



Not So Far Afield

A NEWSLETTER OF THE MARYKNOLL AFFILIATES

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RESURRECTION AT THE BORDER

Gail Kelley* – NC Triangle Chapter

"I felt like I was in a small prison, staying in the house most of the day, always afraid that someone was going to report us, and my daughter and I would be deported, leaving my husband who was working legally as a temporary resident."

Thus spoke Ramona Casas, a migrant living in an immigrant colonia in Alamo, Texas, directly across the Rio Grande from her home in Reynosa, Mexico.

Then Sister Gerrie Naughton arrived—an Irish woman who had joined the American Sisters of Mercy to help the poor. She arrived in Ramona's colonia in 1986, just after passage of the US Immigration Reform and Control Act, which had granted undocumented immigrants a path to citizenship. Knowledge of English and American history was required, so Sr. Gerrie began literacy lessons in Ramona's home and invited other young mothers to join them.

Those humble beginnings gave rise in 1987 to ARISE—A Resource in Serving Equality—bringing new life not only to Ramona Casas but to thousands of other women and children in Hidalgo County. To literacy and citizenship classes, the program added early childhood and personal development.

Sr. Gerrie believed, "Every single human being has the same need—to serve, to be a participating member of society, to be functional, and to be productive." She understood that "where immigrants can't serve in that way, their very person is denied". After four years, she handed over leadership of the expanding

program to four of the women who participated in her first literacy class, including Ramona.

In June of 2014, 28 years later, I arrived in Alamo as a Maryknoll Affiliate from North Carolina, to volunteer with an organization that now includes 24 different programs offered in four community centers, still led by three of the original leaders, including Ramona Casas. Hidalgo County's statistics are not dramatically changed: 69% of its residents are of Hispanic heritage; their per capita median income is 55% less than that of Texas and 50% less than that of the US; and 35% of its people live below the poverty level.

I was assigned to work with Ramona, now a grandmother, still with the energy and enthusiasm of a young woman. To experience the reality of life in some of the 30 Hidalgo County colonias, I started working in their summer children's program, as well as updating their web-based materials and writing grants.

Ramona now coordinates the ARISE Rio Grande Border Witness Program, which informs US citizens about the plight of Central American refugees crossing into the US. She helps them understand the border regions formed by people who came to seek a better life, hopeful despite poverty, economic change, social conflict, and a broken immigration policy.



Ramona Casas gets out of the ARISE Van to escort a group participating in the Border Witness Program.

We visited all of the community centers where

members spoke of heart-wrenching experiences and the reasons they came to the US. Children shared their hopes and dreams for their future in this country. I saw the Border Fence and the Rio Grande River, as well as the American-owned warehouses in McAllen, where goods produced in the unregulated factories in Mexico are stored and shipped.

*A founder of the NC Triangle Affiliate Chapter, Gail Kelley also served on the Affiliate Board and accompanied the first all-Hispanic/all-women's Affiliate Chapter in Wilmington, NC, through their year-long orientation.

Continued on page 4.

LIVING GLOBAL VISION

Global Vision is one of the 4 pillars of the Maryknoll Affiliates, along with Community, Spirituality, and Action. This issue recognizes the charism of Global Vision in the special connections between Affiliates and the peoples of the Americas. On our cover Gail Kelley describes Resurrection at the US border. Victor Maqqe, from Puno, Peru, now working at Notre Dame University in the US, tells a moving story of attending the beatification of the Salvadoran martyr, Oscar Romero. The profile of the Houston chapter displays their work at the border and in other countries. Another Affiliate searched out a program that gives youth in Costa Rica a jumpstart.

Hot topics in the press recently include Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si*, racism, the honey bee crisis, and coal/oil/gas concerns, but we did not receive items on these issues from Affiliates. We encourage you to write us about these or your other passions, or a reflection if you were able to attend an Affiliate regional meeting this summer, to NSFA@MaryknollAffiliates.org.

BOARD SURVEY WRAP-UP IS NEAR

Survey responses will be tallied through August 31st. Please complete the survey online at: <http://goo.gl/forms/VcWTA6fikB> or ask your Regional Coordinator for a paper mail-in version.

