



**NEWS – US LAY ASSOCIATES
SISTERS OF CHARITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

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“This is my Body, this is my Blood” ---The feast of Corpus Christi gives us a special time to reflect on the Sacrament of Life – our life and the life of our spiritual community. Jesus is present in the eucharist and in the body of the faithful we meet and greet sometimes daily and often weekly at Mass. As we look at each person we can say, “Jesus said the words at the institution of the eucharist for each one of the persons I see before me.” With me, they are the Body of Christ.

Going to Adoration when it is available in the parish is one way to reflect on the fact that that Body and Blood are for all of us to nourish ourselves and be able to say, “I am the Body of Christ”.

Brother Matthew Marie, OSB, says in an article on the Eucharist: “Take time to pray before the Blessed

Sacrament. Take the time to contemplate Jesus before you, even if not during public Adoration. Take the time to know Him in the quiet and get to know yourself all the more. Do not give up this amazing practice. Remember, whatever we are looking for awaits us in the Eucharist.”

MAGNIFICAT HUMANITAS, On Safeguarding the Human Person on the Age of Artificial

Intelligence Pope Leo’s first encyclical was signed on May 15, 2026, the exact same day that his predecessor Pope Leo XIII signed his encyclical Rerum Novarum in 1891.

You might not be a theologian. You might not read Vatican documents. But if you own a smartphone, use social media, worry about your future, care about justice, or are simply trying to live your faith in a world that feels increasingly confusing and inhuman, this encyclical was written for you. A fitting comment was that it was like a stone falling in water sending ripples across the entire Church. This comment summarizes what is being circulated across the world regarding this timely document.

The main criticism is asking why the Pope is focused on technology rather than the sacraments, prayer, salvation. The argument against “Rerum Novarum”, which focused on

workers' rights and the Industrial Revolution received similar outcries.

Pope Leo XIV's response: "The proclamation of the Gospel cannot overlook the concrete lives of people. And right now, the concrete lives of people are being shaped profoundly and rapidly by artificial intelligence".

Magnifica Humanitas is 48 pages and five chapters long. You can purchase a copy of Pope Leo XIII's encyclical on Amazon books or at local bookstores.

You created my inmost
Being; you knit me
together
in my mother's womb.
I praise you because
I am fearfully
and wonderfully made.



JULY

July 10

Miguel Briseño

July 18

Greg Davidson

July 13

Mary Ann Colín

July 24

Olga Alvarado

July 16

Anne Ettipio

July 29

Mary Lou Peters

St. Louis1 Associate Community Celebrates Two Initial Commitments



St. Louis 1 Community members:

Standing: Mary Farmer, Alice Weis, Mary Lou Peters, Sr. Eileen O'Keeffe

Seated: Jane Goeke, Mary Ann Lause

Jane Goeke - Initial Commitment statement: Dear Jesus, thank you for loving me despite my many doubts and imperfections. I am so grateful that you have led me to this group of holy women. Thank you for opening my mind to a greater comprehension of Incarnational Spirituality. I strive to live a life that respects, loves and accepts others, yet I know that I need you to continue to keep me on that path and help me when my humanness gets in the way. I'm still a work in progress. I believe in the sacredness of life of every human being and are worthy of your love. I ask that you walk with me as I strive to love others as you love me. Thank you for leading me to this group of holy women at a time when I was thirsting for

support and growth in my spiritual life. Thank you for opening my mind and heart to increase my understanding and devotion in living life in the spirit of Incarnational Spirituality. I pray with your help to continue to strengthen my relationship with You, your Holy Father and the Holy Spirit and be steadfast in my support and love of all humanity and of the Incarnate Word Community as an Associate Member.

Mary Ann Lasuse – Initial Commitment Statement: St. Augustine said: “Our heart is restless until it rests in Thee”. My spiritual journey had this restlessness, but I had been unsure how to “rest in Thee”. While searching for this I was invited to join the Incarnate Word Associate group. This is where I became acquainted with Incarnational Spirituality being an instrument of Christ and his hands and feet in the world.

I have been a member of the Peace and Justice Committee at my parish. I have learned the importance of prayer and contemplation as so necessary to do positive work for social Justice. I realized I needed support in my prayer life as I ravel on this journey. Being with the Incarnate Word associate group of women. I am more aware of Christ’s presence in our lives. It encourages me to live his gospel teachings and to love my neighbors as he loves me.

The prayers and world experiences we share in our meetings are catalysts to being Christ to everyone I meet. This is not an easy task but being committed to learning and sharing how to grow in Incarnational Spirituality is helping me to “rest in Thee”.

Betsy Lauf, long time member of the Jeanne de Matel Associate community in Jefferson City, MO, retired from her teaching position after 41 years in Catholic schools. Betsy has served as a teacher and school administrator over the years, but her passion was always the classroom. Of the 41 years, she is just completing 25 years at St. Peter’s elementary school in Jefferson City.

At her retirement party it was so rewarding to see the praise and admiration her colleagues, current and former parents and students felt for her. Betsy loved every one of her students and she taught with pure joy in her heart. Job well done, Betsy.

“The greatest legacy of a teacher is not in the lessons taught, but in the lives forever changed.”



Our congratulations to you Betsy. You may be leaving the school, but the world awaits as you continue working for peace and justice, women equality, migrants’ rights and so many other issues that have been so dear to your heart.

FOR COMMUNITY REFLECTION: *The paragraphs below are from our Associate Handbook and are printed for community reflection. The member planning the monthly topic is asked to present this material for meditation and sharing.*

The Periodic Need for Renewal

Communities are living organisms and need their "daily bread." So, it seems appropriate to have an "annual checkup" of our individual and community commitments, to deliberately take the time to focus on the health and vitality of our communities.

As a community we might ask, "How are we doing? How are we getting along with each other?" "Are we getting stale?" As an individual, each member might ask, "What's the status of my vocation, am I called?"

A reality that occasionally needs to be dealt with in these self-assessments is a discovery that one or more members of the community are no longer called to be associates or part of the community. These situations can be dealt with straightforwardly with love. People change. Healthy communities are made up of people who are called to be there. When a person is not called, or is ready for, or is called to something different, we need to help them let go; and then let them go with our love and best wishes.

During this self-assessment, the community can review gathering times, format, and content to see if changes need to be made. 'The community needs to identify formation needs, for example, if we don't know what we're doing and why we're doing it, then why in the world are we doing this? There is also nothing like introducing something new to the formula to energize a community. In other words, breathe new life into our communities and the communities will give new life to us.

Bringing new members into the community will certainly stimulate new life, not only because of the participation of a new person, but also, because the entire community will benefit from the process of bringing the new member into the fold as a committed Associate.

A graphic for Father's Day featuring the word "HAPPY" in small, spaced-out capital letters above the words "Father's day" in a large, elegant, cursive script. The text is surrounded by several blue water droplets of varying sizes, some appearing to splash or fall. A thick, black, curved brushstroke underline is positioned beneath the cursive text.

HAPPY
Father's day