



South Central Community

# eneWS

WEEKLY COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

March 31, 2011

## HIGHLIGHTS

### In Memoriam

Sister Mary Jeanette Haas dies peacefully in Nashville, Tennessee.

### Institute Finances

Mega conference calls will begin in June, providing education about Institute finances.

## CALENDAR

### April 1-2

Local Area Gatherings for:  
– Belmont, North Carolina  
– Louisville, Kentucky  
– Mississippi Gulf Coast; Mobile, Alabama; Pensacola/St. Petersburg, Florida; New Orleans, Louisiana; No. Mississippi

### April 2

Local Area Gatherings for:  
– Birmingham, Alabama

### April 8-9

Local Area Gatherings for:  
– South Texas  
– Nashville/Knoxville/ Memphis, Tennessee

Sisters of Mercy –  
South Central Community  
101 Mercy Drive  
Belmont, NC 28012-2898  
704.829.5260  
www.mercysc.org

## ILC provides an opportunity for conversation and celebration

You, our sisters, associates, and friends, were very much with us during the bi-annual Institute Leadership Conference (ILC) meeting held last week in Belmont. It was a time for serious, in-depth conversation about current and future realities in the Institute (see attachments)—as well as a time for prayer and celebration of ILC members who are finishing their terms this summer.

On Thursday evening the ILC members participated in a blessing for the new Mercy Heritage Center, enjoyed tours, and were delighted with the building that will receive our Community and Institute archives over the next few years. That visit was followed by a lovely dinner at Curtin Hall on the Belmont campus. Blessings and tremendous gratitude for many years of service were offered for the Mid-Atlantic Leadership Team and the Institute Leadership Team. A blessing was also offered for Sister Rita Parks who is retiring from her service as administrative support to the ILT and the ILC since 1997.

We are all grateful for your prayers during this significant meeting and ask your continued prayers as we, the Institute, prepare together for our most important Chapter in June.



(top) Sister Dina Araceli Altamiranda Ortega (left) and Sister Kathy Green (right) exchange ideas during a table discussion.

(above) Sister Mary Waskowiak gave one of the blessings for the new Mercy Heritage Center that will house Community and Institute archives.

*Kathy Jane Marie Paetzler Angela Barbara*

## In Memoriam



*Sister Mary  
Jeanette Haas*

Sister Mary Jeanette Haas died peacefully Tuesday, March 29, 2011, surrounded by her Mercy sisters and family members at Mercy Convent in Nashville, Tennessee.

A Sister of Mercy for 61 years, she was 79 years old.

Sister Jeanette was an educator and administrator. She was the

Vice-President of Mission at Mercy Hospital in Owensboro, Kentucky, and Lourdes Hospital in Paducah.

Sister Jeanette was very creative and enjoyed nature and writing. She was committed to God and the Sisters of Mercy and had a deep reverence for God's people.

## A strategic plan is the next step for Mission Advancement



*Sister Mary McFadden, SSJ (top left), and Sister Madeline Franze, SSJ (top right), development consultants, present their Development Audit and Assessment Report to the Leadership Team in Belmont, North Carolina, on March 29, 2011. Sister Mary and Sister Madeline will begin working with Sister Ray Maria McNamara on the strategic plan for South Central's Mission Advancement department.*

## Mega Conference Calls

The Community Leadership Team will provide education for sisters regarding Institute finances by conducting mega conference calls in early June. Please note the call schedule so you can participate in one of these informative sessions.

### **CLT MEGA CALLS**

Thursday, June 2, 2 p.m., EDT

Thursday, June 2, 6:30 p.m., EDT

Friday, June 3, 2 p.m., EDT

Monday, June 6, 6:30 p.m., EDT

## Justice update

### **VOTER ID ISSUES**

Many states have passed or are proposing Voter ID laws requiring voters to present a government-issued photo ID. It's estimated that up to 12% of Americans do not have a photo ID. The people most affected are: the elderly, the poor, minorities, the disabled and college students. Strict photo ID requirements are intended to stop voter fraud, though it accounts for less than .001 percent of votes.

While polling places are in every neighborhood and have extended hours, locations issuing government photo ID's are harder to come by. People with limited income, the elderly, and hourly workers find accessing the offices difficult and costly—including transportation and lost wages.

Requiring government-issued photo ID's could mean more locations and extended hours for state offices. And fees for a government-issued ID would be equivalent to a poll tax, used in the past to exclude the poor and minorities from voting. The substantial voter outreach and public education efforts to ensure voters are aware of all the requirements are costly—the estimated cost of enacting a Voter ID law for the state of Missouri was more than \$20 million.

For more information on Voter ID issues, [click here](#).

# Giving a helping hand to Bhutanese refugees



*Bhutanese refugees Lacchi Dhimal and her son Buddha were in a refugee camp in Nepal for 19 years before relocating to Charlotte, North Carolina. Almost 600 Bhutanese refugees have settled here since January 2008.*

Mercy associates and sisters will meet Saturday, April 2 from 10 a.m.–noon, in the McAuley Conference Room (formerly the board room) in the Mercy Administration Center in Belmont to discuss ways to assist Bhutanese refugees in finding employment and to navigate the education, transportation and social service systems. For more information on local efforts, please contact Lincoln Sigwald, director of association, at [lsigwald@mercysc.org](mailto:lsigwald@mercysc.org).

