



"Unfolding" by Nancy Earle

WHISPERS OF WISDOM ... and HOPE

What a privilege to share planet Earth with an infinite variety of other species! Blessed and privileged are all of us who call this beautiful planet Earth our home! Our home is a communion of life, each aspect inter-dependent with all others.



with its abundance of inhabitants. In hearing the whispers of wisdom, hope and sense of purpose deepen. Hope opens us to the beauty waiting to be revealed.

We invite you to enter into each month with a sense of hope and anticipation for the revelation each creature longs to bestow. What are the people, creatures, plants, mountains, beaches, etc. saying to us? What are the whispers of Joy, Delight, Pleasure or Contentment swirling all around us? Hope for our beautiful Earth and for a new sense of human and cosmic purpose are in the whispers.

This year through art and reflection, we invite you, your friends, relatives and co-workers to listen to the whispers of wisdom ...and hope in our home. Listening deeply opens our hearts to love and our minds to know, understand and celebrate our home



Hope leads us to anticipate "the more" longing to be revealed. Hope opens us to be grasped by the beauty and to prepare for the augmentation of more beauty waiting to be revealed. Listen to the whispers with hope. Notice the wisdom.

Theologians and cosmologists tell us that beauty has not yet finished revealing itself. We are the ones whose hope and anticipation can provide the openness needed for the enhancement of beauty. We have little time left. This is the year to approach every aspect of our home with wonder, to listen profoundly to the whispers of hope and wisdom. Filled with hope, we will act more decisively for our common beautiful home, Earth! Invite your friends, relatives and co-workers into this adventure. The future will forever thank us!

Meet the Artists



Angela Chostner FEBRUARY and SEPTEMBER
Angela, a St Louis artist, has a background in graphic design and illustration. She notes that each painting she does starts with an intention, prayer, and virtue focus – a process she calls “Paint dancing in Spirit”. In February, “Honor and Redemption” is featured – the artist sees forgiveness as a bridge that brings us to a place of redemption and restoration of honor. The second image, “Justice: Still She Sings”, used for September, is about balance and the idea that most everything with Justice happens below the surface – our thoughts, beliefs, internal influences. For there to be Justice, we must fix what is broken in ourselves, in our world. www.AngelaLChostnerArt.com



Sandy Bot-Miller AUGUST
Sandy is an artist-poet with a deep desire to address a personal and planetary search for peace, beauty and meaning. She strives to use imagery that expresses our human longing for connection and healing; her love of fibers, and attention to archetypal images help to inform her creations. “Marigold Glow”, with its bold autumn colors, mirrors the need at any time in our lives to integrate within ourselves the colorful outer beauty surrounding us before the inevitable loss of leaves unfolds and winter sets in. The figure, full of life, connects with the beauty of all the glowing oranges, yellows, and golds. www.sandybotmiller.com



Flo Christiano..... MARCH
Flo retired from the Ministry of the Arts three years ago and now enjoys exploring her own art interests. Favoring acrylic paints as a medium, she comments “I get completely ‘lost’ to myself when painting and find it most enjoyable when done in a workshop setting with other painters.” Her image, “Rocks and Waves”, has energy and motion to it; Flo suggests we nurture the Waves of Love and Care which have the power to wash over the ‘hard rocks’ that can negatively impact daily living.



Susan Cohen Thompson..... JANUARY
Susan Cohen Thompson began life in New York where early perceptions of art and nature were developed by visiting museums in the City. Her art became her way to envision and connect with the natural world. Thompson now lives in the Pacific Northwest; in addition to appearing on book covers, her art is shown in galleries, museum exhibitions and in collections throughout the U.S. Her image, “Nesting Together”, shows how –in our interconnected world – we all share the same nest. Cooperation is the key to what nature has to teach us. www.thompsonartstudio.com



Francis Dutil, CSJ..... OCTOBER
“Frankie” has enjoyed art since childhood. After working with different media she has come to love water colors the best. Frankie says, “I like to think of watercolor as a lesson for living. Sometimes the water and the paint kind of take off on their own and we feel like we are not in control. However, if we just let it happen and ‘go with the

flow’ something better than what we had planned comes to life. The March image, “Trees”, portrays the beautiful community that tree roots form – the care, communication and nourishment they give in a gentle and quiet way could be a lesson for us.



Pat Willems, CSJ JUNE and DECEMBER
Pat has taught watercolor painting at “The Well” spirituality center located in La Grange Park, IL since 2005. She is certified in art therapy and spiritual direction. Sr. Pat loves to paint nature, people and landscapes and says “Self- expression is a privilege each of us has, and when used, unites us with the energy of God as Creator.” Her image for June, depicts an urban garden with the city behind it. The December selection portrays a mother with two children and the need to provide food for her family- whether at home or traveling to a new place to live.



Mary Southard, CSJ MAY and JULY
Mary’s paintings and sculptures invite us to contemplate our sacred Universe, our sacred Earth and our sacred selves with all their mystery and passion, beauty and longing. Her works explore our intimate Oneness with all that is, and the results of our human presence in the natural world. In May, the quiet beach and the expanse of the air and atmosphere above breathes with and within us. The image “Bees”, in July, vibrates with color and reminds us of our interdependence with all of creation. www.MarySouthardArt.org



Nancy Earle..... COVER and NOVEMBER
Nancy Earle, SMIC, is a Franciscan and native of Vermont. The images in her paintings connect cultures and spiritualities, depict images of wholeness revealing deeper meanings of life, suffering, celebration, death and healing. “Full Moon with Herons”, the image for November, embodies the spirit and energy of these beautiful birds. For the Cover of the calendar, we used “Unfolding” – a colorful, vibrant image that represents all forms of creation and our inter-connections. crowmother@earthlink.net



Betsy Kinnick..... APRIL
When I do art, Betsy says, I like to express what is alive in me. Creating art is a way to touch the heart of things that matter most. To me, the act of painting itself is an act of discovery to uncover certain qualities in ourselves and the world around us. When I look at Elephants I observe their beautiful qualities of love, joy, belonging, peace, strength, intelligence, family, community, and a depth of remembering and caring. To draw them is to honor them and all their beauty.



