



Vol. 8/No. 8 – August 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), Jim Wakeford (nephew of Sister Maureen O'Keefe), Mike Kelly (husband of Anna Kelly), Anne Walsh and Sister Maureen O'Keefe.

(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 & Austin Hawley - August 10th



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

“Compassion is a matter of humanity, not a religious issue.”

Reflecting on the parable of the Good Samaritan at the weekly General Audience, Pope Leo XIV challenges everyone to not let our busy lives “prevent us from feeling compassion” towards others.

By Kielce Gussie

Continuing his reflections on the parables in the Gospel during his Wednesday General Audience, Pope Leo XIV recalled the “learned and well-prepared man—a doctor of the Law” from Luke’s Gospel. The Pope says this young man is too focused on himself and ignores others.

The doctor of the Law speaks to Jesus, inquiring how he can inherit eternal life. But Pope Leo exposed “the deeper need for attention” behind this question as the young man asks Jesus to explain the word “neighbour.”

Whom have I loved?

To answer this, Jesus recounted a parable that changes the young man's question entirely from "*Who loves me?*" to "*Whom have I loved?*"

The Pope explained the first is immature, “while the second is the question of an adult who has understood the meaning of life.” The first is inactive, while the second requires action.

Jesus then shares the parable of the Good Samaritan, whose setting is the road a man takes to travel from Jerusalem on a mountain to Jericho, which is at sea level. Pope Leo likened this journey to life, calling it a “difficult and dangerous road.”

On his journey, the man is beaten, robbed, and left for dead, which can happen to us when “circumstances, people—even those we’ve trusted—strip us of everything and leave us out in the open.”

It is not a religious issue

But, the Pope pointed out, it is in these encounters with others that we come to know who we really are. When we meet someone in need, we are faced with a choice: “to care for them or to look the other way.”

In the parable, two people, a priest and a Levite, who we would imagine would stop and care for the hurt man, simply choose to ignore him. This, Pope Leo highlighted, shows that “religious practice alone does not automatically lead to compassion.” It is not a characteristic of religion but one of being human. Human beings are called to be compassionate, no matter their religion.

The priest and the Levite represent all of us—in a hurry to get home. This hurry can keep us from being compassionate because, the Pope warned, people "who believe their journey takes priority are not willing to stop for others."

Compassion = taking risks

Only a Samaritan, "someone from a people traditionally despised," stops to help the wounded man. The Samaritan helps, not out of a religious requirement, but because "he is one human being in front of another human being in need."

Compassion, Pope Leo stressed, takes form through concrete actions, because in order to help someone, "you cannot stay at a distance." To be compassionate, you have to get involved and be prepared to "even get dirty, perhaps take risks."

The Samaritan is an example of compassion because he physically takes care of the wounded man. The Pope underlined that truly helping someone "means being willing to feel the weight of another's pain." He pointed out that only when we recognize that we ourselves are the wounded man can we truly feel compassion.

Contemplative Presence

*"We cannot attain the presence of
God because we're already in the
presence of God.
What's absent is awareness."*

- Richard Rohr

Integrity of Creation

“Creation is not a property which we can rule over at will; or, even less, is the property of only a few: Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude.”

- Pope Francis

Diversity and Inclusion

“How far you go in life depends on you being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these.”

- George Washington Carver



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

Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Born 1891 ~ died August 9 1942

Edith Stein was born in 1891 to a large family of German Orthodox Jews in Breslau, Germany, now Wroclaw, Poland.

A brilliant philosopher who rejected Judaism when she was 14. Edith was so captivated by reading the autobiography of Teresa of Avila at university that she began a spiritual journey toward Catholicism that led to her baptism in 1922. Twelve years later she entered a Carmelite order in Germany, taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.



After living for four years with the Carmelite Sisters in 1928 she moved to a monastery in Echt, Netherlands. The Nazis occupied the Netherlands in 1940. In retaliation for being denounced by the Dutch bishops, the Nazis arrested all Dutch Jews who had become Christians. Teresa Benedicta and her birth sister Rosa, who also became a Catholic, died in a gas chamber in Auschwitz on August 9, 1942.

