Sister Patrice travels to Rome to meet and stand in solidarity with sisters from around the world.
As usual the summer months went by all too quickly. Hopefully you found time for some days of rest, relaxation, and recreation. My time was busy but very rewarding and enriching. The highlight for me came in the early part of the season when I went to Rome for two international gatherings of women religious. I have written about it here, knowing well that no words can ever do justice to the wonderful experience itself. Both gatherings were informative, challenging, and inspiring. I share my thoughts with you hoping that you will sense some of the spirit of those days and, like me, take pride in the accomplishments of women religious through the years and throughout the world.

Sister Patrice Werner, OP
Prioress
D ominican women and men are called to preach the good news of Peace and Justice and to be a voice for the poor and marginalized of this world. As Caldwell Dominicans we respond to this call through our varied ministries as we follow the example and teaching of our Holy Father Saint Dominic and Saint Catherine of Siena.

Blessed are the Peacemakers for they will be called the Children of God. Living as Dominican Sisters from the fifties through the sixties, seventies, eighties, nineties and now the new millennium, we have been actively engaged in peace-making in a variety of ways. The cause of Peace in our time has taken us from the upheaval of a post Korean war period in the late fifties through the Civil Rights movement and Anti War movement of the sixties and seventies. The ecological awakening of planetary and climate change through to today’s terrorism in global conflicts have resulted in the largest displacement of humans the world has ever seen. Poverty and the disregard of humanity’s dignity in so many parts of the world have seen the desperate situations of whole populations suffer innumerable hardships.

Over the past years we have made a commitment to recognize and celebrate the contributions of outstanding individuals or groups of individuals whose lives and works stand out as models of Peace and Justice. We do this to raise awareness of their charitable and unselfish lives that give public witness and acknowledge the blessing they are in society by their generous work in behalf of the poor. The Dominican Sisters’ Peace Award is given in recognition of their work. The Caldwell Dominican Sisters recently celebrated the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to whom their Community is dedicated by holding a solemn First Vespers Prayer Service in the Motherhouse Chapel. During this prayer experience the bi-annual Peace Award was presented to Dr. James P. Morgan, an outstanding humanitarian and advocate for the poor.

Dr. James P. Morgan’s nomination was accompanied with testimonials of his life of service in response to the needs of the times as evidenced over a span of his professional life as a medical physician and dedicated Catholic family man. His kindness and generosity can be described as a man who lives the gospel message in his outreach to the poor of Haiti in establishing a health clinic combined with social services that provide the Haitian people with the tools necessary to improve their lives each day. The wording of the Plaque just highlights briefly the honor.

Dominican Sisters’ Peace Award
Presented to
James Peter Morgan, MD
Compassionate Physician—Advocate for the Poor, Promoter of Justice and Empowerment of Haitian People
Founder of Lamp for Haiti
June 2, 2016

Sisters and Associates work toward peace and justice through their study, advocacy and direct action as opportunities arise. The issues of social justice that concern us include climate justice, economic justice, fracking, immigration/migration, trafficking, and peace and security for people everywhere. In all these endeavors our prayer for Peace in our World is primary as we continue to preach the Good News as Caldwell Dominicans.
Meetings with individual members of the Community, congregational study days, small group discussions and assemblies; meetings regionally and nationally with sisters and leadership teams of other religious congregations. Meetings often needing a lot of preparation beforehand, meetings frequently requiring extensive follow-up. “This is an essential part of my ministry,” I have to remind myself. And, indeed, my ministry is challenged, supported and graced by these meetings.

Recently I was privileged to travel to Rome for the General Assembly of Dominican Sisters International (DSI) (April 28-May 5) and the Plenary Assembly of the International Union of Superiors General (IUSG) (May 9-13). Held every three years, these assemblies bring together major superiors of women religious congregations. The meetings provide an international/ multi-lingual forum for conversation, reflection, networking, and mutual support. Common issues of major importance—both to religious institutes themselves as well as to the broader world community—collaborative initiatives have been undertaken in service to the promotion of peace and justice, the integrity of creation, and human rights, especially those of women.

The theme of the DSI assembly was “Perfectae Caritatis: Sent to Preach the Gospel of Mercy.” The speaker at the first general session challenged us to look at current realities in terms of our community life and ministries.

