



# Contemplatives in Action

Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
United States and Philippines

OCTOBER, 2011

VOLUME 22, NUMBER

## Across Two Oceans-Philippine Mission 1962-2012

*The Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, with great jubilee, celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of its missionary foundation in the Philippines. The opening of the jubilee year will take place in the city of its first foundation, Dumaguete City, Philippines on October 15, 2011.*

As we prepared to launch the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Philippine mission on October 15, 2011, I also began to recall significant events, persons, images, and experiences that made up our life's long journey.

On October 14, 1962 two courageous Sisters of Mount Carmel from New Orleans, Louisiana, Mother Marcella Foret and Sr. Carmelita Danos (pictured) boarded the freighter *President Quezon*, crossed the vast Pacific Ocean and landed on Philippine shores after 22 long days, to lay the foundation of the Sisters of Mount Carmel in the Philippines, a beautiful tropical country with 7,101 islands. This was the second time of "crossing the sea" (first, the Atlantic: France to America), which reminds me of Mother St. Paul's deep longing to have missions in other countries as expressed to Sr. Therese Chevrel, "Carmel will use you. You will cross the sea and it will not perish."



True enough, this prediction was realized through the vision and mission endeavors of Bishop Epifanio Surban, Bishop of Dumaguete, and Fr. Fidelis Limcaco, to have Carmelites assist in the education and health ministries of the

diocese. After communication with the Sisters in New Orleans, they agreed to train Filipino candidates and to go back later to serve in the Diocese.

With the help of Msgr. Tomas Avenido, VG, and Mrs. Urbana Canlas, a retired public school teacher, Mother Marcella set up the Cathedral School and became its administrator. This school was formerly called "Little Flower Clinic," a small school for Kinder students. By 1963, the school started with the first three grades, and through the years progressed to high school and college. It was renamed Dumaguete Cathedral



On May 26, 1963, Mother Dolores dela Houssaye, Sr. Juliana Danos and Father Becnel arrived in the Philippines together with the first four Filipina Sisters trained in New Orleans: Imelda Domingo, Germaine Abad, Antoinette dela Fuente and Mary Rose Deloria. They were assigned either in the school or the hospital. Pictured, left, is Archbishop John Cody sending forth the missionaries from the New Orleans port.

### In This Issue

Across Two Oceans- Philippine Mission	1-3
History Highlights	3
Opposite Sides of the Sea	4
Development Letter	5
In Memory Of	6-9
In Honor Of	9-10
Sister Elsie Mier	10
News of Note	11-14
Presence... A Reflection on Philippine Ministries	15

*continued to page 2*

## Across Two Oceans-Philippine Mission continued from page 1

College, and again renamed "Colegio de Santa Catalina of Alexandria" (COSCA). Sister Carmelita became principal and upgraded the school. Three years later, she transferred to Holy Child Hospital as Administrator, and improved the hospital facilities and health services with Sr. Gloria Ibalio, who later replaced her.

Holy Child Hospital began with 50 beds on May 25, 1965. It served the people not only in their physical illness, but also in their spiritual needs. To reach out to the poor, the hospital extended its services to the people in the barrios through two Programs: "The Family Life Center," opened on July 1, 1970, and "The Mount Carmel Mobile Clinic," which began on August 5, 1978 to train health workers in the "Community Based Health Program" with the use of alternative herbal medicines.

In Dumaguete, Mother Marcella founded and organized the Dumaguete Cathedral Credit Union in 1968 to help people pay off their debts and borrow money for small businesses. Today, the "Dumaguete Cathedral Credit Cooperative" (DCCO) is a three-story building with a highly organized staff. When I visited the place, I was amazed at its growth and development: membership rose from 49 to thousands, and the Cooperative has spread to four towns, including Siquijor, and according to the General Manager, is now acknowledged at the United Nations. When I saw Mother's big picture hanging on the wall of the meeting room, I said to myself, truly, Mother has left her imprint in the hearts of the Dumagueteños.

In 1969, Mother Marcella transferred to Manila to oversee the construction of a Central House in Fairview, Quezon City on land purchased with restrictions from the Regalado Family. Sr. Mary Grace Danos came to help secure funds for the construction. The new house opened in January 1974, but unfortunately Mother Marcella did not see this building open; she died July 1, 1972. A school adjacent to the building, "Flos Carmeli," owned by the Regalados, was also built and the Sisters managed the school. In 2001, the "Sisters of Mount Carmel Catholic School" (SMCCS), was opened, which progressed to offer kinder through high school. A "Learning Center" for the poor children in the squatter area behind our property, was built offering Kinder; deserving students are given scholarships in our school.

In 1976, the Central House also became the Formation House where our candidates were trained instead of in New Orleans USA. In 1977, formation was moved to Banawa, Cebu, a strategic place for vocations, and in 1981, formation was moved to Dinalungan, Aurora where the sisters lived a simple life style, immersed with the poor, and responded to the thrust of the local church with the "preferential option for the poor."

With changes in the local church and awareness of the Philippine situation in the 70s-80s, the Sisters ventured into other mission places outside Dumaguete. In 1975, Cauayan, Negros Occidental, the first mission in the rural areas was opened. Magallon, Negros Occidental was opened in 1972 but was short-lived. In 1982, Karomatan, Lanao del Norte was opened to serve in the "Dialogue of Life and Faith" with the Muslims. Much later, other mission places were opened: Biancoan, Sorsogon, Romblon, and in Aurora, Quezon.

In 1987, Carmel Center was erected in Balugo, Dumaguete, a rural area with a rustic setting, conducive to silence and meditation. There the St. Teresa of Avila Kiosk offers space for retreats and seminars. The local house is also used for formation and gatherings of the sisters. In 1994, a house was bought in Project 4, Quezon City for the Sisters studying in Manila and neighboring areas. This became the House of Studies, which was renovated and completed in 1996.

As oceans encounter violent storms, we too had our turbulent stormy years: conflicts in Regional Leadership; departures of sisters; flight of the sisters and refugees in mission areas in Karomatan and in Dinalungan, Aurora; internal conflicts in Flos Carmeli; closing of several mission houses; fire in Holy Child Hospital (April 7, 1982); deaths of Mother Marcella and Sr. Pablita Claro; conflicts between Muslim tribes, military and rebel groups; typhoons, floods and other disasters; and the dark years of Martial Law.

On the other hand, I remember a quote that says: "After every violent storm there is a sure foundation," a calmness. As I look back, I recall our many blessings amidst these storms: fluctuating, but constant entrance of "young" candidates; involvement in various ministries in response to the "signs of the times," and the needs of the local church; outreach in poor areas; rebuilding, growth and expansion of Holy Child Hospital; development and growth of Cathedral School, and Credit Union; Carmelite presence in Muslim areas and in solidarity with the poor wherever we are; spread of "Spirituality of Stewardship" in many dioceses and parishes. Like Mother Marcella, and others who have left us, we too, I feel, have left our imprints in the hearts of the people we have served and likewise, their imprints on us.

