



News From Home

MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL HOME
6825 NATURAL BRIDGE ROAD
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63121
314-383-4765
www.mogch.org

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FEBRUARY 2019

A Few Thoughts from Sr. M. Christine

Dear Friends,

I often receive or find articles that I consider useful for my monthly letter. Below is one that I received last year. Although the author is unknown, I realized it would be a fitting story for the month of February:

Years ago, there was a very wealthy man who, with his devoted young son, shared a passion for art collecting. Together they traveled around the world, adding only the finest art treasures to their collection. Priceless works by Picasso, Van Gogh, Monet and many others adorned the walls of the family estate. The widowed, elder man looked on with satisfaction as his only child became an experienced art collector. The son's trained eye and sharp business mind caused his father to beam with pride as they dealt with art collectors around the world.

As winter approached, war engulfed the nation, and the young man left to serve his country. After only a few short weeks, his father received a telegram. His beloved son was missing in action. The art collector anxiously awaited more news, fearing he would never see his son again. Within days, his fears were confirmed. The young man had died while rushing a fellow soldier to a medic.

Distraught and lonely, the old man faced the upcoming Christmas holidays with anguish and sadness. The joy of the season, a season that he and his son had so looked forward to, would visit his house no longer. On Christmas morning, a knock on the door awakened the depressed old man. As he walked to the door, the masterpieces of art on the walls only reminded him that his son was not coming home.

As he opened the door, he was greeted by a soldier with a large package in his hand. He introduced himself to the man by saying, "I was a friend of your son. I was the one he was rescuing when he died. May I come in for a few moments? I have something to show you." As the two began to talk, the soldier told of how the man's son had told everyone of him, not to mention his father's love of fine art. "I'm an artist,"

said the soldier, "and I want to give you this." As the old man unwrapped the package, the paper gave way to reveal a portrait of the son.

Though the world would never consider it the work of a genius, the painting featured the young man's face in striking detail. Overcome with emotion, the man thanked the soldier, promising to hang the picture over the fireplace. A few hours later, after the soldier had departed, the old man set about his task.

True to his word, the painting went well above the fireplace, pushing aside thousands of dollars of paintings. And then the man sat in his chair and spent Christmas gazing at the gift he had been given. During the days and weeks that followed, the man realized that even though his son was no longer with him, the boy's life would live on because of those he had touched. He would soon learn that his son had rescued dozens of wounded soldiers before a bullet stilled his caring heart.

As the stories of his son's gallantry continued to reach him, fatherly pride and satisfaction began to ease the grief. The painting of his son soon became his most prized possession, far eclipsing any interest in the pieces for which museums around the world clamored. He told his neighbors it was the greatest gift he had ever received.

The following spring, the old man became ill and passed away. The art world was in anticipation! With the collector's passing, and his only son dead, those paintings would be sold at an auction. According to the will of the old man, all of the art works would be auctioned on Christmas day, the day he had received his greatest gift. The day soon arrived and art collectors from around the world gathered to bid on some of the world's most spectacular paintings. The auction began with a painting that was not on any museum's list. It was the painting of the man's son. The auctioneer asked for an opening bid. The room was silent.

(continued on pg. 2)







MILESTONES

Continued from pg 1


Welcome New Residents

Fr. Richard Creason 
Arthur Oetjen
Ann O'Toole
Anne Rebstock
Joseph Waing

With Deepest Sympathy

Fr. Francis Brennan
Renee Dumene
 *Arthur Oetjen*
Frances Potts
Mary Catherine Rodgers

February Birthdays Residents

Gloria Jones—1st
Rosemary Kilian—3rd
Louise Naumann—7th 

Staff Members

Danita Howard—3rd
May McPherson—5th
Tynesha Steed—9th
Augustine Lee—11th
Gloria Stanton—18th
Denise Evans—18th
Marsha Heine—20th
Scotia Donelson—20th

"Who will open the bidding with \$100?" he asked. Minutes passed. No one spoke. From the back of the room came, "Who cares about that painting? It's just a picture of his son. Let's forget it and go on to the good stuff."

More voices echoed in agreement. "No, we have to sell this one first," replied the auctioneer. "Now, who will take the son?" Finally, a friend of the old man spoke, "Will you take ten dollars for the painting? That's all I have. I knew the boy, so I'd like to have it."

I have \$10.00. Will anyone go higher?" called the auctioneer. After more silence, the auctioneer said, "Going once, going twice. Gone." The gavel fell, cheers filled the room and someone exclaimed, "Now we can get on with it and we can bid on these treasures!"

