



The Credo of Mother Anne-Marie manifests the foundation of her deep faith
and of her spirituality.

By Mother Anne-Marie Audet

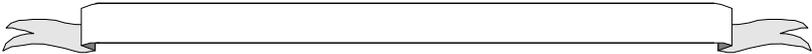
I believe in you, Oh loving God, giver of all life,
yesterday, today and tomorrow
I believe in you, Oh God of love, of tenderness,
of fondness, of mercy, present to everyday life.
I believe in you, Creator of seasons in nature and in man's life.

- you make the buds of hope break forth
-you make the flowers and fruits of summer grow
-you are the masters of your harvest
-you let the ground sleep in the cold of winter
-and you awaken life at the return of spring

Beneath your gaze everything grows and asserts yourself.

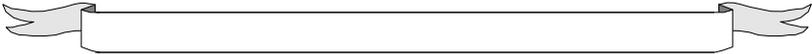
I believe in the Beauty in the goodness of man
created in your image.
I believe in Jesus, your son, your likeness,
your word, your Love made man
in order to give your life to men.
I believe in your living and active presence in my sacred
history, together with your Son and your spirit.
I believe in the grain of wheat that dies
in order to bear fruit.
I believe in the life that springs forth,
from your daily dyings.
I believe in my life each day in you,
Oh God of love and tenderness,
living God, with your son and Holy Spirit
forever and ever

Amen
Sister Anne-Marie Audet



Sr. Gloria Schultz named new District Superior

The Sisters of St. Paul of the USA District welcome Sr. Gloria Schultz again as District Superior. Sr. Gloria was the District leader from 2003 – 2006, then worked in Pastoral Care at Bishop Noa Home and later transferred to our convent in Washington DC. Sr. Gloria will begin her 3-year term in December 2007. She will be assisted by two District Council members, Sr. Rosalie Hughes and Sr. Marie Kim.



OTHER USA DISTRICT NEWS **SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER**

Sr. Mary Ann Laurin has been appointed 1st assistant to the General Council in Rome during September for a 6-year term. She will fly to Rome on December 19th.

Sr. Maria Pham has a new ministry with St. Peter's Cathedral as minister to the homebound and elderly. She started in September.

Sr. Rosaline Charoentavit will be starting a new ministry with St. Rita's Parish in Trenary in January.

Sr. Therese Vu is serving at the Bishop Noa Home as Pastoral Care Minister.

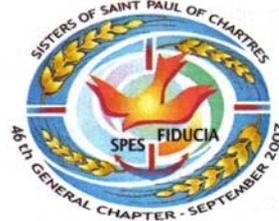
Sr. Marie Claire Tuballa went to the Philippines to visit her family in September.

Sr. Marie Kim Phuong has returned from tending to her mother in Oklahoma.

Paulinian Sisters hold General Chapter

Sr. Rosalie Hughes from Escanaba and Sr. Mary Ann Laurin, from Marquette joined sixty-nine other members of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres in Rome from September 6 to September 28, 2007 for their General Chapter. The members included the Superior General and her Council of four Assistants, the Major Superiors and the delegates chosen by the Sisters of each of the 13 Provinces, 7 Districts, and 4 Regions of the congregation.

Using the theme “Strong in Hope, Fearless We Go” (2 Cor. 3:12), the Chapter members began with a Mass



at the tomb of St. Peter. This was followed by three days of retreat. Following the retreat, we spent 10 days in study, prayer, discussion and synthesizing. Using the image of widening their tents and opening their doors wide (Isaiah 54:2-3), we chose to open four doors: Door 1 - Expanding our Missionary Horizons for More Universal Openness; Door 2 - Providing Ourselves with a Strong Spirituality for Today; Door 3 - Building Authentic Religious Communities; and Door 4 - Developing a Partnership of Responsibility for the Unity and Future of the Congregation.