"Nesting Together" by Susan Cohen Thompson

"In our interconnected world, we all share the same nest."

– Susan Cohen Thompson

SUNDAY							MONDAY							TUESDAY							WEDNESDAY							THURSDAY							FRIDAY							SATURDAY													
DECEMBER							FEBRUARY																																																
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27	28	29	30	31			28																																																
<i>To build a sustainable and healthy nest together with an open heart is an expression of love. – S.C.Thompson</i>							<i>When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe. – J.Muir</i>							<i>Name 5 things, today, that connect you to the same nest – the same world.</i>							<i>We cannot live for ourselves alone. Our lives are connected by a thousand invisible threads, ...</i>							<i>... and along these sympathetic fibers, our actions run as causes and return to us as effects. – Melville</i>							<i>Cooperation is the key to what nature has to teach us.</i>							<i>There is room for you in me, for I am part of you and you are part of me. – K. Sherman, CSJ</i>													
3							4							5							6							7							8							9													
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton							St. John Neumann							Epiphany							Orthodox Christmas							New Year's Day																											
<i>Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people. – F.D.Roosevelt</i>							<i>Rainforests cover less than 2% of Earth's total surface area, they are home to 50% of Earth's plants and animals.</i>							<i>What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a minor reflection of what we are doing to ourselves and one another. – Gandhi</i>							<i>Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else. – Leonardo da Vinci</i>							<i>We cannot get to where we dream of being tomorrow unless we change our thinking today. – Einstein</i>							<i>Can you change one behavior that will benefit the 'nest' and all within it?</i>							<i>The forest is a peculiar organism of unlimited kindness and benevolence that makes no demands for its sustenance...</i>													
10							11							12							13							14							15							16													
Baptism of the Lord							● New Moon																																																
<i>... and extends generously the products of its life and activity; it affords protection to all beings. – Buddhist Sutra</i>							<i>No man is an island. – John Donne</i>							<i>If we all don't row, the boat won't go.</i>							<i>All things are connected like the blood that unites us. We do not weave the web of life...</i>							<i>... we are merely a strand in it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. – Chief Seattle</i>							<i>Technology can be part of the solution to heal and protect Earth. How can I support this?</i>							<i>Reflect on your shared place in nature; how blessed are we!</i>													
17							18							19							20							21							22							23													
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day														Inauguration Day							World Religion Day																																		
<i>The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything. – Einstein</i>							<i>One of the first conditions of happiness is that the link between man and nature shall not be broken. – Tolstoy</i>							<i>Nest- any protected place used to rear young ;a retreat or refuge; a resting place. Home. – Tolstoy</i>							<i>There is no place like home – celebrate and cherish our connectedness.</i>							<i>Sticks in a bundle are unbreakable. – Kenyan proverb</i>							<i>Be conscious of your connection to Nature; be conscious of your dis-connection, too.</i>							<i>Honor life in all its forms; your own will be sustained. – Ojibway Wisdom</i>													
24							25							26							27							28							29							30													
St. Francis de Sales Henri Nouwen 1932-1996														Holocaust Victims Remembrance Day							○ Wolf Moon St. Thomas Aquinas																																		
<i>Our breath is one with the Breath of All Creation.</i>																																																							
Thomas Merton 1915-1968																																																							

January 2021



"Honor and Redemption" by Angela Chostner

*It is the hope of the wise
white haired women that
whispered grätitudes and
forgiveness are enough.*

– L.Matonich

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<i>Her hair is like her wings, and her eyes see potential...</i>	<i>...see nobility in others, even when it is hidden. – A. Chostner</i>	<i>May this be the bridge: I forgive you...of everything. Go, start again. – A. Chostner</i>	<i>Where ever you go, go with all your heart. – Confucius</i>	<i>Be patient, God isn't finished with us yet.</i>	<i>Read : A Visit From Wisdom” by K. Gibran</i>
	Black History Month 1	Presentation of Our Lord Groundhog Day 2	St. Blaise Simone Weil 1909-1943 3	Rosa Parks 1913-2005 4	5	6
<i>The wiser mind mourns less for what age takes away than what it leaves behind. – Wordsworth</i>	<i>Age may wrinkle the face, but lack of enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. – Danish Proverb</i>	<i>Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter. – Mark Twain</i>	<i>What the elders see while sitting, the young ones standing on their toes won't see. – African proverb</i>	<i>I live in that solitude which is painful in youth, but delicious in the years of maturity. – Einstein</i>	<i>Read the 'Book of Joy' by Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu</i>	<i>Take a nap; sometimes we need to pause.</i>
7	8	9	10	● New Moon Our Lady of Lourdes 11	Abraham Lincoln 1809-1865 Chinese New Year 12	13
<i>Write it on your heart that every day is the best day of the year. – Emerson</i>	<i>Wisdom is with the aged, and understanding in length of days. – Job 12:12</i>	<i>...the gray hair of experience is the splendor of the old. – Proverbs 20:29</i>	<i>If you stumble, make it part of the dance.</i>	<i>Spirit of Our Elders, dance, Oh dance in me! – K. Sherman, CSJ</i>	<i>What you see in yourself is what you see in the world. – African Proverb.</i>	<i>Wisdom is a sacred communion. – Victor Hugo</i>
Valentine's Day 14	Susan B. Anthony 1820-1906 15	16	Ash Wednesday 17	18	19	World Day of Social Justice? 20
<i>Do not regret growing older: It's a privilege denied to many.</i>	<i>Connect with an 'elder' in your life.</i>	<i>Explore the poetry of Mary Oliver</i>	<i>For most of history, Anonymous was a woman. – Virginia Woolf</i>	<i>Gray hairs are signs of wisdom if you hold your tongue. – Tagore</i>	<i>Let us never know what old age is. Let us know the happiness time brings, not count the years. – Ausonius</i>	<i>The Harvest of old age is the recollection and abundance of blessing previously secured. – Cicero</i>
I Lent 21	George Washington 1732-1799 22	23	24	25	Purim 26	○ Snow Moon 27
<i>To keep the heart unwrinkled, to be hopeful, kindly, cheerful, reverent – that is to triumph over old age. – T. H. Aldrich</i>						
II Lent 28						

