



Not So Far Afield

A NEWSLETTER OF THE MARYKNOLL AFFILIATES

July/August 2012

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A MISSION CIRCLE OF LIFE

Jollanda Mitllari – Long Island Chapter

I came to the United States from Albania, a country of traditions, of strong feelings, and of relationships with the family, and a country where all religions can live in harmony and respect for each other. Being in such harmony with each other, although my family is Eastern Orthodox, I found myself and my faith by being baptized in the Catholic Church on May 4, 1997, while still living in Albania.

By going to church and having close the patience and the love of Sister Lourdes Fernandez MM, a Maryknoll Sister, my friends and I learned the love of God is endless, and the way that we can show him how thankful we are is by being little missionaries in life. When I won my Green Card Lottery in 2008, the chance to come and live in the US was something new that surprised me. I had never thought of leaving my country even though our lives have been in transition since 1992. It was a very difficult decision, but at the end I decided to say “yes” and accept another challenge--to live the “American dream.”

When my husband and I arrived in the United States in 2009, we thought that starting a new life wasn't going to be a problem, because we have been used to handling problems and difficult situations in life.

This time wasn't the same; something in this new life was missing. When we first came, we started to get involved in the society and we were trying to be part of it. In all the chaos and in everything we were exploring, something in me was missing. In my country, Albania, I was a very active member of the in Catholic Church in Pogradec and later a member of the Youth Group of the Catholic Church in Tirana, the capital of Albania.

What was missing inside of me was the spirit of the faith that always gave me the strength to handle and solve different situations in my life. So it happened that on August 15, 2010, I become a member of the Mary-

knoll Affiliates Long Island Chapter, and Maryknoll is again part of my life. Being able to help and support people has always been a major inspiration in my life since I was teenager, when Sister Lourdes led a group of young people in Albania to baptism in the Church.

I have loved Maryknoll Affiliates ever since Ronni (Gilligan, Long Island) worked with Sister Lourdes and our group in Albania; I have known her for a very long time. She is “part of my family,” and in August 15, 2011, she introduced me to Maryknoll in the US. I discovered that you can be close to people even through prayer and reflection. The reflection and prayer helped me to improve my life here in the Unites States and understand that there are people who, through a common view, have become an important part of my life here. These

wonderful people are the members of Long Island Chapter, who with your smiles, your sincere discussions, and prayers gave me the spirit of faith that I was missing.

Now, after three years of living here and a year and a half as a member of the Maryknoll Affiliates, my life has changed a lot. After losing hope of becoming a certified teacher and thinking that I was not going to have a baby because of a miscarriage I had when I just arrived in the United States, everything has gone in the opposite direction. Now I am a certified teacher assistant, pre-

paring to become a teacher, and on October 31, I gave birth to my wonderful and beautiful daughter Joara, the newest member of the Long Island Affiliate group.

Part of all these positive things in my life was also the spirit, the support, and the spiritual help that my Maryknoll Family gave to me. Thank you to all of you, my spiritual family who gave another meaning to my religious life. Special thanks to you, my dearest friend Ronni; to you, Trudy who, without knowing me well, organized a baby shower in your home that I will never forget; and to you, Agnes--I will never forget your being so positive with me. **Thank You.**



Photo courtesy of Jollanda Mitllari

NSFA IN TRANSITION - HOW YOU CAN HELP

As our current Executive Coordinator Fred Goddard leaves the position and a new Executive Coordinator comes onto the job, Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss and Paula Schaffner will be the main editors for Not So Far Afield. Mary will be focusing on content and Paula on the layout. They will need your help!

You and all the Maryknoll Affiliates in your Chapter can help by providing articles for future issues. "Partnership and Mission" is the theme for the September/October issue of *Not So Far Afield* (as well as *Maryknoll Magazine* and *Revista Maryknoll*). Please send your articles, soon, to Not So Far Afield at nsfa@maryknollaffiliates.org. When thinking about partnerships in mission, consider connections with any of the following organizations: Pax Christi, JustFaith, Catholic Worker, New Sanctuary Movement, Newman Centers, or other not-for-profits or faith-based organizations. Partners could also be your home parish or other church or religious based organization.

Looking farther ahead, the theme for the November/December 2012 edition is "Mission in the United States." Please send articles for that issue before September 14, 2012.

Any time your chapter has an experience you think Affiliates should hear about, please write a few paragraphs. Send them to NSFA at the above email address, or post your report at the Maryknoll Affiliate web site.