## Job Opportunity

**DIRECTOR FOR OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS**  
Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio

- Will serve as liaison between the Archbishop and congregations of religious women and men in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati
- Networks among religious congregations regarding personnel and corporate needs and maintains sponsorship of programs of the office
- Initiates/supports collaborative efforts among religious congregations and provides consultation for individual religious and major superiors

- Coordinates the Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal
- Master's degree in theology/spirituality or equivalent experience; a deep appreciation of the lifestyle and role of the consecrated religious; good organizational skills; good oral and written communication skills

Please send a letter of interest, resume and application for employment ([click here](#)) to: Human Resources Office, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, 100 East Eighth Street, Cincinnati, OH, 45202 or send an e-mail to [humanresources@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:humanresources@catholiccincinnati.org). Application deadline is May 15, 2011.

## Frances Warde Retreat

A guided retreat for Mercy associates and sisters will provide insights on the life and personality of Frances Warde, American foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, on April 29-May 1 at the Mercy Administration Center in Belmont. To register for the retreat, [click here](#).

## Today's Attachments

- There are no directory changes for March 31, 2011.
- A Report on the ILC Meeting.
- Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar for April 2011.

## We look forward to your stories

We encourage you to submit stories and photos for *enews*.

Please remember to send them to Myra Joines, communications director, at [mjoines@mercysc.org](mailto:mjoines@mercysc.org) by Tuesday at noon Eastern Daylight Time. Thanks.

# A Report on the ILC Meeting

March 21-26, 2011 • Barbara Wheeley, RSM

The Institute Leadership Conference (ILC) meeting in Belmont last week had a very full agenda of very substantial topics regarding our Mercy life together. The first afternoon found us reviewing this ILC's final update on various Institute projects, including Mercy International Association (MIA), the Mercy Leadership Development Program, the Institute Sponsorship Formation Program development, Corporate Formalities and Anti-Racism. The ILC was pleased to note that the Companions in Mercy have emerged as an independent form of Mercy commitment and looks forward to staying in relationship with Companions around the charism and mission of Mercy.

"Retirement: Realities, Decisions, Consequences" was the topic for the second day, during which each Community shared their respective situations and concerns. Conversation focused on what aspects of the retirement issues could be engaged collectively for the common good. This initial sharing of ideas and practices was very helpful and there is much more study and conversation needed on this topic, e.g., regarding best practices.

Earlier meetings of the ILC have included sessions on visioning and planning for the Institute. Our facilitator, Marisa Guerin, led us through a very fruitful half-day process to plan for sharing our "storyboard" perspectives with Chapter delegates and our members in the Institute. That afternoon was spent in retreat led by the sisters from CCASA who also planned the prayers for each day of this meeting.

Institute Financial Planning was the focus for Thursday. Substantial work on the part of the Institute Finance Team (IFT) and its related ILC committee produced a clear overview of 1) the Institute Financial Picture and Projection Data and 2) a proposed document for Financial Education for Members. Member education on the Institute financial planning process and data is expected to take place in the course of the next few months; financial planning will also be a topic for the delegates to the Institute Chapter in June. The next steps with all of this information will be for the IFT, Communities and the ILC to use the data to continue our conversations throughout the Institute about present and future choices.

On Friday the Institute Communications Committee (ICC) presented the findings and recommendations from Big Duck regarding the public image project (many sisters and others participated in this research). The ILC offered suggestions for the workplan to be developed by the ICC and Institute Communications Advisors (ICA includes CLT liaisons and COO's). The ICC and ICA met on Sunday to set this plan in motion.

A proposal to support work on aligning the Institute Chapter, Assemblies and Community Elections cycles was offered by the ad hoc task force studying governance roles and responsibilities. Recognizing that flexibility in governance structures is likely to be needed in the future, the ILC decided to move forward and to talk in October about the best way to accomplish possible alignment.

Noting that Mercy International Association responsibilities (Baggot St., Global Outreach, etc.) are seriously underfunded into the future, Srs. Mary Waskowiak and Pat McDermott presented a Mercy International Association (MIA) fundraising project: 11-11-11. The ILC agreed to promote this project where possible, such as in ministries, local communities, and with associates. The project will extend from Mercy Day (9/24/11) through the anniversary of Catherine McAuley's death (11/11/11). Further information will be forthcoming from each Community.

Reflections on integration of all of the agenda topics, as well as finalizing actions and communications filled the remaining time.