From 1962 to the present, I believe the Holy Spirit flowed and shaped our history and despite all the struggles, tragedies, joys, sorrows, accomplishments, hopes and fears, the Carmelite spirit lives on and we are challenged to live in the present, open to wherever the Spirit is leading us. Repeating Mother St. Paul's words, "...You will cross other seas and it (Carmel) will not perish.," we hope and pray the Philippine mission will not only "not perish," but will cross other seas and land on other shores. We look at the past with thanksgiving and we look at the future with courage, faith and hope, and unite as we heed the Holy Spirit, and through the intercession of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, carry on our mission in the world.

*References: Sr. Mary Philip Surban: Mission Endeavors..Fulfillment of a Prophecy "From Ashes to a Blessing" Holy Child Hospital, April 7, 1983 Souvenir Program of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dumaguete Cathedral Diocese; Souvenir Book of the Golden Anniversary of COSCA Interview with some Sisters; my own experiences in the mission for 45 years.*

*Sister Angie Donado, O. Carm. resides in Quezon City where she is currently researching the history of the Sisters of Mount Carmel in the Philippine region.*



## History Highlights

*In September of 1959, Mother Dorothy Guilbeau and Mother Marcella Foret made a preliminary visit to the Philippines to recruit the first Filipina vocations. The following is an excerpt of the diary written three years later by Mother Marcella Foret during the first months of establishing the mission in the Philippines.*

"Reverend Mother Dolores and the Council decided that time was ripe for our first venture into foreign lands and that we should send two Sisters to prepare the way for four more later on in the year. It was suggested that any American Sisters professed for at least fifteen years who wanted to volunteer for this mission would write a letter to the General Council before December 31, 1961. Seventeen offered their services. The letters were read at the January Council Meeting. Since this was so momentous a decision to make, it was decided that a month of prayer by the community would be asked before the final word and decision were given. At the February meeting votes showed that Mother Marcella and Sister Carmelita were the chosen and privileged ones. Both realized the importance of this decision and promised to do their best to fill the trust that was being placed in them. And so preparations for the great project began."

By 1971, five Americans and fourteen Filipinas formed the communities for health care and education ministries in the Philippines. Pictured in Dumaguete for the



Celebration of Mother Marcella's Golden Jubilee are: Seated front row : Sisters Linda Nadela, Valerie Gros, Marie Hope Aguila, Mother Marcella Foret, Sisters Ignatious Boutte, Rosalinda Lim, Lourdes Calleja. Back Row: Sisters Teresa Carmel Juarez, Carmelita Danos, Ascuncion Mendiola, Josepha Maria McNeil, Angelica Donado, Cecile Marie Paltinges, Bernardine Juarez, Miriam Benares, Fidel Marie Avangado, Mary Philip Surban, Mary Rose Deloria, and Clarissa Lusabia.

## Message from the Administration

# Opposite Sides of the Sea

As I began to prepare my reflections for this issue of *Contemplatives in Action*, I found myself singing a few lines from the Finale to the musical, *South Pacific*. Nellie Forbush (Mitzi Gaynor in the film version) and Emil de Becque ( Rossano Brazzi) sing to each other: Born on the opposite sides of a sea, we are as different as people can be.....It's true. And yet you want to marry me?....I do. How apt these words seem in the context of our Filipina-American community. However did these two groups of women separated by a vast ocean and by cultures distinctively eastern and western, form one Carmelite community? What gave young Filipina women the courage to leave their homes, their families, their beautiful country composed of thousands of islands, beaches, mountains, lush tropical flowers and the mangoes and bananas you can pick right off a tree (another line from *South Pacific*), to join a religious community composed of women of whom they knew little? What impelled the American women to receive them? And furthermore, what gave two middle-aged Louisiana women the adventuresome spirit that led them to return with their young Filipina sisters to the Philippines to begin a foundation there?

The answer is, of course, God's Spirit of Courage, of Openness, of Love. The spirit of Carmel is love, and those first Filipina sisters were caught up in the desire to be part of Carmel, and to spread that spirit of Carmel in ministries of education, health care and pastoral service. It is God's Spirit that brought us together and that enabled Mother St. Paul's long-ago prophecy, "God will use you; you will cross the sea and Carmel will not perish," to live again. Our Carmel, founded in France, transplanted to Louisiana, has lived now for fifty years in the Philippines.

These years have not been without struggle. The forming of a community with two distinct cultures and multiple variations within our American and Filipino regions has required large and loving hearts, sacrifice, and the capacity to honor both Asian and Western ways. We have not always done this well, we have misunderstood each other and we have made mistakes, but sometimes, much of the time, we have made concrete an image used by Pope John Paul II in his encyclical, *Redemptoris Mater*. Reflecting on Mary as a source of unity among Christians, he expressed the hope that the Church can breathe fully with her two lungs, the East and the West. The Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel breathes more fully because we have two lungs: East and West, Filipina and American. We support each other, we balance each other, we are a breath of fresh air for each other. To paraphrase words from the Finale of *South Pacific*; Who can explain this? Who can tell us why this has endured? Fools give you reasons; the wise never try... We have endured because God loves us. Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, dear Sisters of Mount Carmel in the Philippines!

*Sister Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, O. Carm. is president of the congregation.*



Dear Friends of the Sisters of Mount Carmel,

The fall season is upon us again and we observe nature's change as brilliantly colored leaves fall from the trees. The leaves let go, blanketing themselves on the ground as food, nourishing new life that comes in the spring. Such is the cycle of life in God, too. Our loved ones, having let go of life among us, now live with God within the communion of saints offering God praise and interceding for us.

Through the Development Office of the Sisters of Mount Carmel, we remember those newest saints of heaven who joined the multitude of heavenly hosts to praise and worship God. They have let go of earthly life to enter new eternal life. We join you in remembering those who have died during this past year, those awaiting heavenly glory, and those newly joined to the multitude of saints. We especially remember them in the celebration of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day in November.



Your donation to the Development Office in memory of the deceased, places their name on the list of prayer intentions of our sisters who remember them monthly at the celebration of the Eucharist offered at our motherhouse chapel in New Orleans and at St. Leo convent in Lafayette. With the information you provide, we will acknowledge your donation made in memory of the deceased to the person you designate who has lost their loved one. The name of the deceased will be listed in our quarterly publication with your name as the person who has remembered them through a donation to the Sisters of Mt. Carmel. The person who received the notice of your memorial donation will also receive a copy of *Contemplatives in Action* which lists the name of their loved one.

Similarly, if there is someone you would like to honor for a special occasion, the same gesture of a card and a copy of the publication are sent to them.

In a separate gesture of gratitude to you, our friends and supporters, we include the opportunity for you to send us your prayer intentions. You and your intentions are remembered in the daily prayers of the Sisters of Mt. Carmel. Please return your list of intentions to us in the envelope provided.