Leonard F. (Len) Carey, a member of the Northeast Florida Maryknoll Affiliates Chapter, died suddenly on May 16, 2012. He is survived by Florence, his devoted wife of 44 years, four children who were very special to him, and one granddaughter. Born in Trenton, NJ, in 1941, he attended Catholic Schools and then served in the U.S. Navy. Len worked for IBM as a programmer in upstate New York, where he became acquainted with Fr. Del Goodman, a Maryknoll priest.

When he and Florence retired to Elkton, Florida, besides playing golf, Len became a member of the newly formed Maryknoll Affiliate Chapter. He willingly took on the role of Contact Person for the chapter and drove regularly to Jacksonville for meetings and activities, making it possible for others to attend. Len will be greatly missed by family, friends, the golf course, and his Affiliate chapter.

"For I was a stranger and you welcomed me..."
Mt. 25:35

This *Not So Far Afield* issue addresses the theme **Refugees and Migrants**, as did the July/August *Maryknoll Magazine*. Many of us have immigrant roots, but now we see that the whole world is experiencing the stress of migration.

Maryknollers and Maryknoll Affiliates work in many ways to assist refugees and migrants in other lands and to provide a welcome to immigrants to our country. Hear about Affiliates in Houston, Texas, and Jacksonville, Florida, who find joy in assisting refugees from Central America, Africa, and Cuba.

Some Christian immigrants, like Jollanda, inspire us as they find a new faith community in the U.S. Other new neighbors, such as the Muslims in the Bay Area mentioned in this issue, may have another rich faith tradition. We believe that meeting and respecting these neighbors helps us better live our own faith.



Photo by Paula Schaffner

Not So Far Afield is a bimonthly publication of the Maryknoll Affiliates. The name is a play on the title of the original Maryknoll Magazine: *The Field Afar*. Maryknoll Affiliates are a faith-filled people responding in community to God's call to participate in Jesus' mission. We express the Maryknoll Spirit in the context of Chapters which gather for prayer, reflection, and action. We challenge one another to go beyond borders, locally and globally, to walk with the poor and excluded, and to strive for peace and justice for all of God's creation. We recognize that the Spirit who guides us on our journey moves without boundaries and that God's unconditional love is present in all cultures and peoples. Affiliates share in the mission and family spirit of Maryknoll Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, and Lay Missioners living lives of service in more than 30 countries. If you would like further information or an opportunity to attend a local chapter meeting in your area, please contact the Executive Coordinator of the Maryknoll Affiliates at P.O. Box 311, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311 or call toll free 877-897-2386 or e-mail inquiry@maryknollaffiliates.org.

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We welcome submission of articles by Maryknoll Affiliates and Maryknoll Missioners as well as suggestions for articles. Articles are published in as timely a manner as possible and in conjunction with appropriate themes when applicable. All submissions are subject to editing. Articles in *Not So Far Afield* do not represent the opinion of any of the Maryknoll entities or their members. Please send any letters to the editor, articles, photos or inquiries to the address below. You may also contact us if you no longer wish to receive Affiliate mailings, prefer to receive them by e-mail or read them on the web, or if you have changed your address. Maryknoll Affiliates
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MARYKNOLL EMBRACES DIALOGUE WITH MUSLIMS IN BAY AREA

Tom McGuire – Co-coordinator
Midwest MM Affiliate Region

What greater waste of life and all created good than war? Yet, when conflict arises, war is always one of the options in the strategy to overcome the enemy. Who is the enemy? To make war, a group of people must be made the enemy, and for many people in the United States, Muslims are the number one enemy. War remains on the table as a way to solve current and future international crises.

Pope Benedict XVI, on dialogue with Muslims in his Exhortation: *Domine Verbum*, September 30, 2010, wrote:

Among the various religions the Church also looks with respect to Muslims, who adore the one God. They look to Abraham and worship God above all through prayer, almsgiving, and fasting. We acknowledge that the Islamic tradition includes countless biblical figures, symbols and themes. Taking up the efforts begun by the Venerable John Paul II, I express my hope that the trust-filled relationships established between Christians and Muslims over the years will continue to develop in a spirit of sincere and respectful dialogue.

In this dialogue the Synod asked for a deeper reflection on respect for life as a fundamental value, the inalienable rights of men and women, and their equal dignity. Taking into account the important distinction to be made between the socio-political order and the religious order, the various religions must make their specific contribution to the common good. The Synod asked Conferences of Bishops, wherever it is appropriate and helpful, to encourage meetings aimed at helping Christians and Muslims to come to a better knowledge of one another, in order to promote the values which society needs for a peaceful and positive coexistence.