The second speaker used New Testament stories as the springboard for her reflections. “What is your experience of being mercy’d?” she asked. “How do we proclaim justice and mercy in the present?” “How is our Dominican tradition on mercy alive today?” “How is the Spirit leading us into the next moment of our mission to preach the gospel of mercy?” Challenging questions indeed! In the course of the week’s proceedings we also listened to reports on the collaborative efforts of Dominican sisters throughout the world and heard presentations by the Master General of the Order and several other friars. Two highlights of the DSI for me were our “conversation” with Sister Maria Hanna from Iraq and our day trip to Siena on the feast of Saint Catherine. We had a guided visit, and celebrated Mass in the Basilica of Saint Catherine.

And perhaps I should also mention my fascination with the peacocks roaming free on the grounds of the Salesianum where the DSI was held.
The theme of UISG was “Weaving Global Solidarity for Life.” The days were long and intensive with major presentations by a variety of speakers and many opportunities for small and large group conversations. The three plenary talks challenged us in our response to environmental concerns, in our life and witness as women religious of apostolic life and in our solidarity with those living “on the periphery.” My assigned table for UISG was “English-speaking” but sitting with me were sisters from Malta, Japan, India, the Philippines, France, Australia, Great Britain and Tanzania. The world is smaller than we think! As at the DSI Assembly, morning and evening multi-lingual prayer rituals lent a special character to our gatherings. Near the end of UISG, we met with Pope Francis at the Vatican, truly a special moment. After the papal audience another Dominican prioress and myself walked to the Coliseum and then to Santa Sabina, “only” a 2-2 ½ hour walk and uphill at the end! Needless to say we took a taxi back.

Meetings, meetings, meetings...but not all meetings! There were several days between the two assemblies and I joined nine other Dominicans in an overnight stay in Florence. We had a guided walking tour of the city. The guide was excellent and, prior to our arrival, had immersed herself in all things Dominican, which enabled her to provide wonderful commentary. The highlight of our second day was a visit to the church and convent of San Domenico and from there to San Marco. To see the frescoes of Fra Angelico painted on the walls of the friars’ cells was truly a memorable experience.

Meetings, meetings, meetings...but not all meetings!

Meetings, meetings, meetings...but what a privilege it was to travel to Italy for the first time, to meet and stand in solidarity with my sisters from around the world.
Sister Gertrude Dunham, OP, taught for several years in Jersey City, Caldwell, and Newark before becoming Director of Gifted and Talented programs at Project Link in Newark and Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit. Since teaching at Our Lady of the Lake School in Verona, St. Catherine of Siena School in Cedar Grove, and St. Vigil Academy in Morris Plains, Sister Trudy has served as the Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant at Unity Charter School in Morristown.

Sister Judith Ann Rudolph, OP, taught in schools throughout the Archdiocese of Newark, including St. Catherine of Siena in Cedar Grove, Saint Dominic Academy in Jersey City, and Mount Saint Dominic Academy in Caldwell. After ministering as a Chemistry teacher and Registrar at Caldwell University, Sister Judy became the Resident Manager at Marian Manor and a hospice volunteer at St. Barnabas Hospital in Livingston. She is currently the Congregation’s Assistant Archivist.

Celebrate 50 years

Sister Mary Luke Dworschak, OP, began her ministry as a teacher at Saints Peter and Paul School in Hoboken. She then went on to teach at Ascension School in New Milford, Holy Spirit School in Asbury Park, St. Mary’s School in Rahway, St. Denis School in Manasquan, and St. Catharine School in Spring Lake. Since 1998, Sister Luke has worked for Hudson Hospice Volunteers, Inc. in Jersey City as “Feather the Clown,” offering interactive programs for children who have experienced the loss of loved ones.

Sister Miriam Kiernan, OP, began her ministry in education in 1958 at St. Virgil’s in Morris Plains. She taught at St. Margaret School in Bayou La Batre, Alabama, St. Philip the Apostle School in Clifton, Ascension School in New Milford, and Assumption School in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Sister Miriam was also a teacher and Religious Education Coordinator at St. Elizabeth School in Linden before taking on ministries in Fall River, Southbridge, and North Andover, Massachusetts. Most recently, Sister Miriam served as guidance counselor at Trinity Academy in Caldwell.

