



Not So Far Afield

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARYKNOLL AFFILIATES

May/June 2022

Volume 31 Number 3

AN OVERWHELMING EXPERIENCE

Mary Beth Buchner – Albany Chapter

Details are omitted to protect the privacy and safety of our new neighbors.

I recently joined a group called a Good Neighbor Team with some of my fellow Maryknoll Affiliates. Although I admire and support the people who do such things, I was never brave enough to go “far afield” as a missionary. So, when the opportunity recently presented itself to work with a newly arrived immigrant family, I was excited to be a part of a team that welcomed them to our country. How difficult could it be to get one little family settled into their new home, and their new city?

I went for our first home visit only to feel completely overwhelmed! What was I thinking? How ignorant could one person be? Rather quickly, I realized that this was certainly not going to be “a simple walk in the park.” I left feeling completely overwhelmed, a bit depressed, and frankly quite defeated. But just then, another powerful feeling overtook me.

After just one meeting with this family, I was hopelessly in love. Although they have next to nothing themselves, the family was very hospitable to us, preparing hot tea and food. When I first arrived, the youngest little girl (preschool age) emerged from a bedroom and stood smiling shyly at the doorway to her bedroom. We made eye contact, and I was immediately drawn to her adorable dark eyes. I instinctively gestured for her to come over and we hugged and she stood by me for a while as I sat in one of the kitchen chairs.

It’s difficult to describe why or how this happened. We didn’t speak their language, and they didn’t speak ours. This was frustrating to say the least, but sometimes hearts speak when words fail. Love is a pretty powerful thing, so even though the challenges seemed insurmountable, there was no turning back. I also realized I wasn’t the only one lovestruck.

As I was falling asleep that night, images flooded my mind. I found myself wondering what it must feel like to flee my country on a moment’s notice with little more than the clothes on my back. I tried to imagine being young and pregnant, grabbing a few simple



Like the Albany Affiliates, many groups are extending their welcome to refugees such as this Afghan child in Cleveland.

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REACHING OUT

This issue highlights opportunities for outreach to refugees. In our cover story, Mary Beth Buchner shares her experiences starting to help recent immigrants in Albany, NY. In El Paso, Rueben Garcia says that volunteers are the #1 need at Annunciation House, which serves refugees.

Reaching out with heart-felt concern, two NE Ohio Chapter members applied for a Mission Grant as they go to Poland to help Ukrainian refugees. Another Mission Grant applicant organizing a Lenten retreat saw an opportunity to reach out to Spanish speakers.

Two articles affirm that the NSFA encourages outreach. Margie Carroll, a San Diego Affiliate, first heard of and responded to Nancy Richard's Hope on Hooves outreach through the NSFA. Bob and Ruth Kleeman from Texas agree with the NSFA statements about the persistence of missionaries, but point out that Affiliates sometimes need to overcome even man-made roadblocks.

For Memorial Day, we remember those who have passed. Gaye Hieb introduced her VFW post to Fr. Capodanno, MM, and Peruvian Affiliates plant trees for COVID victims. As COVID recedes, we wish you good health, renewed outreach, and connections with Affiliates and Maryknollers around the world.



Not So Far Afield (NSFA) is a bimonthly publication of the Maryknoll Affiliates and is also available online at MaryknollAffiliates.org. The name is a play on the title of the original Maryknoll Magazine: *The Field Afar*. Affiliates share in the mission and family spirit of Maryknoll Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, and Lay Missioners.

Mission Statement: Maryknoll Affiliates, while continuing to pursue their own life's journey, commit themselves to the mission goals of Maryknoll in the context of Chapters that gather for prayer, reflection, and action. Maryknoll Affiliates challenge one another to witness to mission as a way of life by going beyond borders, locally and globally, walking with the poor and excluded, and striving for peace and justice for all of God's creation.