JANUARY							MARCH						
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31													

February 2021



"Rocks and Waves" by Flo Christiano

Listen to the sounds of the waves within you.

— Rumi

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<i>Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean.</i> – Ryunosuke Satoro	<i>When you drink the water, remember the spring.</i> – Chinese Proverb	<i>Sometimes you just have to go with the waves.</i>	<i>Call on God but row away from the rocks.</i> – Indian	<i>Nurture the Waves of Love and Care – they have the power to wash over the 'rocks' that negatively impact daily life.</i> – F. Christiano	<i>How might you be a 'wave' in the lives of others?</i>
	Peace Corps 1961 1	Read Across America Day 2	St. Katharine Drexel World Wildlife Day 3	4	Karl Rahner 1904-1984 St John of the Cross 5	Michelangelo 1475-1564 6
<i>...and dip my hand into the wave that meets me, and bathe my brow...</i>	<i>... That far-resounding roar is the Ocean's voice of welcome. His salt breath brings a blessing along with it.</i> – Nathaniel Hawthorne	<i>Water is the driving force of all nature.</i> – Leonardo da Vinci	<i>Nothing is softer or more flexible than water, yet nothing can resist it.</i> – Lao Tzu	<i>To me the sea is a continual miracle; the fishes that swim, the rocks, the motion of the waves... what stranger miracles are there?</i> – Walt Whitman	<i>He that will learn to pray, let him go to sea.</i> – George Herbert	<i>Have I cared enough about the water?</i>
III Lent 7	International Women's Day 8	9	10	11	12	● New Moon 13
<i>In one drop of water are found all the secrets of the oceans.</i> – Gibran	<i>Life in us is like the water in a river.</i> – Thoreau	<i>When the wells dry, we know the worth of water.</i> – Benjamin Franklin	<i>May your joys be as deep as the ocean, your troubles as light as its foam...</i>	<i>...and may you find sweet peace of mind wherever you may roam.</i> – Irish saying	<i>Pay attention to the waves moving in your heart and spirit today.</i>	<i>Drop a word of... kindness, bearing hope and joy and comfort on each splashing dashing wave...</i>
IV Lent Daylight Savings Time begins 14	St. Louise de Marillac 15	16	St. Patrick's Day 17	18	St. Joseph's Day 19	Equinox International Day of Happiness 20
<i>...Till you wouldn't believe the volume of the one kind word you gave.</i> – J.W.Foley	<i>It is drops of water that make a hole in the rock.</i> – Greek saying	<i>The frog does not drink up the pond in which he lives.</i> – Native American wisdom	<i>Envy sees only the sea – not the rocks in it.</i> – Russian saying	<i>You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf.</i> – Hawaiian saying	<i>The waves fell; withdrew and fell again, like the thud of a great beast stamping.</i> – Virginia Woolf	<i>Imagine waves washing over you – cleansing your spirit – washing away what is not wanted.</i>
Lent V 21	World Water Day 22	23	Oscar Romero 1917-1980 24	Annunciation 25	Robert Frost 1874-1963 Joseph Campbell 1904-1987 26	Passover Begins 27
<i>Waves continually work – breaking rock into boulders, pebbles and sand.</i>	<i>The waves of change are sometimes welcomed, sometimes feared.</i>	<i>Break, break, break, On thy cold gray stones, O sea...</i>	<i>...And I would that my tongue could utter the thoughts that arise in me.</i> – Tennyson			
○ Worm Moon Palm Sunday 28	29	Van Gogh 1853-1890 30	Holy Saturday/Passover Mother St. John 1759-1843 31			

FEBRUARY							APRIL							
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	
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28							25	26	27	28	29	30		

March 2021



*If one part suffers, every part suffers with it;
if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.*

