

Ursuline Dome



A PUBLICATION OF THE URSULINE SISTERS OF LOUISVILLE

WINTER 2003

Ursulines and retirement More than a career; it's a calling

Most people can tell you exactly how many more years—months, days, hours—it is until they retire. In the throes of deadlines, projects, parenting and mortgages, it's easy for the mind to wander to daydreams of leisure time to come. But when one of the Ursuline Sisters retires, we know that she will

most likely not find her life unstructured. That's because Ursuline Sisters never truly "retire." Instead, their dedication may be re-focused into another ministry. That kind of energy, inspired by Saint Angela's words, "Renew yourselves and lead a new life," reminds us all to renew our energy for the task at hand today.

Spiritual path continues into retirement for Sister Martha Buser

Sister Martha Buser is a busy woman. She volunteers at a homeless shelter in Louisville, working with men and women in recovery programs. As a spiritual director, she has 22 clients and conducts retreats and workshops at various locales across the country while supervising other spiritual directors. All told, she puts in an average of 40 hours of service—volunteer or otherwise—each week.

By the way, she retired back in 2001.

An Ursuline Sister for 53 years, Sister Martha has shown little sign of taking it easy in her retirement. She said she considered taking some time off as her retirement approached. "The feeling I had was that I was going to read all of these books," she said. "And I did that ... for a couple of weeks."

After such an active ministry, it would be difficult to imagine Sister Martha sitting in a rocking chair with a book in her hand. She spent 20 years as a classroom teacher and then went on to become a spiritual director,



Sister Martha Buser, retired but still working many hours of service.

while holding positions within the Ursuline community and for the archdiocese. She has traveled the world—seven countries in all—giving retreats. She has been invited to all of the North American Ursuline motherhouses and provincial houses to give retreats. She has authored a book about the spirituality of Saint Angela, *Also in Your Midst*, that has been translated into three languages and three prayer guides for the community. She served as the first director of the Angela Merici Center, the position she held at the time of her retirement.

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*Happy Holidays
from the Ursuline
Sisters of Louisville.*

**Nominate a
special person!
Angeline Award
(form on p. 11)**

Our Mission:

The Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, Kentucky, an apostolic religious congregation of the Roman Catholic Church, rooted in the spirit and tradition of St. Angela Merici, are committed to a life of prayer and community and participation in the teaching mission of the Church. Teaching Christian living is the corporate ministry of the Ursuline Sisters. This ministry, cutting across socioeconomic, racial and national boundaries, assists women, men, and children to live more fully and to develop a personal relationship with God.

A letter from the president



*A*s the 7th youngest member of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, I am surrounded by the wisdom of more than 150 sisters who have been my teachers and mentors throughout the years.

My ministry as president affords me the opportunity to spend time with our sisters, getting to know them on a more personal level. I continue to be humbled by the lessons I learn and the inspiration I receive from our elder sisters each day.

As followers of Angela, we are challenged to live the gospel values faithfully, praying and working in order to effectively serve the people of God. This challenge to live our mission does not end or decrease with age. In fact, we, as Ursuline Sisters, are committed to sharing the spirit of Angela in many ways throughout our lifetime—even in "retirement."

In this issue we share with you how the ministry of our sisters continues past normal "retirement" age. What many individuals might call the end of their profession, we term as a new beginning. This beginning allows us to explore and pursue other ministries in order to fulfill our commitment to living the teaching mission of Jesus and following Angela's charism to cultivate a contemplative love of God resulting in serving the needs of others.

St. Angela herself accomplished most of her important work after the age of 60. In the nearly 150 years that our community has been active, we have accomplished much in the way of teaching Christian living thanks to the dedication and wisdom of our elder sisters. I am hopeful that as we grow older and mature in wisdom and love, our Ursuline community will carry on Angela's legacy in the future, expressing our mission in new ways as our sisters continue to discover ways to be glory to the only God.

Sister Jean Anne Zappa, OSU

Sister Jean Anne Zappa, OSU

Louisville Sisters host brunch for benefactors in California



Ursuline Sisters President Sister Jean Anne Zappa and Development Director Jennifer Hartlage hosted brunch for benefactors and friends of the Ursuline Sisters during a trip to Palo Alto, California in September. Pictured from left are Sylvanus and Emily Devine, Agnes Ng, Julia Ng (UC '55), Sister Jean Anne, Joann Meredith (UC '55), Sister Rita Dressman and Sister Lynn Jarrell.