On February 19-21, 2012, a retreat with Catholics and Muslims from the area was held at the Maryknoll Western Regional Mission Center House in San Lorenzo, CA. Muslim participants came from the Pacifica Institute in Sunnvale, CA, a Turkish cultural center which is affiliated with the Gulen or Hizmet Movement founded by the Imam-theologian, Fethullah Gulen. Catholic participants



Shared Meal during the Christian Muslim Retreat

included two Catholic deacons, a Holy Family sister, Maryknoll Affiliates, and staff of the Maryknoll Center.

The Hizmet Movement, emphasizing interfaith dialogue and service, exists in over 100 countries. Maryknoll staff members Deacon Matt Dulka and Kris East led the retreat, a prayerful dialogue based upon a common reading of the Orbis book, *In the Spirit of St. Francis and the Sultan: Catholics and Muslims Working Together for the Common Good*. One of the unique spiritual texts presented to the Catholic participants by the Muslims was the classical book of Muslim prayer called the *Supplication of the Prophet Mohammad, Al-Jawshan al-Kabir*, which focuses on the names and attributes of God/Allah and is often used by Muslims as part of their daily prayer.



Three Muslim Men pray Vespers during Christian Muslim Retreat.

The retreat included opportunities to experience each other's forms of prayer and worship, share common meals, and dialogue about common themes and symbols found in the Bible, Qur'an, and other spiritual growth sources in each tradition. Some of the common symbols discussed included the sharing of food, light, water, and faith as a spiritual journey or path to God/Allah.

The centerpiece of the retreat became the sharing of each other's spiritual journey through joint prayer sessions, partaking of common meals prepared by members of the Pacifica Institute, and discussion of Muslim and Christian efforts to serve humanity through education, as well as promotion of social justice throughout the world. Both Maryknoll and the Hismet Movement sponsor projects for justice and service in Africa and Asia.



Two Muslim women at prayer

The retreatants also reflected on the movie, *Of Gods and Men*, which features the life of a monastic community living within a largely Muslim population in Algeria.

All retreatants participated in Mass at St. John the Baptist Church in San Lorenzo, where the Western Region Mission Center House is located. Fr. Michael Lacey, pastor, introduced the participants to the congregation and in his homily drew upon the common Abrahamic roots of the Christian and Muslim faith communities.

Everyone who participated in the retreat felt that it was a first step in a long journey together that will have historical and spiritual significance for both faith communities and for the world. One of the participants even stated that he was leaving the retreat with the feeling that we were of "one heart" through this spiritual experience.

To make peace, having people of good will sit down and share their deepest religious convictions is one of the best ways to eliminate the bias that makes a whole group of people the enemy. Participants in this Christian Muslim Retreat came away with a deep sense of solidarity. Each of us had shared personal experiences of God/Allah, and all were united in the commitment to seek justice for all and to be responsible for the small planet Earth, where we all live.

HELPING REFUGEES BRINGS US GREAT JOY

Mary Moritz – Northeast Florida

*"I was a stranger and you welcomed me."
(Matthew 25:35)*

That bible verse speaks to me. As a Navy wife for many years, more than once I experienced the challenges of being the new woman in a strange city. However, I know that that was nothing compared to political refugees, who come to this country with very little to their names and, in many cases, don't even speak our language.

In early 2011, my husband John and I became volunteers for Catholic Charities (CCBJAX) in Jacksonville, FL, helping political refugees. Our Affiliate Chapter leader, Fran Henderson, sent out word of a Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement (CCRR) training to be held, and we attended.



Donnis, Yasmina, Robert, and Dannis arrive in Jacksonville.

Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement (CCRR) in Jacksonville, working with the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, will sponsor about 200 political refugees this year. Political refugees have applied and been accepted as immigrants to the United States because they suffer persecution in their own countries, often because of the religion they choose to practice. While CCBJAX has a staff of 13, they could not accomplish this task as well as they do without the help of volunteers.

As soon as the refugees step off the airplane at Jacksonville International Airport, they are met and helped by CCRR employees or volunteers. Their new home is furnished and ready for them, including some food to start them off. They are helped to get social security cards, physical exams, needed immunizations, bus passes, school registrations, basic computer proficiency, English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) training, and assistance with employment.



The Magar family recently moved here from Bhutan.

John and I have acted as surrogate interviewers to help refugees get accustomed to what job interviews will be like. We wrote a basic "Introduction to Computers" text for them. We have taken refugees to the doctor, to the immunization clinic, to assessments of

I try very hard to let a smile speak for me and to send warm messages with my body language. I hope they can feel the love that I try to send their way.

