



Glenmary Sisters

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Bringing the Pieces and Colors Together KALEIDOSCOPE

A Newsletter for Glenmary Sisters' Adopters and Prayer Associates



Caruthersville, Missouri

Sister Darlene: Greetings from Missouri! I think I may be in the early stages of recovering from a very hectic summer. I will need to give it a few days to be sure!! I started the summer hosting the St. Pius X youth group from Owensboro, Kentucky. They did Arts and Crafts with the children

attending the Lincoln University Summer Youth program. This is a program I have worked with since coming to Caruthersville. They also worked to clean out the area where the next group would be working. I had the pleasure of welcoming my sister Justine to the Pemiscot mission. She spent the summer here helping with the Mission groups. In June we said goodbye to Father Randy as he was transferred to a Parish north of here, and welcomed our new pastor, Father Tom. Father Randy will be missed by all! I traveled to Victoria, Kansas at the end of June for a Mission Appeal. Boy, was that a long and beautiful drive. It offered some quiet time before the busyness of July started. In July, we welcomed the Holy Name Youth group from Henderson, Kentucky. I had lined up two work projects for them. Two days before they arrived one of the houses burned down. We still thank God that the parents and all 7 children were able to get out without harm. Thanks to your generosity and support we were able to assist the family with temporary lodging and meals. They are now in permanent lodging and we have been able to assist them with needed household items and clothing. The Holy Name group provided a VBS in the housing area of Hayti Heights. We met so many wonderful children. There was little Duke who, when asked what his favorite anything was, would respond "cookies, I just like cookies" and little Josh who had never been told he was special. They also helped at the youth programs being offered at Lincoln and the Haven and helped repair a roof for a family who had been affected by the tornado. After getting this group on the road, Justine and I headed to Georgia for a family visit. Upon returning, we welcomed the St. Paul youth group from Ham Lake, Minnesota. This group provided a VBS in the park in Steele, Missouri. This was their second year here. It was so good to see the children's faces light up when they saw the vans pulling up and then when they recognized the Ham Lake group. They were amazed that the group had returned to be with them. It was a week filled with laughter and love. Everyone had to be on the lookout for little Froggie who had just learned to ride a bike but had not yet mastered the use of the brakes. When you heard Froggie behind you yelling "beep beep" you had to brace yourself because you were his brakes!! Justine and I had a few days to rest, then we were off to Owensboro for a meeting where she learned of her formal acceptance into the Glenmary Sisters. What a joyful day that was. We then returned to prepare for our last group of the summer. We welcomed the St. Patrick youth group from Grand Haven, Michigan. This was their 3rd visit to

Pemiscot County. They offered a VBS here in Caruthersville. We had around 80 very busy children each day. It was a challenging week but one that was filled with many graces. There were many good seeds planted!! They also painted the playground equipment in the city park in Steele to help make it beautiful for the children. Of course we had a lot of little hands trying to help! We got this group on the road Friday morning, then Justine and I headed to Russell, Kansas for a Mission Appeal. We then headed to Syracuse, Kansas to clean out a storage unit that Justine had. We were able to bring a lot of wonderful furniture and household items to share with the people in our missions. After unloading the treasures here in Caruthersville we headed to Owensboro to celebrate the official Entrance of our two new members Justine and Pam. What a glorious time!! I am now enjoying some much needed peace and quiet.



Izzie: Hi everybody! I have had so much fun this summer! I met a lot of kids from all over. It was fun to welcome them to Missouri. Oh my, the back rubs and ear rubs were just wonderful. I also enjoyed the road trips. I love to look out the car window and of course my seat is in the lap of

whoever is sitting in the passenger seat. I am still working on controlling my excitement at the sound of the blinker. It does not always mean we are stopping for a walk. I had a lot of fun going to the park and meeting Froggie and his friends. They were amazed that I do not bite and I let them pet me. I role model gentleness and love. I met a man here in Caruthersville who, after watching me chase a squirrel (dragging Sr. Darlene behind me), has offered to pay for all the squirrels I can bring him. Seems he likes to eat them, too!! The best part of the summer was spending time at the Mother House with Sr. Bernadette. We have become such good buddies. She even sneaks me snacks. Sr. Rosemary invited me to the Formation House for a visit. I think something is brewing with that visit. I see obedience training in my future!! Well, I must run and make sure Sr. Darlene is doing what she is supposed to do. I look forward to sharing with you next time.