For further information, see [Maryknoll Affiliates.org](https://MaryknollAffiliates.org), contact Executive Coordinator Bob Short, email AffiliateBShort@gmail.com, or write to:

Maryknoll Affiliates
P.O. Box 311
Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311

OVERWHELMING, continued from page 1.

belongings for my children and fleeing my country, my culture, beloved family members and friends to begin a long and tiring journey to places unknown. I wondered what it feels like to be ushered here and there until you finally arrive at a foreign destination that was chosen for you! How scary must it be to be completely at the mercy of people with a totally different culture who can't understand a single word you're saying?

I started to pray for strength and guidance, and together with some of the most amazing comrades on God's good earth, I began to have a bit of faith that we could and would rise to the occasion. We'd learn and grow and work together, and, however imperfectly yet creatively, we'd do what we could to help. So, we put one foot in front of the other and committed ourselves to welcoming our new neighbors.



The U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI-<https://refugees.org>) administers domestic programs related to refugee resettlement and placement, foreign-born victims of human trafficking, and unaccompanied immigrant children. Its international programs focus on defending the rights of refugees and asylum seekers.

Not So Far Afield Co-Editors:

Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss & Paula Schaffner

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

Submissions: We welcome letters to the editor, articles, photos, and suggestions for articles. All submissions are subject to editing. Please contact us at NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com.

Subscriptions: To report a change of address, subscribe, unsubscribe, or change to/from print or digital versions, email: NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com or contact Bob Short

HOPE ON WHEELS!

Had “Hope on Hooves” not appeared in NSFA, little Jackson would not have a wheelchair, and a good number of other Tanzanian women would not have goats and cows!

San Diego Affiliate Margie Carroll’s initial contact was Nancy Richards in Seattle, whose article, “Hope on Hooves,” (NSFA May/June 2021) about her experiences and invitation to assist single moms in Tanzania, caught her eye. Margie’s sister, Cathy Kelly, arranged to donate a cow in Margie’s name through Nancy, her friend, as a Thanksgiving Day gift.

Upon viewing the photos of the recipient family, Cathy noticed that the mom in the photos was holding a son who could not stand and appeared to have a disability. So, Cathy and Margie decided to provide a wheelchair for him. Seeking a reputable



The photo that prodded the gift of a wheelchair

a wheelchair for Jackson Bura, in honor of another sister, Mary McCrann, of Long Island, NY. They then contacted Affiliate Nancy Richards in Seattle, who, through her Tanzania contact, Sam, arranged delivery of the wheelchair to Jackson Bura in Karatu. Soon they received photos of his mother Yustina and Jackson enjoying his new freedom.

At this point, the story curves in on itself: As Margie related to Ellen Gamble, Walkabout Foundation’s program manager, “I suddenly realized last night after viewing the film (<https://youtu.be/cqUPG0EDzu4>) on the Walkabout Foundation website, that I know Rolando Gonzalez-Bunster, the father of Luis and Carolina Gonzalez-Bunster, who founded the organization! Rolando and I were classmates at Presentation School in Jamaica, NY, and graduated together as 8th graders! In fact, I zoomed with him last year for our class’s 60th anniversary!”



When NSFA contacted Nancy Richards for her part of this story, she responded, “Oh, I love Margie Carroll! She has been such a great supporter! Getting that wheelchair and her realizing she had gone to school with the founder were amazing. That little boy, Jackson, was so happy—we have a couple more children that need the same thing if we get the money in.”

Nancy Richards has lots going on. Through March 11th, Hope on Hooves has placed 376 goats and 36 cows with families. In the past few months, they have focused on providing food and blankets. (“So many hungry families!”)

organization on charitynavigator.org, Margie discovered the Walkabout Foundation (www.walkaboutfoundation.org in London, which promptly responded to their email. They were touched that founders Luis and Carolina Gonzalez-Bunster had transformed their family’s personal tragedy into improving the quality of life for people around the world with mobility disabilities.

Her wish now is to apply to become a 501c3 corporation, or to partner with an existing nonprofit so that donors’ gifts will be tax deductible. She commented, “I don’t know why one of my kids could not have been an attorney—ha ha!”

