



St. Elizabeth Mission Society

A Ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY

Fall 2016

Answering God's Call - Be the Fire!

"They asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked to us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?'" - Luke 24:32

Dear Friend,

Every four years, the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany have a General Chapter where they celebrate their time together, reflect on their call to religious life and make decisions for the future. From July 25 to August 2, Sisters gathered from the U.S., Jamaica, Brazil and Bolivia to focus on their mission.

"Were not our hearts burning within us - be the fire!" was the theme of this year's Chapter. It provided an image that spoke of passion and zeal for our church, world and all of creation. Taken from the Book of Luke, two disciples were on the road to Emmaus immediately after Jesus' crucifixion. The Lord appeared and walked with them, although they didn't recognize him. During supper, they finally realized who was in their company and thought they should have known when they felt their hearts burning.

Our Sisters felt that same "fire" when they answered the call to spend their lives dedicated to the Lord's work in the manner of Francis and Clare. They have passionately cared for the sick, educated children, loved those who are poor and have given witness to the Gospel message for 157 years.



Our Bolivian Sisters, Elvira Donaldson and Maria Miranda visited the newly decorated Mission Society office during Chapter.



Sr. M. Concilia Flaherty enjoyed attending the annual blessing of the animals at the Motherhouse last October on the Feast of St. Francis.

Yes! I would like to provide a special gift for the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany's "Retirement Fund" as well as helping the Sisters reach out to the poor in Jamaica, Brazil, Bolivia and the U.S. I am enclosing my gift of:

_____ \$200 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ \$10 _____ Other

Name _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

E-mail _____ Ph _____

Donations can also be made on our website, www.franciscanhope.org, using PayPal.

St. Elizabeth Mission Society

Fall Raffle

1st Prize: \$500
2nd Prize: \$200
3rd Prize: \$100

Drawing held
October 31,
2016

Please complete your information on the back.

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When talking to our Sisters, you can see that they still feel that “fire” when they speak of their ministries. I was able to visit with our two Bolivian Sisters while they were here. Because of your generosity, the Mission Society sends \$800 each month to help provide food, religious education and transportation to school for families who are poor in La Paz.

With every Raffle Appeal, a portion of your gift goes to help our Sisters in some way. This year, please consider giving in support of our Sisters’ “Retirement Fund.” This fund helps support our Sisters when they retire, many of them coming back to the Motherhouse in Allegany, NY. Even when they are “retired” from active ministry, our Sisters still continue with different ministries. As you know, their ministry of prayer is especially strong, and you are on their list!

We would like to express our gratitude for your generous support throughout the entire year by including your name in our Fall Raffle. This will give you the chance to receive \$500, \$200 or \$100. Just complete the tickets below, and return them before October 31. The Mission Society will make a donation to the Sisters’ Retirement Fund.

In closing, I ask you to reflect on what burns within your heart and how the Lord is calling you to his service.

Blessings on you and your loved ones,

Laura C. Whitford

Laura Whitford
President, St. Elizabeth Mission Society



Congratulations to our 2016 Golden Jubilarians!

Pictured, from left: (Front) Sr. Frances O'Dell; Sr. Michele Dolyk; Sr. Grace Yap; Sr. Mary Ellen Tucker; Sr. Chris Doherty; (Back) Sr. Margaret Mary Kimmins, Congregational Minister; Sr. Chris Treichel; Sr. Mary Croghan.

*Summer 2015
Raffle Helps Sisters'
Activities Program*



Thank you for supporting our Summer 2015 Raffle appeal. Sr. Barbara Bartkowiak, OSF drew the lucky raffle winners who are listed below. The Mission Society was able to make a gift to the Motherhouse Activities Program to help purchase DVDs, CD players, hand weights and other items.

- 1st Prize:** Dorothy Chiaravalle
Lewiston, NY
- 2nd Prize:** Ken Poe
Hinsdale, NY
- 3rd Prize:** Sr. Helen Roberts
Quincy, MA

*Please remember the following **Persons and Intentions** in the Sisters' prayers .*

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Name _____	Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____	Address _____
Phone _____	Phone _____	Phone _____

Return to: Mission Society, PO Box 86, Allegany, NY 14706