

Teen Kinship

A Free Publication from the Glenmary Sisters



Fourteenth Edition, 2021

MARY, WIFE OF JAMES ANCUS
BORN MARCH 20TH 1838
DIED DEC. 20TH 1925.
LUCY FAIRWEATHER
BORN DEC. 13 1884
DIED MAY 23 1933.
ISABELLA FAIRWEATHER
BORN MARCH 2 1850
DIED DEC. 15 1937.
AMY ANCUS
BORN MAY 7 1874
DIED APRIL 25 1943

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
LOUISA BROMLEY
BORN MARCH 28 1871
DIED MARCH 14 1938
ALBERT
BORN 1871
DIED 1938

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ELIZABETH HAMILTON
DUNSMUIR
BELOVED WIFE OF
JOHN BRYDEN
BORN
MAY 18TH 1847
DIED
JUNE 13TH 1901
JOHN BRYDEN
DIED
MARCH 27TH 1910

*A publication
for teens to
spread the
Catholic
message
through good
deeds and
works*

MARTYRDOM

Letter from the Editor

Dear Reader:

Thank you for your interest in the fourteenth edition of *Teen Kinship*, the magazine devoted to the Catholic Church of tomorrow and the issues teens face. This issue is presented online for your convenience. Please feel free to print as many copies as you wish.

In this issue of *Teen Kinship* we're going to look at a topic of martyrdom and some of the martyrs of the church.

Please make sure to check out our website at www.glenmarysisters.org.

God bless,



John Calhoun II
Director of Youth Programs

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Glenmary Sisters *Teen Kinship*

Volume 14



The Glenmary Sisters, founded by Father William Howard Bishop in 1941, are a religious community of women working to establish a Catholic presence in the home mission areas of rural and small town America where it is not yet present in its fullness. Working in cooperation with the Glenmary Priests and Brothers, the two communities remain independent of each other. *Teen Kinship* is an annual magazine published by the Glenmary Sisters to help teach young adults how to live better lives as Catholics and about the needs of the home missions.

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Death

A reality of life is that death comes to all of us. We don't know when, where, or how, but at some point we will be called home to be with God.

As Catholics, we are comforted in knowing there is an eternity of paradise waiting at the end of our earthly life, but that still does not completely ease the pain for those left behind. When a person dies, they begin a special journey. If possible, a priest will bless the body and pray with those gathered. This initial step is comforting, but for the family and friends, we still feel a great loss that may linger for many years.



The Catholic funeral Mass soon follows and this ceremony is steeped in the centuries-old symbols and customs of the Catholic church. For many who attend a Catholic funeral Mass for the first time, they are intrigued by its beauty. At the funeral Mass, the church gathers as family and friends to give thanks to God for Jesus's victory over sin. In the end, the funeral Mass is not just an expression of grief, but an act of worship.

Many people throughout history have died for their faith. In our tradition, we believe those who are killed as a direct result of their faith are martyrs. There are some famous martyrs, but there are also many unknown martyrs.

In this issue of *Teen Kinship*, we'll look at some of the known martyrs and also take an in-depth look at the Catholic church's first martyr, St. Stephen.

Sources: www.osv.com, www.ccapgh.com, www.usccb.com

Join us
@GlenmarySisters

A black rectangular box containing the text "Join us @GlenmarySisters" in white. Below the text are four social media icons: Facebook (blue square with white 'f'), Instagram (purple and pink gradient square with white camera icon), Twitter (light blue square with white bird icon), and Pinterest (red square with white 'P' icon).

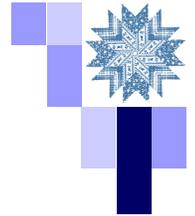
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Glenmary Sisters

Home Mission Sisters of America, Inc.



Aspirancy Program



Dear Sisters,

- Please send me more information on your missionary work.
- I would like to have someone call me to talk about my vocation.
- Please email me more information.
- I'm 21 or over and not eligible for the Aspirancy Program. Please contact me about becoming a Sister.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Age _____

Phone _____

Email _____

For more information, contact:
Vocation Facilitator
Mrs. Barbara O'Nan
Barbara@glenmarysisters.org
706-414-2982



Aspirancy Program

The Aspirancy is a time for deep discernment on religious life with the Glenmary Sisters.

The Aspirant will be living according to the Evangelical Counsels of obedience, chastity, and poverty.

It is a time of immersion into the life and ministry of the Glenmary Sisters serving the home mission needs of rural America.