Sister Clarita Mayer, OP, taught at a number of schools, including St. Mary School in Wharton, St. Margaret School in Bayou La Batre, Alabama, Blessed Sacrament School in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and Sacred Heart School in Dover. She also taught at St. Mary School in Rahway and Christ the King School in Hillside. Sister Clarita was very dedicated to being a religious education principal at St. Michael’s School in Union.

Sister Justine Pinto, OP, was a teacher at St. John the Apostle School in Clark, St. Catherine of Siena School in Cedar Grove, and St. Mary School in Rutherford. Sister Justine was also the principal of St. Virgil Academy in Morris Plains for several years before becoming Administrator of St. Catherine Convent and Health Care Center in Caldwell. Sister Justine currently serves as pastoral associate and youth minister at St. Aloysius Parish in Caldwell.

Sr. Honora Werner, OP, is currently the Director of the D. Min. program and Associate Professor of Preaching at the Aquinas Institute of Theology, St. Louis, Mo. Sister began her service to God’s people in the field of education at St. Aedan, Jersey City and then taught at Mount Saint Dominic, Caldwell, St. Joseph, West Orange, St. Cassian and Lacordaire Academy, Upper Montclair, Blessed Sacrament, Bridgeport and Caldwell University where she served as assistant director of the Music and Theology Departments. She was Chaplain at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN and Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, Co-Director of the Parable Conference for Dominican Life and Mission, Director of Campus Ministry at Georgian Court University and Associate Professor of Homiletics and Formation at St. Mary Seminary, Baltimore, MD. Sister served on the Congregational Leadership Team of the Sisters of St. Dominic, Caldwell.
Sister Helen Francis Coakley, OP, has served as a teacher, librarian, and principal in numerous schools in New Jersey. Students will remember Sister Helen Francis at St. Joseph School in Union City, Ascension School in New Milford, St. Peter’s in Troy Hills and at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains. After serving as librarian and teacher at Caldwell University, Sister Helen Francis became principal of St. John the Apostle School in Clark and librarian at St. Philomena School in Livingston, Lacordaire Academy in Upper Montclair, St. Mary High School in Rutherford, and St. Thomas the Apostle School in Bloomfield. She also spent a number of years in volunteer ministry at St. Catherine of Siena in Cedar Grove.

Sister Marie Murphy, OP, spent most of her ministry in education, teaching at Blessed Sacrament in Bridgeport, Connecticut, St. John School in Jersey City, St. Cassian’s in Upper Montclair, teacher, and St. Catherine School in Mobile, Alabama. Sister Marie also taught at St. Paul School in Irvington and Mount Saint Dominic Academy in Caldwell. Sister Marie served for several years as the Congregation’s social security and medical insurance coordinator.

Sister Eileen Byrne, OP, taught at a number of schools, including St. Mary School in Dover, St. Elizabeth School in Linden, Bayley-Ellard High School in Morristown, St. Mary High School in Rutherford, St. John’s in Jersey City, Blessed Sacrament School in Bridgeport, Connecticut, St. John the Apostle School in Clark, and St. Michael School in Union. Sister Eileen had an affinity for special education, teaching at the Mount Carmel Guild in Newark and serving as the Director of the Apostolate for the Developmentally Disabled for the Archdiocese of Newark’s Catholic Community Services.

Sister Ann Dominic Vano, OP, ministered through the culinary arts at St. Elizabeth in Linden, Mount Saint Dominic Residence in Caldwell, Villa of the Sacred Heart in Caldwell, and St. John’s in Clark. Sister Ann Dominic also taught third grade at Our Lady of the Lake in Verona. She taught for twenty years at St. Michael’s School in Union and served as Pastoral Associate for Social Concerns. Sister Ann Dominic also ministered for over thirty years as a Camp Fatima Board Member. In 2012, Sister Ann Dominic was awarded the Dominican Peace Award.

Sister Margaret William McDonald, OP, taught for a number of years at St. Michael School in Union and St. Philip School in Clifton before becoming principal at St. Raphael School in Livingston and Ascension School in New Milford. Sister Margaret William then returned to St. Michael School in Union to serve as principal for twenty-eight years.

Sister Doris Ann Bowles, OP, taught at various schools, including St. Michael School in Union, Blessed Sacrament in Bridgeport, Connecticut, Saint Dominic Academy in Jersey City, and St. Mary High School in Rutherford. Sister Doris Ann then became principal at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains and Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Newark before becoming principal at Mount Saint Dominic Academy. Before retirement, Sister Doris Ann was the Director of Marketing for Siena Village in Wayne.

Sister Elizabeth Marie Mason, OP, spent all of her years in ministry in education, teaching at Holy Spirit School in Asbury Park, St. Mary School in Rutherford, St. Philip’s in Clifton, St. Catherine of Siena School in Cedar Grove, and Our Lady of the Lake School in Verona. Sister Elizabeth Marie also served as principal of St. Theresa School in Kenilworth. Sister Elizabeth Marie spent twenty-six years teaching at Saints Peter and Paul School in Hoboken while serving as the director of the parish’s religious education program.
At a raffle held at a recent Saint Dominic Academy gala, even before the winning ticket was drawn, I said with confidence that I was the big winner that night. Prepared to make remarks to the attendees, I had brought with me my “winning ticket” from over 40 years ago—the letter I had received from SDA with the news that I had won a full scholarship. As an eighth grader at St. Aloysius School in Jersey City, the third child of a tinsmith and a school clerk, I knew what a hardship it would be for my parents to send me to SDA. They would find a way, I knew, but the blessing of a scholarship would make it a bit easier for them.

In the ensuing four decades, I have enjoyed a good career and a wonderful life. I have been blessed with abundance, and all that I have accomplished is in some way, large or small, thanks to the Sisters of Saint Dominic who demonstrated every day that young women in the 1970s could, indeed, reach their goals and lead the way. This in an age when most young women only dared to dream of leadership.

From that bet that SDA took on me, I have also learned the meaning of giving back. It was only through the generosity of someone else that I had the lifelong advantage of an SDA education. My admiration for the Sisters of Saint Dominic has only grown with time, and today, as chair of the Board of Trustees of SDA, I am proud to work alongside a number of them to sustain the mission of SDA for generations to come. And, to the extent that I can, I pay it forward for some other young woman.

As I look at the faces of the students today, I see that while much has changed, some things are enduring. I went to school with many daughters of first generation immigrants struggling to make a better future for their children. And while the home countries of many of today’s girls’ families may be different, their stories are much the same. They are young women determined to succeed and to lead, if given the chance. The commitment of the Sisters of Saint Dominic and the generosity of alumnae and friends is vital to make that possibility a reality.

Susan Odenthal
SDA Class of 1973
**Does the Preaching of the Church Need Attention?**

Most Catholics, when asked about their experience of going to Mass, reply that the preaching is the weakest part of the experience. Catholic preaching does not have a good rep! Well, as the Order of Preachers, the Dominicans decided to do something about it. In 1993 in response to the call of the U.S. Catholic bishops for a graduate program in preaching, Aquinas Institute in St. Louis, Missouri, began offering a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) in Preaching grounded in the Catholic theological tradition, yet open to all good preachers, Catholic or not. To date it remains the only doctorate in Church’s preaching!

Honora Werner, OP, a Dominican Sister of Caldwell, directs and teaches in the program. What a great way to combine years of teaching experience, her passion for preaching and the charism of the Order of Preachers! Honora works most of the year from an office in our Motherhouse in Caldwell, teaching students all over the English-speaking world. Her computer replaces the blackboard. The goal is to empower good preachers to become master preachers, who then teach in seminaries and other venues as well as write and lecture in order to improve the Church’s preaching!

Students read and then discuss their insights via a computer program (Blackboard!) designed to serve distance and computer-based learning. Each course includes a five or ten-day intensive when all students and the instructors meet in St. Louis on the Aquinas campus. “Intensive” is the operative word here; classes run from 9 to 4:30 daily! Students complete six core classes one at a time before launching into two interdisciplinary elective courses of their own choosing, and two more courses to support the completion of a thesis project. The program is fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools.

The program’s success has been due largely to its unique structure designed to serve persons in full-time ministry. Every other year up to 25 top-notch preachers from around the United States—and internationally—form a cohort of learners who proceed through their studies together. Priests, deacons, Catholic lay women plus Protestant ministers and Episcopal priests comprise the student body. Such diversity of theology, experience, and ethnicity enriches everyone.

The students’ preaching comprises a major part of the courses. They are required to have themselves videorecorded preaching in the places where they minister. Those videos are posted on YouTube for the instructors and other students to review. Reading and research papers reveal aspects of preaching most have never considered before. By the end of the program, each student produces a thesis project focused on a challenge or issue she or he identifies, researches, and addresses with a practical solution. Some of their projects include an online retreat for caregivers of a child with a disability, a manual for military chaplains to help them learn the new culture quickly, preaching difficult topics, preaching with children, adolescents’ response to Sunday preaching, homiletic training for deacons, and training for parents as the first preachers in the domestic church.

More than 25 graduates and current students presently teach preaching in seminaries, schools of theology, and ministerial formation programs. More than 20 books by graduates are now in publication, as well as numerous articles. The 48 students and 107 graduates constitute a prominent national voice in the Academy of Homiletics and the Catholic Association of Teachers of Homiletics while also possessing great influence in their local dioceses, congregations, and religious communities. During her six years working in the program Honora has worked with more than 70 of these students! The privilege of working to improve the preaching in the Church delights Honora. Her students’ impact on the preaching of the Church rewards her efforts and makes the 5 or 6 trips annually to St. Louis well worth it!

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**Passing the Torch**

In the history of human endeavors there is always someone who sees the potential of an effort and devotes her energies to its growth and fulfillment. That is the story of the Caldwell Dominican Associates and its “someone” is Sr. Carol Van Billiard.

In 1983, the creation of the Associates was to fulfill a chapter proposal. It was an idea, a vision, a new way to extend the Dominican charism by involving lay women and men in the spirituality and mission of the Congregation. It had no precedent and so its development and purpose had some challenges to overcome.

Early on, Sr. Carol became Advisor to the Associates and with her characteristic determination and inherent kindness she began the process of forming a group that not only met the chapter goals but created a community among its members. She encouraged Associates to take leadership roles by forming a Core Group which selected its own Associate Directors. She met regularly with them, developed a handbook, and mapped out yearly plans, which included spiritual experiences, justice issues, social events and the annual formation and reception of new Associates. Sister Carol’s presence together with that of Sister Ann Murtha, helped to solidify a place in the Dominican family for the Associates.

On the national scene, other Dominican congregations with Associate groups had formed a Directors’ group. Sister Carol attended their meetings and brought back new initiatives and fresh ideas to the Caldwell Associates. In 2003, a National Convocation of Dominican Associates was held in Secaucus, N.J. and she headed a committee that organized and executed the hundreds of details that went into a three day convention that hosted groups from all over the United States. It was very successful, and it generated a strong feeling of connectedness between Associates and their congregations.

Sister Carol does not like the spotlight or being praised, but it is evident that her influence is felt by those with whom she works. Several women have become Associates from their connection with her through her ministry at Benincasa, where her empathy and gentleness bring comfort every day to those in need.

As she leaves active participation in the leadership of the Associates, Sister Carol is conscious of its future and has “passed the torch” to Sister Donna Marie O’Brien.

The Associates will always be grateful to Sister Carol for her steadfastness and constant devotion to them. Her legacy will be the lasting gift that she has given to so many women: a deepened spiritual life, an awareness of their ability to counter injustice and the joy of serving others. She will always remain a mentor, a guide, an inspiration, and a most cherished friend.
In the light of our Congregation’s Vision Statements, we have annually joined the celebration of Earth Day which was first celebrated in 1970. The day was created by American Senator, Gaylord Nelson, to make people aware of the importance of keeping our planet healthy and clean. On that day, people made promises to help the environment and make positive changes in their community. Forty-six years later it has become a movement that gives voice to an emerging consciousness, channeling human energy toward environmental issues. It is now celebrated in more than 193 countries each year.

We, Sisters of St. Dominic, encourage all our Sponsored Works to observe Earth Day annually. The Congregation’s celebration takes place yearly on the Motherhouse grounds. For Earth Day—April 22, 2016—a Memorial Garden was dedicated outside the Motherhouse Building facing the University’s and Academy’s Rosary Hall Building. The Memorial Garden honored all past living creation: human and non-human alike. The service included the blessing of a commemorative stone which read:

“In loving memory of all members of the Earth Community.”

Yearly the Sisters and Residents of St. Catherine’s Health Care Center, the Motherhouse Sister communities, the Motherhouse staff, and the students from Mount St. Dominic Academy and Caldwell University are invited to attend this observation of Earth Day. It is hoped that the Earth Day Prayer Service and Ritual will deepen our commitment to the 1995 Vision Statements. We draw strength and inspiration from Pope Francis’ Encyclical, Laudato Si’:

“LAUDATO SI’, mi’ Signore”—“Praise be to you, my Lord.” In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. “Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs.”

