# **TEL-A-CROSS**

**Sisters of Holy Cross Newsletter** 

Winter/Spring 2019

## **NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND**



ive years ago on January 6, 2014, Sister Claire Daneau, a Sister of Holy Cross, passed away at the age of 89, leaving a void in the hearts of many, but none greater than in the hearts of "her kids."

It was 1986, a volatile time in Haiti, when Sr. Claire woke to the cry of an infant on her porch. The child, a little boy, had been abandoned. Sr. Claire took him to the hospital to be examined and was told that he was about 3 days old. Taking the child under her care, was the beginning of a new ministry for Sr. Claire. She went from teaching school to founding "Mary Gate of Heaven Orphanage." in Haiti.

Sr. Claire spent 36 years caring for and

loving countless children. The education of "her kids" was a prime concern, **No child was to be left behind.** Thanks to generous benefactors, Sr. Claire's kids

were able to go to school. Some later pursued a trade, others a secondary education.

In 2006, Sr. Claire's declining health brought her back home.



From her room at Holy Cross Health Center, she continued to care for the orphans in a multitude of ways. Meeting and befriending Anne Schmidt, the HR person at our nursing home, was a



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the children faced, Anne decided to travel to Haiti to experience the workings of the orphanage and to reassure Claire that "her kids" were being well cared for. Wanting to alleviate Claire's concerns, Anne formed a committee and undertook fundraising for the orphanage. The committee's main objective is to raise money for the children's education as well as to help those who have aged out of the orphanage and who long to pursue their education.

The major fundraiser is the sale of Raffle Calendars

at a number of churches in NH. Volunteers, members of the committee have spoken in 16 churches. Since 2014 this project raised over \$100,000. This allowed the orphanage to purchase a truck for the transportation of the children to and from school, along with 10 to 12 barrels of shoes and school supplies. The committee intends to continue the calendar drive on a yearly basis during the Lenten season, so that "the kids" can have a better future . Certainly, Sr. Claire is smiling upon these devoted people saying. . . "in the name of my kids, Well Done



(Front left ) Sr. Sally Howe, Anne Schmidt, Sr. Judith Langevin, Sr. Elaine Marquis Sr. Simone Poirier, Rita Furtado, Sr. Denise Turcotte, Sr. Claire Coll





### SAVE THE DATE

Fair October 19, 2019

### NEEDED FOR THE FAIR

- Knitted Goods
- Jewelry
- Gift Certificates (\$10 or more)
- Penny Sale Prizes

Your help is always appreciated.



Mass is celebrated on the 26th of each month for you, our benefactors.

Contributing Editor: Pauline Morneau, CSC



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### **ART EXHIBITION AND ART SALE**

#### SISTER EVA LEDOUX, CSC on REVIEW

By Sr. Blanche Lamarre, CSC Committee Coordinator

hen have you ever had the opportunity to view a great collection of art work and on the very same day purchase that special piece that caught your eye: be it for your home, your office, a wedding gift, or an upcoming anniversary?



This summer, the **Sisters of Holy Cross** are presenting you this occasion by sponsoring an **Art Exhibition/and Sale on Island Pond Road, Manchester, NH.** 

The Sister Eva LeDoux Art Committee is hoping that you will mark your calendar and join us for this eventful experience on the second weekend of August. (More details will follow in your personal invitation).

As many of you already know, Sister Eva Le-Doux's art career was quite extensive. Her numerous landscapes, seascapes, portraits and varied lifegiving flowers already embellish a variety of art collectors' spaces and form part of museum collections. **The Sister Eva LeDoux Art Committee** would like to make her work available to friends, acquaintances, former students and admirers of this talented woman's gift. We are hoping that you will come to the **ART EXHIBITION—SISTER EVA LEDOUX on RE-VIEW** and select something small or something big that responds to what you are looking for.

We want you, the **Tel-A-Cross** readers, to be the first to receive this great news that **THE SISTER EVA LE-DOUX ART EXHIBITION/ART SALE** is an upcoming event. Since the Development Office is faithful to what is posted in each of their publications, they do not share their mailing list. Nevertheless, we would like to see you at the **ART EXHIBITION/ART SALE** and hear from you as you have always been very much part of the Holy Cross Sisters. So if you would like to

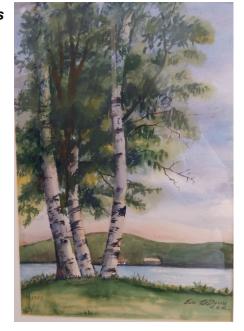
receive a personal invitation with specifics, please send your name and address by email to <u>blanche3069@yahoo.com</u> as soon as possible and you will be first on the list!

Please reserve that weekend on your calendar and spread the word. It's going to be a fabulous event, and a wonderful opportunity to share the "PAST" with the "PRESENT" and leave the Holy Cross Center on Island Pond Road with a work of art under your arm.