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 around the world. 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 e-mail rshort@maryknollaffiliates.org



Photo credit: Gobonobo wikimedia commons

Canonization is really a gift the church makes to itself.—Robert Ellsberg

SAINT DOROTHY DAY?

The May 4, 2015 issue of America Magazine included an article by Robert Ellsberg, editor-in-chief and publisher of Orbis Books and previously the managing editor of The Catholic Worker. In "Called to be Saints, Why I support the canonization of Dorothy Day" (<http://americamagazine.org/issue/called-be-saints>), Ellsberg delves into not only the pros and cons of canonizing Dorothy Day, but also the whole concept of sainthood.

Besides this thorough and thoroughly readable article, Ellsberg also wrote, "Five Years With Dorothy Day" for America in 2005. See <http://americamagazine.org/issue/551/article/five-years-dorothy-day>.



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We welcome submission of articles by Maryknoll Affiliates and Maryknoll Missioners, as well as suggestions for articles. All submissions are subject to editing. We publish articles as appropriate in conjunction with issue themes.

Articles in *Not So Far Afield* do not represent the opinion of any of the Maryknoll entities.

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.

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THE THREE A'S OF MARYKNOLL SPIRITUALITY

John Moritz – Southeast Regional Coordinator
Northeast Florida Chapter

In his address to the Maryknoll Society Centennial Symposium in 2011*, Fr. Steven Judd, MM, reminded us of three traditional marks or traits that characterize Maryknoll Spirituality. They are affability, availability, and adaptability. When I read his comments on them recently, I said to myself, "Well, they're pretty accurate." If I were to describe Maryknollers, I might not use the same words, but the ideas are readily apparent to anyone who has been around the Maryknoll family. I began to realize that these three qualities are reflective of the Maryknoll people we encounter and love, and are also aspirational. They present for us real goals, lofty and achievable, that help define who we are.

Fr. Steve challenged us to reflect on how these three traits are lived out in our mission lives today. So, for us Affiliates, I would like to present his challenge: How do we, both as individual Affiliates and as chapters, live out affability, availability, and adaptability?



Affability

First, Fr. Steve used that iconic image of Mother Mary Joseph, with her yards of flowing fabric and welcoming smile, as the paradigm of Maryknoll affability. A congenial freshness of heart that reveals a depth of love is a magnetic attraction for me that I want to emulate. We can all conjure images of those who have presented that welcome to us. So, for reflection: *What are some ways in which I can develop that cheerful warmth?*

Second, to me, availability is that presence which I recognize when someone values me as person. It is more than just the giving of time, but the self-giving

Availability

that says, "The person in front of me is the most important person in the world at this moment." It is the willingness to say, "I'll go," to put the other ahead of myself. I am filled with gratitude for those who have made themselves available to me. *In what ways can I demonstrate the gift of self to those around me?*

Third, adaptability gives me the freedom to transcend the boundaries of convention in order to be present to another. The horizon is merely my limited vision.

Adaptability

I love the title of our Affiliate publication, Not So Far Afield, because it so accurately describes the reality that once I am there, what was once the horizon (the field afar) is no longer so far afield. Maryknoll has shown and will continue to show the way of inculturation. *What are the ways in which I can be stretched in order to be an image of the Christ that is recognizable to another?*

The more that I have reflected on these three A's, the more I come to realize the spiritual richness which they contain. If these are the qualities that identify individual Maryknollers, then they are also the characteristics of the communities in which we live. For us as Affiliates, how do our Affiliate chapters reflect these, and how can we make them specific goals to move toward? May they offer you some food for thought.



*The entire text of Fr. Steve's address can be found in the Orbis book, The Gift of Mission, edited by James H. Kroeger, MM.



**P o p e
F r a n c i s ,**
*asking us to
pray with him,
has suggested
these special
intentions:*

July: That political responsibility may be lived at all levels as a high form of charity.

August: That volunteers may give themselves generously to the service of the needy.

Resurrection – Continued from page 1.