Pope John Paul II beatified Teresa Benedicta of the Cross in 1987 and canonized her 12 years later. She was named one of three female patron saints of Europe and honoured as a victim of anti-Semitism, a scholar, contemplative and martyr for whom the cross is the key to spiritual understanding.





The Archival Moment

The Archival Moment is contributed by Sister Charlotte Fitzpatrick.

An Archival Moment – Sister M. Winefride Greene

Annie Greene, daughter of Hannah and Thomas Greene, was born in St. John's on May 2, 1877. She was educated by the Sisters of Mercy at Our Lady of Mercy Academy, Military Road and at Littledale. At the age of nineteen she entered the Sisters of Mercy and at her reception into the novitiate, was given the name Sister Mary Winefride. Shortly after her profession in June of 1900 Sister M. Winefride went to Burin and from there to St. Lawrence, where she remained until Amalgamation in 1916. She was superior of the convent for many of these years and the school life of the children of St. Lawrence was greatly enhanced because of her talents in music, art and drama, gifts which she shared so generously with the children and the community.

Sister M. Winefride's teaching career spanned many years in many communities – St. John's, Burin, Bay Bulls, Bell Island, Hoylestown, Curling and Belvedere. In most of these communities she served as principal of the school, music teacher and superior of the convent. She was said to have had wonderful administrative ability, sound judgement and a great sense of humor.

On September 24, 1921 St. Patrick's Convent opened in Bay Bulls with Sister M. Winefride as the first superior. Her founding companions were Sister M. Michael Gillis, Sister M. Paul Ryall and Sister M. Rita Coady. The new community received a great welcome from the pastor, Father Patrick O'Brien, and the people of Bay Bulls, who had ensured that the sisters' new home was ready for occupancy when they arrived.

The convent had a large chapel in which the chief adornment was a stained- glass window depicting the patron saints of the sisters of the

founding community – Saints Winefride, Michael, Paul and Rita. Father O'Brien had designed the window himself and had sent the plan to Dublin to a company that specialized in making stained-glass windows.

In her years in Bay Bulls, Sister M. Winefride organized and directed many concerts and operettas. Besides providing artistic opportunities for the children and wonderful entertainment for the community, these events produced revenue to supplement the extremely small government subsidies available to the school.

The last six years of Sister M. Winefride's life were spent at Belvedere where she was dearly loved by the children. When ill health caused her to curtail many of her activities, she had time to devote to her artistic side, finding enjoyment in painting and in embroidering silks and linens for the altar. She died at Belvedere on April 23, 1949.

Her brother, Reverend R. Greene, pastor of Bay Bulls celebrated her Requiem Mass in the convent chapel.



Poetry Pause

*'Blessed be the August Harvest,
Blessed be the Corn Mother,
Blessed be the Grain God,
For together they nourish both body and soul.
Many blessings I have been given,
I count them now by this bread.
Guardian of the East, I pray for your indulgence.
Hear me now as I request your aid in the cycle of life.
As your winds blow through fields of ripened grain,
Carry loosened seeds upon your back
That they may fall amidst the soil
That is our Mother Earth.'*



From Kitty's Kitchen

One Pan Honey Chicken and Rice

Ingredients:

6 chicken thighs or breasts
1/4 extra virgin olive oil
1/4 grated parmesan cheese
1 teaspoon onion powder
1 teaspoon smoked paprika
4 cloves garlic - chopped
2 teaspoons lemon zest
1 3/4 cups dry basmati rice
2 tablespoons salted butter
2 cups sliced/chopped zucchini



HOT HONEY

1/2 cup honey
2-3 tablespoons hot sauce
1-3 teaspoons cayenne pepper
3/4 teaspoon chipotle chili powder
1/2 teaspoon onion powder

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 400°.
2. In a bowl, toss together the chicken, olive oil, parmesan, paprika, onion powder, garlic, lemon, salt, and pepper.