Office of Development

*Sisters, please include the following in your November prayer intentions:*

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

# In Memory Of

**Abadie, Sr., Mr. Carl "Black"** by Ms. Joan Vallee Rome

**Albrecht, Mr. Jules** by Ms. Vallery Oliveri

**Andres, Stacy** by Shelley and Orlando Matus

**Arceneaux, Doris** by Ms. Peggy Gossen

**Babineaux, Mr. Roy** by Ms. Carmen Erdman

**Baehr, Mr. Claude** by Ms. Lorie T. Schilling

**Barrousse, Sr., Mr. Frank** by Mrs. Annie Gauthreaux, T.O. Carm.

**Baudoin, Craig A.** by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Aguilar

**Bauer, Mr. Joey** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.,  
Ms. Theresa Doucet

**Begnaud, Mr. Gary** by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader

**Bement, Mr. Peter J.** by Mr. and Mrs. Ewell V. Landry

**Berken, Mr. Herman,** by Leona Berken Smailhall

**Bernard, Mrs. Velma** by Mrs. David Landgrave

**Berret, Mrs. Doris K.** Mr. and Mrs. Douglas J. Delord

**Berret, Mr. Harold A.** by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas J. Delord

**Bertrand, Mrs. Irene Audrey Sellers** by Ms. Deanna L. Gary,  
Mrs. Therese H. LaBorde, Mrs. Kate Luquette, Mr. and Mrs.  
Robert, Sonnier, Sr.

**Bertrand, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney** by Mr. and Mrs. Mark J. Morvant

**Bienvenue, Mr. Roland** by Mrs. Gertrude Maraist

**Bossier, Mr. Charles** by Mrs. Virginia Donner

**Bossley, Mr. Ronald** by Mrs. Vicky H. Landry

**Boudreaux, Mrs. Clara Belle** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Bourgeois Elanor Alice,** Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Bourgeois, Girard W.** by Mrs. Betty Bourgeois

**Bourque, Mrs. Vernice** by Mrs. Alberta Winch

**Boutte, Sr., Mr. Calvin** by Ms. Irene Anne Melancon

**Breaux, Mr. Cecil** by Mrs. Edith Owens

**Breaux, Mr. Conrad** by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Landry

**Breaux, Ms. Denise Poché** by Ms. Mary Minvielle Pesson,  
Ms. Therese M. Segura

**Breaux, Mr. Johnny** by Ms. Barbara Istre

**Briggs, Miss Amada Claire** by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hernandez,  
Ms. Betty C. Perrodin, Mrs. Jeanette Simoneaux

**Briggs, Jr., Mr. Willard** by Mrs. Jerry Chauffe, Mr. and Mrs. Harry  
Dieckman, Mrs. David Landgrave, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Simmons

**Brignac, Mr. Brady** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.,  
Ms. Peggy Gossen

**Brockett, Ms. Harrietta** by Dr. Keith Cangelosi

**Broussard, Mrs. Bonnie** by Mr. R. Brady Broussard, Jr.

**Broussard, Edward** by Mr. Paul Duhon and Family

**Broussard, Mrs. Elaine** by Ross and Cindy Landry

**Broussard, Dr. Lastie J.** by Mrs. Alberta Winch

**Broussard, Mr. Lawrence** by Carol Trahan, Mr. and Mrs.  
Buddy Vincent

**Broussard, Lloyd** by Ms. Cynthia Roy

**Broussard, Sue Smith** by Ms. Patricia Rader

**Broussard, Mrs. Queever Chambers** by Mr. and Mrs. Errol J.  
Delahoussaye, Mrs. Theresa B. Guidry, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Garzotto,  
Mr. and Mrs. Chip Lopez, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Roussel

**Brown, Lulu Sabatier** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr., Mr. and  
Mrs. John Hains, II

**Bryson, Mrs. Sarah Mae Hains** by Ray, Sis, and Annette Carro ,  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr., Ms. Betty C. Perrodin

**Buford, Therese** by Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Armentor

**Burke, Mary Margaret** by Mr. and Mrs. Benny Andrus,  
Mrs. Maxine V. Roy

**Caballero, Mrs. Rose** by Mrs. Mary M. Raynal

**Cart, Mrs. Joe** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Cart, Lillian "Jo"** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Cart, Tommy** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Casey, Meg** by Mr. and Mrs. Pat Flower

**Cavalier, Ruth and Quentin** by Jan and Deb Cavalier

**Cavell, Mr. Leo** by Mr. and Mrs. Laury Dupont, Mr. Scott Dupont,  
Drs. James and Ann Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. David Landgrave,  
Sisters of Mount Carmel

**Champagne, Mr. Raymond** by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Landry

**Chatelain, Mrs. Helena** by Mr. and Mrs. Terry Roussel and  
Ann Catherine

**Chen, Mrs. Edith** by Mrs. Viola Heavey

**Chiasson, Mr. and Mrs. Willard** by Thad Gautreaux and Donna  
Boullion, Ethel and Darrell Gregory

**Clark, Mrs. Esson "Iona"** by Mrs. Alberta Winch

**Clausen, Mr. Warren** by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Braud

**Cole, Mr. Kevin** by Dr. Keith Cangelosi

**Comeaux, Mr. Thomas Lee** by Ms. Bridget Mires

**Constantin, Mrs. Marguerite Heinen** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen,  
Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Cotaya, Marion Villar** by Ms. Vallery Oliveri, Korie and Tony  
Giglio

**Cousin, Sr., Mr. Peter M.** by Helena Cousin

**Cramer, Mrs. Sophie** by Theresa Doucet, Mr. and Mrs. Larry  
LeBlanc, Ms. Susan M. Olinger

**Creswell, Mrs Ruby Mayfield** by Mr. and Mrs. Abner J. Guillory

**Crochet, Mrs. Shirley** by Mrs. Maisie T. Rodrigue

**Crosby, Mr. Bill** by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Greco, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne  
Naquin

**Curry, Mrs. June Kerrigan** by Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Cassreino

**Danos, O. Carm., Sister Mary Grace** by Mr. Warren F. Caire,  
Mrs. Beth Gray

**Darby, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin** by Mr. and Mrs. James E. Trahan

**Dauphine, Mrs. Eula B.** by Ms. Irene Anne Melancon

**Dauterive, Mr. Edward** by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Skains

**David, Mr. Patrick** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**David, Mrs. Margaret S.** by Dr. Joseph C. Kite

**Decareaux, Mrs. Joycelyn Heitkamp** by Larry Valdin, Danna  
Valdin and Asaro Family

**Decuers, Mrs. Caroline Haight** by Mr. and Mrs. William  
Arnold, II, Ms. Marion F. Lochridge

These listings include donations received from May 1 - July  
31. Memorial donations or donations in one's honor assist  
the sisters in their ministries. For more information contact:

**Sisters of Mount Carmel**

**Office of Development**

P.O. Box 1160

Lacombe, Louisiana 70445-1160

(985) 882-7577 or (504) 524-2398

e-mail: [development@sistersofmountcarmel.org](mailto:development@sistersofmountcarmel.org)

# In Memory Of

**Dejean, Mrs. Geraldine M.** by Mrs. Jeanette Simoneaux  
**Delcambre, Mrs. Frances “Pee-Wee”** by Mr. and Mrs. Errol J. Delahoussaye

**Delord, Raymond P.** by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Delord

**DeMarco, Mr. Joe** by Shelley Matus

**DeRouen, Carroll** by Mrs. Gloria DeRouen

**Diedrich, George and Ouida Mai** by Glenn and Nancy Diedrich

**Dodge, Robbie** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Dominguez, Mrs. Maria Aurora** by Mr. and Mrs. Philip A. Kerne, III