– 1 Corinthians 12:26

SUNDAY							MONDAY							TUESDAY							WEDNESDAY							THURSDAY							FRIDAY							SATURDAY						
MARCH							MAY																					<i>One touch of nature makes the whole world kin. – Shakespeare</i>							<i>I don't like that man. I must get to know him better. – Abraham Lincoln</i>							<i>If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. – 1 Corinthians 12:26</i>						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA															Holy Thursday							Good Friday							Holy Saturday						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	2	3	4	5	6	7	8															1							2							3						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	9	10	11	12	13	14	15																																			
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28	29	30	31				23	24	25	26	27	28	29																																			
							30	31																																								
<i>For I do not seek to understand in order to believe, but I believe in order to understand. For I believe this: unless I believe, I will not understand. – St. Anselm of Canterbury</i>							<i>There is no creature among all the Beasts of the world which hath so great and ample demonstration of the power and wisdom of almighty God as the Elephant.</i>							<i>I believe a leaf of grass is no less than the journey-work of the stars. – Walt Whitman</i>							<i>Teachers who are not actively involved in the learning process themselves, force their student to drink from stagnant water. – Jean-Baptiste de la Salle</i>							<i>The good God loves very much to make something out of nothing. – Julie Billiard</i>							<i>Nature always wears the colors of the spirit. – Emerson</i>							<i>We beg you, Lord Jesus, bind us with the love of you and our neighbor so that we can love you deeply with our whole heart, and not be separated from you. – Anthony of Padua</i>						
Easter Sunday Passover ends							Edward Topsell							Raphael 1483-1520							World Health Day							Holocaust Remembrance Day																				
4							5							6							7							8							9							10						
<i>Nature's great masterpiece, an Elephant; the only harmless great thing. – John Donne</i>							<i>In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous. – Aristotle</i>							<i>Throughout history elephants have been revered. They are most intelligent creatures, and honored by many cultures.</i>							<i>Elephants have wisdom and power; they remember, support and love each other.</i>							<i>Prayer is a cure for a confused mind, a weary soul, and a broken heart.</i>							<i>It is loving the Cross that one finds one heart, for Divine Love cannot live without suffering. – Bernadette Soubirous</i>							<i>Elephants can be deeply committed to other creatures they relate to – being tough when protecting and gentle when nurturing.</i>						
● New Moon							Ramadan Begins																												St. Bernadette							St. Kateri Tekakwitha						
11							12							13							14							15							16							17						
<i>When we tug at a single thing in nature, we find it attached to the rest of the world. – John Muir</i>							<i>The best way to predict your future is to create it. – Abraham Lincoln</i>							<i>All things are our relatives; what we do to everything, we do to ourselves. All is really One. – Black Elk</i>							<i>A newborn elephant is born into a community of love; other elephants share in nurturing and guiding.</i>							<i>Pay attention to this gift of nurturing in your life.</i>							<i>Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like Eagles...</i>							<i>... They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint. – Isaiah 40:31</i>						
18							19							20							21							22							23							24						
																												Earth Day																				
<i>Do not become a disciple of one who praises himself, in case you learn pride instead of humility. – Mark the Evangelist</i>							<i>Forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair. – Gibran</i>							<i>The Elephant's wisdom-living in community, nurturing the young-bless us with example.</i>							<i>Walk slowly but never backwards. – Abraham Lincoln</i>							<i>Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire. – Catherine of Sienna</i>							<i>The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness. – John Muir</i>													
St. Mark							Pink Moon John James Audubon 1785-1851							27							Oskar Schindler 1908-1974							29							Arbor Day Orthodox Good Friday							30						
25							26							27							28							29							30													

April 2021



"Judy's Beach" by Mary Southard, CSJ

As the Earth breathes, so do we.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
APRIL	JUNE					<i>Smell the sea, feel the sky – breathe in.</i>
SU MO TU WE TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	SU MO TU WE TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					
<i>Breathe as one with the Breath-Share of the Universe.</i>	<i>Keep a diary of the many cloud types you see this month.</i>	<i>Pause. Breathe. Repair the Universe, then proceed.</i>	<i>What can I do differently today to ease the labored breath of Earth?</i>	<i>In the sky, there is no distinction of east and west. – Buddha</i>	<i>Sand lines my soul which is filled with the breath of the ocean. – A.D.Posey</i>	<i>Look up at the May sky – breathe in the freshness of a Spring day.</i>
Orthodox Easter 2	National Day of Prayer Sts. Philip and James 3	4	Cinco de Mayo 5	National Day of Prayer 6	7	Lady Juliana of Norwich 1342-1417 8
<i>Home is where the heart can bloom. – Charles Swain</i>	<i>I am the daughter of earth and water, and the nursling of the sky. – Shelley “Clouds”</i>	<i>The WHO estimates that millions of people around the world die each year from air pollution. We can help change that.</i>	<i>When we feel stuck, look at the sky. The clouds remind us that everything changes.</i>	<i>Breathe out fear – breathe in trust.</i>	<i>Water and air are essentials that all of life depends on – learn to protect them.</i>	<i>The sky and the strong wind have moved the spirit inside me “til I am carried away trembling with joy. – Uvavnuk</i>
Mother’s Day 9	10	● New Moon Ramadan ends 11	12	Ascension of the Lord Eid al-Fitr 13	14	St. Isadore the Farmer International Day of Families 15
<i>Breath. Believe. Receive.</i>	<i>Every dewdrop and raindrop had a whole heaven within it. – Longfellow</i>	<i>Whenever I feel blue, I start breathing again. – L Frank Baum</i>	<i>Sometimes I go about pitying myself, and all the while I am being carried across the sky by beautiful clouds. – Ojibway saying</i>	<i>Inhale the future; exhale the past.</i>	<i>The Divine Breath contains all of Life; when do you feel separate/in union with this Breath?</i>	<i>This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Look! I am going to put breath into you and make you live again. – Ezekiel 37:5</i>
Shavout begins 16	17	Shavout ends 18	19	Pentecost 20	21	St. Rita of Cascia 22
<i>To one who has been long in city pent, ‘tis very sweet to look into the fair and open face of heaven. 23</i>	<i>...To breathe a prayer Full in the smile of the blue firmament. – Keats 24</i>	<i>I am the breath of change.</i>	<i>Take a deep slow breath; allow Gratitude to well up in you.</i>	<i>And when I breathed, my breath was lightning. – Black Elk</i>	<i>The sky is the ultimate art gallery just above us. – Emerson</i>	<i>Breathe out stress – breathe in the peace of the Holy One.</i>
<i>Just because you can’t see air doesn’t mean you stop breathing. Just because you can’t see God doesn’t mean you stop believing. 30</i>	<i>As you breathe in, cherish yourself. As you breathe out, cherish all Beings. – Dalai Lama 31</i>	St. Bede the Venerable 25	○ Flower Moon St. Philip Neri 26	Rachel Carson 1907-1964 27	28	John F. Kennedy’s birthday 29