English proficiency, to Social Security, to the Department of Children and Families, to ESL classes, to the St. Vincent de Paul store to shop for clothes, and to schools to be registered. The latter role brings John, a retired high school teacher, back to a world he knows well.

Registering children for school can be a challenge since some of the children's school experience does not match that of children their age in the US. The process is



Preparing an inviting apartment, offering a boat trip to allow Bhutanese seniors to socialize, and organizing cupcake "wars" for ESL class are all ways CCRR employees and volunteers welcome strangers.

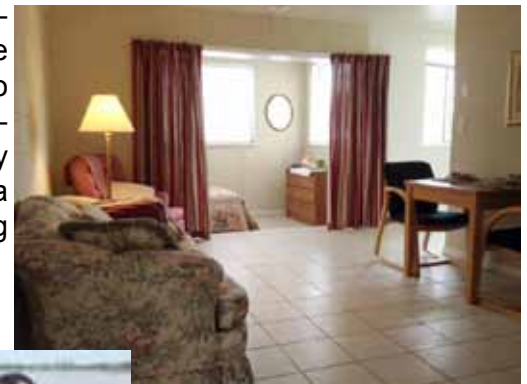


Photos courtesy of Michelle Karolak

generally a multi-visit operation, involving working with school counselors through an interpreter. Generally, children are placed in classes that are age-appropriate, no matter their background, and then given continuing ESL and other help to bring them up to speed.

Sometimes, our role is simply to drive the parents and child to the school and sit and watch the process unfold. At other times, the school representatives may share with us what their dilemma is and welcome our thoughts as advocates of the parents and child involved. Always, the parents are told what the choices are for their child and given a say in what is finally done.

Because we have a truck and trailer, we are frequently asked to pick up donated furniture. Friends have jokingly suggested that we might want to start this as a business, but we assure them that our old bodies would not do this for money, only for love. Sometimes, we take this furniture to a small CCB warehouse, and we never see the home that it eventually enters. At other times, we deliver it right to the apartment where it will be used. We get to see the fruit of our efforts and those of other volunteers who use this furniture to lovingly transform an empty space into a welcoming new home.



One of the challenges of our work with the refugees is that we usually don't speak the same language; John speaks a little Spanish, and I speak only English. I try very hard to let a smile speak for me and to send warm messages with my body language. I hope they can feel the love that I try to send their way.

It is both humbling and heartwarming to see the gratitude of both CCB employees and refugees when we have helped accomplish these various tasks. We give a little of our time and energy and, sometimes, our expertise, and gain the joy of helping newcomers to our country get the fresh start that they deserve. We believe that we are on a mission when we help the refugees, even though our work is where we live. We hope that we are doing something good for them; we know that they are doing something good for us.

MARYKNOLL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Judy Coode -
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns

***A Day on the Hill:
Bringing Maryknoll Experience to U.S.
Policymakers***

On May 16-17, 2012, almost 70 Maryknoll missionaries, Affiliates and staff members gathered in Washington, DC, for a special event to help mark the Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers' and the Maryknoll Sisters' centennial years (2011-2012).

For many years, the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns (MOGC) has brought the lived experience of Maryknoll missionaries and the people with whom they live and work to the decision-making tables in our nation's capital. The authentic understanding that Maryknoll brings to discussions of international policy is deeply respected by our colleagues and by lawmakers alike. This significant presence of the Maryknoll family helped to raise awareness of the critical issues of justice, peace and the integrity of creation, and illuminated the work of the MOGC and its efforts on behalf of the Maryknoll community.

We started our time together with Mass on Wednesday, May 16, at Holy Redeemer Parish, 206 New



Photo by Angel Mortel

Sr. Peg Dillon carries Peace Flag during presentation of gifts at Mass.

York Avenue NW, the parish in which the MOGC is located. Fr. David Bava, the pastor, celebrated the Eucharist. Sr. Janice McLaughlin, president of the Maryknoll Sisters, gave an opening reflection before Mass began.



Photo by Angel Mortel

Sr. Janice McLaughlin and Kathy McNeely, interim director of the MOGC, at The White House Conference Center

Following Mass, we shared dinner together in the church's social hall; Robert Ellsberg, Orbis Books publisher and editor-in-chief, spoke about Maryknoll's corporate commitment to justice and peace.

