

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

843 13th Ave North

Clinton, Iowa 52732

www.ClintonFranciscans.com

Dear family and friends,

This year six sisters are celebrating over 340 years of religious life. Many of you know them. In July we will honor them for their many years of service at a Mass and luncheon here in Clinton.

Sister Pauline Logsdon and **Sister Eleanor Dunning** entered the Sisters of St. Francis on the same day 70 years ago. They were already 'cousins' and then became 'sisters' at their Reception ceremony. Sister Eleanor passed away recently on May 30 2011, just two months before her 70th Jubilee. She lived a beautiful life of prayer and service. She will be missed on Jubilee Day but we know she enjoys eternal bliss with her God.

Sister Maria Zeimen says "Sixty years ago when I entered the convent at Mount St. Clare in Clinton, Iowa, I had no idea that I was following in the footsteps of Francis and Clare of Assisi. It was God's call, not mine. I continue to give thanks and celebrate that call. I was number eight of eleven children and I'm grateful to those sisters and brothers who continue to teach me how to be sister to all."

Sister Donna Burke wrote "On awakening each morning I thank God for my call to be a Franciscan sister. I am especially grateful for how my relationship with God has deepened. These past 60 years have been so inspiring because of the people I have met. I am constantly enriched by the goodness I observe in people."

Sister Barbara Rosener wrote "Jubilee is a time for celebrating all the people who have helped form me and sustain me through these 50 years of service. The values and faith instilled in me by my parents, teachers and family members laid the groundwork for my religious vocation. I am amazed and humbled at all the people, places and events that have filled my life as a Franciscan and I am proud to be part of our Clinton Franciscan congregation of wonderful, dedicated and prayerful women, who continue to do the work of the Lord and St. Francis."

Sister Carmel Jacobs sent these words: "My heart is bursting with gratitude for 50 years as part of this special Franciscan Family, for the countless gifts God has bestowed on me. I treasure every person who has crossed my path on the journey. Quoting Hafiz, I ask you to "join me in the pure atmosphere of gratitude for life."

Sister LaVern Olberding: "Most of all, I am grateful for a Trinitarian God who continually graces me with new insights and relationships that expand my horizons and situations that humble me. My list of reasons for feeling grateful is endless: life, opportunities, challenges, surprises, disappointments, uphill climbs, sudden drops, and benefactors who share their time, talent and treasure."

70 YEARS

Sister Pauline Logsdon



60 YEARS

Sister Maria Zeimen
Sister Donna Burke



50 YEARS

Sister Carmel Jacobs
Sister Lavern Olberding
Sister Barbara Rosener



Clinton Franciscan ASSOCIATES CELEBRATE 25 Years

The Clinton Franciscan Associate Program began in 1986, when women and men in the Clinton area sought to develop a spiritual and social service connection to the Sisters of St. Francis. This year six of that original group are celebrating 25 years as Associates of the Clinton Franciscans. The program has grown to include over 65 Associates in Iowa, Illinois, California and Kentucky, New Mexico, Texas, New York and Boston.

Lydia Halbach became a founding member of the Clinton Franciscan Associates in 1986, seeking to interact with people who were also interested in growing spiritually.

Paul and Judy Schaaf live in Camanche, Iowa and enjoy planning and participating in events at The Canticle.

Roger and Jane Welty also lived in Camanche before moving to Cumming, Georgia, to be near one of their sons. Roger passed away on May 10th and Jane remains in Georgia. We will always remember their many years of activity in our Associate Program.

Ruth Schneider is a frequent visitor to The Canticle, educating us all in her passion for organic farming. Her daughter, Catherine, has also applied to become an Associate.

As members of Methodist Federation for Social Action, the Weltys, the Schaafs and Ruth have brought an important dimension to the Associate program.

Sharon Grossman Gilbert joined the Associates in 1986 when she lived in Clinton and she stayed connected with the sisters and associates when she moved to California. Sharon recently returned to Clinton and has renewed her commitment to the life and work of the Associates.



Lydia Halbach



Paul & Judy Schaaf



Roger (deceased) & Jane Welty



Ruth Schneider & Sharon Gilbert

Please use the enclosed envelope
to support the Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton Iowa,
in honor of the years of service of our 2011 Jubilarians.