Laudato Si’ #1
We Remember Those Who Have Gone Before Us...

+SISTER ANN MARIE LENNON, OP
Entrance into Life ~ December 10, 1934
Entrance to Dominican Life ~ August 15, 1953
Entrance to Eternal Life ~ March 11, 2016

Sister Ann Marie Lennon, OP (formerly known as Sister M. Dolorosa) died peacefully at St. Catherine Convent and Healthcare Center in Caldwell on March 11. Sister was born in New York City but because of her strong loyalty to her Irish cultural heritage, her birthplace may as well have been Galway! Her ready warmth and sparkling eyes bespoke good humor and a kind, adventuresome spirit.

Sister entered the Caldwell Dominicans in 1953 and celebrated her sixtieth anniversary as a Dominican Sister in 2013. She achieved a B.A. in Education and the M.A. in religious education which prepared her well for the professional and pastoral responsibilities which lay ahead. During these six decades Sister served as an elementary school teacher, principal of several parochial schools in New Jersey and in Bayou la Batre, Alabama, and Abaco, Bahamas. Her pastoral outreach included ministry in Florida, where she gave leadership to the Marywood Retreat Center and Maternity Home in Jacksonville. Her warm personality and strong sense of mission made her a successful fundraiser for the people and causes she represented. Former students, in whose lives she made such a difference, became faithful friends for many years. Appropriately, Sister’s death on March 11 brought her to heaven just in time for St. Patrick’s Day!

+SISTER LENORE DECOSTER, OP
Entrance into Life ~ October 16, 1933
Entrance to Dominican Life ~ September 8, 1951
Entrance to Eternal Life ~ August 8, 2016

Sister Lenore’s obituary lists the things she did; those privileged to live with her remember the way she did them. As the oldest in a large family, she came to religious life with a natural gift for positions of leadership in the congregation, in the university, in schools and parishes. At home, her sisters appreciated her gift for always doing what needed to be done, without complaint, without fanfare. Her sudden death was a mirror-image of her life: quiet, efficient, decisive, with maximum consideration for those around her. Lenore was always prompt—impatient, in fact, with any delay before an event or lingering after it. Because she never wasted a minute, she could spend time generously on what she felt was really important. Time for the sick and elderly, whom she visited daily and for those serving the sick whom she assisted with compassion and imagination. Time for family; on her desk they found a little stack of cards addressed and stamped for mailing to those with August birthdays and anniversaries. Time for friends, former community members, and students with whom bonds were never broken. Time to pick flowers for a daily gift of beauty for her local community. Just home from a retreat with the Dominican mystics, Lenore was radiant as she shared with those who had gathered on the eve of Saint Dominic her once-in-a-lifetime experience of our founders’ monastery at Regensburg: “I felt like I had come home,” she glowed. On the Feast of Saint Dominic, Lenore did just that, dying as she lived, with perfect timing.

+SISTER PATRICIA COSTELLO, OP
Entrance into Life ~ December 21, 1942
Entrance to Dominican Life ~ September 8, 1960
Entrance to Eternal Life ~ April 9, 2016

Sister Pat Costello (formerly known as Sr. Catherine Mary) died peacefully on April 9 at St. Catherine’s Convent and Healthcare Center. During her short final illness, she was surrounded by her Dominican Sisters, among whom she had served for fifty-seven years. Sister Pat grew up in Hoboken and attended St. Dominic Academy in Jersey City where she first met the Caldwell Dominicans. With a bachelor’s degree in history and education and an M.A. in counselling, she was well prepared for her teaching ministry. After several years in the elementary schools of St. Michael’s in Union, Our Lady of Peace in New Providence and Holy Spirit in Asbury Park, she moved into secondary education, which became her specialization. Her experience at the secondary level included St. Mary’s High School in Rutherford, where she served as guidance counsellor and at Lacobaire Academy in Upper Montclair and the Academy of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, in both of which schools she held the office of principal. In these leadership roles she extended not only creative education but quiet assistance in counselling both students and parents, enabling many to find financial assistance to manage costs.