We also visited the Office of the Border Control and a center for the housing of refugees waiting for resettlement. A trip to the INS Detention Center, normally included, was not permitted due to housing of some of the thousands of children crossing over the Texas border. Most helpful to me were seeing the reality of this area in person and the conversations I had with Ramona during and after each visit.



Gail at break at ARISE Children's Summer School.

On my last day at ARISE, I decided to become an advocate. I summarized a paper produced by the USCCB's Office of Immigration, detailing the reasons for the increase in unaccompanied minors and suggestions on how they should be handled. I distributed the one-pager to media representatives who were reporting on a demonstration protesting the mishandling of these children.

Any group wishing to understand the border issues should go to the website: <http://www.arisesotex.org/ariseborderwitness0.aspx> or call 956-783-6959. Whether they observe for two days or one week, the cost is minimal, compared to the lasting value of the unforgettable experience. All persons involved in running ARISE's Rio Grande Border Witness Program are immigrants themselves, living in the communities visited, and speaking from personal experience as well as acquired broad knowledge of the policies and laws that affect illegal immigrants.

And yes, at ARISE I also experienced a Resurrection: a renewal of belief in Christ's words, "I come to give life," and that this life is often born, shared, nourished, and made real in those who are at the border of society—a belief lived by both Sr. Gerrie Naughton and Ramona Casas!

**CAMPAIGN NONVIOLENCE 2015**

In 2014, several Affiliates reported on their part in Campaign Nonviolence (CNV) in the *Not So Far Afield*, and the Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns endorsed the Campaign. The CNV web site reports that over 100 actions are already planned to connect the dots between war, poverty, and climate change.

Affiliates in Southern California and Oregon have said they are planning nonviolent actions in 2015. Please send the NSFA a photo and story about your or your chapter's efforts in support of nonviolence this year.

Campaign Nonviolence Pledge. Join people throughout the United States and beyond who have taken this pledge (See paceebene.org):

I solemnly pledge to take a stand against violence and to help build a culture of active non-violence.

I will strive to:

- *Practice nonviolence toward myself.*
- *Practice nonviolence toward all others.*
- *Practice nonviolence by joining the global movement to abolish war, end poverty, stop the destruction of the earth and foster a just and peaceful world for all.*

"I fully support Campaign Non-violence and call upon friends across the U.S. to join this new movement to work for the abolition of war, poverty and environmental destruction and pursue with new vigor Dr. King's vision of a culture of peace and nonviolence. Together, we can create a new world of peace." —Archbishop Desmond Tutu



Photo from achievement.org.



Photos courtesy of Mary & Manny Hotchkiss.



Kyle gives recent visitor Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss, NSFA co-editor, a tour of an ecological, low-cost cob cabin.

BE THE COMMUNITY

Kyle Chandler-Isacksen – Reno Chapter

In 2004, my wife, Katy, and I took a break from teaching and moved to Reno to do organizing work for the 2004 election. After the election, we returned to teaching and opened up a project-based middle school program with an existing Montessori school. Both experiences connected us to a great community of energetic locals who eventually helped us launch “Be the Change.”

Be The Change is an ecological/simple-living project through which we demonstrate the formation of community. Four years ago, this community helped us buy a fixer-upper house where we live very simply with our two children. We grow our own food, live electricity-, car-, and fossil-fuel free, offer classes and workshops on the gift economy, and are of service in a variety of ways.

Following Catholic Worker and Gandhian principles, we formed a project, Possibility Alliance—a loose network of like-minded social change-makers. We have involved and developed an extended community, meeting with a close support group for mediation and sharing of meals three times a week. Our group attends the local Quaker meeting, volunteers with a food ministry weekly, distributes thousands of jackets and sweaters through a partnership with Patagonia, advocates for immigrant rights, works with local

groups to end mass incarceration, gives away trees, and helps neighbors start gardens.

Local landscapers and builders are happy to donate excess firewood and building materials which we creatively repurpose. Raising pigs for part of each year brings together a community to help care for, butcher, and use the whole animal. We also raise rabbits—a perennial favorite of the many school kids who visit their site—for meat and fertilizer.