Frenchburg, Kentucky

Sister Kathleen: Greetings from eastern Kentucky. This summer has been very busy and interesting. We had various volunteer groups come to the area. It is always a joy having them come but also a challenge to find the right jobs for them. One group who came built an outside porch for a young

man who was involved in a car wreck and is now paralyzed from the waist down. He has a hard time with his speech but with the proper therapy we pray for a complete recovery for him. He was very excited to meet the young high school students and tried so

Is God Calling You?

Thinking of your future?

Have YOU ever thought of a religious vocation?

Now is the perfect time to talk to God.



Sr. Ellen Frances Lenihan renewing her vows.

Glenmary Sister Sharon Miller and Vocation Facilitator Mrs. Barbara O'Nan are ready to walk you through your discernment. They can be reached by email at: srsharon@glenmarysisters.org or Barbara@glenmarysisters.org

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Contact Richard Remp-Morris at 1-800-301-2689 or via email Richard@glenmarysisters.org to discuss how financial gifts through proper estate planning will help your family and the Glenmary Sisters.

hard to communicate. There are so many out of work in our area and thank God we are there to help and give them encouragement not to lose hope for the future. One young couple lost their home about a year ago due to a fire, then the husband had a kidney transplant and major medical needs. Once again we were able to help with some of the expenses and let them know we are there for them, especially in prayer. When it comes to medical needs we are the first to help them. God love and reward all of you for your constant prayers and support. Please know we are keeping you in our prayers and mission work.



Millen, Georgia

Sister Mary Ellen: We had a wonderful Bible school at Sylvania. Sr. Aida, Fr. Lou, and I helped transport children from Millen to Sylvania, and they all had a great time. Both Sr. Aida and I taught at the Bible school. After the Bible school was over some of the children got together for a swim party, while

others had a picnic. Sr. Aida and I attended a Council of Churches meeting. This organization was started a year ago and typically has a good turnout; for some reason, however, this meeting had a very small attendance. I made my annual 8-day retreat at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Atlanta. The grounds are beautiful, and I really enjoyed my 8 days of relaxing, praying, and walking. Not long after my retreat, I went on my 2-week family vacation in Florida. I stayed with my sister who lives on the beach, and had lots of lovely walks on the beach. While I was in Florida, the Thrift Shop reopened its annual 6-week summer hiatus. Two of our Mexican helpers moved away, and we have one new worker. Sr. Aida and I are starting our religious education classes for the children in early September. Please pray that our teaching is fruitful.



Owensboro, Kentucky

Sister Sharon: Wow! Where did the summer go? Seems like only yesterday I was getting excited about the upcoming family fishing trip and now here it is mid-August and everyone is in the "back to school" mode.

As I look back at my calendar, it is easy to see why the summer months are such a blur. I spent most of that time on the road away from Owensboro. In July, I did find a respite in my 8-day retreat. This is one of the many blessings that we receive in this life as a vowed religious. Each year, we are mandated to take a week away with God. For each person, this can be different. Some like to have a preached retreat, where there is a specific theme presented in various conferences during the week. I personally like the silent, directed retreats shaped by the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. I find that going into the 8-days of quiet with various scriptures to reflect on allows me the time to renew my sense of who I am called to be as both a religious and a Glenmary Sister.

Upon return from my retreat, I had several meetings that were scheduled, one of which was the Lay Advisory Board that we had been trying to re-establish for the last couple of years. This is a wonderful gathering of lay people who have varying levels of expertise and who are very committed to helping us look at different ways of getting the message out and finding the resources and funding for our missions and ministries.

In early August, I found myself on the road to Michigan for back-to-back mission appeals at a couple of parishes in the Detroit Archdiocese. Since I was driving, I was able to take Sr. Catherine

up with me so that she could visit friends and family in the Grand Rapids area. During the week between my mission appeals, I was very blessed in that the wonderful Sisters of Mount Thabor allowed me to stay with them. They are a very small but lovely monastic community of Dominican Sisters whose monastery was only a few miles from either parish.

