



THE FONT

FALL 2018

FOSTERING CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE ORDER OF SAINT LUKE

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Find us on the Internet:
<http://saint-luke.net>

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The Order of Saint Luke
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FROM THE ABBOT'S DESK

And again [Jesus] said, "To what should I compare the kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." – Luke 13:20-21 (NRSV)*

Yeast. There is nothing attractive about yeast. It is dry. It is pale. It is gritty. Some might say that it is a lot like a liturgical scholar. Some might say that ... but not us. Our love of liturgy looks deeper than first appearances. We know that yeast is powerful. We know that liturgy is powerful. It is yeast that transforms a pile of flour into warm, fragrant bread. It is the yeast of liturgy that transforms an obligation to worship into a dance with the living, loving God.

As lovers of liturgy, it is sometimes easy to become discouraged. We look around and see how little the church understands and/or values good liturgy.

- Many of our church leaders either give low priority to the Sunday liturgy or see "formal" worship as a negative thing – something that repels potential new members
- Sunday services are more likely to be preacher-focused or music-focused than they are to be sacrament-focused
- Lay people have little to no exposure to liturgical/sacramental theology. Why do we do what we do? How does liturgy form us? What is our denomination's understanding of sacra-

ment? Is our understanding different from other denominations? Does it matter?

- We are caught between nostalgia for how the church used to be and the conviction that everything traditional needs to be rejected, but we don't have a vision for what the future of Christianity should look like.

It is easy for us to shake our heads and cry doom and gloom, but it is far more faithful to search for the good news hidden in this seemingly bad news. What are the opportunities that this reality presents to us? If we believe in the power of the liturgy to form us as Christians, how can we, as The Order of Saint Luke, help to unleash that power?

At our General Chapter meeting in October, we talked about unleashing that power. In fact, we talked about how The Order of Saint Luke can become yeast. The image seemed right, and the opportunities seem great.

As we talked, we realized that one common theme in our experience is the hunger of the laity for a deeper understanding of the sacraments and of our liturgy. We heard stories of "aha" moments when someone took the time to explain why we do what we do. That doesn't mean we should stop encouraging our denominational leaders to lift up the importance of the liturgy, but it does mean that we have a receptive, eager audience for what we are called to teach.

We talked about creating an intergenerational vacation Bible school curriculum based on the work of our Sister Carolyn Tanner. (If you haven't seen her publica-

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Sr. Abbot
Elizabeth Moore

RESQUIESCAT EN PACE

Sr. Mabel Ethel Sigmon Doser (1929-2015)

Sr. Mabel Ethel Sigmon Doser was 86 years old and lived in Lincolnton, North Carolina, when she died on Monday, November 30, 2015. Sr. Doser was born July 28, 1929, in Gaston County. She was preceded in death by her parents, James Pinkney Alexander Sigmon and Zetta Mae Ballard Sigmon. Sr. Doser worked as an administrative secretary for Duke Power.



pointed to the charge. Finding that they had the same sociological and Christian values, they formed a life-

Br. Robert Schall, OSL bhagwon@earthlink.net

She was a long partnership when they married on May 14th, 1960. Sr. Mabel and Br. William were life-vowed members of the Order of St. Luke. Together they served numerous churches over the years until retirement.

Sr. Mabel and Br. Bill shared a love for needlepoint and together produced a large number of needlepoint and cross stitch patterns for church paraments and clergy stoles.

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IN THE COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS

Br. Robert Schall, OSL bhagwon@earthlink.net

Faith communities have frequently kept necrologies of those saints who have gone before us. In this manner The Order of Saint Luke remembers these sisters and brothers:

- Sept. 7 Br. Hoyt Hickman (2016) California
- Sept. 9 Sr. Amy Beveridge (2015) Connecticut
- Sept. 11 Br. Bill Hunter (2011) Texas, New York
- Sept. 17 Br. Howard Sterling (2014) New Jersey
- Sept. 19 Br. Lindsay Churchman (2015) Illinois, previously Iowa and Texas
- Sept. 21 Br. James M. Ault (2008) Bishop, GBGM, Drew Theological Seminary
- Sept. 22 Sr. Christine Farrar (2011) Missouri
- Sept. 23 Br. Russell E. Sonafrank, II (2003) Indiana
- Sept. 29 Sr. Jeanne Audrey Powers (2017) Minnesota
- Oct. 5 Br. Robert E. Gordon (2002) Virginia
Sr. Lucile Beasley (2015) California
- Oct. 9 Br. Bob M. Fuqua (2004) West Virginia
- Oct. 11 Sr. Marjorie Erickson (2016) New Jersey
- Oct. 12 Br. Tom Beveridge (2014) Connecticut
- Oct. 16 Br. Laurence Hull Stookey (2016)
- Oct. 21 Sr. Jane Ferguson (2008) Illinois
- Oct. 22 Br. Robert Fletcher Thomas, Jr. (2005) South Carolina
- Oct. 31 Br. Arthur J. Landwehr (2003) Illinois
Br. James F. White (2004) Indiana
- Nov. 4 Br. Norman Smith (2006) New Jersey

- Nov. 4 Sr. Frances (Fran) B. Ballinger (2016) New Jersey
- Nov. 8 Sr. Linda Jane Vogel (2017) Iowa, Illinois, & Claremont, California

- Nov. 11 Br. Michael Douglas Mayfield (2017) Past Prior of the Illinois Great Rivers Chapter OSL

- Nov. 18 Br. Jim M. Farrell (2002) Ohio
- Nov. 19 Sr. Ann Parker Albrecht (2005) Northern Illinois, Canon of OSL

- Nov. 24 Br. Jim Darling (2008) New York
- Nov. 30 Sr. Mabel Doser (2015) North Carolina
- Dec. 13 Br. O. Ray Fitzgerald (2014) Baltimore, Cal-Pac
- Dec. 15 Br. Millard Byrd Knowles (2011) West Ohio, Maryland

- Dec. 16 Br. David Howard Tripp (2007)
- Dec. 18 Br. David W. Yingling (2015) Michigan
- Dec. 20 Br. Rick Lyddon (2007) California, Arizona, Nevada

- Dec. 22 Br. David Lyman Taylor (2008) Illinois and North Carolina

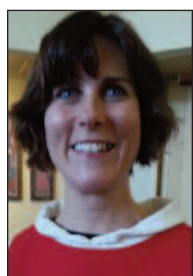
- Dec. 24 Br. Wallace P. Blackwood (2005) Louisiana
- Dec. 29 Sr. Deena McGuire (2015) Illinois

A request: If you or your chapter are aware of other deceased members of the Order, I'd be grateful if you could send information to me at bhagwon@earthlink.net so that they may be included in the list of siblings for whom we give thanks to God.