3. Pour the rice and zucchini into a 9×13-inch baking dish. Pour over 2 cups of water. Add the butter. Arrange the chicken over the rice and zucchini. Bake 30-40 minutes, until the rice is fluffy and the chicken is cooked through. If the rice is hard, add 1/3 cup more water and cook for an additional 10 minutes.

4. To make the sauce. In a sauce pot, warm together the honey, hot sauce, cayenne, chili powder, onion powder, and a pinch of salt.

5. When the chicken is done, spoon half the sauce over the chicken. Serve the chicken, rice, and zucchini topped with fresh basil and extra honey sauce.

Enjoy!



From Kitty's Library

A Good Read...

The Whales of August, by David Berry and a Film by Lindsay Anderson

In a beach house on an island off the Maine coast, where two widowed sisters, Sarah Walker and Elizabeth Strong, have been summering for many years. Elizabeth, the eldest and now blind, has grown increasingly reclusive and irritable, as she progressively closes down each of her senses while



awaiting "the escort" who will carry her off to join her late husband. Sarah, much younger and still incurably romantic, now tends her sister, repaying the debt which was incurred when their mother died and the older sister assumed maternal responsibilities. The book focuses on seemingly insignificant events of their ordered lives: whether to install a picture window in order to get a better view of the whales who pass by at summer's end; and Elizabeth's guarded reaction to the charming Russian emigre who, in need of a place to stay, works his wiles on the still impressionable Sarah. But will the sisters come to decisions which, for them, are both momentous and filled with the bittersweet recognition that life, despite the alterations of time, must continue as best it can.



Places to Go and Things to See in St. John's

Downtown St. John's Busker Festival:

Taking place August 8-10, 2025, this festival transforms the downtown core into a stage for street performers from around the world. Expect to see acrobats, magicians, comedians, and more.

Jeux du Canada Games:

From August 8 – 25, 2025, the 2025 Canada Games will bring together over 5,000 athletes, managers, and coaches, across 19 different sports for the largest multi-sport event in the country. The Canada Games showcase the best of the best in sport and highlight the immense talents of our youth. The Games create a spirit of unity that spans each province and

territory. The 2025 Canada Games invites Canadians to come and connect through friendship, sport, adventure and the experience that is St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.

For further information, please go to
<https://www.canadagames.ca/future-games/st-johns-2025>

The Majestic Theatre will host "British Invasion" performances on August 9th and 10th.

Music at Harbour Side Park on Water Street

Join us for a free concert at Harbourside Park

Music @ is a series of free concerts that take place every Friday from 12:30 - 1:30pm annually from July to September. Several musical styles are featured including folk, rock, pop, traditional and country. Each concert opens with a talented youth performer from our partner, the **Newfoundland and Labrador Folk Arts Society**.

Additionally, there are walking tours, bus tours, and various other events happening throughout the month, particularly around the downtown area and George Street.



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.

A Sunday Morning Prayer

Thank you Lord God for the quiet and stillness on this Sunday. No one else is awake. There is a comforting silence that fills the house right now. I love this time each Sunday. I look forward to these moments all week long.

As I make my prayer requests I know that you hear me. What I most enjoy Lord, though, is that I hear you most clearly in the peace of a Sunday morning. I know we should focus on you each day, but Sunday seems to be a special day to focus on you and your awesome glory.

I am humbled as I sit here and converse with the Almighty Creator of the universe. That you would take notice of me and desire to hear what is on my heart is truly amazing and overwhelming, but in a good way. Thank you for this time, Lord. Thank you for receiving my prayer through Jesus, Amen.



Pause for Thought ...

*“Pause and remember ~
When you stop holding on so tightly
to the way you once thought,
you create space in your mind and life
for new opportunities to arrive.”*

~ Jenni Young



The Last Word...

*“If the love of God really reigns in your heart,
it will show itself in the exterior.”*

- Catherine McAuley