In the midst of such professional demands Sister Pat always found time to serve on various boards and committees especially in service to her Dominican community. Most recently she held the role of director of sponsorship for the Dominican Congregation. Sister’s warmth and generosity as well as her extraordinary cooking prowess distinguished her as a genuine builder of community and a loyal friend. Her prayerful, joyous spirit will be truly missed.

+SISTER CATHERINE DAILY, OP
Entrance into Life ~ May 25, 1936
Entrance to Dominican Life ~ August 22, 1953
Entrance to Eternal Life ~ August 8, 2016

Sister Catherine Daly, OP (formerly known as Sister Colleen) died peacefully at St. Catherine Convent and Healthcare Center in Caldwell on August 8, 2016. Born in Jersey City, Sr. Cathy was blessed with a loving Irish family who nurtured her zest for life and Catholic faith that led her to follow her Dominican vocation. During her 63 years of ministry, Sr. Cathy became an outstanding teacher at every level of education. Her work with students was successful and enjoyable due to her personal gifts of humor, intelligence and encouragement that aided in their mastery of the difficult subject, Chemistry. In the sixties Sr. Cathy responded to the needs of the poor and moved from the classroom to leadership positions in Catholic Social Ministry. Her vision, leadership skills, intelligence and charisma gave her a new surge of energy in the roles she assumed that included Division Director of the Pastoral and Social Ministry of Catholic Community Services, Director of Coalition Six, Housing for the Elderly, and Board of Trustees Member of several Institutions. Sr. Cathy engaged others in service to the needy as her skills in leadership, managerial style and charisma provided inspiration to all associated with the charitable work of the Church Mission to care for the poor of the world.

+SISTER JANE MARIE SMITH, OP
Entrance into Life ~ August 22, 1941
Entrance to Dominican Life ~ September 8, 1958
Entrance to Eternal Life ~ August 30, 2016

Listing all the schools Sister Jane Marie Smith graced by her teaching and administrative gifts would be an easy task. From Jersey City to Roseland, to Paterson and Upper Montclair and then to Clark, she demonstrated the reasons why the Archdiocese named her Teacher of the Year! Heeding another “call within a call” Sister Jane Marie served more than 15 years ministering to the frail sisters and other residents of St. Catherine Care Center. Compassion, Charity, and Competence marked her encounters with all. Each sister, each staff member, each resident, each delivery person—everyone who met Jane met the love of Christ! Not given to fussing, she met the multitude of demands on her time and energy with amazing calm and focus. Did she ever sleep? Her “days off” were often spent with her beloved family who received the same gifts she shared with everyone else—and with the same gentle spirit. Known as a lover of cats, the story-tellers at her wake service regaled us with kitty tales from over the years.

This lady in white marked patriotic holidays with a festive red, white and blue scarf—and for March 17th, it was green and white, and for Christmas,—well we can get the picture! The source of her energy and boundless love was no secret: the Blessed Sacrament! From her early morning holy hours, to her faithfulness to Chapel prayers, even to the hymns she chose for her funeral Mass, the power of her Eucharistic Love was clear. She, too, was bread broken and life poured out for others!

We will miss her loving generous spirit!
Thank You
FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

Contributors: Maria Cianci, Jeanne Goyet, OP, Mary John Kearney, OP, Jeanne Adrienne Kierce, OP, Mary Lanni, OPA, Susan Mulvaney Odenthal, Gerarda Panek, OP, Patricia Tavis, OP, Alicia Skinner, Alice Uhl, OP, Carol Van Billiard, OP, Honora Werner, OP, Patrice Werner, OP

A Spiritual Gift of Prayer at Christmas

This Christmas why not give a Gift of Prayer to family and friends by sending a spiritual card offering a Kiss of Peace. The Sisters of Saint Dominic will include in their liturgical prayers the names of those you wish to remember. The card features a painting by Morgan Weistling, “Kissing the Face of God”

Inside Message:
Mary treasured all these things.

Inside Message:
...pondering them in her heart.

THE FLAME
SUMMER/FALL 2016

Wording of the enrollment appears on the inside left side of the card:

In the Spirit of Christmas

has been enrolled to share in all the Liturgical Prayers of the Dominican Sisters of Caldwell during this Christmas season and throughout the coming year at the request of

PLEASE send your donation (suggested donation $2) with the Prayer Request form which comes with each Spiritual Enrollment card and indicates the name of the person(s) you wish to enroll.

TO ORDER: Contact the Development Office: 973-403-3331 ext. 36