On Thursday, May 17, our entire group gathered at the White House Conference Center for a briefing by White House and administration staffers on a number of issues, including overcoming the marginalization of women (with Ambassador Melanne Vermeer, U.S. Department of State); immigration reform (with Felicia Escobar, senior policy advisor, White House Domestic Policy Council); addressing HIV and AIDS (with John Monahan, office of the Global AIDS Coordinator, U.S. Department of State); and environment and climate change (with Celeste Connors, director of Environment and Climate Change, National Security Council.)

The staffers presented their work on their respective topics, and Maryknollers were able to ask some questions and raise a few issues during the briefing.

Following the White House meeting, we regrouped at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church for a time of reflection; Sr. Simone Campbell, executive director of NETWORK, a national Catholic social justice lobby, helped prepare us for visits with members of Congress.



Photo by Angel Mortel

Fr. Jack Sullivan and Robert Ellsberg at The White House Conference Center

During the afternoon, folks visited Capitol Hill, had some good conversations with a few members of Congress and with staffers, and were able to deliver Maryknoll's statements on immigration, trade justice, and nuclear power/weapons.

We wrapped up our Day on the Hill that evening with a relaxing reception with colleagues.

Photo by Angel Moriel



Melanne Vermeer, Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, speaks to our group.

Marie Dennis, who recently resigned as the director of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns after 22 years with Maryknoll, gave a brief talk about how Maryknoll's lived experience has shaped its analysis and advocacy work.

Thank you to all who attended. Our time together was a great

blessing and a positive effort to continue to promote Maryknoll's work for justice and peace for our global family.

[This article also appears online at www.maryknollogc.org/May_2012_Centennial_celebration.html , where it contains links to speakers' remarks and other items of interest.]

AFFILIATES TAKE PART IN A DAY ON THE HILL WITH THE MARYKNOLL OFFICE FOR GLOBAL CONCERNS
Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss – Portland

We enjoyed a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to gather with Maryknollers celebrating the Maryknoll centennial, and, as Maryknollers, to meet with U.S. legislators and address timely issues relating to social justice. About 75 Affiliates and Maryknollers participated in the Maryknoll on the Hill Centennial Event organized by the Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns (MOGC), May 16-17, 2012.

MOGC prepared thoroughly for the two-day event, reserving excellent venues for the multiple sites and accommodations. MOGC also arranged appointments for us with our own state legislators and provided big packets of information for the meetings. They arranged for several government officials to brief us at the White House Conference Center on key issues: Violence against Women, Immigration, HIV/AIDs, and Environment/Climate Change. Sr. Simone Campbell, executive director of NETWORK, gave us hints on

meeting with our legislators and described the current situation at the Capital.

MOGC's careful preparation provides an ideal model for anyone planning to meet with a government official or organization:

- Pick a few key issues to address.
- Research the biographical and position background of the legislator.
- Make appointments with the legislator or a pertinent aide. (All of the Hotchkiss appointments were with aides because both the House and Senate were in session debating key amendments.)
- Obtain background information on the issue(s).
- Clearly define the position of the organization represented; we were given MOGC publications on the issues.
- List a few key talking points on each issue for use during the meeting.
- Identify something to thank the legislator for supporting. We thanked our Oregon legislators for supporting strong versions of VAWA, the Violence against Women Act.
- List a few "Asks" that are wanted from the legislator. Our key "Asks" were: vote for amendments or acts to reduce military spending, especially for nuclear weapons; stop the transfer of immigration policy from the federal to state and local governments; and vote for full funding for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.
- Gather a few items or documents to leave with the legislator. We left information about Maryknoll and existing MOGC position papers and publications.
- Follow up after the meeting with a thank-you note, restating the key "Asks."



Photo by Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss

Maryknoll Affiliate Manny Hotchkiss participates in MOGC Day on the Hill.

Even when we are not able to go to Washington, DC, we can use this format to visit legislators' offices in their home states. I encourage all citizens to frequently visit, call, or write to their legislators. We can inform them of our positions on our country's actions and policies, using the lenses of Catholic Social Teaching and the Maryknoll experience.