May 2021



"Urban Gardening" by Pat Willems, CSJ

*To forget how to dig the earth and to tend the soil
is to forget ourselves.*

– Gandhi

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<i>In "Laudato Si", Pope Francis invites us to mend our unjust relationships with one another and with our environment.</i>	<i>To forget how to dig the earth and to tend the soil is to forget ourselves.</i> – Gandhi	<i>Shall I not have intelligence with the earth? Am I not partly leaves and vegetable mould myself.</i> – Thoreau	<i>The spirit cannot endure the body when overfed, but, if underfed, the body cannot endure the spirit.</i> – St. Francis de Sales	<i>One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.</i> – Virginia Woolf
		Global Day of Parents 1	2	3	4	5
<i>In communities across the country, there are Food Deserts and Food Insecurities. What can be done?</i>	<i>The Urban garden – growing and producing food in urban spaces.</i>	<i>Grocery stores could provide affordable produce and fresh foods.</i>	<i>The lack of fresh local food impacts the diet and health of a community.</i>	<i>An urban garden reconnects people with how to grow food, with a relationship to nature.</i>	<i>Urban farms, community gardens, hydroponics, and aquaponics programs can impact our food supply.</i>	<i>Act on getting excess fresh food into the hands of those in desperate need. How?</i>
D-Day 6	7	World Oceans Day 8	9	● New Moon 10	St. Barnabas 11	World Day Against Child Labor 12
<i>Life begins the day you start a garden.</i> – Chinese Proverb	<i>Urban gardens can provide valuable habitats for wild bees and other pollinators.</i>	<i>Programs that target and engage young people can provide multidimensional levels of understanding.</i>	<i>Encourage one another and build one another up...</i> – 1 Thes. 5:11	<i>We come from the earth, we return to the earth, and in between we garden.</i> – Alfred Austin	<i>The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul.</i> – Alfred Austin	<i>Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh, how beautiful', and sitting in the shade.</i> – Rudyard Kipling
St. Anthony of Padua 13	Flag Day, U.S. 14	15	16	Father's Day 17	18	Juneteenth 19
<i>And he gave it for his opinion, that whoever could make two ears of corn, or two blades of grass, to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind...</i>	<i>...and do more essential service to his country, than the whole race of politicians put together.</i> – Jonathan Swift	<i>The best fertilizer is the gardener's shadow.</i>	<i>Learn about agroecology as a sustainable way to move forward in growing and supplying food.</i>	<i>In my life's garden I've come to know, that in my life's garden I welcome whatever may grow.</i> – Kathy Sherman, CSJ	<i>If you can't garden yourself, provide support for gardening in your community.</i>	<i>Allowing people to have more immediate connections to their food can stimulate local economy and help in other economic and social ways.</i>
Father's Day World Refugee Day Solstice 20	21	St. Thomas More 22	23	○ Strawberry Moon Birth of St. John the Baptist 24	25	26
<i>Community gardens and green roofs help filter out local air pollution and cool down cities in the summertime.</i>	<i>In a gentle way, you can shake the world.</i> – Gandhi	<i>The greatest delight the fields and woods minister is the suggestion of an occult relation between man and the vegetable...</i>	<i>...I am not alone and unacknowledged. They nod to me and I to them.</i> – Emerson			
27	28	Sts. Peter and Paul 29	30			

MAY							JULY							
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
30	31													

June 2021



For bees, the flower is the fountain of life;
For flowers, the bee is the messenger of love.

– Gibran



"Marigold Glow" by Sandy Bot-Miller

*And then the flowers came covering the land;
beauty everywhere!*

– Kathy Sherman, CSJ

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Open afresh your rounds of starry folds, Ye ardent marigolds. – John Keats	Little flower, but if I could understand what you are, root and all in all, I should know what God and man is. – Tennyson	Marigold: some say the name came from “Mary’s Gold” which refers to the Virgin Mary.	Other religions consider marigolds as protection from evil spirits; for some they are symbolic of good fortune.	The Earth laughs in flowers. – Emerson	Flowers have an immediate impact on happiness.	It is commonly thought that flowers have a long term positive effect on moods.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Flowers rejoice when night is done, Lift their heads to greet the sun;Sweetest looks and odours raise, In a silent hymn of praise. – Henry Van Dyke	The Earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations. – John Paul II	All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today. – Indian proverb	Flowers purify the air.	Flowers provide healing for both mental and physical ailments.	Flowers invite pollinators; without pollinators what would our world look like?
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
● New Moon St. Dominic St. Mary McKillop	World Indigenous People’s Day	– John Paul II St. Lawrence		St. Clare International Youth Day		St. Maximilian Kolbe
The marigold is known to repel insects, including mosquitoes.	Plant seeds, grow blessings!	Flowers help us make intimate connections; express emotions.	The marigold is also called the ‘herb of the sun’, perhaps representing passion and creativity?	The Amen of nature is always a flower. – Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.	I do not think I have ever seen anything more beautiful than the bluebell I have been looking at. I know the beauty of our Lord by it. – Gerald Manley Hopkins	The marigolds seemed to glow in the late summer sun; to rejoice!
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Assumption of Mary				World Humanitarian Day		Senior Citizens Day
Their ruffled heads nodding and bobbing in the hot summer breeze.	In the colors of the sun, they greet us with their cheerful resilience.	Invite a child into your flower garden; introduce them to your favorites.	Walk barefoot outside; soak in some sun.	Honeybees love yellow flowers, including marigolds.	Flowers are a gift of nature.	Smile like the marigold-radiant in the August sun.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
○ Sturgeon Moon Queenship of Mary	St Rose of Lima	St. Bartholomew		Women’s Equality Day	St. Monica	St. Augustine of Hippo
Gardens are a form of autobiography. – Sydney Eddison	The actual flower is the plant’s highest fulfillment, ... they are here first of all for delight. – John Ruskin	Savor the warmth and life of the August blossoms; store it away for a day when you need it.				
29	30	31				
Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist						

JULY							SEPTEMBER						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30		

August 2021



"Justice: Still She Sings" by Angela Chostner

Most everything with justice happens below the surface - our thoughts, beliefs, internal influences; the starfish and the seahorse are about balance.

