

TidBytes –December 2020

CHM internal community news to CHM sisters, associates, and staff

From Des Moines – Sr. Jeanie Hagedorn

I regret there is little to report from our corner of the capitol city that is "news"! SO MUCH is going on in the country and world that our "news" barely fits the definition of the word. We are most grateful that so many CHMs and our families are still safe from the COVID virus! Yet we are aware that all is not well with much of the world. So, we hold all in our thoughts and prayers.

Srs. Rosalia Riedell and Virginia Bartholome were featured in the November/December issue of the Bishop Drumm Beat newsletter. Under the caption "SISTERS OF HUMILITY ... These women have dedicated their lives to the service of others" the page displayed their photos and a short bio of their lives and ministries. In the Drumm Fall Festival story Sr. Pat Miller was pictured sharing a large pretzel and a big smile. Congratulations to ALL our sisters and dedicated staff who are patiently enduring these challenging months of the pandemic. We all long for the days when we can get back to visiting one another again.

An important runoff election in Georgia has been the focus of Sr. Cathy Talarico's days these past weeks as she makes phone calls to urge Georgians to cast their critical votes for the U.S. Senate. Srs. Elaine and Jeanie Hagedorn have been asked and are grateful to disperse generous donations from friends who want to share their resources with needy families in Des Moines this Christmas. The sisters are humbled by the outpouring of kindness from good people remembering other families struggling financially this difficult year. Finally, we eagerly await a quieter Christmas, the beginning of a new year and the inauguration of our new U.S. President and Vice-President on January 20th. We pray that 2021 will be blessed with healing and reconciliation, justice, peace and unity in our country, families and church. May this new start bring renewed hope for our suffering world! (My little violet plant offered a beautiful sign of that hope this week ~ a single purple violet blossomed on a very cold snowy day! Spring will come after the Winter!)

From S. Lynn Mousel

Lynn had help celebrating her 50th birthday on December 10. HMC staff surprised her by decorating her office with yellow caution tape that read "slow senior zone" and black crepe paper. Pope Francis was also present (the cardboard cutout) to wish her a Happy Birthday. She appreciated all the well wishes and cards from sisters, associates and staff. In the evening she enjoyed a homemade birthday dinner with the others living at Vine Street. Pandemic and all, it was a great milestone birthday!

From Diana Gray

Movies shown in December at the Humility of Mary Center were "Amazing Grace," "Toni Morrison," and "The Pieces I Am".

From HMC – S. Mary Rehmann

The following staff were recognized for years of service to the Congregation of the Humility of Mary:

10 years:

- S. Marcia Eckerman – Leadership Team
- S. Sue Sellers – BDRC Volunteer

5 years:

- Joyce Bieber – Development Director
- Eileen Denahy – SL Overnight Staff
- Lynda Hasson – Cook
- Deborah Williams – SL Overnight staff

Sisters participated in ZOOM video conference sponsored by the diocese, featuring Kevin O'Brien, a volunteer with Catholic Relief Services, currently in Gaza and the West Bank of Jerusalem. He grew up in Holy Family parish in Davenport and credits the Rice Bowl and Project Renewal for fostering his early social justice involvement. He assists families get critically needed hygiene and cleaning supplies in the Middle East.

We have enjoyed a beautiful children's book, *I'll Be the Water*, written by Alec Aspinwall, nephew of Sr. Pat Heidenry. Written about the relationship between a grandfather and his grandson, it offers much to children who have lost grandparents during the pandemic.

The lovely picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe was displayed on the December 13 feast day with beautiful red roses added by Sr. Joann Kuebrich.

During Advent we have admired the "ribbons" in the chapel windows displaying symbols of the O Antiphons, thanks to Sr. Delphine, of course.

We have celebrated Sunday Advent Masses with congregations from St. Anthony's in Davenport, and St. Mary's and St. Patrick's in Iowa City.

Residents have been following football and basketball teams: U of IA, IA State, Notre Dame and WVU.

We have sympathized with Sr. Judy Herold at the deaths of eight sisters from COVID-related causes at their Notre Dame facility in Elm Grove, WI, during December.