The two sisters donated a bit more than 640,000 Tanzania shillings (\$280 USD) to cover the cost of

Readers: Can you, or someone you know, help Nancy negotiate this hurdle? If so, or if you wish to make a donation, please email her at nancyrichards@live.com.



**CHAPTER OFFERS
BILINGUAL LENTEN RETREAT**

Roxanne Hughes-Wheatland –
Washington, DC Chapter

In 2018, the small group of Maryknoll Affiliates who prior to the COVID-19 pandemic met at the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, scheduled a retreat to be facilitated by the organization, Little Friends for Peace at their facility in Accokeek, Maryland. Unfortunately, due to the limited number of registrants, the retreat was postponed. In January 2022 the idea of having a retreat that could be facilitated by the same organization was reconsidered, and we approached Little Friends for Peace about having the retreat virtually, open to all Maryknoll Affiliates, as well as other interested individuals. In offering the retreat to the broader Maryknoll Affiliate membership, we determined the retreat should be conducted in both English and Spanish so that the Affiliates in Latin America could feel welcome to attend. So, on March 26, 2022, the Baltimore-Washington, DC Maryknoll Affiliates sponsored a virtual Lenten bilingual retreat, entitled, "Opening Our Hearts As We Take Up the Cross: Inward, Outward Journey." The chapter was able to sponsor the retreat through a Mission Grant approved by the Maryknoll Affiliates Board.

Facilitated by Ms. MJ Park, Executive Director of Little Friends for Peace, the retreat was presented in English with simultaneous Spanish translation provided by Michelle Macias. We had 20 registrants and about 15 participants. The participants were a mixture of US-based

Maryknoll Affiliates and at least three Maryknoll Affiliates from the Guatemala chapter. A few non-Affiliate individuals also attended. While there were a few technical difficulties at the beginning of the meeting related to making sure that the Spanish translation was being heard, those difficulties were quickly resolved.

The retreat focused on Lent as a time when we hear God's voice, saying, as in the song, "Come back to me with all your heart, don't let fear keep us apart." As we take up the "Cross" during Lent, we are asked to consider what the "Cross" means to us, how are we carrying the "Cross," and what do we use daily to help us carry the "Cross" we are given, with the understanding that Jesus says, "I'm with you always." Since the group was relatively small, we were able to come together as one peace circle to provide our reflections on these themes.

Ms. MJ Park provided time for us to pray and listen to music to help guide our reflection. We were encouraged to go inward, check in with ourselves, and ask, "What am I thinking and feeling, what is bringing me inner peace? How am I navigating my emotions, fears, anxieties, joys, and challenges?"

The retreat was deemed a success because all of the participants actively engaged in the discussion and meditations. While we don't know of a plan to host an event like this in the near future, we hope this was only the first of many bilingual programs that the Maryknoll Affiliates can sponsor. The voices of Affiliate members across the globe should be expressed and heard

in a manner that makes sure everyone feels fully included in the Maryknoll Affiliate movement. My one piece of advice to others planning such an event is to start early, especially if you are going to apply for a Mission Grant from the Maryknoll Affiliates Board to help cover the cost of providing the event.



The happy faces of participants tell us that the retreat was well received.

MARYKNOLL PRIEST IN MISSION TO THE MILITARY


Gaye Hieb – Florida Affiliate and VFW Chaplain

At the VFW Post 10209 2021 Memorial Day celebration, Fr. Vincent Capodanno, MM’s life and legacy as a chaplain were introduced.*

Born of Italian immigrants on Staten Island, New York, in 1929, Vincent Capodanno learned the dignity of hard work, pride of family, strength of ethnic solidarity, and love of the Catholic faith.