Benefactor and Ursuline College alumna ('66) Norah Shih, left, joined Sister Jean Anne and Jennifer Hartlage (not pictured) for brunch during another leg of their California trip. This time the stop was Redondo Beach, Calif.

Mass and dinner honors Ursuline Society

The Ursuline Society Mass and Dinner was held Nov. 2 at the Ursuline Motherhouse for members of the Ursuline Society. The annual event allows the Ursuline Sisters the opportunity to thank benefactors who support their mission with gifts totaling \$1,000 or more per fiscal year. Such benefactors are known as the Ursuline Society.



Benefactors Lee and John Scharfenberger, members of the Ursuline Society, enjoy dinner.



Benefactors Martha (UA '47) and Alvin Young enjoyed good food and conversation with Sister Anthony Wargel.



Benefactor Shirley DeFelice (UA '47), left, chats with her sibling, Sister Jamesetta DeFelice.



Sister Assumpta Devine, Marian Home Administrator, holds a rendering of Marian Home given in honor of Marian Home's 25th anniversary celebration.



Ursuline Sisters President Sister Jean Anne Zappa presents Jim Wagner, left, and Bill Wagner of Bosse Funeral Home with a framed medallion in recognition for their years of dedication to the Ursuline Sisters dating back to the late 1800s.



Theresa Batliner, left, of Cotton and Allen, PSC receives a framed medallion from Sister Jean Anne Zappa. The gift was given in gratitude for Cotton and Allen's continued support.



2003 UCAF was a phenomenal success!

Artist Wanda Frankum Greene of Louisville, (right), is hard at work during the 2003 Ursuline Campus Art Fair (UCAF). The two-day event was held in September on the Ursuline Campus and featured beautiful

weather, family fun, musical entertainment and fabulous art. The Ursuline Sisters offer their most heartfelt thanks to the generous corporate sponsors, volunteers, entertainers, artists and others who offered their time, talent and resources for the event. For more UCAF photos, a complete listing of the sponsors, and Best of Show winners, go to www.ursulineslou.org.



Thank you for your support of the Marian Home 25th Anniversary Campaign

The Marian Home 25th Anniversary Campaign came to a close at the end of October, but because of the funds raised during the last year, the quality of life and of care for those who reside there will continue well into the future.

Thanks to the generosity of our friends and benefactors, \$562,437 was raised, allowing us to surpass the \$1 million goal for the Marian Home endowment!

Here's how the numbers break down: \$562,437 total amount raised; with \$430,000 of that for the Marian Home Endowment and the \$132,437 remainder for use by Marian Home.

Wishes fulfilled
We were able to cross many of the much-needed items off our "wish list" for improvements and equipment purchases. Such items included a lift, glider swing, new landscaping, three electric low beds, six bed alarms, two pulse oximeters, the renovation of the second floor hallway, the redecoration of nine residents' rooms, new scheduling software, and the purchase of a new organ for Marian Home's chapel.

Associate Aspects

You are invited to come and see what the Ursuline Associate Call is all about!

If you are interested in finding out more about the Associate Call, mark your calendars to attend the "Come and See" session on Feb. 7 at 1:00 p.m. in Brescia Hall on the Ursuline Campus.

The Ursuline Associates are a group of women and men -- married and single -- who share a life of prayer and service with the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville. Being an Ursuline Associate allows women and men to join with the sisters through prayer and ministry without a vowed commitment or living in community.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Associate Call, please attend the Come and See or contact Sister Sarah Stauble at (502) 896-3956 or at sstauble@ursulineslou.org.

Retirement opens doors for re

Martha Buser, continued from page 1

Yet it is in her current post-retirement volunteer work that she has been able to pursue a ministry direction that allows her a renewed sense of fulfillment.

"I had always wanted to work directly with the poor so I worked with homeless women and led a sharing group of recovering alcoholics and drug addicts," Sister Martha said. "I could use my skills as a spiritual director to listen lovingly to these people who were trying to become whole."

Today, she leads two such groups. "I really, really love that. In many ways, that's the best thing I've ever done," she said.