FROM THE PROVINCIAL GENERAL

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson
hjosselyn@hotmail.com

At our October meeting, members of the Order were pleased to learn of a new chapter: the Hoyt Hickman Memorial Chapter, located in Western Pennsylvania. In Western Pennsylvania, like in many areas of the country, there were many members of the Order living in some proximity to one another. For a couple years, these mem-



Sr. Heather
Josselyn-
Cranson

bers have sought to find a way to connect with one another. Now their perseverance has paid off, and a new chapter has been born!

The members of this new chapter have decided to name their chapter after Br. Hoyt Hickman, a United Methodist scholar and member of the Order who found that death had no dominion over him on September 7, 2016. Br. Hoyt served as director of worship resources for the United Methodist Church from 1972 to 1993 and he contributed to the United Methodist Hymnal and the Book of Worship. Together with Dan Saliers, Larry Stookey, and James White, he was known as a member of the “Methodist Mafia,” providing liturgical leadership and wisdom during the ecumenical and liturgical renewal movements of the 20th century.

Our new OSL chapter has adopted Br. Hoyt’s name because he was born in Pittsburgh and served as a Methodist pastor in several Pennsylvania churches. Please join me in praying for the members of this new chapter and their prior, Sr. Kimberly Greway!

Chapter	Prior	Activity	Prayer Request
Dayspring	Br. Matthias Tanner	AM and PM prayer, lifting up OSL members	Letting go of those who can no longer participate
Trinity (North Texas)	Br. John Taylor	Monthly Eucharist and lunch	Chapter feels small, scattered, not growing
New Jersey	Sr. Fran Noll	Retreats in May and Sept; reading Rohr’s The Divine Dance; monthly meetings	Gratitude for joy in meeting, worshipping, and reading together; also Br. Ken’s health
Singapore Association	Br. Anthony Goh	Silent retreat on Luke’s feasts day; 16 attending, some potential new members	Covenant prayers as they continue in the discipline of the Lord
Perkins STH	Sr. Heather Gottas (MWS faculty advisor)	5x weekly daily prayer	A new process of membership that will work for the Perkins MDiv students
Illinois Great Rivers Chapter	Sr. Beth Fender	Opening a third gathering site and more folks joining	Br. Ted Mitchell’s cancer
St. Francis Chapter (Ohio)	Sr. Alice Kay Lovelace	Leading worship at Annual Conference, chapter meeting and BYO lunch.	Joys for a new member who has discerned long and carefully; concerns to be more connected with all chapter members.
Cal-Pac Chapter	Br. George Martzen	Canonizing Br. Bill Beasley, learning from Dr. Kathy Black, meeting with the Abbot about new membership pathways.	Celebrating with Br. Bill but concerned about how to reach new members.
Pfeiffer University Association	Br. Kevin Taylor	Inactive	
Upper New York Chapter	Br. Chuck Smith	Many discussions, but all on-line	Finding ways to meet, despite relocation of all officers
Philippines Chapter	Br. Oliverio Pineda	National Convocation Oct 22-24, 80 attendees!	Prayers for that gathering
CyberChapter	Br. Taylor Burton Edwards	551 members on YahooGroups; 836 on Facebook	
Eastern Pennsylvania	Br. Lloyd Speer	Communion and meeting in May	Need to recruit new members

This chapter report was distributed at the General Chapter meeting Oct. 16.

FROM THE ABBOT’S DESK

Continued from Page 1

tions, you should. They are great.) We talked about retired pastors offering to lead short-term studies in Advent or Lent. We talked, somewhere between facetiously and seriously, about starting a “bottom-up” revolution for liturgical renewal.

We are yeast, my brothers and sisters, and there is a whole lot of flour out there waiting to become the warm bread of Christ’s body for the world.

My challenge to us all is to get out of our chairs and go be yeast. Be the leavening that brings hungry people into the dance of the Holy Trinity.

Sr. Abbot Elizabeth

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FROM THE PRIOR GENERAL

Br. George Crisp, OSL
Email: revgrc@yahoo.com

Mark your 2019 calendar!

The next Daily Officer Revision Team (DORT) meeting will be held on Monday, May 20, 2019, one day before our OSL Council Meeting which will be from May 21-23. Once again, we will gather at St. Paul of the Cross in Pittsburgh, 148 Monastery Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15203-1498 (<http://stpaulsretreatcenter-pittsburgh.org>).

Our 2019 Retreat will be a true delight. Three Pittsburgh-area iconographers will be our guest speakers, offering reflections on both their spir-

itual and artistic process in making icons. We look forward to hearing from Michael Kapeluck, Peter Pearson and Randi Sider-Rose. It may also be possible, for an extra cost, to have an icon-making workshop as an add-on to the retreat (detailed arrangements are still pending). The retreat will be held at St. Paul of the Cross.

Now is the time to put these dates on your 2019 calendar. If you have

the option of continuing education or professional expenses as a benefit, be sure to fund the Retreat in your 2019 budget. (You may also wish to save for this event through your personal budget.)

FYI – In February, the process will begin for selecting worthy students for the 2019 Hoyt L. Hickman Award at several seminaries around the country.

May you all have a blessed Advent and Christmas season as a new Christian year begins.



Br. George Crisp



Sr. Carol Gathagan

FROM THE COMPANION FOR INQUIRERS & INITIAL MEMBERS

August 1, 2018 was a milestone in the history of the Order of Saint Luke as the newly formed Novitiate process was officially activated.

The Novitiate process is designed for those desiring to explore and discern and perhaps affirm The Rule of Life and Service. The process moves from seekers (first contact with CIIM) to Inquirers and Initial Membership before making full affirmation in The Order.

The Novitiate Facebook page is a closed group of interested people which has many documents for prayerful reading and discussion. It is a wonderful resource where conversation takes place with others who also are on this journey as well

Inquirer	Companion
Tim Marks	Br. Scott Bontrager
Jennifer Kilpatrick	Br. Scott Bontrager
C. D. Allen (Carletta)	Sr. Nancy Cartwright
Jen Weyenber	Sr. AK Lovelace
Sharon Ward	Sr. Carol Gathagan
Patricia Woolever	Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson
Chris Thornsberry	Br. Rusty Beals
Collis Nelson (Cody)	Br. George Martzen
Devin Lawson	Br. Dwight Vogel
Shannon Trenton	Sr. Dianne Tobey Covault
Corinne Piper	Sr. Barbara Lee

as long time members of The Order. I work one-on-one with those who are not on Facebook.

Those wishing to join the Facebook page may do so by emailing me at sr.carollynn@gmail.com telling me about their interest in learning more

about The Order. More information may be found on www.saint-luke.net under “Contact” and “Membership”.

Let’s pray together for our Inquirers and Companions:

Thank you for your prayers!

