

Bringing the Pieces and Colors Together

KALEIDOSCOPE

A Newsletter for Glenmary Sisters' Adopters and Prayer Associates



Menifee County, Kentucky

Sister Kathleen

Greetings from Frenchburg. Hope all is well for you. Here we only had one day of snow. I would prefer to have a few days of it. Now I feel we will not get any more. So far we missed the

severe weather, especially the tornadoes. It is four years since we had the big one - people never forget.

The Catholic Outreach Center is going great. I have a lovely woman helping and she is so good with the needy and is full of ambition. People are very generous in sending wonderful supplies, especially good clothing.

In regards to the county here it is getting bad with drugs, drinking, and abuse. The children are the ones who suffer. Many of the parents are in jail. This is not the answer. Then grandparents take over the responsibility. The drugs are so bad and often the mother abandons the children and say they make other choices. I wish the court system would really get together and do more for the problems. Pray we can move people involved and get them into a good treatment center.

I thank God daily for my family and the many who gave good examples over the years. As I look back on my life it was not always easy but we had the church that helped us.

The pastor that we have in our church here in Morehead has informed all the people that he is now entering the monastery and becoming a monk. After a few years of prayer and guidance from our Bishop and his family he has now made the decision. He will enter on Easter Sunday and told us how life will change. I am so happy for him and this is a great witness to everyone. His name is Fr. Noel.

Please know I pray daily in gratitude for all you do to support our mission. Let's continue to pray for

peace and an end to all the persecution of Christians.



Owensboro, Kentucky

Sister Sharon

Greetings from Owensboro Kentucky! I hope your spring is beginning to bloom all around you. The trees and flowers here are really popping out everywhere. I was over at the

Carmel Home earlier today and the ornamental cherry trees (at least that is what I think they are) were gorgeous. It is so hard to believe that Easter is right around the corner.

It seems like I have spent the last two weeks at funerals. Two of our Glenmary Brothers died a week apart. We buried Brother Terry O'Rourke on March 16th up in Cincinnati and then laid Brother Bob Hoffman to rest the very next week on March 23rd. I am so honored that I have been able to join our Glenmary Brethren each time over these last 10 years I have been president to celebrate the life of these faith-filled men as they make their final journey to heaven.

Then on March 19th, we received the sad news that our beloved Bishop Emeritus John Jeremiah McRaith died early that morning. Although he retired in 2009, he still was very much in the hearts of the faithful throughout the Diocese of Owensboro. Bishop John was very much loved and respected. It was he who extended the invitation to the Glenmary Sisters community to come to the diocese of Owensboro when he found out we were looking to move from Archdiocese of Cincinnati to a mission diocese. I am happy to say it was Bishop John McRaith who received my vows when I made my Final Profession. Because he went down so fast, his funeral was sort of surreal, but I am glad that Sr. Catherine and I were able to attend both the wake service and the funeral. They were a wonderful celebration and expression of the man

and faithful servant he was as the Shepherd of this Diocese for 27 years.

Please know of my prayers for you as with the whole Church we celebrate the glorious occasion of our Risen Savior this Easter!



Ohio Co/Butler Co, Kentucky
Sister Aida

Blessings.

Lent has been a blessed time with the Stations of the Cross and fish fry fund raisers on Fridays.

We're getting ready for Holy Week. As always I'm busy

teaching, serving as interpreter, and getting information for people, such as finding out when the mobile consulates will be nearby, finding help for parents with out of control children, and many other things.

We have started the small group meetings for the V Encuentro. It has been a rough start. I have to remind myself this is all God's work, not mine.

"The V Encuentro is an initiative of the Bishops of the United States calling all Catholic leaders to listen with profound attention to the needs, challenges and aspirations that the growing Hispanic/Latino population faces in daily life. It especially prepares us as a Church to better recognize, embrace, and promote the many gifts and talents that the Hispanic community shares in the life and mission of the Church and in the society." {From V Encuentro Guide}

In May we, Glenmary Sisters, will have our Chapter. We will be electing a new administration. Please pray for us.

May the Easter Season bring you many blessings!



Pemiscot County, Missouri
Sister Darlene

Greetings from the Missouri Bootheel. I hope this finds all of you doing well. I do believe after many warm weather teasers that spring is finally here to stay! I am very happy about this. I love the

flowers, the warm days and the beauty of the trees

as they begin to leaf out. Izzie loves the longer evening walks when time permits.

Sr. Mary Ellen and I have been busy putting away the winter clothes and putting out the spring and summer clothes at Mothers House. This is a great deal of work and I am happy to say we are almost finished. I know that my poor muscles and back will be very ecstatic not to have to lift and drag the heavy totes.