**Doucet, Mr. Eby** by Mr. and Mrs. Craig A. Durio

**Doyle, Mr. Ronald Joseph** by Mr. and Mrs. William Arnold, II

**Drake, Mrs. Marion** by Mr. and Mrs. Rob Lakey

**Duet, Mr. Louis J.** by Mr. Joseph Calato

**Dufrene, Sr., Mr. Donald Anthony** by Gifted Nurses

**Duhon, Mr. Corbett J.** by Wilda and Gleada Broussard, Mrs. Alga Landry

**Duhon, Mrs. Maude A.** by Mr. and Mrs. Craig A. Durio, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Faulk, Mrs. Jeanette Simoneaux

**Duhon, Mr. Stanley T.** by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Faulk

**Edwards, Cody Lance** by Mr. and Mrs. Jay Garzotto

**Elliott, Juana Lolanda Salvatierra** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Erikson, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas** by Ms. Elaine Erikson and Mr. Bruce Cameron

**Fabre, Mrs. Cecilia B.** by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dieckman

**Faulk, Mrs. Loretta Sellers** by Sister Andrée Bindewald, O. Carm., Sister Joan Broussard, O. Carm., Ms. Anne DeGrauw, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hebert, Sisters of Mount Carmel Shalom Community, Sister Fatima Mouton, O. Carm., Sister Judith Hebert, O. Carm., Mrs. Myrtis Quinilty, Mr. Joseph G. Vallee

**Ferrara, Patricia Tramuta** by Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Cassreino

**Fertetta, Mr. Anthony** by Mrs. Edith Henry

**Foley, Mrs. Deanie** by LTC Sidney I. Davis

**Foley, Norma Dean** by Sisters of Mount Carmel

**France, Mrs. Normel** by Drs. James and Ann Jackson

**Frederick, II, James H.** by Mr. and Mrs. James Frederick

**French, III, Mr. Frank** by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Delaune, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Viator

**Fricchione, Arthur** by Jan and Deb Cavalier

**Gary, Ms. Eva Marie** by Bernice and Mary Ann Breaux, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Comeaux, Ms. Naomi Comeaux, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Faulk, Ms. Betty C. Perrodin, Bill and Charlotte Reed

**Gastal, Mrs. Denise L.** by Mrs. Verlon Trahan

**Gauthier, Ms. Inez O.** by Mr. and Mrs. Errol J. Delahoussaye, Mrs. Louis F. Maraist, Jr.

**Gauthreaux, Sr., T. O. Carm., Mr. and Mrs. Albert** by Mrs. Annie Gauthreaux, T.O. Carm.

**Gautreaux, Mr. Floyd** by Mr. and Mrs. Craig A. Durio Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr. **Gautreaux, Tim and Madonna** by Mrs. Virgie Bender

**Gerspacher, Mr. George** by Mr. and Mrs. Sid Jones

**Gonczy, Jr., Mr. Andrew** by Mrs. Rosalie Gonczy

**Gorgeous, Joycelynn** by Pete and Gail Lassalle

**Granberry, Mrs. Roberta Veazey Duhon** by Wilda and Gleada Broussard, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sonnier, Sr. Mr. Joseph G. Vallee

**Greco, Mr. David** by Ms. Jeanne deValcourt, Ms. Anne DeGrauw, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Griffin, Mr. Jean R. LeBlanc, Mr. and Mrs.

Bobby Russo, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sonnier, Sr., Mr. Dudley Stelly,

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Trahan, Mr. Joseph G. Vallee

**Guidry, Mr. Tommy** by Mrs. Edith Henry

**Guilbeaux, Mr. Leroy** by Mr. and Mrs. Nason Leger

**Habetz, Mr. Bill** by Ms. Theresa Doucet

**Habetz, Mr. William** by Mrs. Wenzel Habetz, Ms. Susan M. Olinger

**Harbeson, Mrs. Doris** by the R. C. Frick Family

**Hassien, Will** by Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Augustine

**Haydel and Lorio Families** by Mrs. Dorothy D. Lorio

**Heavey, Mrs. Viola de la Houssaye**, Mr. Bruce Cameron and Ms.

Elaine Erikson, Mrs. Melba Duchamp, Mr. and Mrs. James

Guidroz, Sisters of Mount Carmel,

**Hebert, Mrs. Carolyn** by Drs. James and Ann Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Reso

**Hebert, Ms. Elizabeth Anne** by Carolyn and Leo Hebert

**Hebert, Mr. Keary** by Mrs. Edith Owens

**Hebert, Mrs. Lydia Pennison** by Mrs. Frances Jones

**Hebert, Sr., Mr. Ronald “Dick” J.** by Mr. and Mrs. Alton A.

Barrilleaux, Jr., Reverend Mark Derise

**Hector, Shirley S.** by Mr. Michael D. Hector

**Helm, Sarah J.** by Ms. Sally Helm Evans

**Hensgens, C.L.** by Mrs. Gertie Mae Hensgens

**Higginbotham, Ms. Lindsey** by Mrs. Renee Meche

**Hoffpauir, Mrs. Amelia** by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sonnier, Sr.

**Jeandron, Mrs. Emelia** by Immaculate Conception Lay Carmelite Community, Merrie Barrilleaux and Family

**Jeansonne, Rhett and Family** by Merrie Barrilleaux and Family

**Jennings, David** by Ms. Jerrie LeBlanc

**Jolivette, Sr., Mr. Milton J.** by Mr. and Mrs. John Broussard

**Joseph, Joseph C.** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Judice, Clara Potier L.** by Mrs. Alice H. Hebert