I returned from Michigan on August 10th, but had to leave early the next morning to catch a flight to New Orleans for a leadership conference. I returned the afternoon of August 15th, just in time to receive our two new candidates, Justine Presley and Pam Hageman, into the community during evening prayer. Several of the Sisters were able to come in from the missions to welcome them and were joined by a couple of Glenmary Guild members, the Glenmary Men's novice directors and novices, as well as Mike Conley, the music director from the Cathedral. Afterwards we had a little reception with pizza and a cake from Dairy Queen. It was truly a wonderful celebration and we are all thankful to God for the generous gift of self these two women are sharing for the sake of the missions.

So as you can see, your prayers for vocations continue to be answered and we are extremely thankful to you for both your financial and prayerful support over the years. Do know that you and your family continue to be in our prayers.



Sister Rosemary: Greetings from our formation house in Owensboro. Since my last contact with you I have been much on the road. First there were the days of retreat in St. Louis, soon after some days of vacation in Cincinnati with my family there, then to South Bass Island in Lake Erie for vacation time with my sister. Many years ago she and her husband had bought a cottage on

Lake Shore Boulevard. Well, when I first went to the island the boulevard was a very sophisticated name for a narrow country road. The road has not changed in appearance, but real estate costs have sky-rocketed. The cottage remains simple in appearance but not in value! What a joy it is to be there as the beauty of the lake with its extraordinary beauty of sunset "speaks" to us always of the grandeur of God. Soon after my return to this part of Kentucky I was again on the road to our missions in Missouri and farther west here in Kentucky.

Now this present time I must fulfill my roles as Candidate Director. On August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Mother, two women entered our community as candidates. I share with them information on the beginning of our Glenmary community, its purpose, and our way of life. Should they enter the novitiate they will have much more input on what religious life is in Glenmary. Before then, however, they will have extended experience of serving in our missions of Caruthersville, Missouri and Smithland, Kentucky. It is a valuable time. I still remember my first mission assignment in the far western part of the state of Virginia many years ago. The mountains, the coke ovens, the experience of having people turn around to look at these Catholic Sisters so strange to them, the smallness of our Catholic congregations made me know that I could never leave Glenmary saying the community was not necessary. Sixty-two years later that conviction remains.

Though time is limited, I still have some contact with our Smithland mission which holds a mixture of joy and sorrow. And I am conscious of the fact that such a mixture surrounds us in the lives of people may see and not know personally I think of you, hoping there is much happiness for you now and, if not, that you feel an inner peace with God. Thank you for your support of me and my Glenmary community. We are with you daily in prayer.



Sister Aida Badillo: I've done three mission appeals in as many states the past few weekends: Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky. It's always good to get out and spread the word about the Glenmary Sisters' mission work. I thoroughly enjoyed time with my family in Connecticut during June. I spent a week with my son and daughter-in-law and my grandchildren. My new grandson was

baptized on Father's Day during a beautiful celebration at church. More celebrating followed at home, and I saw a lot of my family who could not come to my profession in April but were able to attend the baptism. I was also able to be present to a friend who recently lost her son. Hispanics have a tradition of a 9-day novena following a death, during which friends and family gather together, usually at the home of the deceased or his/her family, to say the rosary. I am glad I was able to be there for the last day of the novena. Not only was I able to be a support to my friend, but I also saw some friends from a prayer group in my home parish of St. Rose. Back in Millen, I have been very busy with my ministry work, including helping a Hispanic family in need, tutoring a 10-year-old boy in spelling, and ministering to a family who had a premature baby. The baby was in the hospital for a month following birth, and it was especially difficult for the family as they have another young child as well. Now the baby is home, growing and becoming quite beautiful. I am planning to start an English class soon. The local Resource Center talked to me about it, and said they might be able to supply the books for the class. Please pray for this latest endeavor.



Smithland, Kentucky

Sister Ellen Frances: "He lifts up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor." (1Samuel 2:8)

We in the Glenmary Sisters have the gift of being touched by and touching the poor. (Our founder, Father Bishop, referred to the poor as the 'aristocrats' of God.) During the summer months, and early fall, most of the work that Glenmary does in our Smithland Mission is done for and with the children of Livingston County. We help with the food program for the children when they are out of school during the summer months. We also sent several away to 4H camp. For many children, this provides their only respite from chaotic home lives. We also work at the 4H day camp here in Livingston County... an exhaustingly wonderful experience.