The local community is uplifted and enriched by Be The Change. We organized youth to paint murals on graffiti-attracting retaining cement walls in the neighborhood, which, in the two years it's been up, has been tagged just once. Beautiful flowers and colors grace a several-hundred foot wall which includes a busy bus stop and an apartment complex entryway.

Workshops on natural, low cost building produced two cob cabins (see Sept/Oct 2014 NSFA, p.6) and brought together 60 people from as far away as Chicago. Last year's workshop built a small living unit on a nearby lot. We plan to purchase another fixer-upper in the neighborhood that will provide extra space for outreach, fruit trees and gardens, and housing for a local immigration activist and her young son.

Community is contagious but requires unflagging attention, and lots of work and love. We continue to educate and grow the community with my [Mother Earth News blog](#), through activism, and through talks at local schools. We look forward to a TEDx talk in the near future.



PILGRIMAGE IN EL SALVADOR

Victor Maqque – University of Notre Dame

The heavens opened over San Salvador on May 22, 2015, during the evening of the beatification ceremony of Oscar Romero. Tens of thousands of people from every corner of the world, the majority campesinos from El Salvador, congregated for the vigil Mass. For the Salvadoran campesinos, this had been a mostly dry “rainy season,” and the pouring rain was a blessing. As the vigil Mass continued, I sought refuge from the curtains of water in the midst of the sea of people around me. Soon I made eye contact with an old lady who was standing under her umbrella. Most likely my look made her signal me to join her. Not too long after, another old lady who was trying to cover herself with a small piece of plastic came to stand with us; then a boy of about 12 years with a gentle look in his eyes also joined us.



Multitudes congregate in San Salvador during the beatification ceremonies.

de la Familia in the parish of Apopa, on a pilgrimage to witness “nuestro Monseñor” Romero’s beatification. Doña Mery was a catechist in the 1970s along with two of her sisters, in a parish further south. Because of the civil war, she relocated to Apopa. The other lady in our group had moved from Morazan to Apopa, also because of the war.

Doña Mery had met Romero personally, receiving him when he visited her parish and also traveling with two other catechists to report to him the detention and killing of members of her community. Like the majority of campesino Salvadorans,

both ladies remembered how they lost family members and how Msgr. Romero was the only one who listened to them and raised his voice on their behalf, until he was killed, too. Their stories echoed the words of Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez, who asserted that the Latin American Bishops’ Conference in Aparecida, Brazil, expanded our understanding of martyrs as Christians who gives their lives for love of God, the Church, and the people.

For Salvadorans, to maintain the memory of Romero as a witness and a martyr was not easy. After



Photos by Victor Maqque

In Perquin, many walls bear murals of Archbishop Romero.

Thanks to the small umbrella and a piece of plastic, we began a conversation that flooded me within more than the pouring rain could on the outside. Loudspeakers delivered Cardinal Rodriguez Maradiaga’s homily on Romero’s courage in defense of the campesinos, to the point of giving up his own life. I asked Doña Mery, the umbrella owner, where she came from. “Apopa,” she said. She was part of the delegation of the Pastoral





Left: Victor Maqqe and Peruvian Bishop Luis Bambarén reunite in the Oscar Romero Center at the Universidad Centro Americana.

Below: The shoes of Ignacio Ellacuría, SJ, the liberation theologian who was gunned down for criticizing the Salvadoran government.



Romero’s assassination while saying Mass in the hospitalito chapel, beyond El Salvador the Archbishop was presented in church and social institution circles as a martyr. In El Salvador, however, the government and the elites wanted to erase all reminders of him. Therefore, during the 12 years of civil war following his assassination, the military treated possession of pictures and any artifacts related to Romero as a crime. They accused Romero of being a Marxist, a communist. Doña Mery said, “They even said that Romero went to hell.” During the beatification ceremony, as the Vatican decree declaring Romero a martyr and Blessed was being read, a solar halo appeared over the multitude. “Msgr. Romero is with God—this is a sign of God,” said many of the witnesses.

campesinos and from the popular sectors. Many, like Doña Mery, had personal stories to tell and even pictures of themselves with Msgr. Romero. They all remember him as the man who stood in their defense and raised his voice on behalf of the voiceless. Ultimately, for the Salvadoran campesinos, Romero’s beatification also meant recognition before the world that the more than 75,000 poor compatriots killed in the civil war were neither traitors nor criminals. On the contrary, it confirmed that their relatives and friends were martyred for trying to defend the poor, just as Jesus and the Gospel teach us to do.