The auctioneer announced the auction was over. Stunned disbelief quieted the room. Someone spoke up and asked, "What do you mean it's over? We didn't come here for a picture of some old guy's son. What about all of these paintings? There are millions of dollars of art here! I demand that you explain what's going on here!" The auctioneer replied, "It's very simple. According to the will of the father, whoever takes the son... gets it all."

Just as those art collectors discovered on that Christmas day, the message is still the same: the love of a Father, a Father whose greatest joy came from His Son, who went away and gave His life rescuing others. And because of that Father's love, "whoever takes the Son, gets it all."

God bless each of you!

Sister M. Christine, FSGM

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**"For God so loVed the world
That He gAve
His onLy
BegottEn
SoN**

**That whosoever
Believeth In Him
Should Not perish
But have Everlasting life."**

John 3:16

February Potluck!



Join us February 12th at 5 p.m. in the Activity Hall for our monthly potluck! The Home will supply the gumbo, red beans & rice, drinks, and dessert. Please bring a voluminous side dish to share. If you plan to attend please contact Sr.M.Juliana at smjuliana@mogch.org or ext. 178, sign up at the front desk, or tell a member of the Activity Staff. Sign up sheets to be posted February 1st.

March Potluck

Save the date for our St. Patrick's Day potluck on Tuesday, March 13 at 5:00 p.m. Join us in the Activity Hall for food and fellowship. See the March News From Home for details.

Watch your mailboxes for your quilt raffle tickets! If you are not on the mailing list, contact Marsha Heine at mheine@mogch.org



2019 TRIVIA NIGHT HELP NEEDED

WE NEED YOU to support the 2019 trivia night if you can. The event wouldn't happen without the support of many people. No amount of help is too small. Our theme this year is “**Through the Decades - The 70's, 80's and 90's**”. Below are some of the ways you can donate or help!

1. Monetary donations for supplies needed.
2. Donate new or almost new items that can be raffled in baskets or auctioned.
3. Donate memorabilia or antiques, especially White Castle, Pepsi, Coke, signs, etc.
4. Donate gift cards, tickets to shows or events, attractions or for services. Especially needed are gift cards from Amazon, White Castle, Target, Walmart or any area popular chain restaurants. Amazon cards will be used to purchase items to compliment baskets/auction items already being assembled.
5. Donate a themed basket for our basket raffle.
6. 12 packs of Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite (need in March). These items will be served at the Trivia Night and/or to supplement baskets and silent auction items.
7. Let us know if someone you know in a business can make a donation. We will make the appropriate contacts.

Thank you in advance for whatever you do to help make the 2019 Trivia Night a success!!! Please bring items/donations to one of the Sisters or contact Dave Barnhart at (314) 452-0946 or email Dave at barnharts2000@msn.com

February Coming Events

Playing Cards/Games—Mondays Bingo—Tuesdays and Thursdays
Exposition/Benediction—1 Pianoman—6 Birthday Party—6 Potluck —12
St. Valentine's Party—14 Sing-A-Long w/Ed—20
Round Table/Fold News From Home— 28



Wacky Valentine's Day Wordies

Each of the word puzzles below is a visual representation of a common word or phrase associated with Valentine's Day. Can you decipher them?

HEAD
HEELS

1. _____

tiVALne

2. _____

a b d E f g i j
k L m n O p q
s u V x

3. _____

CHOC
S O
ETAL

4. _____

Cupid

5. _____

→ 12/04/1867
5/18/1915
3/26/2003
8/30/1982

6. _____

LOI'MVE

7. _____

HUG

8. _____

roses roses
roses roses
roses roses
roses roses
roses roses
roses roses

9. _____

4
4 You
4
4

10. _____

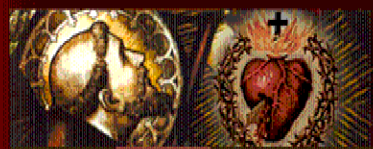
Feb Feb Feb Feb
Feb Feb Feb Feb
Feb Feb Feb Feb
Feb Feb

11. _____

Q P D

12. _____

1. Head over heels 2. Valentine 3. Love letters 4. Box of chocolates 5. Cupid's arrow 6. First date 7. I'm in love 8. Big hug 9. Dozens of roses 10. Falling for you 11. February 14 12. Cupid



SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS
OF THE MARTYR ST. GEORGE

Visit our Community's website:
www.altonfranciscans.org