**PEACE AND JUSTICE PRAYER CALENDAR APRIL 2011**

*Sexual Violence Awareness Month*

*Genocide Prevention Month*

<b>April 1</b>	Pray for the grace to be willing fools for Christ and those who are in need.
<b>April 2</b>	<b><i>World Autism Day</i></b> Pray for all those who are victims of sexual violence.
<b>April 3</b>	<b>Laetare (Rejoice!) Sunday</b> Pray for the end of violence in Darfur and for all victims of genocide, especially in Darfur, Bosnia, Rwanda, Cambodia and those who loved them.
<b>April 4</b>	<b><i>International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.</i></b> <b><i>School of Americas Days of Action across the USA.</i></b> <b>Martin L. King, Jr. killed in 1968.</b> Pray and advocate for the closing of the School of Americas. Pray for all victims of landmines and the safety of those living in areas with landmines. Pray for the end of racism.
<b>April 5</b>	<b>Day of Action for Sexual Violence.</b> Pray for the end of the death penalty and for Cleve Foster in Texas and Daniel Cook in Arizona scheduled for execution, the victims and their affected families.
<b>April 6</b>	<b>Feast of Blessed Diego Luis de San Vitores of Guam.</b> Pray for Wayne Kubsch scheduled for execution in Indiana, the victims and their affected families.
<b>April 7</b>	<b><i>Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Rwanda Genocide (1994).</i></b> Pray that the people of Rwanda live in peace.
<b>April 8</b>	<b>Buddha born in 536 BC.</b> Pray that people of all religions work towards an understanding and tolerance of one another.
<b>April 9</b>	Pray for the people of Japan as they recover from multiple disasters.
<b>April 10</b>	<b>The Good Friday Peace Agreement signed in Northern Ireland in 1998.</b> Pray that the people of Ireland prosper in a peaceful and just society.

<b>April 11</b>	<b>Pacem in Terra issued in 1963.</b> Pray for world peace, especially in Libya, Bahrain, Yemen, the Congo, Iraq, Afghanistan and Israel.
<b>April 12</b>	<b>Global Day of Action on Military Spending \$1.5 trillion spent on military.</b> Pray for those on death row, especially Clarence Carter scheduled for Execution in Ohio, the victim and their affected families.
<b>April 13</b>	Pray for all those recovering from the violence of War.
<b>April 14</b>	<b>Rachel Carson died in 1964.</b> <b>Pax Christi USA founded in 1972.</b> <b>Karen Klimczak SSJ Buffalo peace maker killed.</b> Pray in gratitude for Peacemakers who leave “peaceprints” on earth.
<b>April 15</b>	<b>War Tax Resistance Day.</b> Pray that governments use tax money for the needs of people rather than military build-up and war.
<b>April 16</b>	Pray for a compassionate, comprehensive, immigration reform Act.
<b>April 17</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b> Pray that leaders of nations work toward ending poverty and bringing about a just peaceful world.
<b>April 18</b>	<b>(Southern Poverty Law Information Center) 36 groups in Pennsylvania 31 groups in New York.</b> Pray for the conversion of hearts of the 1002 active hate groups’ members in the USA.
<b>April 19</b>	<b>Passover begins</b> Pray for peace in Israel.
<b>April 20</b>	<b>BP oil spill in 2010.</b> Pray for all those recovering from the effects of the Spill and those working to protect the sea and animal life and environment.
<b>April 21</b>	<b>Holy Thursday</b> Pray for a more inclusive ministry role for women in the Church and that all believers have the opportunity to celebrate Eucharist.

<p><b>April 22</b></p>	<p><b><i>Good Friday</i></b>  <b>International Earth Day.</b>          Pray for the 3000 persons on death row and the will to work for the preservation of endangered species on Earth.</p>
<p><b>April 23</b></p>	<p><b><i>Holy Saturday</i></b>          We pray for those persecuted for their religious beliefs.</p>
<p><b>April 24</b></p>	<p><b><i>Easter Sunday!!</i></b>          Pray for the grace to reflect the peace of the Risen Christ.</p>
<p><b>April 25</b></p>	<p>Pray for the repose of the souls of Martin Link, Frank Spisak, Michael Hall, Timothy Adams executed last month, the victims and their families.</p>
<p><b>April 26</b></p>	<p><b>Chernobyl Nuclear Accident in 1986.</b>          Pray for a nuclear free world.</p>
<p><b>April 27</b></p>	<p><b>Bishop Juan Gerardi Conedein Human Rights Martyr.</b>          Pray for the people of Latin America that they may experience peace and justice.</p>
<p><b>April 28</b></p>	<p><b><i>Workers Memorial Day</i></b>          Pray for all workers killed because of unsafe working conditions and for those who mourn their loss manmade disasters related to energy production.</p>
<p><b>April 29</b></p>	<p><b><i>Arbor Day</i></b>  <b><i>Feast of St. Catherine of Siena</i></b>          Pray for women in leadership in the Church and religious communities and in gratitude for the trees that give life and beauty to our world.</p>
<p><b>April 30</b></p>	<p><b><i>Yom Hashoah Holocaust Remembrance Day</i></b>  <b>Vietnam War ends in 1975.</b>          Pray for the end of violence in ourselves, our family, community and the World.</p>