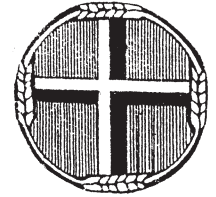


The Companion



Summer 2017

Word From Our President

Sister Celeste Larroque, SEC

People inspire me. It could be the occasional martyr or writer, but mostly it is the everyday person whose ordinary life produces examples of everyday courage and thoughtfulness in a world that is on the edge of despair. People's lives and the contexts in which they are lived are the collected vignettes of experiences memorialized in their hearts and minds. Such collections are handled daily with care, or, they are sealed away only to be disturbed by storms of a later date. Either way, they are traversed through time most certainly on a thread of relational matter called love or its lack. The result always produces the energy one must have to live life in this world and be a witness to its own creative process.

That thread of commonality and community is our lifeline and holds the key to all that it is dear. Think of how difficult it is for us today to "go off the grid." Even the early scripture writers were inspired to relay how God wanted us to live in community when he told Adam that it was not good for us to be alone (Gn. 2:18). God has created a world that makes it far easier for us to live with one another than not. From this home of ours we look out from our wi-fi windows into the lives and habitats of billions of people. In some way we feel at least remotely connected with one another. In particular ways, we are intimately connected with a few. But the outcome is the same in that there is some type of experience of community.

In the last twenty years we have seen the explosion of the internet into our homes, phones, TVs, work – everywhere. Some of us cannot drink a cup of coffee without being able to check emails or Facebook. A whole generation has grown up without ever knowing what it is to wait to get home or elsewhere to make a phone call or receive a letter. We are so dependent upon this technology of connectivity that not being

able to glance at Facebook while waiting in line at Wal-Mart, we feel abandoned. How has the intimacy of constant connectivity turned us into hoarders of "friends," "followers," etc.?

In our desire to stay connected, we can put certain dignities at jeopardy. We first need to realize that there is always someone at the end of the other cyber-line. In the community of cloud communication people are bouncing Facebook posts, Tweets, photos, etc., off one another at one time in a matter of seconds. While these applications can be good forums for discussion and learning, sometimes they are used in ill-intentioned ways, recall the famous Wiki-Leak posts. That's one extreme example, but there is also online bullying and the "dark internet," which is a forum for exchanging illegal sexual content. The internet is the most powerful and recent frontier that challenges us to examine how we treat one another in the world community. While it provides opportunities for broadening one's learning experience, it can also provide a mask for those who have darker intentions of harming and upending individuals and organizations without consequence.

So there just may be a "theology of connectivity," or, at least we have to start thinking about one. We can observe the life of Jesus and the early Christians and note how the idea of community was a paramount tenet of their foundation. The apostles and the women who ministered with Jesus and beyond his earthly life drew strength from preserving their togetherness. We need to look to those early mentors of community and pray that we do not forsake the binding force that held their vision together in all fellowship, and that is the force of love. We must never be tempted to mask our love for one another through incessant use of technology. The connection between two or more disciples of faith has led us to where we are today – a community that continues to thrive for the common good, leading all beyond their cell phones and iPads into clouds that have yet to be reached.

ETC., ETC., ETC.

March 22 Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel celebrated the Eucharist for all the Religious of the Diocese of Lafayette, LA. It was held at Immaculata Chapel and followed by lunch. SEC Sisters Doris, Celeste and Carm were present for the occasion.

March 24 - Sisters Camille and Jeannette facilitated an afternoon of recollection at Sabbath House for Our Lady Immaculate School's Campus Ministry Team. Fifty sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students, who volunteer to offer leadership for spiritual and liturgical events throughout the school year, were led through a shared experience of prayer, learning, and sharing. The focus of the day was **YOU MATTER!**

Congratulations
goes out to Sister Doris
Ann Roy, SEC.



March 31 - Sister Doris retired after working as a Chaplain at Lafayette General Medical Center for 25 years and 4 months. However she continued to be involved at LGMC as a volunteer. At present she is a "cuddler" and once a week, for 2 or 3 hours, she rocks needy babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). She loves being able to do this and no doubt the babies love it too.

March Bishop Emeritus Sam Jacobs conducted a three day Lenten Mission at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Broussard, LA. The topic for the Mission was **"WHY HIM? WHY THAT? WHY NOW?"** Sister Pat, SEC was privileged to attend and found it to be very inspirational.

April 4 Sister Jeannette led a morning of reflection for the Immaculate Conception Cathedral Altar Society and friends. The theme was "I Am Enough". It is not what I do, or what I have. The invitation is to be present to our life—to pay attention to what is going on within us, around us, and to trust and be open to God working in our life.

April 17-20 Sister Ann Middlebrooks, SEC and SECA Sister Carol Shively, OSU, joined more than

8,000 Catholic school educators and administrators in St. Louis, MO, for the National Catholic Educational Association Convention & Expo. The Convention & Expo provided numerous opportunities for professional development, faith sharing, and reconnecting with friends in the ministry of Catholic education

April 29 The SEC Annual Day of Prayer was held at the McNeese Student Center. SEC Associate Camile Pavy Claibourne RN, PhD was the facilitator speaking on *The Spiritual Paths of Life Transitions*. She explored how God reveals GOD'S plan through the sacramental moments of caring for others. A wonderful and enriching presentation. All those present were filled with gratitude for Camille's presence and insights. If you missed her presentation she will be speaking at the "Sisters in Christ" gathering on Monday evening June 5th at 6:00 p.m. in Jennings at the St. Mary Center across the street from Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church.

