

# Bringing the Pieces and Colors Together

# KALEID SCOPE

A Newsletter for Glenmary Sisters' Adopters and Prayer Associates



## *Caruthersville, Missouri*

**Sister Darlene:** Greetings from Missouri! I pray you are still enveloped in the joy of Easter.

My weeks have been filled with meetings and travel. With all the time spent in meetings, it is amazing that anything gets accomplished but it does. In April, Izzie and I traveled to Owensboro for Sr. Aida's First Profession of Vows. I loved meeting Sr. Aida's family and friends, especially her grandson Ayden. He has such a wonderful imagination which made conversing with him an adventure. The ceremony was beautiful. I had the added joy of the presence of my sister Justine. She was beginning her new role as a Mission Employee. The following week Sr. Kathleen, Justine and I went to Georgia to help Sr. Aida and Sr. Mary Ellen who was not feeling well, settle in. I was happy we were able to stop in for dinner with my father and step mom on the way back to Owensboro. In May, Izzie and I traveled to Owensboro for our Community Days. This is always an exciting and enjoyable time. It would be a perfect time if we could do without the meetings but they must accompany our time together so we can all stay on the same track. I did miss most of the meetings due to a nasty virus I picked up from somewhere. I am very happy to report it was not the swine flu!!! I love having this time to talk with our co-workers in Owensboro. They are a great group of caring folks. At the end of our week together, we traveled to Cincinnati to attend the Oath renewal of Aaron, Crispin and Craig who are in formation with the Glenmary men. It was great to see all of our Glenmary brothers. They were very gracious in welcoming us to their house. It was a wonderful way to end our time together. We then headed back to Owensboro then to Caruthersville. Sr. Sharon returned to Caruthersville with us. She and I drove to Springfield to meet with our new Bishop. We had a very enjoyable conversation. He is a wonderful shepherd for the people here. In between all the travels, I have continued the work with the GED tutoring, the food pantry and clothing shop in Steele, and meetings for the community gardens and community action. My first volunteer group will be here the week of June 7. We will be working with the summer Youth program at Lincoln University Extension. The next weeks will be filled with volunteer groups and projects. I pray God gives me the energy to keep up with all the very active teens He is sending my way!



Special Guest Contributor "Izzie": I had so much fun while Sr. Darlene was in Georgia. I spent time with Sr. Bernadette in Owensboro. I helped her crochet lap blankets and prayer shawls. I visited the

office and went on walks to the parks where I chased squirrels and birds. I did escape once and this seemed to upset everyone but I on the other hand enjoyed my adventure! The best part of my time there was all the loving I received! You humans just don't get it, it's all about the love. You must give it and you must be able to receive it. I am trying to role model this to everyone I meet. I also had a great time during Community Days. Boy, were there a lot of hands and laps that week. My main job was to make sure all the Sisters came to Prayer on time. I would check for empty seats then go find the missing Sister. It was quite a job but I did it. Now we are back in Caruthersville where I spend my time trying to scare the squirrels and making sure Sr. Darlene gets her daily walk!



## *Frenchburg, Kentucky*

**Sister Kathleen:** I have just returned from spending a few days with my community in Owensboro where we got to spend some time in prayer, business, meetings, and fun. We are looking forward to having volunteers come and spend about five days putting on a Bible school, visiting the shut-ins, and other odd jobs for the needy. This should be a wonderful experience for the high school students to visit our missions.

As you can see, I keep saying "I". Now, thank God, I have a lovely young woman living with me who is joining our community on August 15. Justine Presley is her name. She hails from Georgia and her sister, our Sister Darlene, made her final vows a year ago. Justine feels very much at home with us, is very ambitious and anxious to be a real missionary. Keep her in your prayer and also pray for other young women to be willing to find out if God is calling them to religious life. God has been so good to us and we thank Him every day for your continued support and prayers.



## *Millen, Georgia*

**Sister Mary Ellen:** While I was in Owensboro and Cincinnati recently, the house here in Millen was improved with new flooring, paint, and a new kitchen sink. It looks beautiful! I enjoyed my time in Owensboro for Sr. Aida's first profession in April, then Community Days in May.

After Community Days I went to Cincinnati to attend the renewal of oaths for a Glenmary brother and two Glenmary priests. Meetings followed that special ceremony. After I returned to Millen with Sr. Aida, it was good to get back to the Thrift Shop. Sr. Aida and I went to Statesboro for a meeting on safe environment training. Now we're getting back into the routine of mission work, though things are kind of quiet at the moment. Some people have come by to welcome Sr. Aida back to the area, and have brought welcoming gifts of food and flowers. Early in June, the parish at Sylvania will be celebrating its 50 anniversary. I'm looking forward to that, especially as Sr. Sharon and her mom will be attending. Bishop Boland is celebrating his 25th anniversary soon. Sr. Aida and I will attend his celebration and reception at the cathedral at Savannah.



