



Vol. 8/No. 4 – April 2025
Kitty's Chronicle
Mercy Associates Newsletter

Prayers for the Sick

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

We pray for people who are on our list this week – Jaxon McKinney (grandnephew of Sister Maureen O'Keefe), Diane Hickey (sister-in-law of Cathy Hickey), Theresa Lacey (sister of Annie Brown), Marilyn Thurston, Patricia King, Sylvia Flood, Kevin Drover (husband of Geraldine Drover), Marion Bonia (sister of Anne Marie Davis), Sister Theresa Boland, George Bradbury (husband of Barbara Bradbury), Margaret MacNeil (sister of Geraldine Drover), Jim Wakeford (nephew of Sister Maureen O'Keefe) and Mike Kelly (husband of Anna Kelly).

(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).



Prayer for the Sick

Through the Intercession of Catherine McAuley

God of Love and Mercy,
You inspired Catherine McAuley,
To serve your Son by responding

To the needs of her time.

Moved by her care for the Sick,
We ask that through Her Prayers
You reach out with Your Healing Love
And restore them to full health

We ask this in complete
Confidence through Jesus Christ, Your Son
Amen.

Catherine McAuley, Pray For Us
Amen.

Happy Anniversary Wishes to ...



Barbara & Eric – April 5th

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

“The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others.”

- Albert Schweitzer

Contemplative Presence

“Learn to be quiet enough to hear the genuine within yourself so that you can hear it in others.”

- Marian Wright Edelman

Integrity of Creation

“Give us the strength to understand, and the eyes to see. Teach us to walk the soft Earth as relatives to all that live.”

- A Sioux Prayer

Diversity and Inclusion

“Each human being, however small or weak, has something to bring to humanity. As we start to really get to know others, as we begin to listen to each other's stories, things begin to change. We begin the movement from exclusion to inclusion, from fear to trust, from closedness to openness, from judgment and prejudice to forgiveness and understanding. It is a movement of the heart.”

- Jean Vanier



Notes from the Associates/Sisters

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mercy Wellsprings

We need constantly to contemplate the

mystery of mercy.

It is a wellspring of joy,

Serenity, and peace ...

From the heart of

the Trinity, from the depths of the mystery

of God, the great river of mercy wells up

and overflows unceasingly. It is

a spring that will never run dry,

no matter how many people draw from it.

Misericordiae vultus #2, #25



April 16 – St. Bernadette



Patron saint of bodily ills and orphans.

Bernadette Soubirous born 7 January 1844 – died 16 April 1879), also known as Bernadette of Lourdes (in religion Sister Marie-Bernard), she was a miller's daughter.

Suffered from ill health as a child and young woman, including asthma and digestive problems. She received sacrament of the sick at least three times. When she was a child.

She had a vision of the Virgin Mary (a young lady) at Lourdes in France. Mary told her to dig in the mud, and a spring appeared in which many people were healed.

Bernadette asked for a chapel to be built at the nearby cave-grotto. These apparitions occurred between 11 February and 16 July 1858.

After a canonical investigation, Bernadette's reports were eventually declared "worthy of belief" on 18 February 1862, and the Marian apparition became known as Our Lady of Lourdes. In 1866, Bernadette joined the Sisters of Charity of Nevers at their convent in Nevers where she spent the last years of her life. The grotto where the apparitions occurred later went on to become a major pilgrimage site and Marian shrine known as the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes, attracting around five million pilgrims of all denominations each year.

Pope Pius XI beatified Bernadette Soubirous on 14 June 1925 and canonized her on 8 December 1933. Her feast day, initially specified as 18 February – the day Mary promised to make her happy, not in this life, but in the other – is now observed in most places on the date of her death, 16 April.





The Archival Moment

The Archival Moment is contributed by Sister Charlotte Fitzpatrick.

An Archival Moment – Sister M. Brigid Hoey

Mary Hoey was born in November of 1874, the oldest of twelve children. She was educated by the Sisters of St. Louis in her home town of Carrick McCross, County Monaghan. It was here at school that she met a Newfoundland girl, Agatha Kennedy, who had been sent to Ireland by her parents to continue her studies. The two developed a bond of friendship that lasted throughout the course of their lives. After her studies Agatha returned to Newfoundland and entered the Sisters of Mercy in Conception Harbour in August of 1892.

In 1894 Mary Hoey left Ireland for the Newfoundland mission. She became a postulant at Immaculate Conception Convent in Conception Harbour on June 21 and was received into the novitiate as Sister Mary Brigid on November 21. On that same day her friend Agatha, now Sister Mary Gertrude, made her profession of vows. Sister Mary Brigid spent twenty-two years in Conception Harbour, teaching in the school, visiting the sick in the parish and serving as superior for several years.