**Judice, Mrs. George** by Ms. Elaine Erikson and Mr. Bruce Cameron

**Jumonville, Mr. Robert** by Mrs. Georgia B. Musso, Mr. Joseph G. Vallee

**Keller, Mimi** by Mr. and Mrs. Richard DeVun

**Kelty, Mr. James** by Ms. Vallery Oliveri, Korie and Tony Giglio

**Kite, Debbie** by Dr. Joseph C. Kite

**Kliebert, Milton “Mitch”** by Mr. and Mrs. Denis J. Granier

**Koch, Mr. Robert** by Mr. and Mrs. Abner J. Guillory

**Koenenn, Ms. Mae D.** by Mrs. Edith Owens, Ms. Alice Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Safford

**Kountoupis, Dr. Jim** by Mr. and Mrs. David Landgrave

**Kuehne, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald** by Dr. and Mrs. Charles Nolan, Jr.

**Kulakowski, Ms. Patricia** by Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Fitzsimmons and Family

**LaBauve, Claire** by the LaBauve Family

**Laborde, Mrs. Margaret B.** by Mr. Alden J. Laborde

**Landry, Mr. Hardy** by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Delaune

**Landry, Jacob and Stephanie** by Mrs. Stephanie L. Barineau

# In Memory Of

**Landry, O. Carm., Sister Margaret Mary** by Mrs. Mary Stacy P. Dempsey, Mrs. Georgie S. Mouton

**Lasseigne, Mr. Earl J.** by Mr. and Mrs. Errol J. Delahoussaye

**LeBeouf, Helena R.** by Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Vincent

**LeBlanc, Mrs. Margaret** by Mr. and Mrs. Nason Leger

**LeBlanc, Maxine L.** by Mr. Roland F. LeBlanc

**LeBlanc, Mrs. Yvonne** by Sisters of Mount Carmel

**Ledet, Louis** by Mr. and Mrs. Denis J. Granier

**Leonards, Bobbie** by Leonard Buck Leonards

**Lilyquist, Mrs. Josephine** by Mrs. Edith Henry

**Lopez, Mrs. Cecile D.** by Mr. and Mrs. Chip Lopez

**Lowry, Mr. William M.** by Mrs. Maribeth Peck

**Luckowski, Mrs. Helen Bryant** by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas J. Delord

**Madonia, Mr. Frank** by Mrs. Mary Ruth Keeley

**Major, Ms. Yvonne M., Ms. Lois Bennett, Ms. Peggy Gossen,**  
Mrs. Ninette Romeo

**Mallon, Rosemary Patricia** by Mr. and Mrs. Sidney D. Jones

**Manuel, Mrs. Betty** by Sisters and Staff of Cub Corner Preschool

**Maraist, Gertrude** by Mrs. Louis F. Marist, Jr.

**Marsalis, Virginia Smith** by Ms. Patricia Rader

**Martin, Mr. Joe** by Mr. Sidney I. Davis

**Matherne, Mr. Merrick** by Gail and Pete Lassalle

**Maturin, Mr. Lloyd** by Ms. Patty Landry

**Maxwell, Mr. John** by Ellen Tenney

**Mayeaux, Mrs. Josephine** by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Strawitz

**Mayet, Mr. Robert** by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Borne, Jr.

**McDowell, Mrs. Cecilia** by Mrs. Rita M. LeJeune

**McNabb, Mr. Edgar "Mac"** by Mrs. Annie R.

Gauthreaux, T.O.Carm.

**Melancon, Mrs. Irene B.** by Mrs. Alberta Winch

**Melancon, Mr. L. J.** by Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. DeVillier

**Menard, TOC, Mrs. Sadie** by Mrs. Ella M. Boudreaux, Mr. and  
Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Mergist, Barbara Babineaux** by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Cross

**Michot, Mrs. Patricia** by Mr. and Mrs. David Landgrave

**Mier, O. Carm., Sister Elsie** by Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Bearb, Ms.

Peggy Gossen, Mrs. Marie Habetz, Mrs. Mary Ruth Keeley, Ms.

Susan M. Olinger, Ms. Virginia Roussel

**Morgan, Mrs. Edna** by Ms. Theresa Doucet

**Morgan, Holland** by Ms. Theresa Doucet

**Mouton, Mr. and Mrs. A.L.** by Ms. Beverly Mouton

**Mouton, Mr. and Mrs. Leo and Sons** by Mrs. Nell Dean

Mouton Roberts

**Mouton, Marie Rose Cramer** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Mouton, Mrs. Marie** by Ms. Theresa Doucet

**Mouton, Mr Michael O'Neil** by Mrs. Georgie S. Mouton

**Nolan, Sr., Mr and Mrs. Charles** by Dr. and Mrs. Charles  
Nolan, Jr.

**O'Conner, Ms. Cathy** by Ms. Theresa Doucet

**O'Neal, Mr. David** by Mr. and Mrs. John Broussard

**Orillion, Mrs. Barbara** by Mr. and Mrs. David Landgrave

**Ortemond, Mrs. Melba** by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sonnier, Sr.

**Patout, Mrs. Agnes Louise Decuir** by Mrs. Rebecca Louise  
Dunn Fuqua

**Pellerin, Connie** by Mrs. Shirley Pellerin

**Perez, Mrs. Joan Rhodes.** by Mrs. Cheryl Gosnell Delcambre,  
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Roussel

**Perez, Peggy Ransonet** by Mr. and Mrs. Errol J. Delahoussaye

**Perkins, Mr. Lee E.** by Mrs. Stella Z. Doucet

**Perrault, Mr. Alvin** by Dr. Keith Cangelosi

**Peschier, Mrs. Caroma B.** by James and Mary Bonin Trahan

**Petit, Mrs. Gertrude R.** by Mr. and Mrs. Rob Lakey

**Pitre, Mrs. Geraldine** by Sister Barbara Nell  
Laperouse, O. Carm.

**Plaisance, Frankie** by Bernice and Mary Ann Breaux

**Plaisance, Mrs. Velma Ledet** by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sonnier, Sr.

**Plauche, Mr. Francis A.** by Vilma Norton

**Porche, Ms. Suzanne** by Ms. Stella Z. Doucet

**Powers, Judy Mills** by Shelley and Orlando Matus

**Prejean, Mrs. Mary June** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Price, Mrs. Mary Patout D.** by Mrs. Theresa B. Guidry

**Ragas, Mr. Fulbert "Fibbie"** by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dutel

**Ragusa, Nolarean Binet** by Ms. Hayley Asaro and Family

**Raphael, Mr. Morris C.** by Mrs. Louise M. Cousin, Mr. and Mrs.

James Ebel, Mr. and Mrs. David Graugnard, Mr. and Mrs. Mark  
St. Upery, Mrs. Juanita S. Winkle

**Rashford, Baby Sarah Elizabeth** by Shelley Matus

**Raynal, Jr., Clem** by Mrs. Mary M. Raynal, Mr. and Mrs. Fred  
Gossen, Sr.

**Reed, Mr. Boyce Ray** by Mr. and Mrs. Errol J. Delahoussaye

**Reiners, Sr., Mr. John** by Ms. Theresa Doucet, Mr. and Mrs.  
Nason Leger

**Rigaud, Lewis** by Mr. and Mrs. George White

**Rito, Mr. Frank** by Mrs. Gerry Rito

**Rizzuto, Mrs. Judith Thomas** by Mrs. Joan T. Vincent

**Rogers, Mrs. Patsy** by Claire, Kim, Beth, Suzy and Georgia  
Merryman

**Roper, Mrs. Marguerite** by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Labat, Sr.

**Rose, Jr., Edmund "Buddy"** by Rosemary and Rene Broussard,

Mrs. Louise M. Cousin and Germaine, Mr. and Mrs. Olton

Hebert, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Larroque, Mrs. Estelle Williams

**Roy, Danny J.** by Mrs. Cynthia Roy

**St. Pierre, Mrs. Mary Grace** by Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Abadie

**Samson, Mrs. Karen** by Mr. and Mrs. Raiv H. Weixel, Jr.

**Samuelson, Mr. Richard** by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Hoppe

**Sandoz, Rena** by Mr. James Sandoz

**Sartain, Mrs. Peggy** by Mrs. Virginia Donner

**Saunier, Ms. Gerri and Saunier Family** by Mr. Mike Saunier

**Savoy, Mrs. Reva** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Scheuermann, Loyola** by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Darragh