Sister Martha said she receives her continued energy and inspiration from Saint Angela and the example she set for women everywhere. In fact, it is in Sister Martha's many travels to meet sisters from other Ursuline orders that she found, not only a shared sense of community, but also an appreciation for her sisters here at home.

"I've met many, many Ursulines from all over the world, but this is my Ursuline

home. And while I have always found Angela wherever I go, this is where I have come to know the charism," she said. "Now that I'm retired, I especially appreciate the support and encouragement of the Ursuline community.

"For me, retirement is not about ending ministry but a transition to live the mission in a different way."



Copies of Also in Your Midst - Reflections on the Spirituality of St. Angela Merici may be purchased for \$5, plus postage, by calling (502) 897-1811.

You can give a gift in honor of a "retired" sister when you return the envelope provided in this issue.

Angela Merici Center Winter schedule



The Angela Merici Center offers spirituality programs. For more information or registration, contact Ginny Schaeffer at (502) 896-3945 or at gschaeffer@ursulineslou.org. Brescia Hall and the Ursuline Motherhouse are located at 3105 Lexington Road in Louisville.

Adventures In Scripture, presented by Ursuline Sisters President Sister Jean Anne Zappa. The theme is "Covenant and Community ... Exploring how relationship with God takes us out of ourselves to meet the needs of the world in which we live."

Attend either of the following sessions:

Dec. 1, 2:30 - 4 p.m.,

Ursuline Motherhouse

Dec. 3, 7 - 9 p.m., Brescia Hall

Liturgy and Lunch's "Advent—A Season of Hope" examines the themes of Advent through presentation, prayer, reflection and

group sharing, giving you an opportunity to reconnect with the source of your hope. Presented by Sister Martha Buser. \$10 for lunch.

You may attend either of the following sessions:

Dec. 4, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Brescia Hall

Day of Reflection, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Brescia Hall

Centering Prayer. This opportunity for quiet, restful prayer is facilitated by Sister Margaret Ann Hagan and will take place Tuesday, Dec. 16, 7-8 p.m. at Brescia Hall. Prior experience with Centering Prayer is recommended.

Spring 2004

Other opportunities for spiritual formation, prayer, self-care, group sharing and study will be offered in the spring. Please check our Web site, www.ursulineslou.org, for times and dates, or you may call (502) 896-3945.

Renewed service, spiritual growth

For Sister Sarah, retirement means continued involvement

"I'm retired and yet I'm involved."

That's how Sister Sarah Stauble sums up her life nowadays. The former president of the Ursuline Sisters ended a year-long sabbatical by taking over as director of the Associate Call in September.

"I think it's going to be very life-giving for me," she said of her new role. "The Associates are wonderful people."

Sister Sarah has been an Ursuline Sister for 51 years, having taught music, ministered in formation, and served three separate stints in Ursuline leadership. She is also active in volunteer ministry at Wayside Christian Mission and serves on the board of directors for Day Spring, an organization that offers residential services to adults with mental retardation.

Though her days are busy, Sister Sarah said her time is filled with less stressful activity and is made all the more enjoyable by an added flexibility that wasn't present in her roles before retirement.

"It's much more relaxing to be able to be involved in something without all the pressure and demands that can come with a typical work day," she said. "I'm a firm believer in liking what you do."



Sister Sarah works enthusiastically with the Associate Call.

She sees her role with the Associate Call as a new opportunity to do more of what she likes, which is being involved with people and learning something new.

"It's exciting to have a new job," Sister Sarah said, comparing it to the excitement she felt as a teacher at the start of a new school year. "I used to love the first day of school and it's like that, anticipating something new."

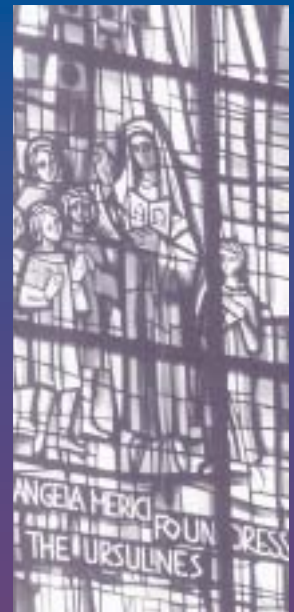
"Even though I'm the director of the Associate Call, it's a sharing experience. We learn from each other and share gifts."