## *Owensboro, Kentucky*

**Sister Sharon:** Greetings again from Owensboro Kentucky! I hope you and your loved ones are enjoying the beginning of June with the rays of sun beaming forth as bright as they are here. In the last issue of Kaleidoscope we were preparing for the First Profession of Aida Badillo. It was a wonderful celebration and thanks to our faithful and hardworking Guild members we enjoyed a marvelous reception afterwards. It was great to meet and share this awesome occasion with members of her family and some friends that before we had only known by name.

I will have to say, that one of the greatest pleasures I have had since taking on the position of president, has been receiving the vows of the new sisters. Just a few weeks after Aida's Profession, Sr. Ellen Frances renewed her vows at the Tuesday Liturgy during Community Days in our chapel here at the Glenmary Center.

It is just so exciting to see how the Holy Spirit is working. In August, we will have three women begin our Candidacy program. Wow! We haven't had that many at one time in many years. All three women are very wonderful and capable women and I know that our missions will be very blessed by their presence.

As for me, I am still staying quite busy with meetings and traveling. One of my duties as president is to visit with each Sister in her mission once a year to ascertain whether or not she is living and ministering faithful to her call as a Glenmary Sister. Last week I traveled to Caruthersville to visit with Sr. Darlene. During my time there, she and I drove over to Springfield to meet with Bishop James Van Johnston, the new bishop for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, who was installed a little over a year ago. Although it was a long trip, it was truly a blessing to be able to meet with him and share some information about the Glenmary Sisters and hear how much he appreciates Sr. Darlene's ministry presence in his diocese.

After leaving Caruthersville, I headed to Smithland to visit with Sr. Ellen Frances. While there, we had a wonderful supper with one of the local families and a few other folks that are very much a part of her mission. That evening we attended Senior's Night for the Livingston County High School where Sr. Ellen Frances presented three young women with a certificate from our JONAFUND scholarship indicating that they would receive \$1000

each to help with their further education. The girls were very appreciative.

Returning home on Friday, I met with some folks concerning an upcoming fund-raising pilgrimage that you will be hearing more about very soon. We are hoping this will be a way to bring in some more funds to help our mission efforts as we strive to continue our ministries.

Please know of our sincere appreciation for all you do to support us in prayer and through your generous gifts.



**Sister Rosemary:** If you were to grade me on what I have done these past weeks, you would have to give me an "F" for one thing. I told you that I hoped to settle down to some work on our archives. That has been delayed due to unexpected matters that required immediate attention. So, untouched archives material still faces me as I go to a certain room here at 411 Locust Court.

Trips back and forth to our Smithland and Caruthersville missions have continued. Cincinnati was added to my travels. One was the joyful experience of going to our Glenmary brethren's place for the oath ceremony of three men in their community. The other was sad yet peaceful. I went for the wake and funeral of Glenmary Father Ray Orlett. I remember him giving excellent scripture classes to our young people in formation, as a spiritual director and confessor, and being such a refined person. Now we have another advocate in heaven.

Here in Owensboro our community gathering for a few days in May was rich in "input" and our sharing. While most of us returned to our missions, I remained in my Owensboro mission for a while. Summer will hold retreat for me and some vacation time, but until then I shall be concentrating on the revision of what we call our formation handbook. For years we have had some guidelines for the different stages of religious formation of women entering the community. These guidelines, of course, include the laws of the Church related to religious life. But then there are the guidelines we as a community develop that put together, so to speak, how we are to grow in our relationship with God and how our services in our missions are to be given. As you know, our missions are in areas where there are very few Catholics. It is a joy, then, when we learn that people of other faith traditions who have never known Catholic Sisters are happy we are with them.

It is my hope that whatever these past months have held for you that you have felt our Lord's closeness and His strength. Such has been my prayer. Thank you for your continued support, given to us in many ways.



**Sister Aida:** The biggest news since the last issue of Kaleidoscope is that I celebrated my first profession. It was a beautiful celebration at Mt. St. Joseph just outside Owensboro. I was surrounded by family and friends who came from Puerto Rico, Connecticut, Chicago, Kentucky, and

Cincinnati. It was a truly wonderful time and I want to thank everyone who came and supported me. After my profession, I enjoyed Community Days with the rest of my Glenmary Sisters. It was a lot of work but it was a very good time for all of us. Then several of the Sisters and I went to Cincinnati for the renewal of vows for several Glenmary men. Sr. Kathleen, Sr. Darlene, Justine, and I spent a great afternoon at the Cincinnati Zoo while Sr. Mary Ellen was in meetings. I am now back in Georgia and starting to get busy now that people know I'm back and are coming to see me. While we were in Owensboro and Cincinnati there was some remodeling done on our home in Millen, including new flooring, interior paint, and a new kitchen sink. It is beautiful and we're working now on getting things back in order.