**Schliegmeyer, Mrs. Willie** by Shelley Matus

**Seeman, Mr. Fred** by Mrs. Mary Ruth Keeley

**Sehon, Mr. James Ferrell** by Mr. and Mrs. James E. Trahan

**Sheffler, Mrs. Belinda** by Shelley and Orlando Matus

**Shetler, Don** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Simon, Ms. Peyton Ross** by Mrs. Jami Tonguis Lowe

**Sledge, Kim** by Mrs. Merrie Barrilleaux and Family

**Smailhall, Mr. Louis** by Mrs. Leona Berken Smailhall

**Smith, Mrs. Noemie D.** by Ms. Patricia Rader

**Spaulding, Mr. Milton** by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Yeargain



## In Memory Of

---

**Sternfels, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred "Fritz"** by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Sternfels

**Sykes, Mr. Joesph** by Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Deady

**Szydluk, Mrs. Gloria** by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Darragh

**Tanchuling, Mr. Ramon** by Ms. Malou Guerrero-Lee

**Texada, Mrs. Nancy Jo** by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Hightower, Jr.

**Thomas, Mrs. Esmer** by Mrs. Elaine E. Thomas

**Thomas, Mrs. Margie Pierce** by Mrs. Catherine Cripps Parmley

**Timmons, Mrs. Ruby** by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Hoppe

**Torres, Mrs. Madonna M.** by Mrs. Betty T. Bourgeois

**Torres, Dr. William J.** by Mr. and Mrs. Pat Foley

**Trahan, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Adam** by Genny Marks

**Trahan, Clarence and James** by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Brownlee

**Trahan, Eltes** by Ms. Verlon Trahan

**Trahan, Sr., Dr. and Mrs. Harold** by Mrs. Catherine T. Miller

**Trahan, Dr. James** by Mr. and Mrs. Roland Denison

**Trahan, Mrs. Lena** by Mr. and Mrs. Craig A. Durio, Ms.

Theresa Doucet, Mr. and Mrs. Nason Leger

**Trahan, Dr. Sonny** by Mrs. Catherine T. Miller

**Troth, Mrs. Shirley Falcon** by Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Donner

**Vallungo, Mr. Paul** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Velkas, Mr. John Dr.** and Mrs. John Parmley

**Vice, Mrs. Gwen L.** by Mrs. Alberta Winch

**Wagner, Miriam** by Pete and Gail Lassalle

**Walk, Mr. Frank H.** by Mrs. Juli Matthews, Lisa Pisa, Donna Asaro

**Walters, Mrs. Ann M.** Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dieckman

**Weigand, Mae Ryan** by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Darragh

**Wetzel, Mr. Rodney** by Mrs. Lorraine Rock

**Williams, Ms. Ann Claire** by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dieckman

**Wynne, Mrs. Lessie L.** by Mr. and Mrs. David Landgrave

**Young, Dylan Clay** by Mrs. Alberta Winch

## In Honor Of

---

**Allemond, Billy and Carolyn** by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gossen, Sr.

**Barrilleaux, Judy and Merrie** by Mrs. Annie Gauthreaux, T.O. Carm.

**Barrios, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Benavides, Mr. Adan** by Mrs. Dina Hinojosa

**Berard, Jackie and Autrey** by Rose Mary and Rene Broussard

**Bernandi, Jane** by Mrs. Kathleen Broggi

**Billeaud, CDP, Sister Theresa Anne** by Sisters of Mount Carmel

**Blanchard, T.O. Carm., Mrs. Charlene** by Mrs. Annie Gauthreaux, T.O. Carm.

**Blanco, Mrs. Kathleen Babineaux** by Sisters of Mount Carmel, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Galbraith

**Bodin, Lindsey** by Andrea Delaune

**Bond, Mrs. Mary** by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Broggi

**Boudreaux, Mr. Vance** by Immaculate Conception Lay Carmelite Community

**Bourgeois, Mr. Gene** by Mrs. Rose Michel

**Broussard, Mrs. Agnes D.** by Mrs. Alberta Winch

**Broussard Ms. Dorothy** by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Galbraith

**Broussard, Mr. John Harry** by Mrs. John Harry Broussard, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Vincent

**Broussard, Mr. N.R. "Pedo"** by Mr. and Mrs. John Huey Broussard

**Broussard, Rene** by Mrs. Kim Iaconetti

**Broussard, Rosemary and Rene** by Ms. Fay Ferry, Mr. and Mrs. Norris Rader

**Butera, Ms. Lydia** by Mrs. Carmel S. Fitzpatrick, Sisters of Mount Carmel

**Cestia, Ms. Mary Faye** by Gary, Andy and Katie Delaune, Mr. Roland Theriot

**Chauvin, Cullen** by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm.

**Clark, Mr. Chad** by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Vincent

**Class of 1952, Mount Carmel, New Iberia** by Dr. and Mrs. Earl Sonnier

**Cramer, Sister Clare** by Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Robert's Cove, LA, Mrs. Lorraine Rock

**Daigle, Olivia Anne** by Mr. Chris J. Berger

**Duplantis, Mrs. Mary** by Chris and Tara Ayo

**Dupont, Mrs. Allyson** by Mr. and Mrs. Jules Vicknair

**Dupont, Mr. Scott** by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Broggi, Mr. and Mrs. Jules Vicknair

**Eastman, Mr. Arthur** by Mr. and Mrs. John Harry Broussard

**Fremine, David and Julia** by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Broggi

**Gauthreaux, Kelley** by Cathedral-Carmel School

**Geerts, Maria** by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Broggi

**Geske, Mrs. Judy and Family** by Mrs. Merrie Barrilleaux and Family

**Gros, Mr. Darrell** by Ms. Bridget Mires

**Guidry, Mr. and Mrs. Noel** by Gail and Pete Lassalle

**Hall, Mrs. Wendy** by Immaculate Conception Lay Carmelite Community

**Hannie, Evelyn** by John F. Tanory

**Hassien, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis** by Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Augustine

**Hayes, III, Rev. Dennis J.** by Mr. and Mrs. John Ramoneda, Jr.

**Jackson, Philip and Fay** by Mr. and Mrs. Jewitt Hulin

**Karst, Viola** by Marrero Lay Carmelite Community

**Kibodeaux, Mrs. Janell** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc

**Laperouse, Mr. Philip** by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Delaune and Katie

**Lay Carmelites of Marrero, LA.** by Mrs. Annie Gauthreaux, T.O. Carm.

**Leal, CDP, Sister Lourdes** by Sisters of Mount Carmel

**Leonard, O. Carm., Sister Anne** by Most Rev. Dominic Carmon, SVD, Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Leonard

## In Honor Of

**Leonard, O. Carm., Sister Lucie** by Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Leonard  
**Leonards, C.D.P., Sister Mildred** by Mrs. Stella Z. Doucet  
**LeRay, Marlene** by Mrs. Kathleen Broggi  
**Luft, Mrs. Myra** by Mr. Scott Dupont

