

Jubilee - Motherhouse Celebration

Ephesians 1: 11-14 Luke 1: 26-38

ANNUNCIATION-INVITATIONS

MYSTERY UNFOLDING IN TIME

Its Jubilee celebration time! It's an opportunity to be touched by Providence and MYSTERY....unfolding in time on this November 4, 2017.

Surrounded in mystery unfolding in earth time, we gather to give thanks and glory to the One who extended an annunciation-invitation to our 2017 Jubilarians 75, 70, 65, 60 and 25 years ago.

We gather to say thank you Sister Jubilarians for responding to your 'annunciation-invitation so many years ago. We need a flesh and blood Mary today, and that is who you are with us.

We need to touch the holy fire that Mary touched and to recognize divine invitations when they come our way....even when what we are summoned to do, seems impossible.

The mystery into which you were invited years ago replicates Mary's annunciation. Her "yes" changed everything.... as did yours. But little did you know then, how the mystery would unfold after the thunderbolt of your annunciation-invitation to leave the securities of your home town and social habits to join a group of unknown providence women.

Today we remember years and years and months and days of unwavering commitment and response to the unfolding mystery of Providence annunciations.

You know.... long before our Jubilarians were born, or experienced a vocational call for ministry, God dreamed a holy vision in which our Jubilarians would play a special part. Each part ...each person is so sacred, special and different. (Just take a moment to look at our celebrants). And the interior reality of their personal journeys is even more unique. No stage play, film, no opera or musical production can depict the mystery of each of our jubilarians' lives after a spark of Providence ignited within them a "yes", which continues to reverberate and spark hope into other's lives through the enactment and embodiment of their special mystery providence gift.

Casting light on some of the more recent images that the Hubble Telescope has made available to us, we gain faint glimmers of an unfolding, evolving power of God's Plan for Earth People and more specifically our Jubilarians.

Light years AWAY, spectacular galaxies and Nebuli reveal a story about our Provident Creator's plan. The sombrero galaxy M 104, with its 800 billion suns, 28 million light years from our planet earth reveal deep mysteries to us. Imagine! And in the midst of these spectacular evolving revelations, we recall that God held each Jubilarian in love. "Before you were born Sisters Mary K, Mary W, Louise, Jean Louise, Lois Ann, and Mary Grace I knew you and I called you by name. You are mine". (Is.)

The mystery of their vocational unfolding is truly no less remarkable than the story that the Hubble telescope pictures unravel for us in 2017. Sisters, you have walked into the human experience of life where the Mystery of God and life embrace.... All made possible because one day you said "Here I am send me" (1Kings 19 "Be it done to me as you will", Provident God. I will be your Providence for your people.

Can you believe that in 1942, a time when some of us had not yet been given the gift of our earth life, Sisters Mary Kriley and Mary Weatherly, our 75th Jubularians, were already being shaped to share in the life of a ministering God? In 1942 their annunciation-invitation response was formalized as was the response of Mary from Galilee. They promised to be a heartbeat of God on planet earth and to be a sign of God's Providence to those with whom they would share their charism gift. That was 75 years ago and God's vision for the unfolding of a Providence plan, kept their hearts beating. It still reverberates in the hearts and lives of Sisters Mary Weatherly and Sister Mary Kriley.

WE EXALT YOUR PROVIDENCE, .GOTT SEI DANK!

70 years ago our earth world was tottering on the brink of a titanic conflict that witnessed the death of 60 million people. Following the social justice dream of Ketteler, and sensitive to God's call to be a Providence Woman, way back in 1947, Sisters Louise Angelini and Maureen Grabowski directed their eyes and ears to a mysterious annunciation-call to be a witness of hope for God's fearful people. They dared to commit their lives to make Providence more visible on planet earth. And God's plan continued to unravel in time. **WE EXALT YOUR PROVIDENCE, O GOD! DEO GRATIAS!**

As we turn our earth time clocks back 65 years to 1952, we find a post war reality of baby boomers setting a new pace in society. All the dreams, hopes and fears of 1952 had baby boomers questioning life's meaning, but the hearts and ears of Sisters Jean Louise and Lois Ann Wuenstel were tuned to a different sound frequency: an annunciation-invitation to leave all the glitter and hob-nobbing and fears to embrace a life whose focus was to listen in trust to their annunciation-invitation calls. And they dared to say "yes...of course you can count on me. I desire to be your hands and ears, voice and heart for the marginalized and fearful people. Mystery unfolding in time! **WE EXALT YOUR PROVIDENCE O GOD. MUCHAS GRATIAS!**

Let us now turn our time calendars back to 1957. According to sociologists, 1957 ushered in the birth of a new future, Researchers tell us that 1957 was the happiest year ever. Optimism was high! The first nuclear power plant began to generate electricity. It was an age that wrestled with thermo-nuclear dynamics, the space race, the civil rights movement, and the Vietnam War.

Sister Grace Carlisano felt the Spirit rumblings in her personal life. She heard her name called loud and she said "yes" to join God's Providence ministry plan for earth People 60 years ago. **WE EXALT YOUR PROVIDENCE O GOD! JUBILATE DEO!**

Yes, we also have a silver jubilarian we celebrate today in her absence. Our Provident God continues to send angels to those who have ears and an open heart. Sister Denise Kabacinski stands with us as verification that annunciation visitations are still being offered, be it 1992 the year of her annunciation- invitation or 2019, or 2097.

We exalt your Providence, O God. We believe in new annunciation-invitations and we trust you will continue to offer them to keep your mystery plan unfolding into the future.

Sister Jubilarians, your community, ministerial, physical, emotional and spiritual experiences of life in following your vocational calls could fill volumes. At times you have walked in wonder and awe. There were days of great excitement, high energy, hope and wonder, and you could say with conviction in the midst of the signs of the times, "We exalt your Providence, O God" .

At other times you have moved along in a flood of doubt. There were thresholds you were asked to cross that were filled with insecurity, high risk, doubt, questions and discouragement. In those days it was undoubtedly more difficult to pray: "We exalt your Providence, O God" ., but you kept praying. The mystery and loving care of our Provident God was always with you.

You now stand at the gate of tomorrow facing an unknown future. You stand on the edge of the hopes and dreams that stirred your hearts when you first said "yes" to your annunciation-invitations. You pray today in trust to be led and supported by a Love and energy much larger than you can imagine. You are challenged to walk with courage, passion, and integrity in these latter years of your "yes" as you discern the calls of Providence amid the cacophony of diminishment and your own questions and doubts.

If the winds of change in your personal earth body, our community, the Church or the world tempt you to wonder What or Who really calls you into tomorrow, surrender yourself one more time into the hands of our Provident God as did Mary, for the future can also awaken an excitement, offering you new visions and dreams. Dear Jubilarians, you are invited one more time to be co-creators of an unknown future. What power and gift!

Nothing can hold us back from cultivating the dream seeds offered to Bishop Ketteler and Mother Marie back in 1851 so that God's Eternal Plan for Earth People might keep unfolding for the Mission entrusted to us. ... a power for mission that is much stronger than our fears of "diminishment" or uncertainty.

We walk boldly into the secret passageways of tomorrow. We dauntlessly engage all our Providence gifts and energies in openness to the Mission and right relationships to keep God's Mystery Providence plan for earth people dynamically alive and unfolding.

WE EXALT YOUR PROVIDENCE, O GOD AND WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO MAKING YOUR PROVIDENCE MORE VISIBLE.