Never stop teaching; never stop learning

Sister Dominica Widmer (right), though retired, offers her student, Sister Helen Breighner, also retired, individualized attention during an art class at Marian Home.

Angela's Wisdom



'Put your whole soul into the enterprise you have undertaken. Rejoice!'

—9th Counsel

Alumnae: Keep in touch

Last year was a year of reviving ties with alumnae of Angela Merici High School, Ursuline Academy in Louisville and Ursuline Academy in Pittsburgh. Reunions were held for all three schools and the spirited celebrations were enjoyed by all.

The Ursuline Sisters of Louisville want you to know that even though the school you went to has closed, the legacy of your Ursuline education and the warm memories created during those formative years live on. Please

know that even though this is not where you actually went to school, you always have a home here with us on the Ursuline Campus.

In an effort to stay in touch, please let us know of any address, email or name changes so we are able to contact you for future events or to let you know of programs, news or other information that may be of interest to you. In fact, don't be a stranger; feel free to drop us a line to let us know how you are doing. Send updates and messages to Lorri Malone, alumnae relations, at (502) 896-3999 or lmalone@ursulineslou.org.

Donor List

These gifts were received between August 1, 2003, and October 31, 2003. Every effort has been made to keep the listing error-free. If your name was overlooked or improperly printed, please accept our apologies. We invite you to contact us to correct the error:

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Year-end giving provides blessings in the future

As the Christmas season approaches, we realize many of you will be remembering the Ursuline Sisters with gifts. We are most appreciative of your generosity. Your gift is a wise investment in the perpetuation of our mission into the new year and beyond. And it can also be a wise, flexible and effective means of creating tax savings for you.

Gifts of cash, stock, bequests, and life insurance are some of the options available to you. It is best to plan early in order to ensure best results for your year-end giving plans. The advice of your financial adviser, tax preparer or insurance agent (as applicable) should be obtained in all gift considerations.

The Office of Development staff will be happy to help and provide you, your attorney, your accountant or your tax advisor with additional information and assistance.

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A note of clarification

A gift from Saint John Newmann-Home School Association that was listed in the last issue of the Dome was not identified as being given in honor of Sister Anthony Wargel. Our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

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Lt. Gen Leonard &
Mickey Perroots

Vocation Venue

Sisters don't retire—they respond

By Sister Merry Marcotte

Vocation: A lifelong invitation to conversation with God. Neither the calling nor the response is age-specific. Some founders of religious orders were mature men and women by the time they acted on their visions, including Saint Angela Merici who was well into her "wisdom years" before she gathered a group of women friends, along with some men, and formed her Company of Saint Ursula.

Ministry and service do not end just because a sister reaches a socially determined "retirement" age. Even sisters who are limited by infirmity have an active life as powerful prayer ministers. Other sisters respond with willingness and faith by moving to new locations, taking on new assignments, changing ministries, undertaking additional education and training.

Insiders sometimes call it re-cycling; others might think of it as re-inventing oneself. But in reality, sisters are simply responding to their ongoing dialogue with God. This is one of the joys of being a sister. To continue to grow and expand one's horizons—to stretch into something new and different—confirms and strengthens that initial "yes" to God.

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Veritas Society
Irvin Weyer
Dr. John & Mary Wolford

In Memoriam



Sister Mary Alban Bosse, OSU Feb. 6, 1901 - Nov. 2, 2003

Sister Mary Alban Bosse, OSU, 102, died Nov. 2, at Marian Home. She was an Ursuline Sister of Louisville for 83 years. Sister Alban served as a cook and worked in food service for 65 years at schools including Sacred Heart Academy, St. Elizabeth and St. Francis of Assisi, as well as the Ursuline Motherhouse. She also worked at schools in Ohio and Nebraska, and was active in convent duties at the Ursuline Motherhouse.

Sister Alban is survived by her Ursuline family, four nieces and four nephews.

Ursuline College alumnae all-class event to be held Spring 2004

An all-class event is in the works for alumnae of Ursuline College. The event is being planned for April 2004 here on the Ursuline Campus and will entail the dedication of a sculpture, with a reception to follow. Details are still being worked out at this time and alumnae will soon be notified of the particulars. If you—or a UC classmate that you know of—need to update us with your mailing address, email address or name changes, please do so as soon as possible. Send updates to Lorri Malone, alumnae relations, at (502) 896-3999 or lmalone@ursulineslou.org.