-Angela Chostner

SUNDAY							MONDAY							TUESDAY							WEDNESDAY							THURSDAY							FRIDAY							SATURDAY						
AUGUST							OCTOBER														I love you when you bow in your mosque, kneel in your temple, pray in your church. For you and I are people of one religion, and it is the spirit. – Gibran							Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into the trees. – J. Muir							Justice and power must be brought together, so that whatever is just may be powerful, and whatever is powerful may be just. – Blaise Pascal							Don't be anxious about what you have, but about what you are. – Gregory the Great						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA								1							2							3							4						
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29	30	31					31																																									
When you do things from your soul, you feel a river moving in you, a joy. – Rumi							Perhaps there is a soul hidden in everything and it can always speak, without even making a sound, to another soul. – Frances Hodgson Burnett							The purity of a person's heart can be quickly measured by how they regard animals.							There is a higher court than the courts of justice and that is the court of conscience. It supercedes all other courts. – Gandhi							This being human is a guest house. Every morning a new arrival. – Rumi							All of the animals except for people know that the principle business of life is to enjoy it. – Samuel Butler							A private soldier has as much right to justice as a major general. – Abraham Lincoln						
Mother Teresa International Day of Charity							● New Moon Jane Addams 1860-1945 Labor Day							Grandma Moses 1860-1961 Rosh Hashana							Mary's Birthday														St. Gregory the Great							Patriot Day						
5							6							7							8							9							10							11						
To find the pearls in life's ocean, you have to venture out far past the shore.							Whoever finds God finds everything; whoever loses God loses everything. – Robert Bellarmine							Pursue some path, however narrow and crooked, in which you can walk with love and reverence. – Thoreau							Our prayer is public and common; and when we pray, we pray not for one, but for the whole people, because we the whole people are one... – Cyprian Our Lady of Sorrows Yom Kippur							Pray to God: You are the Spirit, and I am only the trumpet, and without Your breath, I can give no sound. – Joseph of Cupertino							Say not, "I have found the truth," but rather, "I have found a truth". Say not, "I have found the path of the soul" Say rather, "I have met the soul walking upon my path."...							...For the soul walks upon all paths. The soul walks not upon a line, neither does it grow like a reed. The soul unfolds itself, like a lotus of countless petals. – Gibran						
Grandparent's day							St. John Chrysostom														Yom Kippur							Hildegard of Bingen 1098-1179																				
12							13							14							15							16							17							18						
If you want God to hear your prayers, hear the voice of the poor. If you wish God to anticipate your wants, provide those of the needy without waiting for them to ask you... – Thomas of Villanova							The least movement is of importance to all nature. The entire ocean is affected by a pebble. – Blaise Pascal							I alone cannot change the world but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples. – Mother Teresa							Charity is no substitute for justice withheld. – St. Augustine							Whenever a separation is made between liberty and justice, neither, in my opinion, is safe. – Edmund Burke							It is not what a lawyer tells me I may do; but what humanity, reason, and justice tell me I ought to do. – Edmund Burke							For God commands the angels over you to guard you in all your ways. – Psalm 91:11						
19							20							21							22							23							24							25						
Nature is doing her best each moment to make us well. Why, nature is but another name for health. – Thoreau							Life in us is like the water in a river. – Thoreau							Pure water is the world's first and foremost medicine. – Slovakian proverb							Let us continue to offer one another to God and to love each other in our Lord, as God has loved us. – Vincent de Paul							To do something, however small, to make others happier and better, is the highest ambition, the most elevating hope, which can inspire a human being. – John Lubbock																				
World Day Against Human Trafficking							St. Vincent de Paul														St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael																											
26							27							28							29							30																				

September 2021



"Trees" by Frances Dutil, CSJ

*Tree roots form a beautiful community. Quietly and gently,
they care for, communicate with and nourish each other.
We could learn from them.*