Samples Sister's work.



of

# 2019 Jubilarians 60th



Sr. Aline Antil (Claire-Aline)



Sr. Diane Dupere (Raymond of the Redeemer)



Sr. Doris Gagnon (Richard-Andre)



Sr. Suzanne Levesque (Pauline of the Cross)



Sr. Therese Martin (Jeannette)



Sr. Simone Poirier ( Cecile du Redempteur)

65th



Sr. Therese St.Pierre (Martha of the SH)



Sr. Janine Blanchard (Bernard of the Passion)



Sr. Pauline Labrie (Albert of the Savior)



Sr. Mary-Elizabeth Leonard (John-Leonard)



Sr. Pauline Plante (Antonine)



Sr. Ruth George (Rita)



Sr. Patricia St.Hilaire (Hilaire)



Sr. Therese Poirier (Helen of Jesus)

# 80th



(Cecile, Martyr)



Congratulations to all of our Jubilarians.

Let us give thanks and rejoice as we celebrate and thank God for the gift of all these dedicated women.



### **CONGRATULATIONS SR. PAM NOLAN, CSC**

By Sr. Therese St. Pierre, CSC, Tampa, Florida



When I ponder the following words of the Orientation of our recent Chapter, "to dare with people of the margins" and "to move forward with compassion and hope", I think of Sr. Pam who lives these ideals daily in her ministry at Catholic Charities.

Recently she received the following promotion which is shared in this memo:

We are happy to announce that Sister Pam Nolan has been named the new director of Mercy House and HIV Services. As many of you know, Sister Pam has a long history of assisting people affected by HIV/AIDS. It was through her efforts that

Catholic Charities began providing those services. WE are delighted that she has accepted the position of director, which she takes in addition to her role as Director of Elderly Housing.

> Thank You, Sister Pam! Maggie Rogers Interim Executive Director Catholic Charities, Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL. Inc.

Sr. Pam continues to be a valued member of the Leadership Team at Catholic Charities and is the current Director of Elderly House in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida.

CONGRATULATIONS, Sr. Pam! May God grant you the grace to continue to be a beacon of hope for

### **SHARING FROM HCHC STAFF**

On a fine September day four staff members of "Holy Cross Health Center" (HCHC) were invited to speak to the Sisters, regarding their work in the facility. Each member shared his/her personal hands-on experience with the Sisters.



### Tanwa Owolabl, LPN

Tanwa came to Holy Cross in 2014. She applied to Holy Cross to "pay it forward" because of her earlier experience of the Sacred Heart Sisters who volunteered in her home in Nigeria.

Tanwa said that she now feels that Holy Cross is her "home." She was deeply moved by her time caring for Sr. Georgette Beauregard CSC, who encouraged her to become an "Advocate for Tuberculosis." So it is that she became a TB Advocate in 2015. She has followed through and has been to Washington five times advocating for increased funding, new drugs and new technology.





### Laura Renfer, Director of Social Services

Laura has been with us for 17 years. She says, "The Sisters have shown me how they live their lives, respect one another and strive to be Christ like." On a daily basis Laura witnesses the sprit of service and feels that she has been inspired through words and actions and conversations that advocate for another, hearing a kind word for others and visiting each other. She also noted that Sisters remain involved in advocacy for Social Justice Issues and Charity Events.

Laura stated: "I am inspired by the work of the Sisters with those who, at this time in their lives, are infirm, yet devoted, courageous and service-minded to the Glory of God. Holy Cross is indeed a

place where one can feel the heart of Jesus.



### Jody Eafrati, Activities Director

Our cheerful Activities Director has been with us since 2004. She loves being with us because the Sisters are pleasantly present to one another and their caregivers. In spite of illnesses and aches and pains the patients understand, value, appreciate, and celebrate the gifts brought to their Holy Cross family. Jody tells the world that she has never worked with a group of individuals with so much love for life, learning, fun and the desire and enthusiasm for new experiences. She also stated that beyond the progression of their illnesses the Sisters commitment to living in a spirit of service endures. Yes, believe it or not our Resident Choir goes out to other facilities to share the gift

of music, writing birthday cards and handmade thank you cards. In Jody's words, "It's these moments of joy that make a difference in my day and shows that I am a witness to the sisters faithful lives."





### Victor Ishak, Director of Dietary Services

Victor is one more great gift to Holy Cross. He came to us in 2008. He stated that upon meeting the leadership he saw how the Sisters of Holy Cross lived their mission, and now how they continue to be part of everyone's life—especially those who work in the facility. Victor stated that once he began his work at Holy Cross and had the opportunity to meet others and get close to the Sisters he felt the impact of the community. He noted that the Sisters welcomed everyone with open arms—no matter the color or religion. Hearing some comments like "I pray for you everyday and I know how hard you work for us," is a rare kind of treatment and relationship. He also commented that it is a testimony to how the Sisters live their mission every day.

Yes, we make a difference at Holy Cross Health Center– but we also agree that the residents of HCHC have impacted our lives in a far greater way.

WE ARE INDEED GRATEFUL !!!

Submitted by Laura Renfer



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(Visit our Website at: www/sistersofholycross.org )

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