Our major project at the present moment is helping to get the children ready for school. The need for help has increased by 52%. (I just finished the demographic report.) While all levels have been affected by the economic recession—the working poor have been especially hit. To date we have supplied 162 children with school supplies... and assisted in obtaining a back to school outfit for 129 children. We would never be able to do any of this without your support... both prayer, supplies, and financial. Sometimes I feel like a broken record, but I really cannot thank you enough for your support in our endeavors.

The fall promises to be a very busy time. We have our PumpkinFest in Owensboro... followed the next weekend by the Oktoberfest here in Smithland. I am on the Chamber of Commerce and thus working on the weekend... but am also on the board of the food pantry here in Livingston County (started by the Glenmary Sisters)—and this will be a big fund raising time for the pantry. We need to prepare for the holidays... and we all know the need at Thanksgiving and Christmas will just keep rising.

I am looking forward to having a Glenmary Sister candidate living here with me. Pray for her... and for me that I don't corrupt her.

I am also being trained to be the new Vocation Director. So if you know of anyone who would like to devote their lives working with the poor in rural America (Southern states)—just let me know. I can tell you that each one of us stands among the poor in our missions and feels abundantly blessed by their presence. I personally feel God's goodness and love continuing to be revealed through them. And daily I hear in my inner being... the words that Hannah uttered in her canticle: God lifts up the poor. Thank you again for your part in helping to change the lives of his aristocrats.



Retired

Sister Bernadette: I've had a busy summer. I've been to the doctor for a check-up, and was treated to lunch at a local pizza parlor. I dearly love dogs, and have really enjoyed having Sr. Darlene's dog Izzie being here for a couple of weeks. In preparation for fall activities, I've been helping clean and organize

some items for our annual PumpkinFest, including polishing some lovely brass items which were donated. Even though it's hot outside right now, I know cooler football weather is right around the corner so I've been crocheting stadium blankets. Recently the staff came to the Sisters' residence for a potluck lunch, and that was a fun afternoon. When my family had their big reunion in Michigan in early August, several of them called me to chat and catch up. It's always good to talk to my family.



Sister Catherine: The summer days are quickly passing by. My most exciting thing has been the planning and attending the Schoenborn=Laux Family Reunion. I conceived the idea in late May. First, I sent a "feeler" to brothers and sisters; then invitations were sent, followed by a reminder memo. I sent 28 invitations in all and asked each one who received one to invite anyone I may have forgotten or did not have an address for. Three cousins and families replied that they would not be free to come due to reunions or gatherings of their family on the other side.

On May 29 I went to Owensboro and on May 30 Sr. Sharon and I drove to Grand Rapids - she to go on 2 mission appeals and me to Marywood. On Friday, Sr. Evelyn and I went to the hall at Miriam (St. Mary's) to set up for the occasion. Phyllis and Carolyn also helped. Then Evelyn and I went to see Pauline. We should have gone there and she could have helped. On Saturday, August 1, people started coming at noon and by 1 p.m. most people were there. 43 signed the guest book, and by 5 p.m. the place was all cleared out and everyone had gone home. Pauline went to a wedding in the morning and to a reception in the evening and came to the reunion in between. On Sunday we went out to St. Mary's for Mass. It is the church where we made our First Communion, and where funerals of parents and 2 brothers and 2 sisters were held. The cemetery is in back of the church. It was a wonderful day and I think all who came were happy they did.

While in Michigan I traveled to Houghton Lake to see my brother but he wasn't home so we just visited with a couple who were renting a room there. My sister and Theresa came to the reunion and Theresa and Jackie came to the farm to see us and took us out for dinner. I went to Spring Lake and stayed overnight at my brother, Art's home, so I got to see all brothers and sisters except Buck. Sr. Sharon came and stayed overnight, then we came back to Evansville and she went on to Owensboro.

Other activities: out for lunch at a local restaurant with some Daughters of Charity, celebrated with the Grand Rapids Dominican Sisters, and went to Owensboro for Justine Presley and Pam Hageman's entry into the Glenmary Sisters' Candidate program.