**Mahtook, Mary Ann** by Larry and Donna Boullion  
**Mahtook, Mikie** by Larry and Donna Boullion  
**Martin, Judith Leggett** by Mrs. Georgia Young Moore  
**Mayard, Mrs. Beverly** by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Andrus  
**McBride, Bryan** by Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Landry  
**McNabb, Mrs. Eva and JoAnn** by Mrs. Annie Gauthreaux,  
T.O. Carm.  
**Meaux, Ms. Laura Marie** by Mrs. Wenzel Habetz, Sisters of Mount  
Carmel  
**Miksch, CDP, Sister Helen Marie** by Sisters of Mount Carmel  
**Miranda, Mrs. Nilda** by the Aguilar, Berman and McKee Families

**Parria, Aimee and Troy** by Sister Barbara Nell Laperouse, O. Carm.  
**Petrus, Sister Ann, CDP** by Sisters of Mount Carmel  
**Pharr, Mrs. Patricia** by Rosemary and Rene Broussard,  
Ms. Fay Ferry  
**Picard, Mr. Alvin J.** by Mrs. Kate Luquette  
**Portier, Dilly** by Mrs. Kathleen Broggi  
**Potier, Mr. Leo Merlin** by Mrs. Paul R. Simon  
**Prevatte, Jean** by Frances Galbraith

**Quinilty, Judy Vicknair** by Sister Andrée Bindewald, O. Carm

**Rareshide, Reverend Monsignor Lanaux J.** by Sisters of Mount  
Carmel  
**Rigaud, Mrs. Dorothy L.** by Mr. and Mrs. George White

**Simon, Mrs. Joe** by Immaculate Conception, T.O. Carm.  
**Sonnier, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert M.** by Mr. Joseph G. Vallee  
**St. Mary's Nativity PTC** by Kathleen Broggi  
**St. Mary's Nativity School, Marissa Bagala, Faculty and Staff**  
by Kathleen Broggi  
**Stockwell, Eric** by Mrs. Edith Owens  
**Strehle, Mrs. Pearl** by Mrs. Marcelle Deckert Brinks

**Tanory, Farris J. and Family** by Mr. John F. Tanory  
**Tanory, Jasmine** by Mr. John F. Tanory  
**Theriot, O.Carm., Sister Odile** by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Brinks,  
Jr. and Family  
**Thibodaux, Cathy** by Kathleen Broggi  
**Toups, Peggy** by Mrs. Kathleen Broggi  
**Trahan, Mrs. Molly** by Mr. and Mrs. Larry LeBlanc  
**Tureaud, Mr. and Mrs. Ken and Family** by Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey  
Abadie

**Vison, Justin** by Andrea Delaune

**Wagner, SSJ, Father Richard** by Jan and Deb Cavalier

## Sister Elsie Mier Returns to God

**Sister Elsie Mier, O. Carm.,** formerly Sister M. Richard Mier, a Sister of Mount Carmel and teacher, died July 15 in Lafayette, LA. She was 76 years old, and in the 56<sup>th</sup> year of her religious profession.



Sister Elsie was born on Jan. 30, 1935 in Rayne, LA to Camile Mier and Edes Landry of Rayne, LA. She entered the Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on Sept. 1, 1951 and received the habit of the Sisters of Mount Carmel Aug.

4, 1952. On Aug. 3, 1954, she made her first profession, and pronounced perpetual vows Aug. 1, 1957. She celebrated her fiftieth jubilee in 2004.

Sister Elsie attended St. Joseph School in Rayne, LA and graduated from Mount Carmel Academy in New Orleans, LA. She received her bachelor's degree from Loyola University in New Orleans, LA in Education with a minor in mathematics. Devoting over 34 years to education, beginning in 1954, she taught at Mount Carmel schools in Abbeville and New Iberia, LA and at St. Augustine, St. Dominic and St. James Major in New Orleans, LA, St. Joseph in Rayne, LA and St. Elizabeth in Paincourtville, LA.

After certifying in carpentry from Delgado College Sister worked at Tulane Medical School and was self employed as a carpenter for a period of time. From 1990-2001 she served at Cathedral-Carmel School in Lafayette, LA as teacher-aide, support services and support staff teacher. Since 2001 and until her death she served as Evangelization Visitor in Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Lafayette, LA.

Sister Elsie was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Camile Mier, Jr. and Robert Joseph Mier. She is the fourth of seven children and survived by her brother Richard Daniel Mier of New Richmond, WI and three sisters, Sister Robert Joseph Mier, a Sister of Mount Carmel, Audrey Ann Darcé of Jennings, LA and Roberta Marie Guidry of Crowley, LA. Visitation was held at Gossen Funeral Home, Rayne, LA. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph Church in Rayne followed by interment in St. Joseph Cemetery.

---

# News of Note

---



**Sisters Profess First Vows--Sisters Roslyn Delgado, left, and Schielden Torreda** professed first vows at Mother of Perpetual Help Parish in Balugo, Dumaguete City, Philippines on July 15, 2011



**Postulants Enter the Sisters of Mount Carmel--Three** postulants were received in the program of formation on July 17 in Balugo, Dumaguete City, Philippines. Pictured are **Sisters Mailyn Batocabe, left, with postulants, Elsie Villason, Jenielyn Basadre and Juliet Naga, and Sister Elma Calajatan, right.**

---

**Sister Carlita Panaligan** celebrates 25 years as a vowed religious at a ceremony on July 30. Pictured from left: **Sisters Diana Maquinto, Maryphilip Surban, Adelpha Mahilum, Lourdes Calleja, Gina Yabo, Carlita Panaligan, Angelica Donado and Rosa Fulleros.**



**Sister Carlita Panaligan** enjoys her guests for her 25th anniversary celebration in Fairview, Quezon City, Philippines.

# News of Note



**Sister Lena Collins**, center, professes her transfer of vows to the Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on July 16. The ceremony was held at the Carmelite Spirituality Center, Lacombe, LA. **Sisters Barbara Breaud**, left, and **Beth Fitzpatrick**, right, witness Sister Lena's commitment.



**Sister Lena** welcomes guest from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery. Pictured from left: **Sisters Frances Heffron**, **Lena Collins**, **Dolores Lahr**, and **Donna Hoffman**.

Sisters received their ministry assignments at a missioning ceremony at Lacombe on July 16. Pictured from left: **Sisters Margaret Safford**, **Ursula Diasselliss**, **Donna Girard** and **Evelyn Mire**.



**Carmelite Laity : Our Heritage, Identity and Future**--This was the theme of the Lay Carmelite Convocation held July 22-24, 2011. Over 400 Lay Carmelites gathered from throughout the United States and Canada at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago. Four Sisters of Mt. Carmel from Louisiana, who serve as spiritual assistants to Lay Carmelite Chapters were in attendance: **Sisters Angele Marie Sadlier** and **Denis Rodrigue** from New Orleans, **Sister Francesca Truxillo** from Mandeville and **Sister Laura Melancon** from Lafayette. **Sisters Mary Martin** and **Libby Dahlstrom** from Darien, Illinois facilitated the forum.