In 1916 at Amalgamation, Sister M. Brigid was appointed to the General Council of the newly formed Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland, and the following year went as superior of the new Mercy foundation on the west coast, St. Mary's on the Humber in Petries (Curling). In 1919 she went to Burin as superior of St. Anne's Convent and at the expiration of her term of office, she became a member of St. Joseph's Convent community at Hoylestown in the city's east end. She remained at St. Joseph's for the next thirty-three years. When she was no longer able to continue teaching, she devoted herself to visitation of the sick in their homes and at the General Hospital, becoming a familiar figure throughout the Hoylestown area.

Sister M. Brigid died at St. Clare's Mercy Hospital on August 23, 1957, having lived as a Sister of Mercy in Newfoundland for sixty-three years and having ministered in all three dioceses.



“Throughout the silent suffering of the God-Man, it was not His agony, scourging, crowning with thorns, and Crucifixion that rendered His sacrifice acceptable to the Father. It was His internal, voluntary self-oblation that gave all, even life itself, restoring to God whole-souled devotion and perfect love. Obedience was the grand characteristic of Christ’s labour, patience, anguish, and desolation, which ascended like incense to the Father from the sacrificial altar of the Lamb of God.”

- John Kane



Celebrating Women

Dr. Elsie MacGill



Elizabeth (Elsie) Muriel Gregory MacGill, [OC](#), aeronautical engineer, feminist (born 27 March 1905 in [Vancouver, BC](#); died 4 November 1980 in Cambridge, Massachusetts). Elsie MacGill was the first woman to earn a master's degree in aeronautical [engineering](#) (1929). She was also the first practising Canadian woman engineer. In 1938, she became chief aeronautical engineer of Canadian Car & Foundry (Can Car). There, she headed the Canadian production of [Hawker Hurricane](#) fighter planes during the [Second World War](#). An active [feminist](#), MacGill was national president of the Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs (1962–64). She was also a member of the [Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada](#) (1967–70).

Dr. MacGill was the first female aircraft designer in the world. She was also the first woman to serve as Technical Advisor for [ICAO - International Civil Aviation Organization](#).

A special shout out for Women of Aviation Week to women like Elsie for being pioneers in Canadian aviation and their worldwide impact.

To read more interesting information on Dr. MacGill, please visit <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/elizabeth-muriel-gregory-macgill>



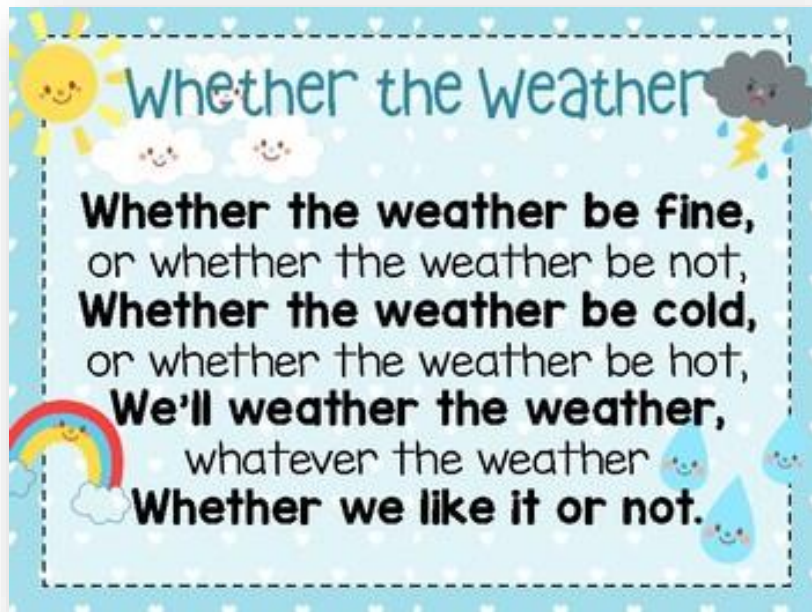
April's Origins Date to Ancient Times

The name April comes from the Latin “Aprilis,” likely related to “aperire,” meaning “to open,” a nod to spring’s arrival. The month’s name has also been attributed to Apru, which is Etruscan for the Greek goddess Aphrodite, associated with love, beauty and fertility.

April was originally the second month in the Roman calendar—that is, until the addition of January and February in the 7th century B.C.E by Roman king Numa Pompilius, a movement to a 12-month lunar calendar that shifted April to its current position as the fourth month of the year.



Poetry Pause



From Kitty's Kitchen

Soy-Ginger Pot Roast (Slow Cooker)

Ingredients

- 1 boneless beef chuck roast (3 to 4 pounds)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 tablespoon canola or vegetable oil
- 1-1/2 cups water
- 1/2 cup soy sauce



- 1/4 cup honey
- 3 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon ground mustard
- 1 large onion, halved and sliced
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 2 tablespoons cold water

Directions

Sprinkle roast with salt and pepper. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Brown roast on all sides. Transfer meat to a 5- or 6-qt. slow cooker. In a small bowl, mix water, soy sauce, honey, vinegar, garlic, ginger and mustard; pour over meat. Top with onion. Cook, covered, on low 7-9 hours, until meat is tender.