– Frances Dutil, CSJ

SUNDAY							MONDAY							TUESDAY							WEDNESDAY							THURSDAY							FRIDAY							SATURDAY													
SEPTEMBER							NOVEMBER																																																
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26	27	28	29	30			28	29	30																																														
<i>Listen to the wind in the leaves.</i>							<i>...Bright leaves sink noiseless in the hush of woods, for winter waiting... - Helen Hunt Jackson</i>							<i>The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn. - Emerson</i>							<i>The forest is a social network. Read "The Hidden Life of Trees" by P. Wohlleben.</i>							<i>Hold on to what you believe, even if it is a tree that stands by itself. - Pueblo Prayer</i>							<i>To dwellers in a wood, almost every species of tree has a voice. - Thomas Hardy</i>							<i>Trees are poems that earth writes upon the skies. - Gibron</i>													
3							4							5							6							7							8							9													
St. Francis of Assisi							World Teachers' Day							● New Moon							Our Lady of the Rosary Desmond Tutu b. 1931							St. Therese of Lisieux							Guardian Angels Mohandas Gandhi																				
<i>...bring you beauty, and cycle hope with our seasons.</i>							<i>I see a time of Seven Generations when all the colors of mankind will gather under the Sacred Tree of Life...</i>							<i>...and the whole Earth will become one circle again. - Crazy Horse</i>							<i>The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness. - J. Muir</i>							<i>Volunteer at an arboretum.</i>							<i>Hear the crunching, rustling, feel the Autumn energy, as you walk through the leaves in the October woods.</i>							<i>A tree with strong roots laughs at storms. - Malay proverb</i>													
10							11							12							13							14							15							16													
World Mental Health Day							St. John XXIII																					CSJ Founders' Day St. Teresa of Avila							World Food Day																				
<i>Branch out a little and browse thru "Advice From a Tree" by Ilam Shamire.</i>							<i>He who leans against a big tree will always find shade... - Albanian Proverb</i>							<i>The leaves may dry and blow away, but if the roots are strong the tree can grow them again.</i>							<i>Don't make Trees rare, keep them with care.</i>							<i>Give fools their gold, and knaves their power; let fortune's bubbles rise and fall;...who plants a tree is more than all. - Whittier</i>							<i>Love is flower like; Friendship is like a sheltering tree. - Coleridge</i>							<i>We are the Trees, our dark and leafy glade Bands the bright Earth with softer mysteries. - Mary Colborne-Veel</i>													
17							18							19							20							21							22							23													
International Day for Poverty Eradication							St. Luke							St. Isaac Jogues and St. John de Brebeuf							○ Hunter's Moon																																		
<i>Let's take our hearts for a walk in the woods and listen to the magic whispers of old trees.</i>							<i>Watch the film "The Call of the Forest: The Forgotten Wisdom of Trees" with visionary scientist Diana Beresford-Kroeger.</i>							<i>Talk to your trees; they will listen.</i>							<i>Find out about a colony of quaking aspen called Pando, or "The Trembling Giant," in Utah; you will be amazed!</i>							<i>Every leaf speaks bliss to me, Fluttering from the autumn tree. - E.Bronte</i>							<i>Trees are the longest living organisms on earth.</i>							<i>Be like a tree and let the dead leaves drop. - Rumi</i>													
24							25							26							27							28							29							30													
United Nations Day																					Karen Klimczak, SSJ 1943-2006							Sts. Simon and Jude																											
<i>Stones have been known to move and trees to speak! - Shakespeare</i>																																																							
31																																																							
Halloween																																																							

October 2021



"Herons with Full Moon" by Nancy Earle

*Tell me and
I will forget.*

*Show me,
and I may not
remember.*

*Involve me
and I'll
understand.*

– Native American

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<i>Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. – William James</i>	<i>Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark. – Tagore</i>	<i>Tell me, and I'll forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me and I'll understand. – Native American saying</i>	<i>In order to see birds it is necessary to become a part of the silence. – Robert Lynd</i>	<i>Be still and the earth will speak to you. – Native American proverb</i>	<i>The bird is generally thought to symbolize freedom, they can walk on the earth and swim in the sea as humans do but they also have the ability to soar into the sky.</i>
	All Saints' Day 1	All Souls' Day Election Day (US) 2	St. Martin de Porres 3	● New Moon 4	5	6
<i>No bird soars too high if he soars with his own wings. – William Blake</i>	<i>The reason birds can fly and we can't is simply because they have perfect faith, for to have faith is to have wings. – J.M.Barrie</i>	<i>Many cultures believe that birds symbolize eternal life; the link between heaven and earth.</i>	<i>Success is full of promise till one gets it, and then, it seems like a nest from which the bird has flown. – Henry Ward Beecher</i>	<i>Many people agree that birds were the primary inspiration for human flight.</i>	<i>November: brown and curling leaves rustling and crunching underfoot.</i>	<i>How many birds have you seen today? How many have flown to warmer climates?</i>
(new moon) Marie Curie 1867-1934 Daylight Savings Time ends 7	Dorothy Day 1897-1980 8	Thomas Berry 1914-2009 9	St. Leo the Great 10	Veterans Day, U.S. St. Martin of Tours 11	12	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini 13
<i>...No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees, ...</i>	<i>... No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds, November! – Thomas Hood</i>	<i>If the trees look stark against the sky, and a cold rain is falling, make yourself cozy inside.</i>	<i>Stalking along from log to log, two large herons paid no attention to my presence, ...</i>	<i>...but occupied themselves with their own fishing arrangements, as if their wilderness were their own. – William Cowper Prime</i>	<i>And he beholds the moon; like a rounded fragment of ice filled with motionless light. – Gustave Flaubert</i>	<i>A beautiful blue heron, flying over the November tree tops – a sight to treasure.</i>
Claude Monet 1840-1926 14	Georgia O'Keefe 1887-1986 15	St. Margaret of Scotland 16	St. Elizabeth of Hungary 17	18	○ Beaver Moon 19	Universal Children's Day 20
<i>Gratitude is the memory of the heart. – Jean Baptiste Massieu</i>	<i>No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. – Cicero</i>	<i>Name 5 things that fill you with gratitude.</i>	<i>Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul.</i>	<i>Gratitude turns what we have into enough. – Aesop</i>	<i>Not what we have, but what we enjoy, constitutes our abundance. – Epicurus</i>	<i>The soul that gives thanks can find comfort in everything; the soul that complains can find comfort in nothing. – Hannah Whitall Smith</i>
Presentation of Mary Christ the King 21	St. Cecilia 22	23	24	Thanksgiving Day 25	Sojourner Truth 1797-1893 26	27
<i>Looking behind, I am filled with gratitude, looking forward, I am filled with vision, ...</i>	<i>... looking upwards I am filled with strength, looking within, I discover peace. – Quero Apache prayer</i>	<i>Put out seed and suet for the hardy birds that winter over with you.</i>				
I Advent Hanukkuh Begins 28	29	St. Andrew 30	30			

OCTOBER							DECEMBER						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
					1	2				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	
31													

