

Easter, 2010



To Our Dear Families and Friends,

We wish you the joy and peace of the Risen Jesus as we enter into this Easter Season! This Palm Sunday will be special for us as we remember the actual day that St. Clare left home 800 years ago to join St. Francis and his brothers. We wouldn't be here if it weren't for her courageous leap into the dark that night. How many times have we each been called to leap into the darkness of uncertainty....the darkness of faith.....

Our two sisters, Pia and Luisa, have tasted that darkness in these last weeks. They both lost young nephews in the Philippines on February 6th. Pia's nephew was twenty-four and recently engaged. He died as the result of a motorcycle accident in the early morning hours. Luisa's nephew, only fifteen, was in school when the recent earthquake struck. A wall with a bas-relief of St. Francis collapsed on him.....Please keep them and their families in your prayers. Their faith in the Easter mystery we are celebrating is so very real.

We began the year on a more joyful note with a personality profiling workshop facilitated by one of our brothers, Tim Lamb, ofm. With the help of several instruments...Myers/Briggs, Firo B,.... each one's uniqueness and giftedness began to emerge. Though there are similarities, no two of us are alike. This knowledge will help us in our community discussions when we are trying to come to a mutual decision. We are looking forward to a follow-up workshop with Tim on communication skills and issues.

Also in January, we had the joy of witnessing Vickie's renewal of vows. We are grateful that she continues to choose life with us as we each seek to follow in the footprints of Jesus in the spirit of Clare and Francis. The light of Clare beamed brightly in our Chapel and on our faces that morning! God keeps gifting us with new life!

We recently learned that we are not going to receive a grant we requested to modify bathrooms for our sisters who are aging and who have special needs. So many religious orders have similar needs and there are not enough grant funds to cover all of them. We are reminded of our difficult economic times and the struggles so many families go through to provide for their loved ones.

We have more good news to share with you. On March 9th we chose our leadership for the next three years. We elected.....as Abbess and.....as Councilors. We trust we are in good hands at this time of new beginnings for us!

As we bring this letter to a close, we want to remind you that the closing celebration for our 800th Anniversary will be at St. Clement Parish, 4536 Vine St, on August 11, 2012 at 10:00. Fr. Jeffrey Scheeler, ofm, Minister Provincial of St. John the Baptist Province, will preside. There will be refreshments in the school cafeteria after Mass; we hope you can be with us!

We are so grateful for your love and support of us in good times and in the more difficult ones. We wouldn't be here without you! Be sure we hold you in our hearts and in our prayers. May you feel Jesus' new life within you!

Your Poor Clare Sisters,

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

Sisters, please remember the following intentions in your prayers:
