

KITTY'S CHRONICLE MERCY ASSOCIATES' NEWSLETTER

Volume 5 / No. 4 – April 2022



Anniversary:

Barbara & Eric – April 5th



PRAYERS

Prayers for the Sick

Let us pray for the sick, especially our Associates, Sisters of Mercy, family members, friends and care-givers. May God touch them with comfort, healing and strength.

We pray for people who are on our list this week – Jaxon McKinney (Sister Maureen O'Keefe's grandnephew), Sharon Keels (sister of Ros Hurley), Diane Hickey (sister-in-law of Cathy Hickey), Theresa Lacey (sister of Annie Brown), Marilyn Thurston, Patricia King, Edith Antle, Sylvia Flood, Kevin Drover (husband of Geraldine Drover) and Geraldine Duhamel (sister of Sharon Drover).

(If you wish to have your name or another person's name added to or removed from this list please let Sharon Drover know (drover.sharon@yahoo.ca)

*May you be continually blessed with great love
and happiness!*

HAPPY
Anniversary





Light a Candle

Let us continue, in solidarity with Mercy Sisters, Associates and Colleagues around the world, to light a candle and pray for justice and peace.

From the Wisdom Circles

Circle of Compassion

*Praise be to the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, the Father of*

*compassion and the God of all comfort, who
comforts us in all of our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble
with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.*



~ 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Contemplative Presence

“Contemplation is a gaze of faith, fixed on Jesus...

*Contemplative prayer is silence,
the “symbol of the world to come” or “silent love.”*

*Words in this kind of prayer are not speeches;
they are like kindling that feeds the fire of love...*

*“Contemplative prayer is a communion of love
bearing Life for the multitude, to the extent that
it consents to abide in the night of faith...
We must be willing to “keep watch with [him] one hour.”*

- Excerpt CCC 2709-2719

Integrity of Creation

Oneness of Earth and the Poor

*Jesus took up the biblical faith in God, the Creator, emphasizing a fundamental
truth: God is Father (cf. Mt. 11:25). In talking with His disciples, Jesus would
invite*

*them to recognize the paternal relationship with all his creatures. With moving
tenderness God would*

remind them that each one of them is important in God’s

*eyes: “Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is
forgotten before God.”*

- (Luke 12:6) (Laudato Si)

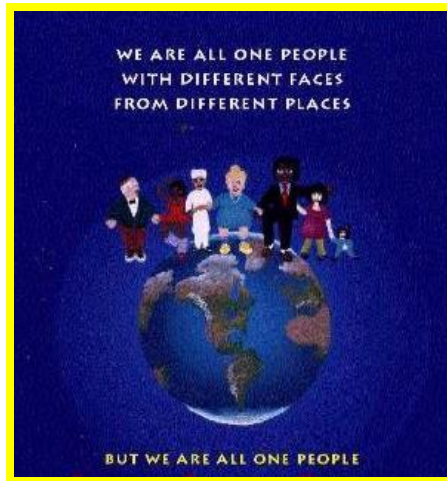
Diversity and Inclusion

When I see you through my eyes.

I think you are different

*When / see you through my heart,
/ know we are the same.*

- Doe Zentamata



Notes from the Associates/Sisters

Items of Interest

The Month of April

The month of April gets its name from the Latin word *aperio*, meaning “to open [bud],” because plants really begin to grow now

April Fools’ Day - April 1st

Although the origin of playing practical jokes and pranks on this day is hazy, many folklorists believe it may go back to 16th-century France. At that time, New Year’s Day was March 25, with a full week of partying and exchanging gifts until April 1. In 1582, the Gregorian calendar moved New Year’s Day to January 1. Those who forgot or refused to honor the new calendar were teasingly called, “April Fool!”

Weather folklore states, “*If it thunders on All Fools Day, it brings good crops of corn and hay.*”

World Autism Awareness Day – April 2nd

Celebrate the Spectrum is our theme for World Autism Day 2022 celebrations.

There is no better way to celebrate this day than by becoming aware of the characteristics of people with this condition and how all of us can do better to increase our own understanding and promote kindness.



National Pet Day – April 11th

If you have a pet at home we would love to see a picture of your furry friend.

Why not send a picture to Sharon or Catherine and we could put a picture in our newsletter.



Catherine's furry friend called "Mister" is 14 years old.



National Scrabble Day – April 13th

Pull out the board and find a friend!





Easter Sunday - April 17th

Why Is Easter So Late This Year?

This year, Easter will be observed on **Sunday, April 17**. (Eastern Orthodox Easter will take place on Sunday, April 24.)

Easter is a “movable feast,” so it doesn’t happen on the same date from year to year. However, it is always observed on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25.

Easter this year happens just one day after April’s Full Moon (Saturday, April 16), which is the first full moon to occur after the Spring Equinox (March 20, 2022) and is therefore known in the Christian calendar as the “Paschal Full Moon”. To make a long story short, Easter always occurs on the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon, which is why Easter is so late this year.



Earth Day – April 22nd



Today, not only is Earth Day a day meant to increase awareness of environmental problems, but it is also becoming a popular time for many communities to gather together to clean up litter, plant trees, or simply reflect on the beauty of nature.

Looking for something to do for EARTH DAY -

- **Clean Up Plastic in Your Neighborhood or Local Park**
- **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle in the Garden**
- **Stop Pesticides and Chemicals in the Garden**
- **Conserve Water**



Dates to Remember

April 6th – Mass of Chrism

April 14th – Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord’s Supper

April 15th – Good Friday – Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

April 16th – Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil – Resurrection of the Lord

April 17th – Easter Sunday – Resurrection of the Lord



After a shocking wave of Russian military strikes across Ukraine, Catholic Ukrainians, and those around the world praying for their country.

Blessed Michaelina Josaphata Hordashevska

Born in Lviv in 1869, Michaelina was known for her unusual piety in childhood. At 18, she felt called to be consecrated entirely to God and made a private vow of chastity.

Michaelina planned to enter a contemplative and cloistered order of nuns until her spiritual director urged her to consider instead a new apostolic community of sisters, which would serve the poor as nurses, teachers, catechists, and caretakers for children.



The Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate were founded in 1892. Michaelina, taking the name Sister Josaphata. Within 10 years, there were 128 sisters in Ukraine, and sisters soon went to Canada to serve Ukrainian immigrants living there.

Under Sister Josaphata’s leadership, the community’s active life was attractive and evangelically effective, and it became eventually the largest community of women religious in the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.

She faced health problems: in her 40s she was diagnosed with tuberculosis, and after a long and painful illness, she died at 49 in April 1919.

She was beatified in 2001, during Pope St. John Paul II's pastoral visit to Ukraine.



From Kitty's Kitchen

Braided Easter Bread

Makes two loves...one for you and one for a friend...Happy Easter

Ingredients

1 and 1/2 Cups very warm milk
1 cup white sugar + 1 tsp sugar
1/2 cup (8 Tbsp) unsalted butter, softened
1 tsp salt
2 envelopes active dry yeast (1 and 1/2 Tbsp)
3 eggs, well beaten
6 1/2 Cups unsifted all-purpose flour ***measured correctly**
1 egg
1 tsp water
3/4 cup to 1 cup white or brown raisins + 2 cups boiling water

Instructions

1. Place 1 cup white or brown raisins in a bowl with 2 cups boiling water for 10 minutes. Drain well and set the raisins aside.
2. Pour 1/2 cup warm milk (heated 30 seconds in micro) into a **large measuring cup**. Add 1 tsp sugar and sprinkle yeast over the top. Stir and let it stand to proof until bubbly and doubled in volume, about 10 minutes.

3. Combine 1 Cup of very warm milk (1 minute in micro), with the 1 Cup sugar, softened butter and 1 tsp salt in a large bowl. Stir until most of the butter is melted.
4. Stir in 3 well-beaten eggs, then yeast mixture into the butter mixture. Using the dough hook attachment (or a wooden spoon if mixing by hand), Beat in 6 1/2 cups flour, one cup at a time until a soft dough forms. Knead for 8-12 minutes or until smooth and elastic.

Dough will still be a little sticky and will stick to the bowl, but should not stick to your fingers. If kneading by hand, turn out onto a well-floured surface and knead 8-12 minutes (using only enough flour necessary to prevent sticking to your hands).

5. Stir in the raisins until evenly distributed. Transfer the dough to a large buttered bowl, turning it to bring the buttered side up. Cover with a tea towel and let rise in a warm place, away from draft, about 1 and 1/2 hours or until double in volume.

(I set my oven to low, then turned it off and let the dough sit in a warm oven; about 100°F).



6. Punch dough down. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface. Divide the dough in half. Divide one half into four equal pieces and form about 15" strips with each quarter.
7. Pinch the four strips together on one end and let the braiding begin.

8. Cross the far right strip over its neighbor.
9. Tuck the far left strip under its neighbor and over the next strip. Repeat step 8 & 9 until you finish the braid, then pinch together the other end.

10. Place each braid in a buttered baking dish (they would have expanded even better if I had used a large baking pan). Cover loosely with a towel and let them sit for 30 minutes.



11. After the braids have been sitting for 30 minutes, now pre-heat the oven to 375 °F. It's hard to tell, but they did rise!