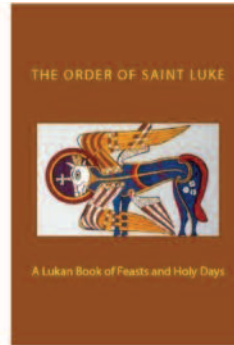
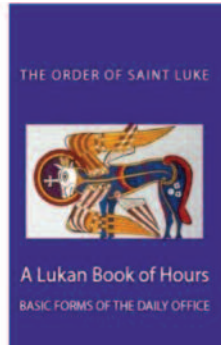
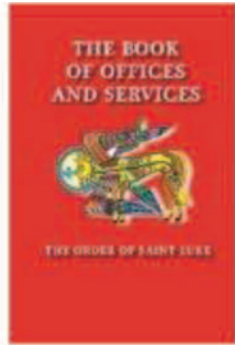
Sr. Carol Gathagan, CIIM

Have YOU shared The Order of Saint Luke with someone lately?

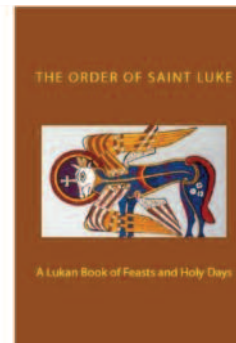
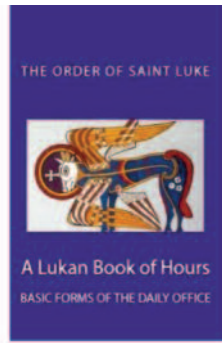
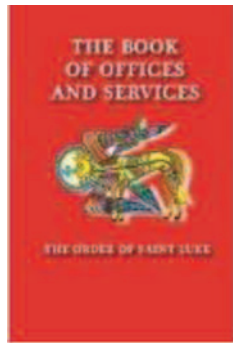
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Orders may be placed online at <http://oslpublications.com/>, stating that you are a member of the Order and are requesting a “Book Shelf Package,” or you can use the order form **with a check for payment or credit card information. Offer applies only for members in the USA. We will try to find ways to accommodate members in other countries.**

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FROM THE PASTORAL CARE OFFICER

Br. David Eichelberger, OSL
daveosl@yahoo.com

Greetings beloved Sisters, Brothers, and Friends:

The past few months have been busy with many of us getting into the more intensive time of programming in the northern hemisphere's change from summer time to autumn. So too have the lives of our OSL community around the world. We hope that those in the Southern hemisphere will enjoy their spring and summer!



Br. David
Eichelberger

We ask you to remember these in your prayers:

Br. Taylor Burton-Edwards is recuperating from a second heart attack and from having a stent inserted to improve circulation to his heart.

Br. Jack Womack's grandson was involved in a motorcycle accident and no brain activity has been seen since then. A memorial service will be planned for a later time. Prayers are asked for the family as they mourn his passing and for those who will receive organ transplants.

Br. Tucker A. Lewis, Sr. asked for prayers for his and all the communities which have suffered tremendous damage from recent hurricanes. We also remember those parts of the world that have had devastation caused by typhoons, earthquakes and tsunamis.

Br. Christopher Montgomery has asked for prayers to help him dis-

cern where he will be used by God next in ministry.

Br. Brent Sturm asks for prayers to help him to locate resources to enable his ministry to continue with the Jobs for America's Graduates in West Virginia. Recently the principal portion of federal support for the program was discontinued by the Governor of his state. He also shared the delightful news that his granddaughter is now creeping and continues to be a joy for Sr. Meredith and himself.

Br. French Ball asked for prayers for the repose of the soul of Collette, the wife of Martin, our OSL web developer and for consolation for her family.

Br. Erik Hoeke asked for prayers for his family on the death of his grandmother. Mrs. Lois Bennett.

Br. Richard Mel Caplis asked for prayers that his work for a just community reach receptive ears among the leaders of his community.

Sr. Jeanette Block, our Chancellor General, has been serving our Community during several difficult health issues—a shoulder surgery, a case of pneumonia and her husband's hip surgery.

Br. Jay Brown's wife Janet, who recently underwent treatment for brain surgery sustained a fall which resulted in several broken ribs.

Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, our Provincial Companion delivered an inspiring message to our retreat on the importance of music in worship. She also reported that her current semester has a very heavy load of courses and asks for prayers that she be strengthened to accomplish all

that lies ahead.

Br. George Crisp, our Prior General, reported that he will be undergoing knee surgery in January.

Sr. Sarah Flynn participated in the retreat and reported that she recently underwent knee surgery and is coming along quite well.

Sr. Elizabeth Moore, our Abbot, is recovering from successful surgery to repair issues with her heart. She also reports that she is enjoying getting settled into her new home at Pilgrim Place in Claremont, Calif. She asks for prayers for her to be guided and strengthened by God to do the work she does on our behalf as Abbot. She is also enrolled in a two-year Academy for Spiritual Formation.

Sr. Cynthia Astle asked for prayers for God to continue to strengthen her for the work she is doing to keep The United Methodist Church informed about the issues facing the upcoming special General Conference.

Br. David Eichelberger asks for prayers for the healing of his parents. His father just celebrated his 95th birthday but is in dwindling health. His mother, who will be 90 in April, recently fell and broke her leg. She

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FROM THE PASTORAL CARE OFFICER Continued from Page 6

is currently receiving rehabilitation care at a facility near to her home.

We rejoiced to welcome many new friends and new members of the Order at our October retreat in Pittsburgh, PA. We were also delighted to welcome back to the retreat those who had come in the past. May we continue to be a blessing to one another and our communities whether we are gathered or dispersed!

Sisters and Brothers in Southwestern Pennsylvania rejoice at the forming of the Hoyt Hickman Memorial Chapter. Br. Hoyt was a former President of OSL and a longtime historian of our Order.

Br. Bill Doser sent greetings to the General Chapter from North Carolina, where he is in a new retirement community in Charlotte. **Br. Brent Sturm, Br. J. Howard Cherry** and **Br. David Eichelberger** visited Br. Bill as part of the Our Story Project and were delighted to see how well he is doing in his new setting. We enjoyed our time of fellowship and in sharing recollections of his wife, **Sr. Mabel Doser**, who died a few years ago.

Br. Dwight Vogel thanks the Order for the prayers that have sustained him in his year of grief since the passing of **Sr. Linda Vogel** last November. We continue to pray for **Br. Dwight** and family on the first anniversary of Sr. Linda's death.

Br. Blake Gulley, who rejoices that he has been chosen for a Senior Pastor ministry position.

Sr. Elizabeth Curtiss, who is mourning the death of her mother.

Br. David Eichelberger and **Br.**



Table fellowship at Retreat is one of the ways members of The Order of Saint Luke make and keep connections with one another. Here are (clockwise from front) Sr. Rebecca Holland, Sr. Barbara Lee, Br. Dean Emerson, Br. Blake Gulley, Sr. Laura King, visitor Helen Vile, Sr. Jeanette Block and Br. French Ball.

J. Howard Cherry on the death of their personal care physician, Dr. Jerry Rabinowitz, who was one of the 11 persons killed in the attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

For victims of gun violence across our nation.

For those who are homeless or who have lost loved ones in the horrendous wildfires in California.