Vincent, familiar with Maryknoll through their magazine, *The Field Afar*, entered the Maryknoll Seminary in 1949 and was ordained in 1958. He served in Taiwan in his early days, but later he asked to join the Navy Chaplain Corps to serve the increasing number of troops in Vietnam. Father Capodanno finished Officer Candidate School in 1966 and reported to the 7th Marines in Vietnam, where he became known as the “Grunt Chaplain” because of his focus on the young

months of his death, the chapel at the Navy Chaplains School at Newport, RI, was dedicated as the Capodanno Memorial Chapel. Now other military chapels and commemorations in California, New York, Japan, and Taiwan also bear his name. The Capodanno Guild <https://www.capodannoguild.org/> is pursuing his cause for sainthood.

Also in 2021, for the 20th Anniversary of 9/11, VFW Post 10209 dedicated a Franciscan statue in honor of the first identified casualty, Fr. Mychal Judge, a Franciscan chaplain for the New York Fire Dept. At the dedication, Chaplain Gaye Hieb  delivered a touching memorial to him, saying, “His whole ministry was about love.”

*See Fr. Vincent Capodanno’s biography at <https://www.milarch.org/father-capodanno-bio/>, and [An Ex-Marine Recounts Inspiration of Maryknoll Priest Killed in Vietnam War](#) (Maryknollmagazine.org).

PERUVIANS REMEMBER



Fr. Vincent Capodanno is remembered in Hernando County, Florida, and elsewhere.

enlisted troops.

In 1967, “Father Vincent Capodanno made the ultimate sacrifice.” In a North Vietnamese ambush, Father Capodanno, himself seriously injured, assisted a wounded corpsman and a Marine who were pinned down by an enemy machine gunner with medical and spiritual attention. The enemy opened fire on the unarmed chaplain, and “Father Capodanno, the victim of 27 bullet wounds, died faithfully performing his final act as a good and faithful servant of God.”

Vincent received various posthumous honors, including the dedication of a bamboo and palm-thatched place of prayer he had helped build on Hill 51 in Que Son Valley as the Capodanno Chapel. Then in February, 1968, within five



Peruvians Affiliates are planting trees in honor of the victims of COVID.



The tree will grow; it will be as strong as our relatives and will bear much fruit.



**PERSIST AND INITIATE – PART 2:
ADDRESSING ROADBLOCKS**

Bob Kleeman – Houston Chapter

An article in the March/April, 2022 issue of *Not So Far Afield* was about being persistent and innovative. It began, “We see the persistence of Maryknoll Missioners, continuing their work through natural disasters and the pandemic.” There may be other roadblocks that make missionary work difficult, even in our own dioceses. One example: The local Archdiocesan Mission Council secured permission from the diocese to use a vacant facility as a mission house to assist the archbishop in his appeal to help those whose homes in the Houston area were flooded by hurricane Harvey. The council members, most of whom were not Affiliates, developed a program to help restore flooded houses for those most unable to afford the cost of repairs.

Local mission volunteers furnished the vacant facility with a full kitchen, living area, and beds for 28 people. Volunteers from around the country came in to help with the restoration and were able to stay at the mission house while working on various projects. Affiliate groups, including Affiliate Board members, high school and college students, and many parish volunteers “mucked out” houses and trailer homes, painted, installed insulation and dry wall, rebuilt kitchens and bathrooms. One team even built a three-bedroom house around a one-room shack.

Groups were scheduled for months in advance when it was announced at a Mission Council meeting that the facility was to be shut down. We were told that the facility was to be used “for a higher purpose,” and were asked to vacate the property. That was three years ago, but the facility



In 2018, part of a Maryknoll Affiliate team with recipient (in red) at her mobile home



Ruth Kleeman prepared to feed the 2018 crew.

has never been used and sits vacant to this day.

Nineteen parishes in the area have had mission programs, some local and others in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Columbia, and Mexico. The archdiocese now cites COVID and concerns about violence in these countries and has shut down all foreign missions.

Not to be completely discouraged, many members of the Mission Council have since become Affiliates and are working tirelessly to develop other mission programs within

the United States. Construction crews continue house repair, others assist migrants and their families, and medical groups have established clinics—most of which are in low-income areas along the Texas/Mexico border.