Following these days, we had days of quiet prayer and reflection to prepare for the election of the Superior General and her Council. Guidelines for discernment



Sr. Mary Ann and Sr. Rosalie listening to the translations at the

were given, and the silence was conducive to listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit. After these days, the voting process began. The results of the election are: Sr. Myriam Kitcharoen from Thailand re-elected as Superior General. Sr. Mary Ann Laurin from the United States elected as the First Assistant. Sr. Saint Jean Tranh from Vietnam elected as the Second Assistant. Sr. Monique Gaudron from France elected as the Third Assistant and Sr. Maria Goretti Lee from Korea elected as the Fourth Assistant. These Sisters will serve a six-year term from 2007 to the next General Chapter in 2013.

Near the end of the Chapter, the Capitulants celebrated Mass at the Basilica of St. Paul outside the walls, imploring the intercession of their patron in carrying out the directives decided upon for the next six years.

The Chapter closed on September 28, 2007 with a special Mass of thanksgiving in commemoration of the death anniversary of Marie Anne de Tilly, one of the co-founders of our Congregation.

By Sr. Antoinette Besoin
(Delegate from the Philippines)



*Members of the Sisters of St. Paul at the
General Chapter in Rome.*

Christmas, a Season of Readiness

As I reflect on the seasons of Advent and Christmas, I think of Mary. She offered her entire self to God - mind, heart, body, and soul -- not knowing exactly what would be asked of her at each moment, but ready to respond to all God's calls to her. I also remember Paul's readiness -- first his zeal for what he thought was God's will -- to persecute the Christians, and then after his conversion -- to bring the Good News of Jesus to the ends of the earth. May we also be ready to discern and to follow all of God's calls to us even though we don't know where this will lead us.

I think of the comings of Jesus -- historically at that first Christmas; presently -- in his Eucharistic presence; and in the future -- in his coming as King. With all the darkness in the world, we need the Light of Christ. With all the violence in our world, we need the Peace of Christ, and with all the despair in our world, we need the Joy and Hope that Christ brings. I pray that we will always be ready to meet him, to receive him, to see him in others, and to bring him to others -- not only at Christmas, but all during the year!

—Sr. Mary Ann Laurin



Please, Remember us in your will.

When you write or review your will, please consider leaving a charitable bequest. Ask your attorney to include such words as these: *“I give, devise or bequeath to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Paul, 1300 County Road 492, Marquette, MI 49855-9632, for its general purposes, all (or state fraction) of the rest, residue or remainder of my estate, whether real or personal.”* Or *“I give to the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres, 1300 County Road 492, Marquette, MI 49855-9632, the sum of _____ dollars to be used for the general purposes of the Sisters of St. Paul.”*

Note: “Congregation of the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres” is a legal title of the Sisters of St. Paul.



Mother Ann Marie Audet



Birth: May 15, 1923
Entrance to the Community:
July 13, 1942
Entrance into the Novitiate:
May 23, 1943
First Profession: August 22, 1945
Perpetual Profession: August 25,
1950
Death: June 24, 2007 in St. Anne
des Monts, Canada

Sr. Anne-Marie Audet was born in Canada and entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres in 1942. She served as a teacher and later as a director of the Normal School in Montreal. After studies in Religious Science and Formation, she was named Director of Formation for the Sisters of St. Paul in Canada. From 1976 – 1987, she served as Provincial Superior of the Province of Canada.

Mother Anne-Marie was elected as the General Superior of the Congregation in 1989, and served two terms 1989 –2001. After her second term in office, she returned to Canada and devoted some time to writing her memoirs. So far, it is only written in French. The title translated into English is “Tell Me, Sr. Anne, What Did You See along the Way?”





Peru

Sister Jeanne Cattin, writing to Mother Myriam after the earthquake, which struck the country on August 15, 2007, describes the situation after her visit to our Sisters in Chincha, which is situated five kilometers from the epicenter.

Scenes of Death and Tragedy

Dear Mother Myriam,

I just came back from my trip to Chincha, Peru, where we brought food, water and supplies as much as our two vans could contain. Benefactor friends lent these to us. We were not able to carry all, but we are returning there in three days.

The Sisters were happy to see us, recounting their fear and all they have done for the people in the neighborhood. The dead were buried; the families live, eat and sleep in the streets or in the public squares. There are long lines of people waiting for food and water. There is still no water or electricity and electric wires are hanging like cobwebs all over the place.