For all who give leadership to their churches in the Advent and Christmas season that they may have the strength and endurance for all that lies ahead.

Gracious and life giving God, who sustains us through the gift of your Holy Spirit, we lift our prayers of intercession for these and others who need your tender care.

We pray for all who are suffering from the increasingly violent weather. In the midst of firestorms, droughts, floods, earthquakes, typhoons, tsunamis, etc. we acknowl-

edge that there are forces beyond our control. Bless us with generous hearts that we may reach out to those in need. Help us to comfort those who have lost loved ones. Inspire us to stand with those who are the least, the last, and the lost.

O blessed and Holy Trinity, we especially ask that you send your blessings upon The Order of Saint Luke, so that we may embody the love of Christ for those whom we encounter through our lives and witness.

We pray for all who are anxious about the future of The United Methodist Church as delegates prepare for the special General Conference in February. May you guide the deliberations and the decisions made there so that we may lean into your vision for the future of The United Methodist Church.

We lift these prayers to you as we lift our hands in prayer all around the world. Amen.

RESQUIESCAT EN PACE

Continued from Page 2

They formed a company, Doser Designs, and authored two books on cross stitch and needlepoint.

In retirement Sr. Mable and Br. Bill found time to travel and travelled extensively as their health permitted. Often their visits were related to needlepoint, and they made trips to England, Scotland, and Wales with the American Needlepoint Guild. They also visited Nova Scotia and Monaco. While in Monaco they were privileged to meet Princess Grace and have a private tour of the palace.

Sr. Mabel was married to Br. Bill for 53 years when her health problems parted them in this life in 2015. She was also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. A graveside service with inurnment was held on December 5, 2015, at Hollybrook Cemetery with Rev. David Wyant officiating. A memorial service was held on December 8, 2015, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. Memorials were made in her honor to the St. Mark's Lutheran Church Music Department in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Requiescat in pace, Sr. Mabel Doser, as we remember you this day.

Sources: Facebook, LincolnHerald.net and Ancestry.com

(If you would like to make any further additions to this obituary, please contact Br. Bob Schall, OSL Necrologist, at: Bhagwon@earthlink.net)

FROM THE CHANCELLOR GENERAL

Sr. Jeanette Block, OSL, oslchancellor@gmail.com

We enjoyed a wonderful retreat at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center. Our latest publication, *A Lukan Book of Feasts and Holy Days*, was introduced and enjoyed during our worship.



Five persons attended retreat for the first time and Br. Kyle Gould and Br. Robert Rawls made their first public profession. We have three new life vowed members: Br. Daniel Luke Sojourner Francis Benedict, Br. Joseph Gregory Mametz and Sr. Elinor Bayse. The Affirmations are coming in and I thank all of you for your timely response and generosity allowing the ministry and the work of The Order to continue.

At our May council meeting we affirmed a budget for the 2018-19 season of \$38,225.00. After conferring with the officers over the summer, the General Council affirmed an increased budget of \$44,225.00. This \$6,000.00 increase is allocated as follows:

- \$3,000. for marketing of our

publications. As Br. Daniel Benedict is our Director of Marketing and Acquisitions, he now has the ability to advertise our books and invite authors to write for OSL Publications, increasing our overall publication revenue.

- \$1,000. for the work of the Prior General. The Prior General had no funds with which to operate the position, so now there are funds allocated.
- \$2,000. for the increase of scholarships to retreat. We do not want anyone to feel they cannot attend retreat. The intention of the increase is to invite younger members and our international members.

Abbot Elizabeth Moore continued all abbatial appointments and appointed Sr. Sarah Mount Elewononi as the new editor of *Doxology*.

I wish all my brothers and sisters a blessed Advent and Christmas season. May we see and reveal God's love and light to all. Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Chancellor General.

Sr. Jeanette Block, OSL



Check your mail for the
latest issue
of **Sacramental Life!**

THE ORDER OF SAINT LUKE GATHERS AROUND THE WORLD

In Pittsburgh, Members Learn How Music Shapes Liturgy, Healing

By Sr. Cynthia Astle, OSL

We sang. Oh, how we sang! And thanks to our own Sr. Heather Josse-lynn-Cranson, each time we sang we learned a little more about how many musical traditions shape our liturgy and bring healing to our lives.

Sr. Heather served as the study leader for our 2018 Retreat, giving us a program “Hymns Arising,” based on her book, “The Reason Why We Sing.” In three sessions over two days, Sr. Heather introduced us to musical styles, the contexts in which they originated and developed, and the meanings and benefits each style – and singing itself – bring to corporate worship and individual devotions.

The categories we explored included:

- The Formal/Liturgical Tradition, or song as catechesis (teaching);
- The Hymn Tradition, or song as

congregational response;

- The Gospel Tradition, or song as testimony;
- The Contemporary Tradition, or song as praise;
- The Taize’/Charismatic Tradi-

tion, or song as spiritual discipline;

- The African-American Spirituals Tradition, or song as truth-telling.

Sr. Heather also built upon her

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Preparing for the procession at closing worship are (from left) Br. Rob Rawls, Sr. Cherlynn Gates, Br. Robert Schall, Sr. Sarah Mount Elewononi, Br. French Ball, Sr. Rebecca Holland, Sr. Carol Gathagan, Br. Blake Gulley, Sr. Nancy Cartwright and Sr. Elinor Bayse.

Br. Luke Sojourner Francis: We Are Anchored in Lukan Spirituality



Newly vowed Life Members Sr. Elinor Bayse and Br. Daniel Luke Sojourner Francis Benedict (center) celebrate with their mentors Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson, Sr. Barbara Lee and Sr. Abbot Elizabeth Moore.

By Br. Luke Sojourner Francis
(Br. Daniel Benedict, OSL)

My sisters and brothers I witness to the work of God in discovering and calling me to life in the Order. It has been my privilege to spend over half of my life—40 years—in the Order of Saint Luke.

Ours is a strange, rag-tag community in the world of religious orders. We have no mother house. Until now we have had no novitiate. We don’t quite qualify as Benedictine, Franciscan, or any of the other historic monastic or apostolic orders. I confess that sometimes I have felt a little

embarrassed to say publicly that I am a Brother in the Order of Saint Luke, wondering if those from other religious orders or no religious order will assume things about OSL and me that are wildly flawed. For me, there has always been a feeling that we may seem pretentious in calling ourselves an order of religious. And yet, we are an order anchoring ourselves in Lukan spirituality.

During the eight years I served as your abbot, I determined to remain in annual vows to witness that a mem-

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Anchored in Lukan Spirituality

Continued from Page 9

ber affirming annually could serve as the head of the Order. So now, in my post-abbatial status, I am “just a guy”, a title Br. Frank Coats bestowed on me, and I am ready to enter life-vowed relationship with the Order.