May 7 The Religious Sisters of the Lake Charles Diocese gathered for their annual luncheon sponsored by Rev. Anthony Fontenot and the Vocation Committee of Christ the King Parish. It was a wonderful gathering with lots of good food and camaraderie.



May 11 Blessings to SEC Associate, Lillie Ashford who celebrated her 90th birthday and what a celebration it was! Many of her family and friends gathered at her home to express their love and gratitude for a life well lived. SEC Sisters Camille and Jeannette were privileged to be among those present to wish her a happy birthday.



Sr. Jeannette, Lillie Ashford & Sr. Camille

June 25 July 8th Sister Carm will be in Kenya to see the finished dorm project in the large slum of Kilbera. Sr. Carm and 13 others went to Kenya in 2014 and saw the need for a high school girls' dorm in the slum. Teen girls are often sexually assaulted and have early pregnancy and don't get to finish high school. These dorms will provide a safe environment for the girls as they are being educated. As in all countries, Kenya needs its young women to be focused and educated and productive in the workforce. Please pray for the mission and the work of reaching out to improve the lives of these young women.



SABBATH HOUSE OFFERINGS

407 2nd St. +Jennings, LA (337) 998-9114
sabbathhouseministry@gmail.com

FALL FRIDAYS 2017

Sabbath House will host its fourth annual FALL FRIDAYS. Writer Fran Sorin invites us to, "Slow down and take the time to enjoy the gloriosity of this season!" Like all seasons, the season of fall is marked by profound changes. Autumn winds break the summer's heat, leaves change their hues in lovely burst of color falling gently to the ground, and the sun begins its annual retreat bringing less and less light to each new day.

THEME: Call to Wait + Call to Watch + Call to Thanksgiving

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 7, Oct. 12, Nov. 9 @ 6:00 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 @ Noon with light lunch!

WHERE: SABBATH HOUSE



JULY 8, 2017

Annual SEC Associate Assembly in Jennings. It will be held at the St. Mary Center across the street

Mark
your
Calendar

from Our Lady Help of Christian Catholic Church. SEC Associate Dr. Melanie Prejean Sullivan will be our facilitator. It begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at noon with a light lunch. Her topic will be: ***"Searching for the Fingerprints of God"***



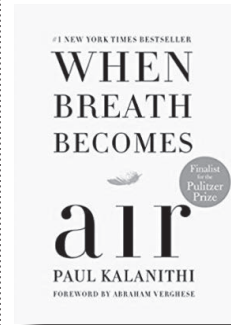
In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis invites us to consider how our lives mirror the story of the weeds among the seeds. "Because we do not always see these seeds growing, we need an interior certainty...with certitude that all those who entrust themselves to God in love will bear good fruit." How do we find the fingerprints of God which give us that evidence, that certitude?

As Associates and Sisters of the Eucharistic Covenant, we are called to search together for the signs of the Covenant. Join us as we spend some time together, uncovering clues of that mystery.

A Good Read

WHEN BREATH BECOMES AIR

is a non-fiction autobiographical book written by neurosurgeon and writer Paul Kalanithia. It is a memoir about his life and illness, battling stage IV metastatic lung cancer. It deals with his search for meaning in life and suffering. He died in March 2015.



Love

is to recognize that the other person is a person - is precious - is important and has value.
(Jean Vanier)

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**“I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE,
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME, EVEN IF HE DIES, WILL LIVE ...” (Jn 11:25)**

Ross Andrus	“Tom” Bagbey, Jr.	George Briggs	George Broussard	Rita Broussard
Frank Cormier	Elodie Credeur	Eddie Dauterive, III	Irene Decuir	Edward Duplichan
Donna East	Maud Gary	Milton Guidry	Rose Holland	Aline Hymel
Daniel Ieyoub	Joseph “J.V.” Landry	Frances Langley	John L. Louviere	Charlene Miller
Thomas Miller	Colt A. Mouton	Alexa Owens	Betty Roy	Dorothy Royer
Mark Schram	Paul Daniel Sellers	Marie Sichko	Dianne Thibodeaux	Eura V. Simon
Dr. Conway Yarbrough				

WE PRAY FOR BLESSINGS OF HEALTH

Ginny Aucoin	*Orville Augustine	Bryan Babineaux	Francis & Lenora Baudoin	Karen Bertrand
Mabel Bertrand	Jerry Boudreaux	Theresa Boudreaux	Kim Bourgeois	*Jack Brooks
Danny Broussard	Jerry Cain	Eva Dell Comeaux	C.P. & Betty Crochet	Jeffrey Crane
Dolores Folse	Alice Kate Heek	Weezie LaFleur	Luby Landry	Judy LeBlanc
*Elizabeth Larroque	Audrey LeBlanc	Melba Laborde	Joe Livers	Marie Lupo
Bill Mancuso	Ida Lou Meaux	Julie Moon	Doris Olivier	Robert Olivier
Fr. Don Piraro	Jayne Pollard	Nell Dean Roberts	Lena Roush	Leola Rougeau
Bernice Savant	*Rita Savoie	Josh Sonnier	Ralph Stevens	Joey Stockstill
Rita Stutes	Jimmie Touchet	Hal Trouard	Gail Wadsworth	Allison Walters
Lauen Walters	Lena Weaver	Pat Weaver	Cindy Welsh	Betty Wilhelmi
Carr Zuschlag				

Let us remember in prayer and compassion all in Louisiana who have lost so much due to September rains, those who have suffered due to war and violence and all the men and women serving in the military.

**denotes SEC Associate*