Nominate a dynamic woman for the 2004 Angeline Award

The Ursuline Sisters of Louisville wish to recognize a woman who possess the qualities of Saint Angela Merici and Ursuline Sisters' charism or "special gift" — a contemplative love of God resulting in an openness and eagerness to serve the needs of others.

The award was established in 1990 and is given every two years. Past recipients include Donna McKinney Hansen of Spokane, Wa., 1991; Juanna Gil Sanchez of Callao, Peru, South America, 1992; Barbara Emrich Cassidy of Louisville, Ky. 1994; Margo Thompson Borders of Louisville, 1996; Maria Scharfenberger of Louisville, 1998; Jane Thibault of Louisville, 2000; and Mary Kwan of Huston, Texas, 2002.

We invite you to nominate a woman who, like Angela Merici, addresses the needs and concerns of her time.

Angeline Award Criteria

An eligible candidate for the Angeline Award is a woman who:

- Reflects the charism of Angela and the Ursulines
- Demonstrates Christian leadership by being actively involved with challenges that face women and families today, such as illiteracy, poverty, violence, abuse, prejudice or addiction.
- Currently has a personal connection to the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville through ministry, professional association, education, relationship or common goals. Ursuline Sisters are not eligible.
- Is able to receive the award in person at a ceremony to be held July 30, 2004.

Angeline Award Nomination form

Please type or print. Use additional paper as needed.

My 2004 Angeline Award nominee is:

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone(____) _____ Email _____

Have you nominated this woman before? ___Y ___N

Please give 2 or 3 specific examples of how this nominee:

- A. Reflects and demonstrates an awareness of God's love and activity in her life by serving others
- B. Demonstrates Christian leadership by being actively involved with a specific challenge that faces women and families today

Describe the nominee's personal connection or relationship with the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville

What is your most recent contact with the nominee?

List two other references for this nominee, including name, address, phone number, title/relationship to nominee

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone (____) _____ Email _____
 Title _____
 Relationship to nominee _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone(____) _____ Email _____
 Title _____
 Relationship to nominee _____

Nominated by _____
 Address _____
 Phone(____) _____ Email _____

Please return this form to:
Anne Mary Lochner, OSU
Ursuline Sisters of Louisville
3105 Lexington Road
Louisville, KY 40206

Deadline to submit nomination is Feb. 2, 2004.

Motherhouse renovation fundraising campaign underway

We need your help! The Ursuline Sisters are making plans to renovate two buildings in order to make better use of campus living space. The estimated price to provide necessary improvements to two wings of the Motherhouse and the chaplain's residence is \$500,000.

Upcoming renovation plans for the Motherhouse include providing ADA accessible bathrooms and replacing the plumbing. Providing handrails throughout the hallways and installing a new west wing elevator and new lighting in the bedrooms are some of the necessary changes to assist our sisters who currently live at the Motherhouse, as well as those who will live there in the future.

In past years, the chaplain for the Ursuline Sisters resided in a large home on the campus. The chaplain has recently moved to a private apartment on campus and the home will be renovated to house four Ursuline Sisters. The home was built in the mid-1900s and is in need of many improvements. Plans are being made to begin replacing the current steam heating system with central heat and air and upgrading the plumbing. The kitchen will be renovated, increasing the usefulness of the space and installing new appliances. The exterior of the building will be restored and the metal-framed windows replaced.



We cannot fund these much-needed renovations without your help. Please consider sharing a gift over and above your current financial commitment to help us provide a safe and comfortable living space for our sisters. You may choose to make a one-time gift toward the project or a three-year pledge. Please earmark your gift for the Motherhouse renovation and mail your gift to:

**Office of Development
Ursuline Sisters of Louisville
3105 Lexington Road
Louisville, KY 40206**

If half of the 17,000 individuals who receive this publication were to commit \$100 to this project, we will have exceeded our goal and provided our sisters with a living environment that suits their needs. Please be one of those who helps. Thank you in advance for your commitment!

The Ursuline Dome is published quarterly by the Office of Development of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, Ky.

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Mission - Teaching Christian living by assisting others in living more fully and developing a personal relationship with God.



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