The unexplained closing of the mission house was a setback, but the Maryknoll spirit inspires us to be persistent missionary disciples, through manmade and natural disasters.



NE OHIO CONNECTS WITH CAMBODIA

Gerard Mullaney – NE Ohio Chapter

The Northeast Ohio Affiliate Chapter has maintained our connection with Cambodia and especially the Maryknoll Mission team there. This connection started during our Friends Across Borders trip (sponsored by Maryknoll Lay Missioners – <https://mklm.org/why-go-on-a-mission-immersion-trip/>) to Cambodia several years ago. Northeast Ohio Affiliates Jan Alberti, Pam Cibik, Gerry Mullaney, and Kathy Ress, all mental health therapists, met Fr. Kevin Conroy, who is also a trained psychologist.

While visiting mission sites, we learned that Cambodia has suffered a difficult history of war, genocide, and ongoing challenges of poverty and injustice, and has limited human services for its population. The genocide perpetrated by the Khmer Rouge regime in the 1970s included an attempted elimination of the intellectual and professional class.

Father Kevin Conroy, a recent Maryknoll Associate from the Cleveland Diocese, has worked for years in Cambodia to train mental health professionals and to provide psychological services to a traumatized population that also suffers serious mental health problems.

Recently, Father Kevin invited the Northeast Ohio Maryknoll Affiliate chapter to share our knowledge and skills with his mental health staff. We organized a session related to play therapy to be conducted virtually between the Cambodian staff and us at our computers in Northeast Ohio. During the interaction, Kathy and Gerry provided some historical and theoretical background, and Pam and Jan shared practical techniques and applications. Pam’s presentation included numerous games and play exercises. Jan focused on Sand Tray therapy, a tool aimed at helping clients clarify and resolve a life issue by telling a story in play with figures to help. Jan’s

grandson was the star of a video in which Jan demonstrated the Sand Tray process.

Father Kevin’s feedback to our team two weeks after the training confirmed the cross-cultural value of play and the usefulness of play therapy as a tool for self-expression with Cambodian clients. He indicated some enthusiasm on the part of his staff, who immediately checked out the six sand trays for their therapeutic use. The Northeast Ohio team was delighted to connect with Cambodian professionals and, by extension, to be in solidarity with the Cambodian people.



NE Ohio Affiliates connect with Cambodian therapists via Zoom.



A demonstration video helps explain how patients might express themselves through sand play.

In addition to our satisfaction with this encounter, we hope this specific experience might be a piece of the transformation that the Affiliate Board is considering in recent discussions. As the Board deliberates about the possible futures of the Affiliates, conversations have included moving beyond the chapter meeting model, encouraging action projects, collaborating with the other Maryknoll entities, and going beyond the boundaries of the US chapters. Wider use of technology presents one path to do this. Our small initiative with Cambodian mental health services shows some of this new thinking, a new way to do mission, a way to share our experience and concern.





OUTREACH TO REFUGEES

Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss – Portland Chapter

Number One: We need volunteers! Rueben Garcia, who founded the Annunciation House in El Paso over 40 years ago, emphasized the need for volunteers when he spoke to the Immigration Working group of Call To Action (CTA) on April 2. CTA has had seven on-line presentations on immigration concerns and asked Rueben Garcia to talk about Annunciation House's services to refugees in El Paso, TX. Several Maryknoll Affiliates participated in the Zoom call, available at <https://www.cta-usa.org/videos/gathering-annunciation-house>.

Annunciation House provides refugees and immigrants hospitality after Immigration and Customs Enforcement processes them at the US Mexico border in El Paso. They expect a surge in immigrants with the announcement that Title 42 may be lifted on May 23 by the Biden administration. The Trump administration had cited Title 42, a US health/immigration policy, to block immigration during the pandemic. This policy change will probably meet with legal challenges, so no one knows exactly when the changes may occur.