In the year of discernment Sr. Barbara Lee has been my companion. Those of you who know Sr. Barbara know that she can look at you and you feel the eyes of God musing on your interior being! She is not scary, but you don’t mess around under such a gaze. She asked me profound questions, including “When was the last time you just played?” and “Have you reread your journals lately?” Longer range, she invited me to focus on what in my life has changed that was prompting me to consider discerning life-vows?

God’s experiment

I have come to see clearly that the Order is God’s experiment with Lukan spirituality: we are emergent, we are only 70+ years old, and we are living into something that is still aborning. So, rag-tag or not, we are who we are, and we are what we are yet to become. Perfection in love is our goal in terms of what we seek to become as individuals. Perfection is probably not the expectation we should have of the Order itself, but for me the Order is a means to an end—the end that began with God’s call in baptism to die and rise “with Christ Jesus to live and new life in the Spirit.”

I identify with Peter’s response to Jesus, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.” (John 6:66-69) There are other dispersed religious communities, but I know only about them. The Order of Saint Luke I

know from within, and in it, both its communal practices and history, and its community of sisters and brothers, I am at home. Indeed, some of my most lasting and deep friendships are siblings in the Order. So, at age 75, to whom else would I go?” In this step of making a life-vow covenant I embrace a deepening sense of the evangelical counsel of “stability”.

Books probe deeply

During the time I have been in discernment I have read two related books on the religious life and the history of monasticism: *Introduction to Religious Life* by Friar Guy Lespinay, OP, and *The Story of Monasticism* by Greg Peters. Both were helpful in probing more deeply into the life and history of religious orders. While these books did not change my trajectory toward taking life vows, they did deepen my appreciation for the long and deeply embedded place of religious orders in the church’s life and witness.

And, yes, I fully expect that I will be disappointed at some point or other with some individuals or with some decisions of the Order. That will test my bond and vows. For the most part, I anticipate joyful effort in sharing in the Order’s life and work.

One of the questions Sr. Barbara asked me to reflect upon was “What gifts does the Order offer you at this time?” My response to her and to you is this: Accountability. Friendship. A community for conversation, continuing study and generativity. A sense of belonging to an intentional community in a fractured world.

The Order of Saint Luke is a continuing community—an abiding

communion, offering companionship, settings, and tensive practices for withdrawal from the world (retreats, the practice of the daily office, regular accountings for the Rule of Life and Service) to return to the world more deeply and critically engaged (God’s call to service).

So, the Order offers me “a place to be” in seeking and welcoming my true self, the new humanity in Christ. In these ways the Order is a continuing gift to me. As Brother Rusty Beals put it in his Doctor of Ministry project on the Order of Saint Luke, “the mother house is where the community is gathered.” (See Rusty Beals, *The Order of Saint Luke and New Monasticism*, pages 102-103.) That is a wise and worthy insight! One that makes these annual retreats a primary practice for me, and one I hope will become a higher priority for all members.

This summer Sr. Mary O and I reread Br. Abbe Dwight Vogel’s *Food for Pilgrims* – a page or two at a time—during “A Reading for Meditation and Reflection” in Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer. On June 28, we read a passage on “Covenanting Together” that was profoundly helpful. (See pages 65-66.)

Found a vocabulary

There I found a vocabulary for what professing life vows means for me. I wrote in my journal:

“It is more than some transactional moment of stepping from one status to another on paper or some list. It is a participation in the mystery of God’s evolving reign, sharing in something I will never possess, but

Continued on Page 11

OSL Retreatants Renew Friendships in Pittsburgh



Sr. Mary O Benedict and Sr. Dianne Covaultt relax a moment before the procession for closing Worship.



Sr. Sarah Flynn and Br. Brent Sturm prepare for the procession into the closing worship.



Br. Daniel Luke Sojourner Francis Benedict and Sr. Barbara Lee embrace after profession of Life Vows.

Br. Luke Sojourner Francis

Continued from Page 10

am and will be privileged to be part of as a pilgrim on the way. The freedom of God's Spirit is at work. That I participate but do not possess frees me to say, Yes, I discern and embrace God's call to profess life-vows, without complete understanding. I trust the Spirit of God, and my sisters and brothers' affirmation and support to make the Order religious "home" for the duration of my life. Reservations and failures will not stand in the way of my making an unconditional commitment. I understand that the unconditional commitment to a profession of life vows is made within a constellation of other unconditional commitments: baptism, marriage, ordination, and by birth, global citizenship.

"Life vowed relationship to the Order does not exclude or encroach upon them. They are part of the mix of what being dispersed means for us, whether we live under annual vows or

life vows. Baptism and church membership, marriage and family, ordination and apostolic work, and cosmic citizenship are the larger context of living the Rule of Life and Service."

So, based on these reflections I ask to be admitted to life vows with the support and affirmation of you, my sisters and brothers. I do so in gratitude for so many dear souls in the Order, both living and dead, especially Sr. Sarah Flynn, with whom I give account and pray on a weekly basis, Sr. Barbara Lee, my discernment companion, and with the support, love and most intimate knowledge and support of Sr. MaryO. If I were to name those who have made the Order hearth and fire for these last forty years, it would far exceed the time allotted. You know who you are, and if you wonder about it, stop: just the thought means you have led me to ask, "Lord, where else could I go?"

I am overwhelmed to think that I cannot know where this work of God leads or what it will entail. Like baptism and as an extension of it, it opens out into a life-long pilgrimage I seek to take in company with you, my sisters and brothers.

The service of profession of life vows includes the option of taking a new name. Though I want to keep Daniel as my baptismal name, I want to add three other names: Luke, for our patron whose spirituality I seek to know more deeply, Sojourner for Sojourner Truth whose uncompromising courage I would summon, and Francis of Assisi because sun, moon, wind, fire, birds, and even death were sisters and brothers to him.

So, I am all in! Thanks be to God. I seek to remain under the Mystery with all of you.

Br. Joseph Gregory Mametz: ‘I Am God’s for Life’

By Br. Joseph Gregory Mametz, OSL

Many prayers and meditations went into discerning my life vows in the Order of Saint Luke. God and Sr. Barbara Lee were instrumental in the process. Using the Rule of Life and the Vows as a prod, Sr. Barbara skillfully facilitated the start of discernment process. The process was much like doctoral education except that discernment is enjoyable (or it was to me).

I’d like to take a few moments to the very beginning of my experiences with the Order.

Three years ago, immediately wrote to the Abbot, Brother Dan. He served as my initial introduction to the order. Through our discussions, Br. Dan informed me that the Brother and Sisters of the Order are warm, loving, and accepting. I soon discovered he was so right. I joined the cyber chapter of Order of Saint Luke. Upon my first cyber message, I received a slew of welcome notes to the Order; validating Br. Dan’s response.

I am an obsessive being. Many correspondences were made. Every correspondence was answered.

Then, Br. Abbot Dan placed me into the loving, caring loving hands of the late Sr. Prior Fran Ballenger, Sr. Jeanette Block, and Sr. Fran Noll in the role of Prior walked with me through my journey of discovery.