I have been busy with the many Lenten activities held here at the parish. Each Monday prior to Mass, we gather for the Liturgy of the Hours. Monday evening following Mass we have a study on the Mass called Altaration. On Wednesday, we have Stations of the Cross, Mass and a simple supper. Each group in the Parish takes a week to lead the Stations and prepare the meal. Since I am involved in most of the groups, my Wednesdays have been quite busy. Following our suppers, we gather and watch a movie about the life of a Saint.

The PCCW in Chaffee invited me to give a mini retreat at their regional gathering. They were a wonderful group of women. Father Daniel in Portageville invited me to participate on a vocation panel for his RCIA group. I enjoyed sharing my vocation story and about my life as a Glenmary Sister.

I have had calls from various people needing household items such as furniture, linens and dishes. I was so happy that we had donations on hand to share with them. I continue to sort through the items we receive to ready them for distribution when the need arises.

Destiny and Gracie continue to prepare to receive the Easter Sacraments. I have experienced so much joy sharing our Catholic faith with them. I love the look on their faces when what we have been talking about suddenly takes root in their hearts. I look forward to continuing to walk with them on their Christian journey.

On June 25 of this year, our parish here will celebrate its 125th anniversary. I am on the celebration committee. To raise funds, we have had a successful Valentine bake sale and are taking orders for hot tamales. Our Mexican women are donating their time and talents towards this effort. I can still see the frightened look on their faces when we offered to help them make the tamales. Maybe they will let us watch! I am very happy that our

volunteers from Henderson, Kentucky will be there to help us celebrate. They will begin their mission activities the next morning.

I am grateful for your continued support and prayers for our ministry. I look forward to sharing with you all the happenings of Easter, our summer adventures with the volunteers and about our 125th celebration the next time we chat. Until then, I will keep you and your family in my prayers as we continue our Lenten days. I pray that at the end of this journey you will find the joy of Easter.



Sister Mary Ellen

The time is really flying this year. It seems as if we just finished Advent and now we are in the middle of Lent. I have been in Missouri for 7 full months now and I feel much more involved in the parish and

the town.

I'm still going to Mothers House, our outreach center for mothers who are in need of clothing for their young children and maternity clothes. I have also started going once a week to the senior citizens luncheon at the Community Center in Caruthersville. Besides a meal together, they also have exercise classes twice a week. I've only been able to make this once a week. There are not any really strenuous exercises but they are enjoyable and I do believe they will help me to be a little more flexible if I can keep them up once a week and even do some at home. I also enjoy eating with different people each week and getting to know them. I'm surprised how friendly everybody is here in Missouri - in the parish and around town.

I have also been going to the local Nursing Home once a week. At this time I am only visiting one person there. She is a Catholic. The recreation director there told me she would be able to give me a list next week of a few other people who really need someone to visit them. One of our parishioners also asked me to visit one of her relatives who heard that I am coming there and wants me to visit her.

I was able to make my yearly retreat in the middle of March. It was a very good retreat. I spent the 8 days at St. Meinrad Monastery and had a very good Benedictine Monk as my retreat director. He was very inspirational and I enjoyed all my times of prayer. The days flew by very quickly.

Now I am enjoying our days of Lent. We have many opportunities in this parish during Lent to grow closer to our Lord. We have weekly Bible Study classes, parish Stations of the Cross once a week followed by Mass and a simple supper prepared by different parish groups and then a movie on the Life of a Saint. These are all good preparations for our future celebration of Easter.

I will be writing again sometime after Easter to let you know about our Easter celebrations. I will be remembering you all during these days of lent and praying for a Blessed Easter for you and your family.



Retired

Sister Catherine

Everything is going on as usual here at Carmel Home.

There have been three deaths: Bishop McRaith, Elizabeth Mattingly and Marianne Meister.

I saw a movie "Gone with the Wind." In the Activity Room, we painted pictures of the rainbow over a pot of gold, have exercises and play Bingo about three or four times each week, see a movie on Thursdays and have popcorn, Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday, Stations on Wednesdays during Lent. One day at Sing Along I sang a solo: "Don't Fence me In". The Hot Rod Cruisers entertained us and several of us danced.