The government and the Peruvians responded with an amazing spirit of solidarity. Help - national and international - is pouring in. The humble contribution we can offer is likewise very much appreciated as there are always those who are forgotten. The Sisters sleep with

their habits on, because the aftershocks are very frequent and they are scared.

Our Sisters in Chincha are helping very much, participating in the organized food distribution, jointly supported by the Police and the Parish, which received most of the donations. In this way, abuses are avoided.

Sister Lida leads the youth volunteers to organize and do the daily distribution of goods, so that everyone receives the necessary help. People trust the religious authorities more, so donations received are stored in the parish and guarded by the police. Despite everything, people remain full of hope. *"In our family, we are all alive and we will strive to rebuild. For the moment all we need is food and water."*

People sleep outside even though their houses are still intact. They are afraid to sleep inside due to the milder, but repeated, aftershocks - more than 800 in all.

It is so difficult to recount all the sadness and all the hard realities that we have gone through, so let me just enclose as a sort of reflection on all that I heard, saw and read.

In this town the 6:30 evening Mass was almost over, and at the

very moment the priest said: "Go, the Mass is finished", the earth shook and they were all crushed under the debris of the church's dome. The priest was found alive three days after.

It took more than 12 hours before people came and found the dead, except for a mother who came earlier and found her son, just in time, clinging to a pillar. The bodies were laid on the square fronting the church, where relatives and other curious onlookers stared at them. The President, the Prime Minister and the President of the Congress, who came to look, did not know what to say. It is too painful to see such suffering.

We hear of others suffering in other parts of the world, but it is different when we are too close to the events. We are at a loss for words of consolation... we can only offer an embrace.

Sr. Jeanne Cattin
District Superior
Peru - Colombia

*As our Christmas gift to you,
we offer a Novena of Masses
during the Advent and Christmas season.
These masses are offered for your intentions and those of your
families and loved ones –
both living and deceased.*



The Children of a Catholic elementary school were lined up in the cafeteria for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note and posted it on the apple tray: "Take only one. God is watching."

Further down the line was a large pile of cookies. A child had written at note: "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

Sister — Who are you?

I was about four years old and asking a lot of questions: “Why does it get dark at night?” “Where does the sun go?” “How come bees sting?” My parents had taught me about God and Jesus, and had taught me to pray a few children’s prayers. They had explained that God knows everything and that he watches us, and so I asked: “How come we can’t see God?”

About this time, the Catholic newspaper, Our Sunday Visitor, started having some children’s pages. My favorite page had a picture of Jesus as a child about 6 years old. In this image, Jesus was portrayed looking straight at the reader, with his right hand sort of pointing at the reader. So I felt that Jesus was looking at me and talking to me. Beneath this image were some lines that I asked my mother to read to me. It said, “You I seek. You I mean. You, yes you. I love you.” Somehow I thought that Jesus was speaking to me. I cut out the picture and put it on the wall above my bed.

When I was six years old, some Sisters came to teach summer Catechism in my home parish of St. Bruno’s in Nadeau. It was my first time ever to see a Sister. There were no Sisters in our town. In Summer Vacation Bible School, I loved listening to their stories



Sr. Mary Ann Laurin

about Jesus. Another thing I enjoyed was sensing that they were so happy and loved God so much.

After that summer, at the beginning of second grade in public school, our teacher asked us to draw what we wanted to be when we grew up. I drew a woman teaching children. I explained that I wanted to be a Sister, but I didn’t know how to draw one. Later when I brought the picture home and talked about it with my mother, she told me that she used to work with the Sisters at St. Joseph-Lloyd Hospital in Menominee before she got married, and that she always liked “the nuns,” too.

These were the three things I wanted most in life: to be a mother, to be a Sister, and to be a teacher. In my youth, I didn’t realize you couldn’t be all three of those! It was only when I turned 13 or 14 that I realized that you

could be a mother and a teacher or a Sister and a teacher, but not a mother and a Sister. So, now I had a big decision to make.