I am college professor who is certified and teaches medical imaging. I serve as the medical imaging program director, primary instruction, and department head. These responsibilities added up to be a long 12-month commitment. Therefore, I’m off from when the students are off. This is in addition to my work on

a PhD. It is impossible now for me to be away. Each day, I count down on my calendar, the days until I slow down and retire.

Since my ability to attend meetings is challenged, study and keeping abreast were key.

Each day I studied scripture, prayed the Episcopal and Learning about the Order of St. Luke took place by research and questioning. Methodist offices, Anglican rosary, and learned to mediate. I lived out my life, served God, and his people in the following ways:

- Singing/ music ministry
- Lectoring
- Ushering
- Vestry
- Lay Eucharistic ministry

Before I realized, three years had quickly passed. I wrote the Sr. Abbot. In my correspondence to her, I asked for consideration to take my life vows. She responded that should would find me a mentor to facilitate the discernment process. Through prayer and meditation, the Sr. Abbot found an outstanding mentor for me, Sr. Barbara Lee in one week. I asked Sr. Barbara to remain my spiritual guide.

Sr. Barbara was the epitome of a perfect mentor. Being a medical doctor, she and I had common ground. The discernment process was incredible. For example,

- Outstanding questions were asked, ideas proposed, and suggestions made.
- The more I reflected, the more questions that I needed an-

swered.

- Answer required me to continue to think and find the answer
- Every question linked to the Rule of Life and Service.

Before I knew it, the discernment time was over. In a way, I didn’t want the process to end. I discovered that asking the right questions led to finding the right answer.

My mind is always on the move. I do not know or care why. I know that this is how my mind works. For example, ordination is always on my mind. So, I asked Sr. Barbara if she was ever called to ordain ministry. Her response was “yes. But the time, women were not permitted to ordain then”. I took note that many Sisters and Brothers such as Sr. Abbot Elizabeth, Sr. Jeanette, The late Sr Fran Ballenger are (were) ordained. Why did/ do they feel the need to be ordained ministers and to be sisters in the Order of Saint Luke? I posed this question to Sr. Barbara. She replied for the very same reason you do. You were called.

I have always felt called to serve as an Episcopal Priest too. Currently, I am not a priest. I am a college professor. However, my flock is my students! I guide, love, and watch after them. I pray they find strength. I see to it that they discover the gift and passion given to them in a medical career. So, can this be considered a “priest-like”? My answer is yes. I cannot preach, or administer any of the sacraments that is true. It does not alter the connection between the people and the God I serve.

Prayer in Honor of the Feast of St. Luke

By Sr. Rebecca Holland, OSL

O Christ the great physician
Who heals the poor and the oppressed
You feed the poor and lowly
And give the sinner rest.

O Holy Spirit flowing
Through earth and sea and sky
We spend our lives not knowing
And ever asking, "Why?"

Why do I feel such anguish?
The world shrinks from my sight
Oh please, Great Creator
Spare me from eternal night.

Forgive me, Christ O Lord
My deepest fear is this
That my sight shall be extinguished

And I will languish in darkness

You gave freedom to the captive
And lit the Blind Man's way
You set the prisoner free
St. Luke on this your Feast Day,
Say a prayer for me.

Don't let me lose my vision
Grant me new eyes to see:
A world in need of loving,
A family's deep distress
A church that needs redeeming
From deepest poverty.
Forgive me please, O Lord
And grant this sinner rest.

Redeemer and sustainer
My soul's immortal friend
Grant me the resurrection
When at last I'll see again.



Br. Guy Camp and Sr. Rebecca Holland carry the icon of Saint Luke for the closing worship.

'I Am God's for Life'

Continued from Page 12

Then I posed the same question to Sr. Jeanette, she responded eloquently. I came to understand and believe that we are not called for only one task. We are committed to doing what God is asking of us. Whether a Bishop, priest, minister, brother, sister, doctor, teacher or technologist it does not matter. What does matter is that we act on God's call. This important step is easier said than done. Many men and women struggle to understand that we are being called to do or be.

I thought about it taking life vows more. My reason for taking vows is I am want to continue to commit my life to God. Whether or not accepted as a priest or brother, I will still live out my life committed to God. Nothing would change on my part.

'Hymns Arising: Music in Worship and Healing'

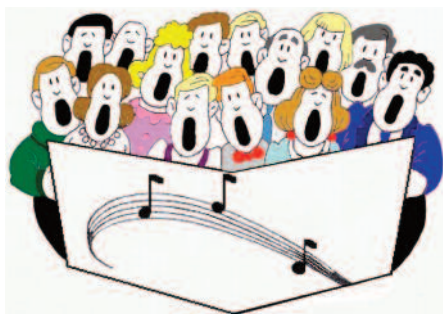
Continued from Page 9

book's foundation in music's spirituality by offering some recent scientific studies on the physical, mental and emotional benefits of singing.

Table talk around Sr. Heather's stimulating presentations discovered a notable fact: younger OSL members attending this year's retreat were quite conversant with contemporary examples that Sr. Heather provided, whereas our "mature" saints were

more comfortable in the liturgical and hymn styles. "Our younger members knew all the words and music to those praise songs," one OSL sibling observed. "That ought to tell us something about the nature of the rising church."

Those who favor musical styles other than Contemporary need not fear, however, because each different style of singing has its own adherents in today's church. Those adherents continue to advocate for and pass along their respective styles. Sr. Heather's ultimate teaching for us is that each style has a place in current and future liturgy, and that we can learn to respect, appreciate and even love different singing styles as we lead worship and practice the sacramental life.



Sr. Elinor Bayse: Life Vows Bring Deeper Meaning

By Sr. Elinor Bayse, OSL

I came to the Order in a rather circuitous manner. My brother was a member of The Order of Saint Luke, but had not mentioned it to me. It was when he was elected as prior of his New York Chapter that he mentioned it, and then told me about the order. By seeking information on the internet, I further acquainted myself with the Order's beliefs and practices. During my brother's terminal illness, I would drive from Ohio to New York to visit, and, when arising early in the morning, I would read the OSL publications I found on the bookshelves in the living room.

The path toward discerning life vows came as a process. As I kept the Daily Office, and renewed my vows on a yearly basis, I felt that this yearly renewal was an impermanent commitment. I felt the need to make these vows permanent. In my home church, I have grown in faith through the church congregation; my Sunday School class, both as a member and a leader on a rotating basis. I have facilitated small group study groups, become a Faith Community Nurse, coordinated the shut-in visitors, and participated in shawl ministry. I still desired a deeper path to worship and purposeful study. This path led me to The Order of Saint Luke, and now to seeking Life Vows.