12. Beat together 1 egg and 1 tsp water. Generously brush the top and sides of the bread with the egg mix just before baking.

13. Bake each loaf separately for 20-22 minutes or until golden brown.



From Kitty's Library



A Good Read

They Left Us Everything: A Memoir.

A warm, heartfelt memoir of family, loss, and a house jam-packed with decades of memories.

After almost twenty years of caring for elderly parents--first for their senile father, and then for their cantankerous ninety-three-year old mother, author Plum Johnson and her three younger brothers have finally fallen to their knees with conflicted feelings of grief and relief.

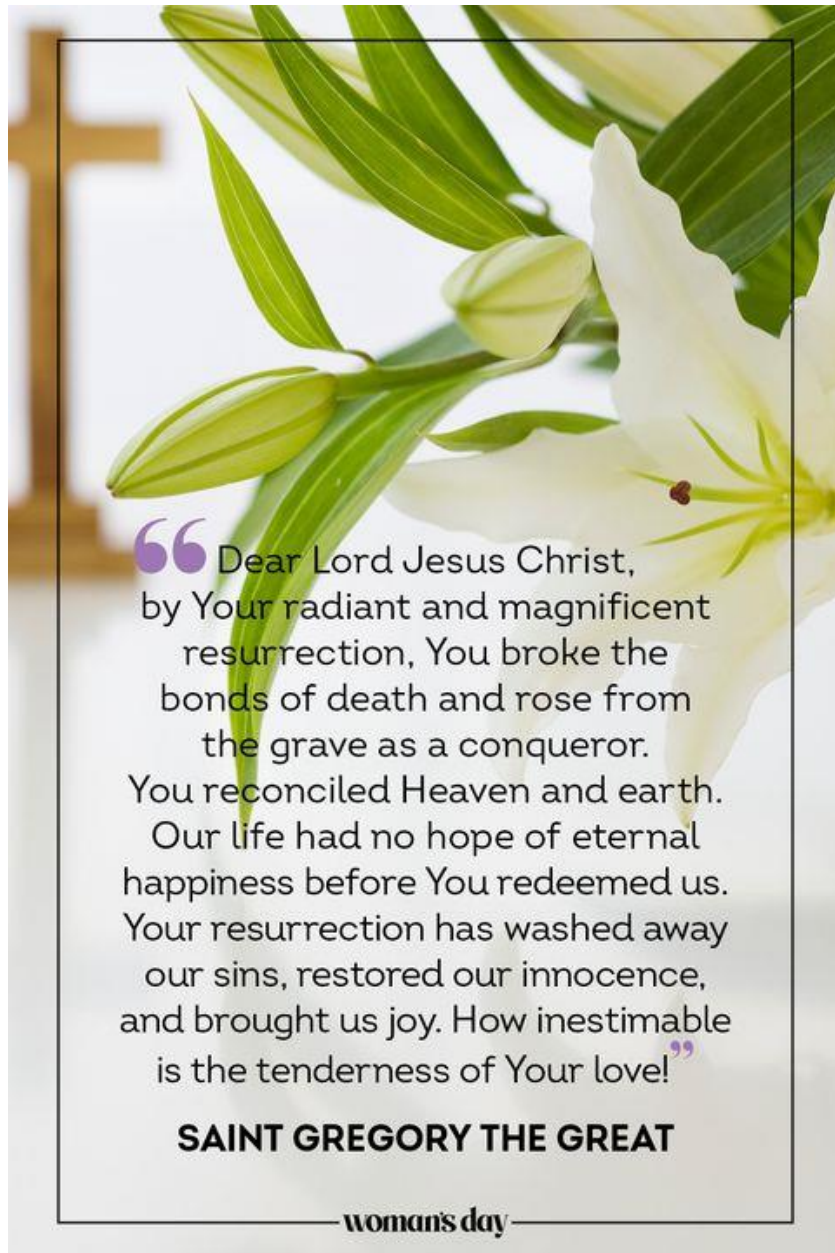
Now they must empty and sell the beloved family home, 23 rooms bulging with history, antiques, and oxygen tanks. Plum thought: *How tough will that be? I know how to buy garbage bags.*

But the task turns out to be much harder and more rewarding than she ever imagined. Items from childhood trigger difficult memories of her eccentric family growing up in the 1950s and '60s, but unearthing new facts about her parents helps her reconcile those relationships, with a more accepting perspective about who they were and what

they valued.

They Left Us Everything is a funny, touching memoir about the importance of preserving family history to make sense of the past and nurturing family bonds to safeguard the future.

Pause for Thought



The Last Word...

*It is therefore by being united to Jesus Christ that we will be united
with each other.*

Catherine McAuley