Remove roast and onion to a serving platter; keep warm. Transfer cooking juices to a large saucepan; skim fat. Bring cooking juices to a boil. In a small bowl, mix cornstarch and cold water until smooth; stir into cooking juices. Return to a boil; cook and stir until thickened, 1-2 minutes. Serve with roast.

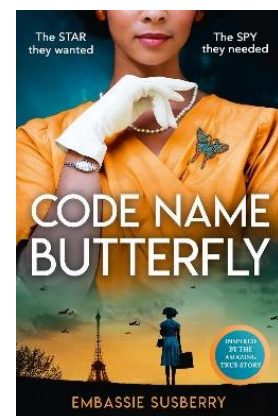


From Kitty's Library

A Good Read...

Code Name Butterfly by Embassy Susberry

In the City of Light, one woman will stand against darkness.



Paris, 1941. With Nazi occupation imminent, journalist Elodie Mitchell plans to return home to Chicago. But an unexpected invitation to a Josephine Baker show changes everything.

Mistaken for the star, Elodie is whisked backstage, where she uncovers an underground resistance movement hidden beneath the glitz and glamour. Drawn into a whisper network of spies, Elodie accepts a perilous mission: to go undercover as Josephine's cousin and gather vital intelligence. In a world on the edge of darkness, Elodie must summon unwavering courage to protect her beloved adopted city and its people – and getting caught is not an option.



We strongly encourage you to go to our mercy website:
www.sistersofmercynf.org and have a look at the ASSOCIATE section.

There are many new additions, lots of photos and some videos.

We hope that you will enjoy and be encouraged to keep working for the growth of our Mercy Associate relationship.



Please save the date of May 10th in your calendars. There will be a shared Retreat with the Presentation, Mercy, and Redemptorist Associates to take place at the Recreation Hall, Littledale. More information will follow!

Pause for Thought ...

You Washed Our Feet

It was a table long ago.
You got up, put down your robe
A towel on your waist you tied,
a water basin at your side
You knelt to those who follow you,
Took off their dusty shoes
You touched our skin, our sin.
You washed our feet.



You clean the flesh I cannot feel,
You tend the wounds that never heal
You push my chair when legs can't walk.
You are the voice when I can't talk.
You washed our feet.

You carried me down flights of stairs,
When all the world was in despair
When buildings crumbled at our feet,
and dust and rubble in the street,
You washed our feet.

If I have washed you, so you, the other
If I have knelt before you, so you, one another.



You stand alone at the barricade
In lingering tear gas and pepper
spray
You offer roses to police.
The crowd cries war, you whisper
peace
You washed our feet.

You spoke the truth in Salvador.
You spoke of god to the dogs of
war
You looked into their lying eyes.
You list the host before you die
You washed our feet.

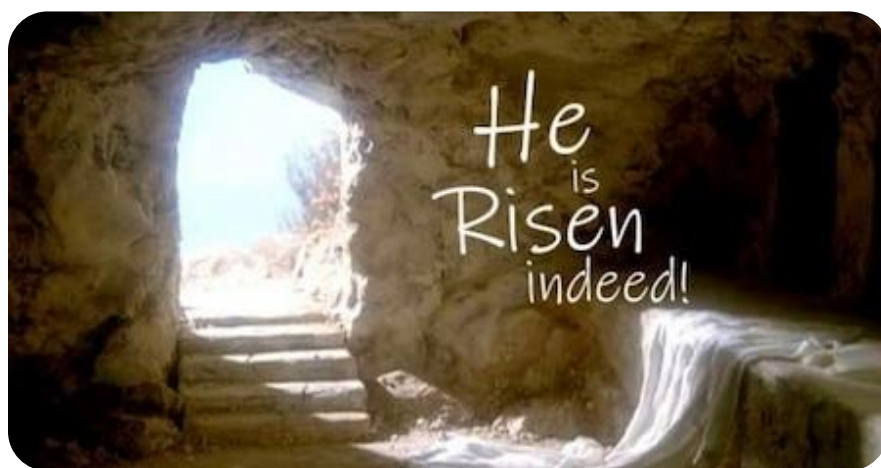
Wisdom is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of God's goodness. Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things; in every generation she passes into holy souls and makes them

friends of God, and prophets; for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom. Ws. 7:26-28



“He came the first time to die; He is coming again to raise the dead. When He came the first time, they questioned whether He was King; the next time the world will know that He is King of kings and Lord of lords. The first time He wore a crown of thorns; the next time He will be wearing a crown of glory. The first time He came in poverty; the next time He is coming in power. The first time He had an escort of angels; the next time He will come with ten thousands of His saints. The first time He came in meekness; He is coming again in majesty.”

- Adrian Rogers



The Last Word...

“Take what He will from us, He still leaves us His holy peace.”

- Letter to Elizabeth Moore Easter Monday, 1841



Easter Blessings to you All!