Since I began the process of discerning for life vows, my life has become a bit more challenging. My husband became very ill last December, and that illness has required me to learn to administer a treatment that is managed very differently from when I learned the procedure while in nurs-



Sr. Elinor Bayse and her fellow Life-Vowe Member, Br. Daniel Luke Sojourner Francis Benedict in the chapel at the Monastery of St. Paul of the Cross.

ing school. So, after six weeks of training, I now do those treatments five days a week, and report to a supervising nurse. He has also required three surgeries as a result of the illness. Also, one of my grandchildren developed a chronic illness that required two hospitalizations, and an IEP at school. The school chose to ignore physician's recommendations, focusing on the child's absences, and made legal charges against the child. The magistrate who heard the case determined that the school was itself in error. Things have worked out well, so why was I worried? This goes along with an observation I have made throughout my life: things work out for my life and growth exactly as they should, and this is the work of God!

I have to confess that there were days through this period that I did my Daily Office at unusual hours. I felt a bit guilty about this, but then, I

remembered someone in cyber chapter who had reservations about having to attend graduate school classes when he felt that he should be praying his Daily Office. Someone reminded him that it is always 8:00 A.M. somewhere. I have found that praying my Daily Office has brought order, peace, and understanding.

I have also had blessings during this period. I can do in-home treatments for my husband, and when the team we work with learned of a previously scheduled vacation, the nurse decided that she would do the treatments for me while I was away. My children volunteered to do housework and provide meals. I did not cancel my vacation.

My companion during discernment has been Sr. Heather Josselyn-Cranson. Together we read *Sacramental Living: Falling Stars & Coloring Outside the Lines* by Dwight and Linda Vogel. In this book, the authors talk about seeing the sacred in God's creation, the importance of place and rituals that may seem ordinary, but have a deeper meaning. I appreciate the meaning they find in Evensong at St. Paul's in London, England. I, too, love this service, and when I am in England, I make it a point to attend Evensong at St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and York Minster. I also appreciated their section about the weavings that our life experiences make on our lives. It reminded me of a favorite poem I found on a sympathy card. Sr. Heather also asked what I do for myself. Well, I do crocheting and fabric work. I defy anyone to feel less than fulfilled when crocheting!

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THE ORDER OF SAINT LUKE GATHERS AROUND THE WORLD

In Singapore, Members Begin Retreat with Silence



A day of silent reflection marked the opening of the annual retreat for the Singapore Association of The Order of Saint Luke. The gathering continued with seminars on various topics, such as the one led by Prior Anthony Goh (above right).



Closing Eucharist with profession of vows.

At left, preparing for closing Eucharist are (from left) Br. Anthony Goh, Prior; Br. Paul Molina, Novice Companion; Br. Steven Thomas,, Newly Professed 2018; Br. Jun Equila; and Br. Ivan Tan.



Church of Saint Mary of the Angels,
Bukit Batok, Singapore
Order of Friars Minor
OSL Singapore Association Annual Retreat Venue 2018

THE ORDER OF SAINT LUKE GATHERS AROUND THE WORLD

In the Philippines, Retreat Focuses on Worship, Seminars

By Br. Ador Tolentino

The Philippines Chapter held our annual retreat and seminars October 22-24, at Munoz United Methodist Church, Science City of Munoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, with our theme, "Sacrament and Discipleship."

Our seminars cover these topics: "Sacrament and Care for Those on the Margin," "Sacrament and Mission," "Works of the Holy Spirit in Sacrament," "Sacrament and Social Justice," "Wesleyan Perspective of Discipleship, and "Workshop on Sacrament and Graceful Presiding."

By the grace and blessing of God, our retreat and seminar was blessed with 76 attendees. And I'm happy to inform you that the Philippines chapter was growing in members!

Our new brothers in the Order who professed first-time vows are Br. Noel Alfonso, Br. Feliciano M. Biasbas, Br. Ferdinand L. De Vera, Br. Dante P. Dollente, and Br. Sergio E. Arevalo' Jr.

Our Brothers and Sister who professed annual renewal of vows are:

Br. Henson Nang, Jr.
Br. Hector S. Sadac
Br. John Ross B. Castro
Br. Ador C. Tolentino
Br. Henry S. Roque
Br. Benjie B. Benitez
Br. Judy W. Sanchez
Br. Adolfo A. Anaen
Sr. Fe M. Torio
Br. Bernard Jonathan T. Laconsay
Br. Emmanuel D. Bangasan



Professing their first vows at the Philippines Chapter Retreat are Our new brothers in the Order who professed first-time vows are Br. Noel Alfonso, Br. Feliciano M. Biasbas, Br. Ferdinand L. De Vera, Br. Dante P. Dollente, and Br. Sergio E. Arevalo' Jr.

Br. Maximo O. Gallardo, Jr.

Br. Jesus Bondoc

Br. Joel Bengbeng

Br. Oliverio Penida

Based on the new membership procedures of the Order, we plan to have a meeting/retreat in April 2019 for new inquirers for their discernment leading to first public profession of annual vows. Those in the discernment process are:

Br. Primitivo T. Agbayani

Sr. Mae Belle C. Loresco

Br. Enrich B. Loresco

Sr. Lilibeth D. Balagan

Br. Rex L. Colorado

Sr. Brenda M. Tubayan

Br. Gregorio B. Galupe, Jr.

Sr. Janet M. Manuel

Br. Ernesto C. Pabrua

Br. Rodrigo A. Sablay

Br. Robert P. Baoidang

Br. Michael B. De la Cruz

Br. Joy A. Arquero

Br. Dominador V. Cacayurin

Br. Arnulfo S. Villanueva

Br. Protacio C. Mandagan

Br. John T. Montemayor

Sr. Emely T. Crisostomo

Br. Romeo P. Tabalmo

Br. Elpidio C. Limon

Br. Joshua V. Limon

Br. Al Edilmark G. Ferianiza

Br. Albert G. Encarnacion

Br. Roberto M. Pascual

Br. Isaias F. Tanguilig

Br. Peter S. Sabas

Sr. Ma. Jane V. Sabas

Continued on Page 17



Members of the Philippines Chapter who professed annual vows in 2018 at Retreat (see accompanying article).

Philippines Chapter Retreat

Continued from Page 16

Br. Himlord Dennison S. Alfonso
 Sr. Lilian N. Biasbas
 Br. Loreto U. Sales
 Sr. Valentina G. Reyno-Rasdas
 Br. Rolando A. Juan
 Br. Joel G. Domingo
 Br. Abraham L. Colorado

Br. Abundio M. Sabado
 Br. Marvin L. Chavarria
 Br. Edgar D. Anciano
 Br. Marvin S. De Leon
 Br. Glenn M. Mendiola
 Br. Nelson S. Vidal
 Br. Richard M. Reyes

By the grace of God and his guidance these inquiring and discerning brothers and sisters will be continued their journey leading to full membership in the Order to live a sacramental life.

Blessings,
 Br. Ador

Start planning and saving NOW to attend 2019 Retreat! In the United States, retreat will be held at the Monastery of Saint Paul of the Cross in Pittsburgh, Pa. See the Prior General's report on Page 4 for more details. Information on retreat with the Philippines Chapter and the Singapore Association will be coming in 2019.