RELATIONSHIPS CENTRAL TO MISSION

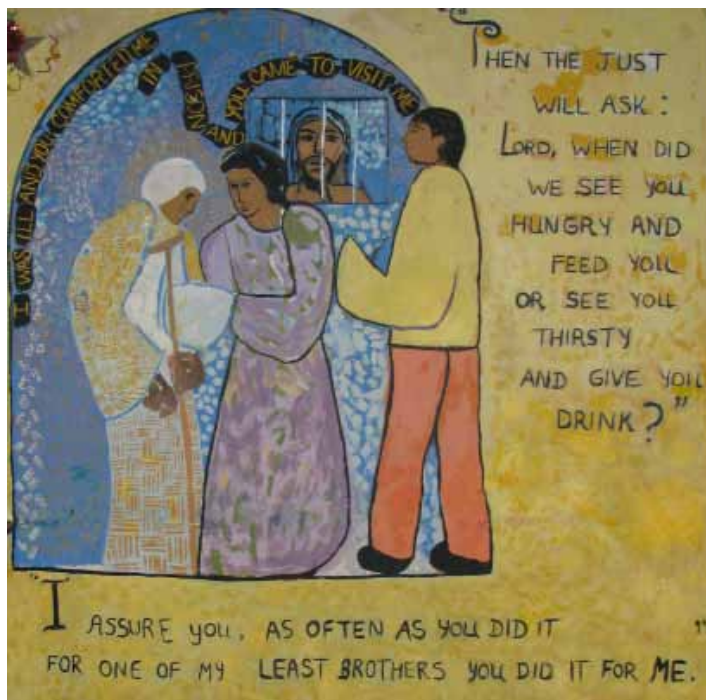
Story and Pictures by Manny Hotchkiss and Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss – Portland, OR

Maryknollers have emphasized to us that relationships with people and organizations are fundamental to mission. Seeing and learning about Casa Juan Diego in Houston emphasized the key role that relationships play in their work.

After their time in El Salvador 30 some years ago, Mark and Louise Zwick founded Casa Juan Diego(CJD) Catholic Worker House in Houston TX to provide refuge to Central Americans fleeing violence. Since then the generous and compassionate care at CJD is well known amongst the immigrant community in Texas. Local hospitals know that CJD will help when an injured immigrant needs to be discharged but has nowhere to go because he is undocumented and does not qualify for state aid. Mark says that even Immigration has referred undocumented people to them, especially immediately after 9/11.

We spent a few days this April at CJD experiencing mission and forming relationships, while we did painting and repairs. Our limited time and Spanish capability, allowed only a glimpse of the activities and relationships at Casa Juan Diego but we felt blest to be part of it.

We were first introduced to Casa Juan Diego in 2003. As part of a regional Maryknoll Affiliate conference in 2003 the Houston Affiliates had taken us on a tour of



Works of Mercy painting on dining room wall motivates Casa Juan Diego workers.

Casa Juan Diego. The Houston Maryknoll Affiliates are frequent supporters of CJD, and Houston Affiliates Bob and Ruth Kleeman even spent a couple months in residence at CJD in 2012 to help while Mark Zwick was recovering from an operation.

Our respect for and connection with the Zwicks has grown over the years as we read the Houston Catholic Worker newspaper, which they publish quarterly, and with the reading of the Zwick's two books: *The Catholic Worker Movement: Intellectual and Spiritual Origins*, and *Mercy Without Borders*. The latter recent book



Catholic Workers Maria and Elina play jumping frog with children of refugee residents at Casa Juan Diego.

gives many personal stories of the challenges immigrants from Central America and Mexico suffer on their way north, and explains Casa Juan Diego's response to them as the stranger, the hungry, and the sick. Mark Zwick often says the CJD mission statement is Matthew 25:35-40, the works of mercy.

We respected the Zwicks even more when we saw, in person, their gentle, respectful interaction with the many refugees to whom they give shelter and aid, and with the recipients of their massive weekly food distribution program. We saw the numerous Spanish speakers who came asking for help with medications, the man with a bandaged stump of a leg in a wheel chair recuperating in the men's house of CJD, and the adult diapers the Zwick's provided to those caring for bedridden family members.

Relationships are essential to Casa Juan Diego. Mark explained that many congregations in Houston send workers and generous donations to CJD. The bishop has invited the Zwicks to speak at parishes telling the story of CJD and asking for donations.

Manny Hotchkiss contributes sweat equity during visit to Casa Juan Diego.



Numerous Houston area residents volunteer at CJD and also help by hiring the refugees as day laborers through the worker's cooperative that CJD has organized. Although the residents of Casa Juan Diego help in its maintenance, the men able to work stand outside waiting for employers to hire them for odd jobs.

CJD sees that school age children of their guests attend locals schools. Catholic Workers, Maria and Elina, help the children with homework when they return home. One afternoon as they returned home a fierce lightning and thunderstorm scared us all, but especially the children. Maria and Elina comforted them and read them stories in English and Spanish. An active youngster, Luz, started playing frog, jumping across the floor and soon they all were hopping and laughing saying "rrribbit, rrrribbit."