## Smithland, Kentucky

**Sister Ellen Frances:** *Many say, "May we see better times! LORD, show us the light of your face!" But you have given my heart more joy than they have when grain and wine abound. In peace I shall both lie down and sleep, for you alone, LORD, make me secure. (Ps 4:7-9)*

Truly, we do humbly pray that we may see better times. So many people in my mission area who were in factory jobs have been laid off. Those who were barely maintaining existence are literally drowning. The requests that I am receiving for assistance are more frequent and coming from newer sources. It is because of the generosity of our devoted donors, that I am able to respond to these requests.

Recently I received a phone call. Three children had arrived at school that morning...and one told his teacher that their electricity was being turned off that day because their mother did not have the money to pay the bill. This was a family that had never requested help before. We called the electric company...they were on their way out to the house to turn it off. We were able to stop them, and I drove into Paducah and paid the bill. "In peace" hopefully, those children and their mother could lie down and sleep that night.

There was another call from our local pharmacy. A mother had gone in for medication, all the children had lice. She did not have the money for the over the counter shampoo. Again we were able to help.

I received yet another request from a neighbor of someone that I had never helped before. The neighbor told me that the woman was sick but had no money to go to the doctor. We were able to get her into the clinic...taken care of...and then got her prescriptions filled.

And the list goes on... But it is because of you, our donors, that the list is able to go on, and I am able to be the Presence of the Catholic Church—not only in the lives of those whom I am privileged to help—but in the lives of those who call to tell me

that people need help with utility bills, medical bills, rent, and transportation.

Besides the financial help we give, I am busy working with the youth through 4-H. This is the 100th year anniversary of 4-H in Kentucky. We just finished the speeches and demonstrations in the grade schools. It is always so rewarding to work with the youth. Pray for us as we plan our day camp in July.

I am also working with two parishes in two other counties on their Vacation Bible School. We are basing it on the letters of St. Paul, since this is the Pauline year.

I shall be going away on retreat in June (Thanks be to God, Alleluia). I so look forward to spending uninterrupted time with the Lord. Again, thank you for all of your prayers and financial help.



## Retired

**Sister Bernadette:** I've been busy recently. Sr. Aida's first profession in April was a lovely service, and it was good to welcome Sr. Aida to our Community. In May all the Sisters came to Owensboro for Community Days. Those times together are always filled with fun, thought-provoking meetings, prayer, and fellowship. It's always a special joy for me to visit with Izzie, who accompanied Sr. Darlene to the meetings. She is a very well-behaved, affectionate little dog who thoroughly enjoys all the attention the other Sisters and I lavish on her. I went to O'Charley's to eat with Sr. Ellen Frances and co-worker Cyndi. That was lots of fun. After Mass one Sunday morning Cyndi took me to the Royce Restaurant for breakfast, and then she took me on a nice drive to nearby Henderson. Later in the week I went out for a Chinese meal with Cyndi and Justine. I really enjoyed all the outings.



**Sister Catherine:** I'm keeping busy here at Seton Residence. I have finally found someone to go to the pool with me. We went this morning, June 1. I have also resumed my walk to the lake on the grounds each day. I don't jump in tho! There are too many snakes and turtles for me to enjoy going. Tomorrow should be my last day for going to Owensboro to the dentist. There are at least four new

Daughters of Charity here now. They seem to be adjusting well. We had a wonderful celebration of Pentecost Sunday; good dinner with wine, cake and ice cream. Now I'm looking forward to going to Michigan on July 30 and returning August 10. My 7 brothers and sisters up there seem to be getting along well too. The "sister servant" as she is called, is doing a great job here. Her name is Sister Judy Flowers and replaced Sister Dorothea a few months ago.





*Glenmary Sisters*

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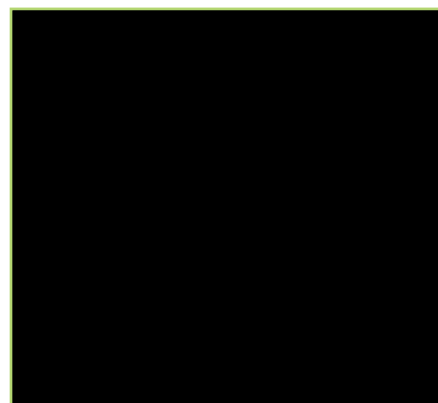
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## *Is God Calling You?*

Thinking of your future?

Have **YOU** ever thought of  
a religious vocation?

Now is the perfect  
time to talk to God.



*Sr. Aida Badillo making first  
profession of vows.*

Glenmary Sister Sharon Miller and Vocation Facilitator Mrs. Barbara O'Nan are ready to walk you through your discernment. They can be reached by email at: [srsharon@glenmarysisters.org](mailto:srsharon@glenmarysisters.org) or [Barbara@glenmarysisters.org](mailto:Barbara@glenmarysisters.org)

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