

## Feast of St. Clare, 2011



To Our Dear Families and Friends,

We hope that you are well and are having a good summer! It feels like we just wrote for Easter, but so much has happened since then! Our lives have been full of blessings: your Poor Sisters are very rich....at least spiritually!!!

We are happy to tell you that on August 11, 2011 Archbishop Dennis Schnurr will celebrate the opening of the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of Our Order. Mass will be here in our Chapel at 10:00AM, followed by refreshments. We hope you can join us for this special moment in our lives. We will be celebrating for a whole year!

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, Sr. Luisa, our newest member, renewed her vows during Liturgy. As you recall, Luisa transferred to us last September from our monastery in Taiwan. She said it meant so much to her to renew her vows in English...to really be able to understand the words she was proclaiming. Needless to say, we are looking forward to the day when she can be permanently incorporated into our community.

That same weekend, Sr. Dianne's family visited from New England. Leland, her 1 ½ yr old great nephew, kept her hopping! In early May, Sr. Kellee's mom and sister came to visit from California. Then, on May 20<sup>th</sup>, with the birth of Julien Gregory, Sr. Doris became a great, great Aunt! It is so good to be able to share our families with each other.

Also in May, Sr. Mary Pia, Sr. Dianne & Fr. Jim Van Vurst, OFM traveled to Rock Hill, SC to attend the joint meeting of the Holy Name Federation and Mother Bentivoglio Federation Councils. It is always good to be with sisters from our other monasteries; in between they were able to visit with our sisters in Traveler's Rest, SC. It wasn't all play though....besides three full days of input from Fr. Ray Carey, they began the planning for our Federations' celebration of our 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It will be held next June at St. Bonaventure University. They are off to a good start!

It is our custom to keep the week before Pentecost as a time of retreat. Each of us takes one day to be "Martha", cooking, answering the door, planning liturgy, so that the rest of the community can spend the days in more solitude, prayer and reflection. Three nights of the week we have a sharing on specific questions pertinent to our community life. Needless to say, we relish these days and look forward to them every year. During that same week, Srs. Anna Marie and Dianne were privileged to attend the Ordination of our new Auxiliary Bishop, Joseph Binzer. It was a beautiful outpouring of the Spirit and so fitting for our preparation for Pentecost!

As we bring this letter to a close, we want to assure you of our prayers, especially during the days of our novena before the Feast of St. Clare, Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. We invite you to send your intentions to us, and to pray together with us the following prayer:

O Glorious St Clare, God has given you the power of working miracles and the favor of answering the prayers of all who invoke your assistance. We ask you to obtain for us from Jesus the help we so fervently and hopefully desire. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Be sure of our grateful love for all of your goodness to us! Without you, we could not provide for all of our needs. As we write, we are having major repairs done on our heating and air conditioning system! We hold you and your loved ones in our prayer and know that we count on your prayer for us also. Hope to see you Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at our Run for the Nuns!

Your Poor Clare Sisters,

Ann, Anna Marie, Dianne, Doris, Kellee, Luisa, Pia, Rita and Vickie

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I/we will attend Mass on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_ Number\_\_\_\_\_

Please remember the following intentions during your novena before the Feast of St. Clare:

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