In recent weeks, Annunciation House has processed almost 2,000 refugees per week. Garcia expects that the number of refugees of all nationalities coming through Mexico will increase as Title 42 is lifted. They have already seen an increase in people coming from Nicaragua, Venezuela, Ecuador, Turkey, and the Ukraine.

Annunciation House has existed for more than 40 years and now consists of several physical

locations in El Paso. They have never accepted city, state, or federal financial support. To assist over 1,000 refugees a week, financial support is always needed. Rueben Garcia and others concerned about helping refugees are working to add churches and organizations to the network that supports Annunciation House and immigrants in general.

Concerned people that are remote from Texas can help in several ways. Very few refugees will stay in El Paso. It is sometimes difficult to get airline seats for refugees to fly from El Paso to their sponsors in other areas. A partial solution may be to bus refugees to Denver or other hubs. Rueben Garcia is pursuing connections with organizations in those areas. Sometimes refugees don't have sponsors but will need them.

Annunciation House currently has nine full-time, year-long volunteers, but also needs many shorter-term volunteers, including summer interns. Volunteers must apply and serve for at least two weeks. Maryknollers have volunteered with the Annunciation House over the years. Indeed, nine Maryknollers are currently in the El Paso area working on immigration-related issues (see below), some through the Annunciation House. To explore your volunteering options, see: <https://annunciationhouse.org/get-involved/>.



THE MARYKNOLL COMMUNITY IN EL PASO

The winter 2021 issue of *Maryknoll Magazine* highlighted the Maryknoll missionaries in the El Paso area, and, not surprisingly, several of them also volunteer at the Annunciation House. Maryknoll Sisters Lelia Mattingly and Margaret Sierra have lived in El Paso and worked at Annunciation House for several years, occasionally hosting other Maryknoll sisters. Now Sr. Janet Miller, MM, has joined them and also serves at Casa del Refugiado, an Annunciation House facility.

Lay Missioners Coralís Salvador and Deborah Northern are now in El Paso and serve at Annunciation House and other projects. Two immigration attorneys working in El Paso are Lay Missioners Heidi Cerneka, at Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center (See NSFA Jan/Feb 2022), and Sr. Diedre Griffin, SSJ.

Maryknoll priests James Kofski and Kenneth Moody provide pastoral care at St. Patrick's Church in Canutillo Texas, near El Paso.

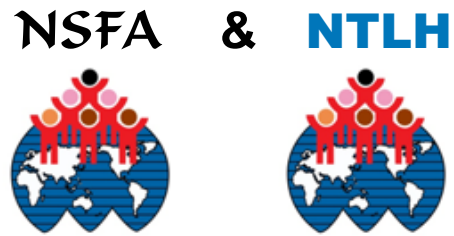
THEY???

THEY IS A BEAUTIFUL PRONOUN FOR GOD

"I believe that when we minimize or attempt to erase the gender-expansive nature of God, we put God in a box and actively limit our experience of God. Cutting off that piece of God is, by extension, cutting off that same part of humanity. Shrinking God shrinks us, too. But we don't need to be afraid of a Creator who is bigger than a binary concept of gender.

Calling God 'they' is a way of naming the divine enormity of their nature and being. When we do not have the language to express the boundless radiance of our Creator, 'they' names an entire universe of possibility. I cannot think of a better way to honor the holy mystery of God — who is both known and unknown, seen and unseen, above us and beside us — than to name all that we know and all that we don't know in the word 'they.' "—Chloe Specht (she/they)

Excerpted from <https://Sojo.Net/Articles/Actually-They-Beautiful-Pronoun-God>



PLACES TO CONNECT

To better serve Affiliates, the editors from *Not So Far Afield* (NSFA) and *No Tan Lejos del Horizonte* (NTLH), the two Maryknoll Affiliate newsletters, met in February by Zoom—from NSFA: Paula Schaffner and Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss, and NTLH: Lucia Ramazzini, Jimena Celis, Leticia Arriola, and Rosa Beatriz Castañeda de Larios. By invitation, Ginny McEvoy, Maryknoll Affiliate Board Chair, also attended.