One way that I weighed my choices was this: I remember that when I participated in an activity such as a school dance, a basketball game, or a school program, at night when I reflected on the day, I felt, “That was a happy time, but it doesn’t last – it’s over.” And when I participated in an activity such as going to church, reading the Bible, teaching catechism class, and later reflected on it, I felt, “That was a happy time, and I still feel happy.”

When I was a junior in high school, one teacher asked us to give a speech on what we wanted be when we grew up. I prayed a lot and as I reflected, I realized that what I wanted most in life was to have a close relationship with God and to help others to come closer to God. So, I decided that, for sure, I wanted to become a Sister. Now, I needed to decide on what kind of Sister I wanted to be, and what order I would join.

I talked with my pastor, Fr. Gino Ferraro, and he suggested that I read books about the saints, especially those who had been Sisters. I read about St. Therese of Lisieux, and stories of other saints. And even though I read stories about them, I really didn’t know much about being a Sister.

I found addresses of various convents in the Sunday Visitor and Catholic Digest and wrote to several orders. I also talked with the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity and the School Sisters of Notre Dame who came different summers for Bible School. There were many questions I had – of greater or lesser importance. I wanted to know if I had to have my head shaved. (No.) I wondered if the Sisters whom I met missed their families. (Yes. You wouldn’t be normal if you didn’t miss them, but if you got married, you would be leaving home, too.) Was it easy to pray? (Sometimes “yes” and sometimes “no.”) Was it boring being a nun? (“Not yet, at least!”)

My mother didn’t want me to go to the convent right after high school, so after high school, I worked in Chicago as a Mother’s Helper and then at Frigo’s Cheese Factory in Carney. I started going to Mass during the week when I could. And I used to stop in the church from time to time to pray. I really wanted to be sure that God was calling me to be a Sister.

My pastor suggested that I make a retreat at Marygrove, so I joined a “Business Woman’s Retreat.” The director, Msgr. Ronald Bassett, gave me literature on the Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres, a new order that had just come into the Diocese a couple of years earlier. I wanted



to find out about this order, and went to visit them with Fr. Ferraro and a carload of other young women from the parish.

What impressed me about the Sisters of St. Paul was their hospitality and sincerity. I found them comfortable to be with. They seemed to me to be “human” and yet “holy.” The four novices who were there shared with me some of their experiences, such as wearing “granny shoes” and black stockings. They told me about the special prayer times Sisters had, some of the work the Sisters did, and what it was like in a religious community. I could see how happy they were. I didn’t feel pressured to join, but my heart “leaped with joy” as I anticipated becoming one of them.

After talking with my parents and getting more information about joining the order, I went for a second visit. At that time, I made arrangements with the novice director to enter the convent on January 24th, the day before the great feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, our patron.

In those days, the Sisters of our order were only allowed one home visit every 5 years. I knew that although my family could come to visit me, it would be hard not going home for such a long time. The morning that I left home, I went to each of my eleven sisters and brothers and sisters to say “Good-

bye.” It wasn’t until I kissed my 3 year-old baby sister, Gladys, that I started to cry. I realized that I wouldn’t be there to see her grow up. That was the most difficult “good-bye” of my life, and I cried all during the two-hour trip from Carney to Marquette.

My parents, my older brother, Alvin, and my future sister-in-law, Claudia, drove me to Marquette. Our first convent was the old Holy Family Orphanage building on Altamont Street. There were four novices already there and one other young woman who entered when I did. The novices were all Americans. The novice director was Canadian. The Superior was Irish, and all the other professed Sisters were Canadian, Irish, French, or Filipino.

A memory I have of my first year in the convent is that I was so enthralled with having a deep and growing friendship with Jesus, that I wished all Christians, and especially all Catholics would have that experience. (I would have wanted everybody to be a Sister.) Now, after more than 35 years, I still feel that this vocation is the best of all vocations.

I am so glad that I followed God’s call to me. Every day God continues to call me to belong totally to Him. With God’s grace, my answer will always be “Yes!”

