

With Love
and Deep
Appreciation

Ministry Today

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FALL 2007

Development Prayer Tree at the Motherhouse

The countless Christmas ornaments that adorned the Christmas tree in the Dominican Life Center reflect the overwhelming generosity of so many friends. It is with the deepest gratitude that you and your

requests are held in prayer by the sisters. "We take seriously the promise of prayers for our benefactors and their intentions" says Sister Ann Starcevich (Sister George Marie).

Many of the Christmas ornaments sent out before Christmas are returned to be hung on our tree. An ornament is selected by one of our sisters who will hold you and your loved ones in prayer throughout the year 2008.

Your best wishes, notes, and gifts are deeply appreciated. Your gifts benefit the retired sisters, the outreach ministries of the Adrian Dominican Sisters through the Ministry Trust Fund, as well as other special projects. Your support is not forgotten.



Sister Helen Duggan (Sister Ann Charles) cheerfully distributes the Christmas ornaments to the sisters at the Dominican Life Center.

Commitment for the Future

With a long history of Adrian Dominican Sisters in the Dominican Republic, many women of the country have joined the Dominican Order. In December, Sister Basilia De la Cruz, OP, made her Final Profession of Vows as an Adrian Dominican Sister at the Eucharist in *El Convento Santo Domingo*.

It was fitting that Sister Basilia would celebrate her ceremony in the first foundation of Dominicans established in the New World in 1511. Her expression of commitment was as clear as those first Dominicans: "I dedicate myself to preaching the Word of God for all time with the help of

the Holy Spirit and my Dominican Sisters of Adrian. I identify myself with the people of God who are most in need."

Basilia teaches and is pastoral minister at the high school in El Cruce. Friends and family from nearby towns and many students came to witness and celebrate her commitment.



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Planned Gifts for the Ministry Trust

As a minister to the needy and vulnerable through your support of the Ministry Trust, you may wish to consider long range plans. In other words, there can be ways to support the Ministry Trust besides an outright gift. One of the following may better suit you as you include the Adrian Dominican Sisters in your planned gifts.

Identify the Adrian Dominican Sisters in your bequest or will. The proper title and address is:

**Adrian Dominican Sisters
1257 E. Siena Heights Drive
Adrian, MI 49221-1793**

Consider assets such as cash and securities as a gift.

Designate a life insurance policy as a charitable gift.

Establish an annuity which will provide you quarterly income as well as provide for your charity.

For more information, contact Sister Janet M. Hudspeth, OP, at the Development Office at 313-882-6307 or e-mail her at DevOffAD@aol.com.

Contact your financial advisor or attorney regarding your planned giving.

We invite you and your family and friends to journey through Lent 2008 with the Adrian Dominican Sisters beginning February 6, Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday, March 23.

Visit the Congregation website at www.adriandominicans.org, under "What's Happening" to pray daily scriptural reflections with the sisters.

The People of El Cruce de Arroyo Secure Their Future

One individual grant initiative supported by the Ministry Trust is in the Dominican Republic. Sister Maureen Barzantni, OP, and an inter-congregational collaboration, along with the people of *El Cruce de Arroyo*, in Bani, Dominican Republic, planned and built a primary school, high school, medical laboratory, and pharmacy. The needs (medicine and education) that were first articulated by the women of *El Cruce* as they all met in the shade of a mesquite tree off the main road of the village have now been met. The Sisters responded to their invitation to walk with them, responding to the challenges and opportunities of their dream. The Ministry Trust, along with the village's fundraising and other sources, provides financial support for these bold initiatives.

The most recent grant for 2007-2008 will

- Expand the high school to include a second level of academics providing job training skills, and
- Install a water system and bathrooms.



Securing the Future in Ministry - The Ministry Trust Fund

The Adrian Dominican Sisters' Ministry Trust was established to streamline funding for our present-day ministries and to build a secure resource from which to draw distributions for ministry in the years to come. Ministry is the cornerstone of the future. The Adrian Dominicans can make our greatest impact on people and communities in the generations ahead through the outreach services and the partnerships built with those in need.

Your gift to the Ministry Trust will touch the lives of those most needy, underserved and vulnerable, particularly women and children.

Grants are provided annually by the Ministry Trust in the areas of education, health care, and social services.

- Twenty eight individual grants are currently in motion for 2007-2008
- Five chapter initiatives are operating in local areas (Flint and Adrian, Michigan, the Mid-Atlantic States, Chicago, and California)
- Two Congregation initiatives affecting ministry in New Orleans and in the North (Alaska, British Columbia and Manitoba)