The newsletters present the diverse voices of Affiliates in different languages—English and Spanish, and different formats—electronic and print. The editors plan to exchange more articles to highlight the diversity and commonality of Affiliates. We considered how photos, graphics, highlighted phrases, word clouds, and links to articles and videos increase the power of the communications. We look forward to continued cooperation between the two newsletters.

The Affiliate readers of the newsletters have many different cultures but are equally connected to Maryknoll. Rosa Beatrice said that Latin American Affiliates want to know more about the Affiliate Board members—their names and faces and their objectives. All Affiliates need to be kept up to date on Board activities. Ginny was happy to report that the Board members plan to provide photos and statements to share in the newsletters.

An ongoing concern is reaching young people and potential new members and readers through social networks, such as Facebook, Instagram, podcasts, etc. We invite Affiliates to use their personal accounts in this outreach, as well as following the Maryknoll Affiliates Facebook page. Share our newsletter articles with your friends and associates. The social networks should also publicize our newsletters.

We ask Affiliates to check out both the NSFA and NTLH at MaryknollAffiliates.org under NEWSLETTER, using electronic translation, if needed. Please let us know what you like, want, or don't want. Send us your articles and ideas. Our Affiliate newsletters need your participation.



Farther Out...And Further Afield



Stonings didn't really work out so great in the desert.



**CALLING
ALL
MARYKNOLLERS**

We, the “Committee of 12 (CO12),” who are composed from all expressions of Maryknoll and have been meeting regularly in equality and friendship for nearly two years, invite you to gather by Zoom to discuss:

Living into a common vision for Maryknoll

Two times are offered to accommodate as many areas of the world as possible: **May 21, 2022 09:00 AM EDT** and **May 21, 2022 07:00 PM EDT**. The registration deadline is May 15, 2022. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the gathering.

To help us discern what the Spirit may be saying to us, we have built in periods of silence and will emphasize listening to one another. Our one-hour schedule is necessarily tight, and much will depend on the number of participants.

To prepare for participation, think about these questions:

- How might we, as Maryknoll, live into this new way of being Church?
- How might this invite us to live into a common vision for Maryknoll?

To review the entire schedule and find links to register, visit: <https://www.maryknollaffiliates.org/maryknoll-affiliate-news/invitation-committee-of-12-living-into-a-common-vision-for-maryknoll>.

The results of our May 21 meetings will be synthesized by the CO12 and presented at a follow-up Zoom gathering on June 18. All May 21 participants will be invited to join us that day in discerning and agreeing on a final document. That document will be submitted to the leaderships of the four expressions of Maryknoll, and sent to the Synod office in Rome.

We encourage you to take part in this process, part of Maryknoll’s contribution to the Synod.

The Committee of 12

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Ann Carr | Claudette LaVerdiere |
| Sami Scott | Rick Dixon (on leave) |
| Rich Lessard | Bob Short |
| Kylene Fremling | Ellen McDonald |
| John Sivalon | Joe Healey |
| Len Montiel | Ken Thesing |
| Marj Humphry | |



Maryknoll Sisters
Making God’s Love Visible

MARYKNOLL MISSION INSTITUTE

All 2022 Programs will be offered only by Zoom.

- May 15-20 ***Laudato Si’ “Care of Our Common Home”***
– Erin Lothes, PhD
- June 5-10 ***Healing the Earth***
– Dr. Bruce G. Epperly, PhD
- June 12-17 ***Eco-Justice and the Emerging Challenges for Christian Faith***
– Rev. Diarmuid O’Murchu, MSC
- June 19-24 ***Integrating Mindfulness tools with Christianity toward Compassion and Justice***
– Gail J. Stearns, PhD
- July 7 & 8 ***Theogenesis: God’s Becoming in Evolution***
– Sr. Ilia Delio, OSF, PhD
- July 10-15 ***Women at the Well: Agents of Change***
– Maureen O’Connell, PhD
- July 17-22 ***Images of God in Teilhard and Merton***
– Sr. Kathleen Dufy, SSJ, PhD
- July 24-29 ***Vulnerability is a Mark of Existence: Film’s Testimony to Truth and Hope***
– Rev. Larry Lewis, MM, PhD

Attend where you live—no travel expense!