— Sr. Mary Ann Laurin

God is All-Sufficient for the Coming Year

Standing at the portal
Of the opening year.

Words of comfort meet us,
Hushing every fear.

Spoken through the silence
By our Father's voice,

Tender, strong, and faithful,
Making us rejoice.

"I, the Lord, am with you;
Never be afraid.

I will help and strengthen;
Do not be dismayed.

Yes, I will uphold you,
With my own right hand,

You are called and chosen.
In my sight to stand.

For the year before us,
Oh, what rich supplies!

For the poor and needy
Living streams shall rise;

For the sad and sinful
Shall his grace abound;

For the faint and feeble
Perfect strength be found.

He will never fail us,
He will not forsake;

His eternal covenant
He will never break.

Resting on His promise,
What have we to fear

God is all-sufficient
For the coming year.

Something To Think About....

When the holidays come around each year—beginning at Thanksgiving—generous folks begin calling to help. One day, we got a call from a woman who was frustrated because none of the agencies she spoke to had something she could do on Christmas morning. Unfortunately, neither did we.

The call caused some laughter and also some sadness. The holidays always stimulate peoples generosity — and that's good. People here deserve to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas along with the rest of the community. But a truly generous heart cannot set conditions. Love knows no seasonal limits.

So, here's a modest suggestion. If you serve Thanksgiving dinner or bring Christmas presents to the needy, stop and think. Many of the people you feed or the children you bless with your gifts will still be there in February, April and September — and every other season of the year. If it feels good to be generous during the holidays, think how it might feel to bring that same spirit another day, perhaps a day when no one else thought to open his or her generous heart. And then — let the Spirit guide you!



Thank you

The Sisters of St. Paul would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all that have sent in donations since our last newsletter.



American Martyrs Parish, Kingsford, MI
 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Adamini, Marquette, MI
 B. A. Beyers, M.D., Bethesda, MD
 Patrick Brennan, Marquette, MI
 Ruth Depetro, Marquette, MI
 Mr. & Mrs. Orville Dishno, Marquette, MI
 In honor of Sr. Felicienne
 Lorraine Dupras, Marquette, MI
 In Memory of Rosemary Foor
 Russell Dupras, Escondido, CA
 In Memory of Rosemary Foor
 Margaret A. Finnerty, Escanaba, MI
 *Bishop Noa Home Chapel, Escanaba
 Dorothy Giovannini, Kalamazoo, MI
 Annette Greene, Marquette, MI
 Joseph & Judy Gregorich, Marquette, MI
 In Memory of George & Agnes Gregorich
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 Joseph & Marie Sullivan, Marquette, MI
 Maria A. Terry, Bethesda, MD
 Laverne K. Texmunt, Marquette, MI
 Rita M. Walsh
 Rita Willour, Marquette, MI
 In Memory of Loved Ones
 James Ziminski, Garden, MI

Renovation Update

Not much news -- The summary of the renovation project in Marquette is to put in a small elevator where the single bathroom is and to renovate 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms rooms on the 2nd floor to make them handicapped accessible. We were hoping to have the project well underway, but a “hitch” came with the incorrect elevator being recommended, and so we are waiting and waiting --- as is most appropriate for Advent (☺)

St. Ann's Convent— our convent In Washington DC





Want more information about becoming a Sister of St. Paul?

You may write or email Sr. Gloria Schultz at:

Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres

1300 County Road 492

Marquette, MI 49855

Email: gjschultz123@yahoo.com

Envelope Enclosed

We are enclosing an envelope for those who may wish to make a donation, write for information, be added to the mailing list or to add a friend to the mailing list, etc.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

_____ I wish to be added to your mailing list

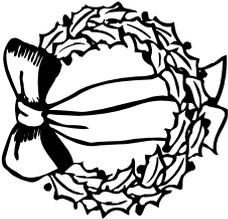
_____ I would like more information on becoming a Sister

_____ I would like information on including you in my will

_____ I wish to make a donation for _____



Sisters of St. Paul de Chartres
1300 County Road 492
Marquette, MI 49855



SPC NEWSLETTER
Christmas 2007

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