We typically ate lunch with the women at CJD, but our poor Spanish limited our interaction with the bashful refugees. I had a halting English/Spanish conversation with Dunia, a grandmother from Honduras, about gardens and food in Honduras, and how she missed them. A young Honduran guest of CJD told us she was awaiting the birth of her first baby in a couple months.

Another guest, Selena, was unusual in that she spoke only English and was from Cameroon, Africa. She arrived at CJD, referred by a social service agency, in tears with no place to go. She came to Houston four months before to be a nanny. Now her employer had thrown her out, and she was alone and homeless and had no where to go. She felt lost amongst the Spanish-speakers and the Spanish signs. She was singing her prayers and told us she was a choir director at home.

One afternoon I set up a mini-exhibit of the artworks and posters I had brought from the Search For Peace Art Exhibit. I showed a slide show of the artworks

which often contained Spanish writing, entered by students of Adelante Mujeres. Adelante Mujeres provides ESPERE, a program in conflict resolution, to Hispanic women in Oregon. Then Maria and Elina interpreted and explained the words and ideas on the posters. The guests resonated with the posters asking for less violence and for making peace.

The relationship to the Church and Catholic Social Teaching of the Zwick's work is evident in morning prayer for all workers and volunteers. A mass in Spanish every Wednesday evening at CJD is attended by most of the guests, workers, volunteers and visitors. A Maryknoll priest Fr. Ralph Davila, comes once a month to say Mass, but the mass we attended at CJD was said by Fr. Brendan Cahill. Before mass two seminarians instructed the congregation in Spanish on the Glorious Mysteries. During Clarification of Thought, a Catholic Worker study practice, we discussed the chapter on St. Teresa of Avila from the Zwick's first book. I saw many similarities between St. Teresa and Dorothy Day, the co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement.

We worked with other volunteers some of whom had long-term relationships with the CJD. Andy and Blossom Wright had worked for years at CJD before leaving to complete medical school and start their own family in Minnesota. They visited CJD to see old friends and help. They plan to come to Portland in August. Another longer term volunteer, Juan Ruiz, was a Jesuit novice.



Eduardo Assef, volunteer, Mark Zwick, and Manny Hotchkiss in front of wall volunteers repaired at Casa Juan Diego men's house.

During our week at CJD we did some work, but especially we connected with refugees and other workers. We thank the Zwicks and the other Catholic Workers at Casa Juan Diego for the opportunity to form relationships and to see the face of Christ in others, which is our true mission.

**RETURNING HOME –
MISSION TAKES ON NEW SHAPE**

Bertha Haas - Portland, OR

The six months I've been back in the US after nine years with the Maryknoll Lay Missioners in Tanzania have been full of family, parish, and community.



My pastor didn't waste any time getting me involved in the parish coordinating the Lenten program—Living the Eucharist, and the Confirmation prep program for English speaking adults. We are now concluding our second adult Bible study unit, "Acts of the Apostles/Pentecost."

God seems to have arranged things to coincide with the freedom retirement has finally afforded me. The timing of Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) in Washington DC fit right in with my need to visit KILEO (Kilimanjaro Education Outreach) to arrange funding for Huruma, the school I started for children with disabilities in Tanzania. EAD was a weekend full of challenge, opportunity, and inspiration. The nearly 50 organizations involved in EAD represent a wide spectrum of those conducting peace and social justice efforts, both nationally and internationally. Primary focus was the Faithful Budget Campaign urging that our political leaders "Act

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***"Consult not your fears, but your hopes and your dreams." --Pope John XXIII***  
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with mercy and justice by serving the common good, robustly funding support for poor and vulnerable people, both at home and abroad, and exercising proper care and keeping of the earth." Keynote addresses and breakout sessions helped us to understand the issues involved prior to visits to our representatives in the Senate and House. Timing was perfect for joining the demonstration in front of the Supreme Court, "People of Faith Support Health Care for All."

In Portland, Oregon, I was able to attend the Regional Call to Action Conference with keynote speakers Fr. Roy Bourgeois MM, Sr. Miriam Therese Winter, and Fran Herder and John Heagle. It celebrated, "The Hope and the Dream Live On: Vatican II at 50." Many local folks who have implemented the call of Vatican II fearlessly presented workshops – a great display of opportunities for involvement right here.

**MARYKNOLL AFFILIATES
WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

**LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
AUGUST 31, SEPTEMBER 1-2, 2012**

WATER: SANCTIFIER AND QUENCHER

It's not too late!

Join many other Maryknoll Affiliates, who will gather together to listen to inspiring insights, share ideas, unite in prayer, renew friendship, participate in fun activities and see the other side of Las Vegas.