Sister Sharon and I went to Cincinnati for Brother Bob Hoffman's funeral and returned to Owensboro for Bishop McRaith's Wake and Funeral. On Valentine's Day, Bill O'Bryan and Jacinta Garinger were elected King and Queen of Carmel Home for 2017. I celebrated my 89th birthday - Sr Aida took me to Olive Garden on the 16th of Feb. We went on an outing to Whitesville from Carmel Home and had an ice cream cone on our return trip on the 17th

(my birthday) and Sisters Sharon, Bernadette and Rosemary took me to Applebee's on the 18th!!!

Sister Mary Ellen and I went to Maple Mount for Retreat March 17 - 19th. On the last day of retreat we had music and I danced.

Last but not least: I won "cover all" in Bingo for the 14th time since I came to Carmel Home on 4/24/13



Sister Rosemary

In my January writing to you I was able to share with you some of the events related to my celebration of my 90th birthday. It was quite easy to do as there were happy events to write about. Now I have other things to share with you, not so easy to do.

In this issue of Kaleidoscope I am writing to tell you of my latest experience. This time I shall concentrate on my back. Sister Sharon learned after my letter to you that I was in need of some repair work on my back. She took me to St. Mary's Pain Clinic which was suggested by our doctor here in Owensboro who has been a wonderful advisor to us and others. The doctor here knew of the doctor at the pain clinic, he knew of his competence and that we could trust him in his decision of what my back needed. He described quite well what would be needed. I was impressed by this doctor and believed what he advocated for repair of my spine.

Right now I am sitting at my typewriter here in my room with my back brace on. Using the brace as support while I heal is allowing me to get back to doing some of the things I wasn't able to before the repair. I am beginning my third week of brace wearing and as time goes on I will be able to use the brace less and less.

I am looking forward to my trip to the White House Retreat place near St. Louis for my annual retreat. After retreat I hope Sr. Sharon and I will go in to St. Louis to see my Jesuit friend there who has told me of the work being done there for an archives research building across from where he is living! What a change is being planned for his section of St. Louis. I shall give you an up-date with my next communication to you.



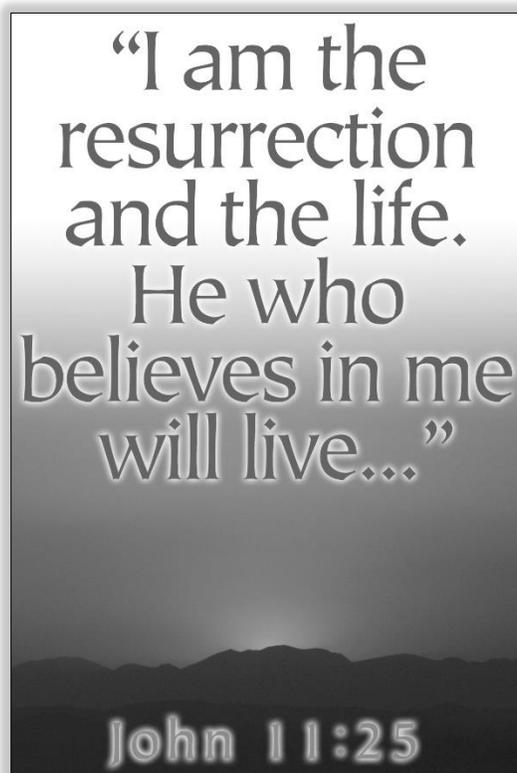
Sister Bernadette

The calendar says Spring has arrived. It does seem that maybe God has even viewed this calendar. Timing. God has impeccable timing, I have found through my life. If we let him guide the timing in our lives, many great things may be

accomplished.

Easter is just a few weeks away. Now is such a wonderful time to celebrate His life. As we know, every day is a wonderful time to celebrate our Lord, Jesus Christ.

After Christmas passed, I took time to slow down just a little. Making coffee cakes is quite a process and the season is quite a busy one for me. I have had the pleasure of "Izzie sitting" for a few weeks at a time as Sister Darlene keeps quite busy at times. Izzie is a very good lap dog. It seems as if there is a special spot just for her every times she is here!



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The Glenmary Center
P.O. Box 22264
Owensboro, KY 42304

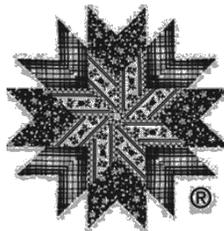
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The Sisters ask you to please pray for their upcoming Chapter. The following prayer is the one they will be saying daily:

CHAPTER PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Father of Light, from whom every good gift comes, send your spirit into our lives with the power of a mighty wind, and by the flame of your wisdom open the horizons of our minds.

Loosen our tongues to sing your praise in words beyond the power of speech, for without your spirit we could never raise our voice in words of peace or announce the truth that Jesus is Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, Amen.



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