You are amazing! We continue to be incredibly grateful for the kindness and generosity of our loyal benefactors. Over the last few months, we have asked for your support for our retired Sisters and for the expansion of one of our schools in the Philippines. We also asked for your feedback through a survey that was mailed to you in February.

As usual, your response was enthusiastic and overwhelming! Thanks to your support, the Dominican School of Angeles City has begun construction on a second building that will allow us to serve more students in the Philippines. Thanks to your support, more than $100,000 was raised to provide care for our Sisters residing in the Dominican Life Center. With more than 90 Sisters expected to move home to Adrian this year, every dollar and every prayer you offer will help ensure we are able to provide the multitude of services our Sisters in residence need.

Your response to our survey was enlightening and helpful. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts, concerns, and heart-warming stories with us. As you continue to read through this newsletter, you’ll find some of the results. Be assured, we are taking every suggestion into careful consideration as we move into our future.

If you EVER have any questions, concerns, or comments about the work of the Development Office, I am only a phone call or email away! I would love to hear from you.

With Gratitude,

Amy Palmer, CFRE
Director of Development
Adrian Dominican Sisters have a saying that speaks to the uniqueness of each Sister: “If you meet one Adrian Dominican Sister, you’ve met one Adrian Dominican Sister.” Each Sister has unique gifts and – thanks to your generosity – she is able to minister to those in need of those gifts.

Sister Mary J. (Clare Olivia) Beaubien, OP, is a native of Adrian, Michigan, who, with your support, has been able to minister far and wide. Her ministries have taken her to a makeshift classroom in a new elementary school in the Chicago area, to Visitation High School in Detroit, to the archives of Siena Heights University in Adrian, and to schools in Africa and the Dominican Republic.

Sister Mary was a 16-year-old junior at St. Mary's High School in Adrian when she casually mentioned her desire to become a Sister, possibly a missionary. That June, she entered the Adrian Dominican Congregation and since has lived a life of dedication and adventure.

Sister Mary has brought her pioneering spirit to almost all of her ministries. She proved that at Youngstown University, Youngstown, Ohio, where she taught in – and eventually chaired – the Department of Human Ecology from 1977 to 1996. While there, Sister Mary founded Discovery Place, a day care center that gave university students studying early childhood the experience of working with young children. The extra efforts she took during her ministry at Youngstown earned her the University's Heritage Award in 2011.

Sister Mary also has ministered overseas. From 1992 to 1995, during breaks from her work at Youngstown, she ministered in South Africa, developing an embroidery project for women. She returned to South Africa in 2002 to work with four Adrian Dominican Sisters who were missioned there, training young people in skills needed for job placement. She also helped establish a library at Espíritu Santo School in the Dominican Republic.

The Adrian native certainly has fulfilled her dream of becoming a Sister and a missionary – and, in the process, has made a difference in the lives of countless people. Thank you for the vital part that you play in making her ministries possible.

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**Development survey results**

Are you satisfied with the frequency of communications you receive from the ADS Office of Development throughout the year?

- 91 percent – "Yes"
- 5.1 percent – "I'd prefer to hear less ..."
- 3.4 percent – "I'd prefer to hear more ..."
Encouraging Vocations: A Special Kind of Donation

As a donor, you play a key role in financially sustaining the Adrian Dominican Congregation. Sister Lorraine Réaume, OP, Director of Formation, has a suggestion for another way to help the Sisters: Encourage young Catholic women to join us.

“When I met the Adrian Dominican Sisters, I fell in love with how they embraced with joy whatever life brought them,” said Sister Katherine Frazier, a novice. “I realized that God was calling me to religious life because that was the life where I would find the most joy and happiness, and God led me to the Dominicans because they are a group of joyful and happy people.”

The National Religious Vocation Conference notes that only 27 percent of Catholic mothers and 18 percent of fathers encourage their children to enter religious life – yet those who are invited to consider religious life are more likely to pursue it. As a benefactor who believes in the mission of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, you can extend that invitation and be the voice of encouragement to young women in your family, parish, workplace, or volunteer organization.

“Be attentive to young people and the ways that they share their faith,” advised Sister Sara Fairbanks, OP, Director of Vocations. “You might consider asking them, ‘Have you thought of religious life?’ and add that you know of a vibrant community of Sisters who might fit them.” Young people also should know of the great variety of religious communities, she said, adding, “If one doesn’t fit, another one might.”

Young women can learn more about a vocation with the Adrian Dominican Sisters by following them on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat or visiting www.adriandominicans.org. For more ideas on how to encourage vocations, contact Sister Sara at 866-774-0005 or sfairbanks@adriandominicans.org.

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Development survey results

Are we acknowledging your donation appropriately? Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the way we thank you.

**Thank You Letter**

- 98 percent Highly Satisfied, Moderately Satisfied, Satisfied
- 2 percent Not Applicable

**Thank You Phone Call**

- 71 percent Highly Satisfied, Moderately Satisfied, Satisfied
- 29 percent Not Applicable
Make Giving a Habit: Join the Sustained Giving Circle

Over the years, the Adrian Dominican Sisters have had a dedicated group of donors who give on a monthly basis. This type of giving is easy and stress-free. Most importantly, it strengthens our efforts to live out our mission to Seek Truth, Make Peace, and Reverence Life.

If you choose to become one of our newest monthly donors, you will be enrolled into our Sustained Giving Circle. As a member, you will receive special communications from us throughout the year and will be acknowledged in our Annual Report and other publications. Know that your gift can be increased, decreased, or canceled at any time.

If you are interested in learning more about this special way of giving, we invite you to visit us online at www.adriandominicans.org/waystogive. You also may contact us at 517-266-3480 or development@adriandominicans.org to request a Sustained Giving Circle sign-up form. Thank you for considering this option for giving – and for the support you give us each and every day!

Development survey results

Which best describes your connection to the Adrian Dominican Sisters? (Select all that apply.)

- 53% Alumni of ADS-sponsored school
- 34% Friend of a Sister
- 26% Family of a Sister
- 16% Former member
- 15% Other
- 5% Associate

Leave a Legacy

Planned giving today can make such a difference tomorrow. If you would like to continue partnering with our Sisters after you have completed your time on Earth, please consider the Adrian Dominican Sisters in your estate planning. You can name the Adrian Dominican Sisters in your will, through a charitable bequest, or through a specific insurance policy. Donors who establish planned gifts with the Congregation are automatically enrolled in our Heritage Society, where as members you’ll receive special communications and acknowledgment throughout the year.

For more information, please contact Amy Palmer, Director of Development, at apalmer@adriandominicans.org or 517-266-3480.

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