The Aspirant should have the following characteristics:

- Be a woman of deep faith.
- Show willingness to grow in self-knowledge and knowledge of God.
- Interior freedom and gift of self.
- Possess a real concern for human needs.
- Have the ability and the sense of responsibility to carry through a task to completion.
- Have sufficient initiative to be able to work outside an institutional setting.
- Be flexible and adaptable to meet frequent changes.
- Have an appreciation and respect of small town and rural life.
- Be able to live in an area in which the Catholic faith community is extremely small.
- Be able to live and contribute in a healthy manner to the communal life of the Glenmary Sisters.
- Be open to sharing her gifts and talents with those with whom she is in mission.
- Have the ability to accept guidance and constructive criticism.
- Have the ability to be flexible, to handle change, stress, and ambiguity in a healthy manner.
- Have the ability to get along with other people, forming friendships and working in partnership with others.



Aspirancy Program Guidelines:

- Ages 18 - 20.
- High School graduate or GED recipient.
- Valid driver's license.
- Catholic lay woman who is fully initiated into the Church.
- Must make a 12-month commitment with the possibility of renewal.
- Entrance date is September 8th each year.



Martyrs in the Church

According to the article, *Martyrdom and the Struggle for Power: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Martyrdom in the Modern Middle East*, “a martyr is a person who suffers persecution and death for advocating, renouncing, refusing to renounce, or refusing to advocate a religious belief or cause as demanded by an external party.” In simpler terms, it’s a person who is killed because of his or her religious beliefs.



When many of us think of martyrs, we visualize them as people who lived long ago, but the sad reality is, martyrdom still happens all the time in the world. In this day and age it’s hard to imagine, but people are literally dying for their faith.

The church does, however, have many notable martyrs starting with St. Stephen, and including people like St. James the Greater and John the Baptist.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says martyrdom is “the supreme witness given to the truth of the faith: it means bearing witness even unto death” (#2473). With that said, according to our Christian doctrine, martyrdom renders the soul of the martyr worthy of immediate entrance into heaven. That means, even modern day martyrs are granted entrance to heaven.

We all face times in our lives when we must defend our faith. Sometimes we must stand up to bullying or name calling about our faith. Other times, it may be as simple as not sharing anti-Christian jokes. But have you ever asked yourself, “Would I be brave enough to die for my faith if I were put into that sort of situation?” That’s an incredibly difficult thing to imagine, but perhaps by considering that horrible thought it may strengthen our faith today.

Sources: www.newadvent.org, <https://catholicstraightanswers.com>,
www.catholicculture.org



Ask your youth director to consider a trip to a home mission. The memories will last a lifetime.

Call or email today for information.

john@glenmarysisters.org
270-686-8401



St. Stephen... The First Martyr

St. Stephen was born in 5 AD and, while there is no evidence, it is believed he would have been born Jewish. There are no biographical accounts of Stephen's early life in the Holy Bible, but he does begin to appear in the Acts of the Apostles and is mentioned as one of the seven deacons appointed by the apostles. This makes him one of the church's first deacons, a role which included charitable acts for the poor.

Stephen gave his view of the history of Israel in a speech to the Sanhedrin. The first part of his speech described how God doesn't just dwell in one place (for instance, a temple) but rather, everywhere. He also spoke of historic figures including Abraham and Moses. The second part of his speech discussed how people had disobeyed God and had created new gods.

Stephen began to create a stir when he declared that Jesus would destroy the Temple in Jerusalem and also when he changed the customs of Moses. As the crowd began to get angered, Stephen called them "stiff-necked" people who were acting just as their ancestors had by resisting the Holy Spirit.

At this, the crowd could no longer control their anger and began throwing stones at him. Stephen, however, looked to Heaven and proclaimed he saw "the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God." Even as he was being stoned to death, he prayed that the Lord would receive his spirit and forgive those who were killing him.



After Stephen's death, the other disciples ran away to far off lands such as Antioch.

*Sources: Acts of the Apostles, Catholic.org,
Lives of Saints*

Did you know?

- ◆ St. Stephen's Feast Day is December 26th.
- ◆ St. Stephen is the patron saint of the Diocese of Owensboro in Kentucky. Although not a Glenmary mission diocese, the Diocese of Owensboro is where the Glenmary Sisters' motherhouse is located.





The Glenmary Center
PO Box 22264
Owensboro, KY 42304

Peace Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.