See Program descriptions and application forms for online registration at:

<http://www.maryknollsisters.org/missioninstitute>



ON NETFLIX APRIL 29TH!

YOUTH V GOV THE MOVIE

Details at www.youthgovfilm.com

“In a very real way, I am a missionary. Being a missionary means to be sent, not necessarily overseas. The experience of working with kids who had nothing taught me so much.”—Therese Caffey



**MISSION
CAME TO HER**

Ken Eppes –
North Texas
Chapter,
Regional
Coordinator

Therese Caffey, one of our North Texas Affiliates, died January 18. She was a faithful Affiliate who spent her life working to spread the gospel to young and old alike.

Therese was a friend and inspiration to me and an able colleague in doing mission education, although she was born with cerebral palsy, contracted polio, and had trouble walking.

Learn more about her in the article I wrote for the September 2016 *Maryknoll Magazine*: (<https://www.maryknollmagazine.org/2016/09/mission-came-to-her/>).



Please notify Ginny McEvoy (gabby.mcevoy@yahoo.com) about departed Affiliates, including a link to their obituary or other information about their involvement in Maryknoll. Ginny has sought to remember Deceased Affiliates with a picture and obituary in a Deceased Affiliates binder which recalls their contributions to Maryknoll and the Affiliates. A memorial Mass is held periodically to remember our recently departed Affiliates.

News from the Board

GRANT PROGRAM MOVING FORWARD

Manny Hotchkiss – Affiliate Board, Finance

The Maryknoll Affiliate Mission Grant program, which aims to encourage mission efforts of Maryknoll Affiliates inspired by the Four Pillars of the Affiliate Movement, has received and approved two grant applications already!

The first approved grant, focusing on Spirituality, was submitted by the Baltimore-Washington Maryknoll Affiliates to fund a virtual retreat. Entitled, "Opening our Hearts as We Take Up Our Cross: Inward, Outward Journey" the retreat was offered in conjunction with the Little Friends for Peace organization. To encourage Spanish-speaking Affiliates to attend, Spanish translation was provided. See Roxanne Hughes-Wheatland's article on page 4.

The second grant application, promoting Global Vision and Action, comes from the Northeast Ohio Chapter. Two members are planning a humanitarian trip to Poland and requested funds to purchase formula and baby supplies, which are badly needed, while there. Traveling from May 2-14, they will be working with Warsaw-based Poland Humanitarian Action, assisting Ukrainian refugees at the Polish border.

To receive a Mission Grant application form, please email mannyhotchkiss@yahoo.com.



**DID YOUR
UNDERSTANDING
GROW?**

Please share what you learned at the April 30th Mini-MAC 2022. Did you enjoy Wini Wolff's presentation? This

could be the basis of a great discussion at your next chapter meeting. Please also share your thoughts on evolutionary spirituality with the NSFA, at NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com.



VIRTUAL SYNOD THROUGH JUSTFAITH

Pope Francis has asked the Church to become "synodal"—listening and "journeying together." JustFaith Ministries is working with Cathy Harmon-Christian, Program Coordinator for Moving Towards Synodality, to provide you with an opportunity to share your truth about your experience of church (both past and present). You do not have to be Roman Catholic to participate. The world, and everyone in it, benefits from your voice!

Your responses are sacred, holy, and will remain confidential. They will be gathered without alteration and shared anonymously with the Vatican, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and all 32 US Roman Catholic Archdioceses. The results will also be published so they may benefit the wider Christian community, as well.

This link takes you to a 5-10 minute, four-question survey about your experience of church: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JFM_Synodality. Please respond to the survey by May 15, 2022. If you have any questions, you can contact Cathy Harmon-Christian directly at synodality@gmail.com.

Not So Far Afield
Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers
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