Colorful banners memorialize the martyrs who died in this garden.



Rutilio Grande was the first priest assassinated before the civil war started, in 1977. The marker reads, “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

All of us attending the beatification were on a pilgrimage. We walked to the sacred places in San Salvador, encountering so many friends, and, most importantly, companions in the faith.

About a quarter-million people congregated from every corner of the world to celebrate Romero’s beatification. Most Salvadorans present were

Almost everyone came as part of a delegation from a church, a pastoral group, a human rights organization, a school, or an institution of some sort. I represented my small Maryknoll Affiliate faith community from Notre Dame, IN. We frequently saw people embracing friends, new and old, and joyfully saying, “Thanks, Monseñor Romero, for reuniting us.”



HOUSTON: AN INSPIRATION

A Chapter Profile

Robert Guice, contact person for the Houston Affiliates, describes their chapter as “actively pursuing and supporting short term mission.”

This chapter is grateful for the presence of Fr. Gerry Kelly, MM, and for the Houston Maryknoll House where they hold their meetings. They are active supporters of Maryknoll, helping at mission fairs and at diocesan meetings. The Galveston-Houston Diocese strongly supports mission, having many sister parishes, short-term mission trips to the border regions, and great synergy with Affiliates. Many of the members are very active with the diocese and the Texas Mission Council. Since many of the Affiliates go to various mission sites, chapter meetings are planned when people are in town.

The Houston Affiliates describe their group as small (although they have a good mailing list) because several members became Maryknoll Lay Missioners, including the Kluegs (in Kenya, heading for Detroit) and the Thaibinhs (now in New Orleans). Sandy Atha spent time in Africa and Europe and fundraises for projects in Tanzania. Bob and Ruth Kleeman had made several trips to Central America but now concentrate on taking small groups of families to experience mission, working with the poor near the US border. Ron Covey writes a newsletter and makes monthly trips to Guatemala to support Caminando Por La Paz, a group that serves struggling children.



Photos courtesy of Robert Guice

The man in the wheelchair lost both legs from advanced diabetes.

Robert Guice was modest about his mission experiences but has participated in several groups that went to help the poor and elderly at Eagle Pass, TX. He expressed considerable satisfaction that various churches and denominations had worked together on the project. “It’s good to know the people at Eagle Pass didn’t have to wait for us to finish the project the next time we could visit.” Previously, he had visited college friends Jason and Felicia Gehrig, who were Maryknoll Lay Missioners in Bolivia.

Vicky Argueta felt her time in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) was a mission for her although she was



The diocesan mission team discussed immigration at the fence along the Texas/Mexico border.

assigned to Houston, not abroad. Her work in JVC helping immigrants get legal help, and her family roots in El Salvador, educated Vicky to the reality of poverty. She now continues with mission in her “day job” at Catholic Charities: arranging for foster care for refugee children, some of them victims of trafficking.



Ready for work at Eagle Pass, Texas

The Houston Affiliates have supported Casa Juan Diego (CJD), the Houston Catholic Worker House, by working in the garden or even stepping in to live at CJD for a few weeks while coordinator Mark Zwick recovered from surgery. In the past, chapter members have volunteered there several hours a week.

Although they have busy lives, the Affiliates said they enjoy coming to the Houston Chapter gatherings because they need the conversations with like-minded folks who are also pursuing peace and justice.



Fr. Gerry celebrates Mass at the mission house in Eagle Pass, TX, during a mission to assist the elderly and poor in their homes by doing simple jobs they may not be able to do for themselves.

JUMPSTART NEEDED IN COSTA RICA

Gabriella Maertens – Portland Chapter

In August 2014, I learned through Partners of the Americas (Oregon is Costa Rica's Partner) about the JumpStart Program's need for English teachers in Costa Rica. I had wanted to visit Costa Rica again, and this seemed like a good way to both volunteer and revisit the country.