Keynote Speakers:



Sister Rose Marie Cecchini MM

Sr. Rose Marie is coordinator of the Office of Life, Peace, Justice and Creation Stewardship under the auspices of Catholic Charities of Gallup Diocese, which promotes Gospel-based responses and activities addressing peace, justice, and ecological issues of concern.



Fr. Max Oliva, S.J., M.B.A.

Fr. Max Oliva, S.J., M.B.A. teaches ethics at Regis University in Henderson, Nevada.

TO REGISTER: Go to Maryknollaffiliates.org - News & Information - Upcoming Events - 8/31/2012, **or**

Call Lee Fermin (702-513-8444) for the registration form, for more information, or if you have any questions.

NEWS FROM THE KNOLL

Sisters Continue Their Celebrations

The Maryknoll Sisters have had a full year of celebrations during their centennial. These have included the following:

Mother's Garden: About 100 family and friends gathered for the official debut of "Mother's Garden", a Centennial art show featuring the work of Sister Yoo Soo Kim, MM, on March 3. Sister Yoo Soo's art work, each of them a monoprnt, evoked a sense of walking through a spring garden in full bloom, coupled with an airy presence of the Lord weaved throughout.

Music for the World Concert: Well over 300 people filled the Main Chapel at Maryknoll Sisters Center for their annual "Music for the World" Benefit Concert. The Hudson Valley Wind Ensemble graciously gave of their time and talents to help us raise much needed support for the Sisters' various works around the world. This year's concert featured pieces from "Porgy and Bess", Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" and Good Friday music from "Parsifal".

Hearts on Fire: Nearly 200 people, joined the Maryknoll Sisters for the two-day event.

Worship Concert: The Worship Concert was a celebration in liturgy and worship, led by renowned musicians Michael Joncas, David Haas and Marty Haugen.

Garden of Gratitude and Promise and Land Trust: Thanks to the non-stop devotion and hard work of Sisters Doreen Longres and Janet Miller, the Maryknoll Sisters dedicated their new *Garden of Gratitude and Promise* on Saturday, June 2. Included in the Garden is the *Slab of Helderberg*. The formation was found at Maryknoll, NY, and dates from the Lower Devonian Period. Age: 400,000,000 years old. Contains brachiopods, bryozoans and trilobites.

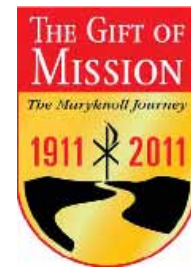
On Sunday, June 3, the Sisters held their Land Preservation Celebration, officially marking their agreement with Westchester Land Trust, which sets asides nearly 43 acres of the more than 60 acres Maryknoll Sisters owns to be forever wild.

Registered users can download a longer report from the Sisters on our website and view videos on the Sisters' website of some of these events (<http://www.maryknollsisters.org/catholic-mission/index.php/resources/videos>).



DEATHS

Rev. Norbert M. Verhagen, M.M. May 15, 2012
Sr. Charlotte Smith, M.M. May 24, 2012



100th Jubilee Celebrations

Below are some of the final Centennial events for the Society and the Congregation. Events and dates are subject to change, so be sure to check [our website](#) for the latest information.

September 28 – October 1, 2012: Joint Maryknoll Mission Symposium at Society & Congregation Centers. Speakers: Mr. Joe Holland, Ms. Patricia Licuanan, Bishop Alvaro Ramazini, Ms. Ana Tibaijuka.

October 27, 2012: Maryknoll Sisters Multicultural Festival and Bazaar at the Maryknoll Sisters.

January 6, 2013: Closing Liturgy for the Public at the Maryknoll Sisters.



**A Maryknoll Symposium
September 28 to 30, 2012**

Register Now! (Deadline is July 1, 2012)

missionintothefuture.org

Mission into the Future: A Maryknoll Symposium is the final Symposium of the Congregation and Society Centennial celebrations 2011-2012. This collaborative symposium is sponsored by the Maryknoll Affiliates, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Maryknoll Lay Missioners and Maryknoll Sisters for Maryknollers and invited guests.

There will be four exciting and knowledgeable keynote speakers, each representing their part of the world, who will help us move into the future together. The symposium includes resource persons from religious, lay and clerical experience and will include worship/prayer/liturgy and fellowship at meals and socials.

Please note: There is no fee for the symposium, itself, which includes the noontime meals and breaks. However, Maryknoll Affiliates are responsible for their lodging and other meals. Housing is available for a fee at Maryknoll on a first come, first serve basis or at a reduced rate at some local hotels.

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