November 2021



"Mother and Children" by Pat Willems, CSJ

*Close the door of hate and
open the door of love all
over the world.*

– Robert Louis Stevenson

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NOVEMBER SU MO TU WE TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	JANUARY SU MO TU WE TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		<i>I had always hoped that this land might become a safe and agreeable asylum to the virtuous and persecuted part of mankind, to whatever nation they might belong.</i> – George Washington World Aids Day	<i>Since the beginning of an inhabited Earth, animals and humankind have migrated to new homes.</i> El Salvador Martyrs of 1980	<i>Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.</i> – Robert Louis Stevenson.	<i>Food shortages and changes in the climate and environment have pushed animals and humankind to seek new lands.</i>
<i>Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore, ...</i> II Advent International Volunteer Day	<i>... send those, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me: I lift my lamp beside the Golden Door.</i> – Emma Lazarus St. Nicholas Day Hanukkah ends	<i>Freedom from war, from overbearing taxes and politics, and religious freedom have pulled migrants to seek new homes.</i> Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	<i>There is a special magic and holiness about women. They are the bringers of life to the people and the teachers of children.</i> – Cheyenne Immaculate Conception	<i>Extend a helping hand to those on a journey; feed the hungry, show a kindness to the weary.</i> St. Juan Diego	<i>Pray that all of God's children may know the blessings of Peace on Earth this holy season.</i> Human Rights Day	<i>Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.</i> – Luke 2:8-12
<i>God gave us memory so that we may have roses in December.</i> – J.M.Barrie III Advent Our Lady of Guadalupe	<i>Whenever Christ-Love- is born anew, Joy resounds in all Creation.</i> St. Lucy	<i>O Radiant Dawn, Splendor of Eternal Light, Sun of Justice: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness...</i> – O Antiphon St. John of the Cross	<i>Look for ways to give to those in need in your community.</i> 15	<i>The pine tree seems to listen, the fir tree to wait; and both without impatience.</i> – Friedrich Nietzsche 16	<i>In the winter stillness- the whisper of peace.</i> 17	<i>Embrace the Advent Journey as you move toward the light.</i> Cold Moon 18
<i>May the Joy of Christmas shine through you and, like the Star, guide you to a place of Peace and Love.</i> IV Advent	<i>Jesus is Light for those in darkness...</i> 20	<i>...Hope for those who search, Peace for those who hurt...</i> Solstice 21	<i>...Now it's our turn to bring these gifts to others...do we?</i> – Frankie Dutil, CSJ 22	<i>The Dream of God shall be carried in strong hearts and gentle hands.</i> 23	<i>Silent night, Holy night ...</i> Christmas Eve 24	<i>May you have the Gladness of Christmas which is hope; The Spirit of Christmas which is peace; the heart of Christmas which is love.</i> – Ada V. Hendricks Christmas 25
<i>And wild and sweet the words repeat of Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men.</i> – Longfellow Kwanzaa Begins Holy Family	<i>A good conscience is a continual Christmas.</i> – Benjamin Franklin St. John the Apostle	<i>May you be the Presence of Love in our world throughout the coming New Year.</i> Holy Innocents	<i>The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up.</i> – Mark Twain 29	<i>By being yourself, you put something beautiful into the world that was not there before.</i> – Edwin Elliott 30	<i>For auld lang syne, for auld lang syne.</i> New Year's Eve 31	

December 2021



For bees, the flower is the fountain of life. For flowers, the bee is the messenger of love. — Gibran

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

July 2021

A bumblebee can visit, and help pollinate, 3,000 flowers a day. — Nat Geo 5-2020

U.S. Independence Day



JANUARY



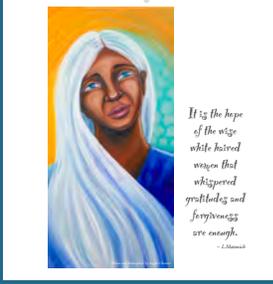
APRIL



JULY



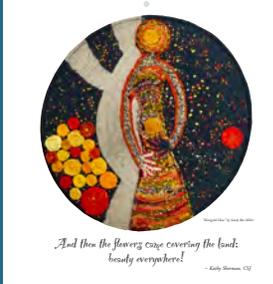
OCTOBER



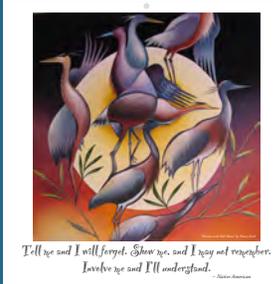
FEBRUARY



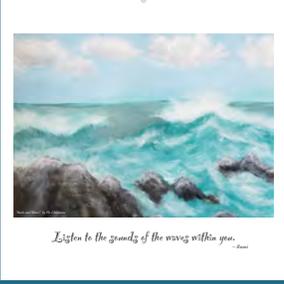
MAY



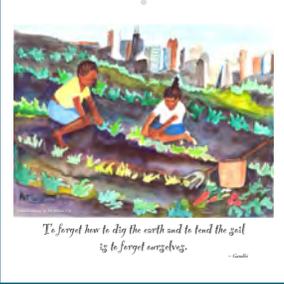
AUGUST



NOVEMBER



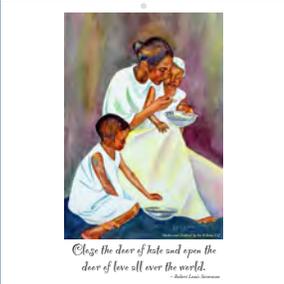
MARCH



JUNE



SEPTEMBER



DECEMBER

MinistryArts of the

Vision Statement for the Arts in the World

The Congregation of St. Joseph affirms the power of the arts to heal, bring beauty, transform consciousness, and serve as an agent for justice and systemic change. We believe the arts express the universal human experience and recognize that the arts comfort us, amplify our voices, and call us to contemplation and action.

Therefore, on behalf of the Congregation's mission of unity, which recognizes the sacredness of all creation, we offer our gifts of music, art, and word to the world. It is our hope they will serve as a catalyst for the rising up of greater love, unity, justice, and community wherever they find a home.

Congregation of St. Joseph – La Grange Park Center
1515 W. Ogden Avenue – La Grange Park, IL, 60526-1721