JumpStart began four years ago with one English camp designed for students from rural areas entering 7th grade with no or very little English instruction in their first six grades. The program grew each year, and, now in its fourth year, the total number of camps has reached 80. These students with a one-month jumpstart are performing better than students who had an English teacher for their first six grades. This does not say much for the English grade school curriculum and instruction. Peace Corps, with support from an NGO, Multilingue, provides most of these camps' TEFL teachers. When the coordinators needed teachers for more camps, they appealed to their Oregon Partner.



Gabriella helps 12th graders in Amazon-sponsored school-to-work English camp.

Though my experience was with high school students, I admired the goal of jumpstarting English for younger students in rural areas who had no English teacher or one who spoke no English. However, by the time we committed in November, the coordinators had added two camps for 12th graders because two sponsors—Amazon and Monge Foundation—were more interested in school-to-work English. JumpStart did not change the curriculum, insisting it could work for 12th graders. The teachers at these two camps were happy to do the extra work required to adapt the curriculum for students at this level who had studied written but not spoken English.

I was pleased to be able to help students from Pavas, an impoverished neighborhood near San José, Costa Rica. They were all entering the 12th grade at the technical high school; having reached this level despite



the problems facing them and this neighborhood meant they were very special. Their sponsor was Amazon,

and each Friday about ten volunteers from Amazon arrived to work with them in the school-to-work portion of the vacation English Camp. They were encouraged to design a vision board to keep focused on their goals. We used the imaginary friend device to practice the third person and offer more variety for people, clothing, and location. One student chose a famous soccer player, not because he was now rich and famous, but because he had been poor and reached his goal through hard work.

The last week of school we met 16-year-old Kevin Reyes, who had been a JumpStart student in the Telemancia region of Costa Rica a few years ago. He had been selected to travel to Oregon for two months, and then, when JumpStart could not find a teacher for remote, rather isolated Telemancia this year, Kevin and thirteen friends worked together to prepare and then teach the JumpStart program to the students in the area. Speaking in Bribri, Spanish, and English at the special graduation ceremony, he said he wanted to give back because he had received so much, and he wanted the students in this region to get the same jumpstart he had received a few years ago. He received a standing ovation.



The students realized that learning English could be fun, that they could learn by making mistakes. It was wonderful to see how the confidence of our students improved in just a month, and my hope is that this confidence transfers to all aspects of their lives.



GLOBAL VISION IN PHOENIX
A Chapter Profile

“We join with you in a global vision and option for the poor. We are not alone. We are in solidarity,” say the Phoenix Affiliates to the world and to other Affiliates.

Phoenix Chapter members Deacon John Meyer, a Maryknoll Affiliate Board member, and his wife Mary Ann Meyer, provided a verbal snapshot of their chapter. The seven to ten members are all very involved in mission and social justice.



Photo courtesy of John Meyer

Phoenix Chapter members – front row, l to r : Fr. Scott Harris, M.M.; Pam Snyder, Gaby Franzoni, Lynn Brysacz and Elaine Espericueta; top row: Mark Larson, John Meyer, Mary Ann Meyer, Selina Larson

They also provide strong support for one another, especially when members or their family have health issues. Some are working full time in professions where they can influence youth or work with the poor. Others are retired from paid work but still very active in charitable or activist roles.

“We are doing what Pope Francis is calling us to do, to go to the margins.”

Most of them have a strong involvement with the Church and with Maryknoll, but are also active ecumenically. The group includes a Maryknoll priest, a former Maryknoll sister, a former Maryknoll seminarian, and one member with a relative who is a Maryknoll Sister. We had a stimulating conversation about author and theologian Diarmuid O’Murchu’s discussion of the new cosmology and how it leads to a deepening, broadening, evolving theology.

