response.")

We were challenged to find meaningful ways to assist Isha as she prepared for citizenship. She was highly motivated to become a citizen of the United States because of her past experiences in war-torn parts of Africa. On December 27, 2010, Isha was interviewed for naturalization and the following day successfully completed all the tests. The monumental day came on February 18, 2011, in Bismarck, ND. There Isha and four of her children became naturalized citizens. The smile of her deep joy and satisfaction at this accomplishment was reflected in the faces of Ss. Rosaria, Olivia, and Maris Stella Korb who were in attendance.

Now Mahawa Jusu, Isha's relative, and also a CNA at Sacred Heart Convent is being mentored for citizenship by Ss. Olivia and Rosaria. They say, "Our hope for Isha, Mahawa, and others like them is that they live happy and successful lives in their adopted country. It is a privilege to assist them on this journey as we follow in Nano's footsteps and 'Do what needs to be done.'"



L-R: S. Rosaria Acton, Isha Kromah, S. Olivia Scully



L-R: S. Rosaria Acton, Mahawa Jusu, S. Olivia Scully

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

crated persons to celebrate together solemnly the marvels which the Lord accomplished in them, to discover by a more illumined faith the rays of divine beauty spread by the Spirit in their way of life, and to acquire a more vivid consciousness of their irreplaceable mission in the Church and in the world.

The Sisters of the Presentation of

the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sacred Heart Convent, Fargo observed the 15th Annual World Day for Consecrated Life on Sunday, February 6th, (designated by the USCCB for the observance of Consecrated Life Day, 2011) by inviting their Presentation Associates for an afternoon of community building, prayer, and discussion.

A DVD of Dr. Richard Gaillardetz's presentation, "Contemporary Religious Life's Creative Fidelity to the Vision of Vatican II," given at the August 2010 Assembly of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, Dallas, Texas, formed the centerpiece for input and discussion. Participants studied chapters four, five, and six of the Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, prior to the event.

"Reviewing the Vatican II document and discussing the DVD was encouraging and stimulating. It makes me aware once again of what a great gift of the Spirit Vatican II continues to be. It is time for me to return to study and prayerful reflection on the documents," declared a participant.

Holden Evening Prayer closed the observance. Plans are to continue this type of event for World Day for Consecrated Life, February 5, 2012.