Pictured: **Sister Mary Martin** renews her vows on the occasion of her 50th Jubilee of profession at the closing mass of the convocation celebrated by the Prior General of the Carmelites, **Rev. Fernando Milan Romeral, O. Carm.**

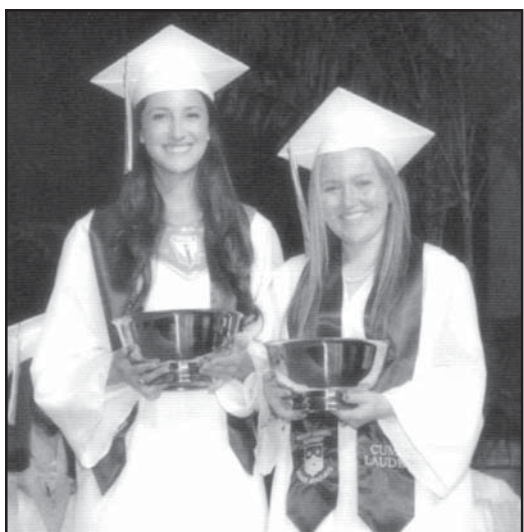
---

# News of Note

---



Eighth graders of Mount Carmel Elementary in Abbeville, LA visit the Motherhouse and archives to learn the historical roots of their school. Pictured with students are **Sisters Janet LeBlanc**, principal, **Therese Gregoire**, archivist (left photo) and teacher, **Mary Beth Falgout** (right photo.)



**Jamie Anna Casadaban** and **Katherine Zoe Smith** received the Carmel Award at Mount Carmel Academy's graduation ceremony, New Orleans, LA. This is the highest award given to an outstanding graduating senior who is true and loyal to Mount Carmel Academy and exhibits virtues of compassion, kindness, involvement, and one who gives of herself to help others.

**Breana Olivier**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Olivier, received the Sisters of Mount Carmel Charism Award at E. D. White's graduation ceremony, Thibodaux, LA. This award recognizes the graduate who exhibits a faith life that encourages her to give of herself to other students and to those in her civic and church parishes. **Sisters Alice Abate**, left, and **Barbara Nell Laperouse** presented the award.



---

# News of Note

---



Sisters gathered at their recently rebuilt retreat/vacation home that replaced the home destroyed in Hurricane Katrina in Waveland, Mississippi. They prayed in gratitude for the restoration and for protection from devastating forces of nature. Pictured left: **Sisters Barbara Nell Laperouse, Anne Leonard, Lawrence Habetz, Francesca Truxillo, Leah Sellers, Lena Collins, Denis Rodrigue and Beth Fitzpatrick.** Pictured right: **Sisters Anne Leonard and Donna Girard** sprinkle the rooms in blessing.

**Sisters Catherine Martin, Leah Sellers, Andree Bindewald and Germaine Lauzon** enjoy the first of their vacation days.



Participating in a prayerful, reflective weekend on loss, held at the Carmelite Spirituality Center, Lacombe, LA are: **Sisters Christina Marie Griggs, Dorothy Trosclair, O. P., facilitator, Mary Martin and Gwen Monahan.**

Visit the Sisters of Mount Carmel at their new website:  
[www.sistersofmountcarmel.org](http://www.sistersofmountcarmel.org)

# Presence... A Reflection on Philippine Ministries

*“If the Lord does not build the house, its builders labor in vain.”  
Psalm 127:1*

I believe that the Lord has been present in and through the Sisters of Mount Carmel since its foundation in 1962. Fifty years of dedicated service have never been in vain. Continuing the ministry of Jesus, we offer our very flesh and blood, as bodies of Christ, in loving service to God’s people through our various ministries. The significant signs have been manifested through the years.

The sisters’ earliest ministries in the Philippines were in Catholic education specifically administering and teaching in the Dumaguete Cathedral School (presently the Colegio de Santa Catalina de Alejandria). The education ministry had always been part of the Philippine Region’s history as the sisters were also administering Flos Carmeli Institute of Quezon City for several years. At present, the only school in the Philippines that the sisters own and manage is the Sisters of Mount Carmel Catholic School in Fairview, Quezon City. This is in response to the people’s aspiration for true and lasting Catholic values which are distinctly Carmelite. We are convinced of the power of education in molding the fate of the nation in terms of moral, cultural and economic directions. The school extends itself by way of an outreach program where quality education is offered for the poor children in the squatters’ area.

Through our healthcare apostolate, the sisters continue the healing ministry of Jesus through the Mount Carmel Mobile Clinic and Holy Child Hospital. With the never-failing grace of God the hospital continues to grow and has been able to respond to the healthcare needs not only to the island of Negros but also to the neighboring islands of Siquijor, Cebu and Mindanao as well. The mobile clinic, an ever-improving community-based health care program in the barrios, awakened the people, especially the women, to the basic truth that they are not totally helpless, and that they can do something for themselves and for the community.

The assistance of the Sisters in the local church, both in the diocesan and parish level, has become more and more needed than ever before. The sisters’ involvement in the field of catechesis, building basic ecclesial communities (BECs), and helping in various parish activities, proved to be beneficial to both the sisters and the people we serve. In gratitude, we carry on the task giving the best of what we can give. The new ministry at San Isidro Labrador Parish in Bagong Silangan opens a fresh opportunity to serve God in the faces of those victims of calamities. May the presence of the Sisters there help them bring back to life their hope, faith and love in the Source of all Life.

Those sisters who for health reasons cannot participate actively in ministry have so much to give, sometimes without them realizing it, in their ministry of prayer. It is also from their prayers that the sisters in active work draw their strength to move on despite difficulties. It is in community where sisters “minister to each other” by offering a gentle smile, listening, affirming, showing genuine interest in what one is doing, and sometimes challenging one another. It is in community that each sister feels that this call to serve the people of God as a Sister of Mount Carmel is really worth spending her life.

*Sister Gina Yabo, O. Carm. is Regional Coordinator, Philippines and Assistant Administrator of Holy Child Hospital, Dumaguete City and Principal of the Sisters of Mount Carmel Catholic School, Quezon City, Philippines.*



# Contemplatives in Action

## **Editors:**

Stephanie R. Johnson  
Sr. Andrée Bindewald  
Sr. Elizabeth Fitzpatrick

## **Collaborators:**

Sr. Alice Abate  
Sr. Barbara Nell Laperouse

## **Contributors:**

Sr. Angelica Donado  
Sr. Gina Yabo

Published quarterly for our friends and benefactors.

The **Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel** is a community whose prophetic call moves the sisters to be in active ministries that help bring about a more peaceful, just and loving world. They are nourished by contemplative prayer, community and devotion to Mary, a woman of simplicity and faith.

## **Website:**

[www.sistersofmountcarmel.org](http://www.sistersofmountcarmel.org)

## **Email:**

[admin@sistersofmountcarmel.org](mailto:admin@sistersofmountcarmel.org)

## **Share the vision; be a *Contemplative in Action***

If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about religious life as a Sister of Mount Carmel, please contact: Sister Alice Abate, 420 Robert E. Lee Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124 - 2596 / 504-302-9795  
E-mail: [vocations@sistersofmountcarmel.org](mailto:vocations@sistersofmountcarmel.org)

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 30  
Lacombe, LA

Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
P.O. Box 476  
Lacombe, Louisiana 70445-0476