PRESENCE

*Some people enter our lives
like deer
slipping in and out
of the woods.*

*They touch our earth
and as we stop
to look at them
they disappear as quietly
as they came*

*But you feel blessed
for having experienced
their gentle presence*

*And you give thanks
that the world
is a better place
because of the joy
they brought.*

—Sr. Joan Metzner, MM
art work by Sr. Charlotte Smith, MM

Reno Affiliate Ellie Hays, a military veteran, former pit boss at Harrah’s Casino, special friend of the Maryknoll Sisters, and a dedicated advocate for peace and justice, has made it her personal mission to give laminated prayer cards to whomever she thinks needs some special attention.

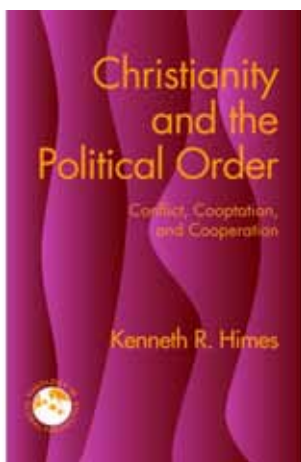
This poem by Sr. Joan Metzner, MM, with art work by Sr. Charlotte Smith, MM, is one of her favorites. Sr. Joan Metzner, who was on mission in Japan, passed away December 31, 2004.



A STUDY OF CHURCH AND STATE

Bertha Haas - Portland Chapter

A review of **Christianity and the Political Order: Conflict, Cooptation, and Cooperation**, by *Kenneth R Himes*, published by *Orbis*, 2013.



Himes traces the relationship between church and state from Old Testament times to post-Vatican II. After defining terms, he relates the tug-of-war, each trying to achieve dominance until finally arriving at democracy and separation of church and state under the US Constitution. Then in the final portion of the book, Himes discusses contemporary issues that involve both the government and religion, emphasizing the evolution in the Catholic Church’s teaching.

The issue of Globalization is an example. Hines describes globalization as a “braid with distinct yet intertwined strands: politics, economics, communications, religion, education, environment, fine arts, technology...” Since globalization spreads both benefits and burdens, he sets out to provide evaluative criteria drawn from Catholic social teaching that we can use to design a strategy “that is respectful of the dignity of persons and supportive of human rights.” He proceeds to discuss authentic humanism, solidarity, justice, human rights, participation, and subsidiarity. This final section also includes a stimulating discussion of war and peace.

The questions the book offers after each chapter, along with its historical approach and ample footnotes, make it ideal as a textbook or for a discussion group. Sample question: “What is the ‘democratic deficit’ of globalization: What can Christian churches do to remedy the problem?”

This book is for anyone interested in the historical development of church/state relationships in Europe and the US. Applications drawn from and for other areas of the world are very limited.



MISSION INSTITUTE 2015 – MARYKNOLL, NY

A forum of adult learning and reflection on world church and mission

UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 5-10 **Albino Barrera, OP** – *Everyday Holiness: Sacred Scripture’s Teaching on Economic Life*

July 12-17 **Ched Myers, MA** – *Denial or Discipleship? Bioregional Theology and Practice in a World of Ecological Ultimatums*

July 19-24 **Antoinette (Nonie) Gutzler, MM** – *Compassion: Witness to Love*

Sept. 16-19 **Edwina Gateley, MA** – *Our Call to Personal and Global Transformation (Los Altos, CA)*

Sept. 20-25 **Edwina Gateley, MA** – *Soul Sisters: Women Called to Connect, Bond and Heal in a Broken World (Monrovia, CA)*

For details, visit <http://maryknollsisters.org/maryknoll-mission-institute>.

A CHANCE TO CONNECT

Don’t miss gathering with Affiliates this summer:

Western Regional Maryknoll Affiliates Conference, in Seattle, August 7-9: Love in Action - Mission on the Margins Contact – AIDrinkwine@outlook.com or phone [425-821-1737](tel:425-821-1737).



Midwest Affiliate Retreat, in Wisconsin, August 14-16: Renewing the Joy of Mission - Shifting into the Future Contact kathg109@aol.com.



“We are created to read the book of creation so that we may know the Author of Life.”

—Ilia Delio, OSF



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Read about Victor Maquette's pilgrimage to Archbishop Romero's Beatification, p. 6.