THE ORDO

Prepared by Br. John P. Fahey, OSL

DECEMBER 2018

JANUARY 2019

S	1	Nicholas Ferrar; Rosa Parks G PM-B/P
S	2	1st Sunday of Advent B/P
M	3	B/P
T	4	John of Damascus B/P
W	5	Clement of Alexandria B/P
T	6	Nicholas B/P
F	7	Ambrose of Milan B/P
S	8	B/P
S	9	2nd Sunday of Advent B/P
M	10	B/P
T	11	B/P
W	12	B/P
T	13	B/P
F	14	John of the Cross B/P
S	15	B/P PM B/P/Rs
S	16	3rd Sunday of Advent B/P/Rs
M	17	John Stewart; Lazarus of Bethany B/P
T	18	Thelma Steves B/P
W	19	William Wesley Van Orsdel B/P
T	20	Captain Thomas Webb B/P
F	21	Thomas R (com. John Newton)
S	22	B/P
S	23	4 th Sunday of Advent B/P
M	24	B/P
		Christmas Eve W
T	25	Christmas Day W
W	26	Stephen R
T	27	John W
F	28	The Holy Innocents R
S	29	W
S	30	1st Sunday after Christmas W
M	31	W

T	1	The Holy Name of Jesus W
W	2	W
T	3	Gilbert Haven W
F	4	John Seybert W
S	5	W
		Eve of Epiphany W
S	6	The Epiphany W
M	7	G/W*
T	8	Richard Watson G/W*
W	9	G/W*
T	10	James Varick G/W*
F	11	G/W*
S	12	G/W*
		Eve of the Baptism of the Lord W
S	13	Baptism of the Lord W
M	14	G
T	15	Martin Luther King Jr. G
W	16	Hiram Rhodes Revels G
T	17	Antony of Egypt G
F	18	The Confession of Peter W
S	19	Pseudo-Macarius, John Ernest Rattenbury G
S	20	2nd Sunday after Epiphany G
M	21	Agnes of Rome G
T	22	G
W	23	Sarah Ann Dickey G
T	24	Eli Stanley Jones G
F	25	The Conversion of Paul W
S	26	Timothy and Titus G
S	27	3rd Sunday after Epiphany G
M	28	Thomas Aquinas G
T	29	G
W	30	G
F	31	John Raleigh Mott G

* Some traditions continue to use white until The Baptism of the Lord.

Liturgical Notes: All Sundays, Solemnities and Feasts are in bold type and followed by the proper liturgical color for the day or part of the day. Commemorations are noted but the season color is kept. Those who wish to solemnize a particular commemoration should use Red for martyrs and White for all others.

The color code is **W**-white, **R**-red, **G**-green, **P**-purple, **B**-blue, **Rs**-rose. Gold may be substituted for white.

Use Lectionary Readings from **Year C** until Advent (December 1, 2019 when Readings from **Year A** begin).

THE ORDO Prepared by Br. John P. Fahey, OSL

FEBRUARY 2019

F	1	Brigid of Kildare G
		Eve of the Presentation W
S	2	The Presentation W; PM-G
S	3	4th Sunday after Epiphany G
M	4	Cornelius the Centurion G
T	5	Philipp Jacob Spener G
W	6	G
T	7	G
F	8	G
S	9	Hugh Price Hughes G
S	10	5th Sunday after Epiphany
M	11	Fanny Jane Crosby G
T	12	G
W	13	Absalom Jones G
T	14	Cyril & Methodius G
F	15	G
S	16	G
S	17	6th Sunday after Epiphany
M	18	Martin Luther G
T	19	G
W	20	Frederick Douglass G
T	21	Ezekiel Cooper G
F	22	Kanichi Miyama G
S	23	Polycarp G
S	24	7th Sunday after Epiphany
M	25	Matthias (transferred) R
T	26	Romey Pitt Marshall, OSL G
W	27	George Herbert; Fred McFeely Rogers G
T	28	G

Liturgical Notes: All Sundays, Solemnities and Feast are in bold type and followed by the proper liturgical color for the day or part of the day.

Commemorations are noted but the season color is kept. Those who wish to solemnize a particular commemoration should use Red for martyrs and White for all others.

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Use Lectionary Readings from **Year C** until Advent (December 1, 2019 when Readings from **Year A** begin).

Sr. Elinor Bayse: Deeper Meaning

Continued from Page 14

The Order of Saint Luke offers me an ongoing obligation to the Order as well as an opportunity to study, grow, and share in my faith.

The Rule of Life and Service guides my life. As I affirm the Apostolic Hope, I see Jesus the Christ as the source of my hope. I strive toward perfection through formation by considering the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, anticipating His return, and being guided by the Holy Spirit. I see the church of Jesus Christ as his body, and as a body we seek to bring Jesus to all the world through liturgy, sacramental renewal, and experience.

In seeking the sacramental life, I seek to use prayer time – the daily hours of prayer – to developing toward a more mature way of living out my Baptism. I remember my Baptism, because I was nearly four years old, and my mother forgot to tell me about what was about to happen to me. I actually went screaming to the front of the church. Later, the whole process was explained to me, and I have been growing into Baptism ever since.

In corporate worship, I seek the glorification of God. Magnifying the sacraments to me means experiencing the mysteries as a means of grace. Through Baptism, I am committed to live out the ministry of Jesus. Eucharist, which represents the life-giving of Jesus being the living Spirit of Christ present impresses that not only did Jesus live the life of a human, spread the Gospel, give His life for our redemption, but now lives in eternity to support all who give their life to Him and seek forgiveness.

At retreat, we had a discussion about accepting the call to service, and how we were to do this through the Order. One person suggested that we were to serve as we are placed. In my life, that means serving in Lay Servant Ministry, creating prayer stations at my church, participating in shawl ministry – a ministry that creates many handmade items for our shut-ins as well as needs for hospital patients, facilitating small group studies, coordinating shut-in visitors, and Faith Community Nurse services. As I have reflected on my life, it is very evident that God has dropped people and circumstances into my life just as they were needed. I have learned that I can continue worship through my daily office during both travel and illness. I seek to continue in this life of prayer and service throughout my life.

MOMENT FOR MEDITATION



What if Mary had not said “yes” to the angel Gabriel’s announcement that God wished her to be the mother of Jesus? Where would the world be now? God surely would have found another way to bring salvation into the world, but who knows how, when and where? We are who we are in Christ today because a faithful young woman believed the divine word given to her. Mary’s song of joy, The Magnificat, expresses her devotion to God’s love and conviction of God’s justice. Her example challenges us all to the same devotion and witness as disciples.

“The Annunciation” painted circa 1590-1603 by El Greco, now resides in the Ōhara Art Museum in Kurashiki, Japan. El Greco, or Doménikos Theotokópoulos, was a painter, sculptor and architect of the Spanish Renaissance. “El Greco” was a nickname, a reference to his Greek origin.

*Public Domain Photo via
Wikimedia Commons*