

Sister Clarissa Kress marks 75 years of faithfulness

A love for nature, poetry and other people characterize the gentle and prayerful spirit of Sister Clarissa Kress's 75 years as a Sister of St. Joseph. Last week family and friends gathered at St. Joseph's Convent to celebrate her jubilee.

Among the guests were cousins Father Robert L. Kress, in residence at St. Joseph's Church, Livonia, Mr. and Mrs. Urban Kress, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Hoffman, and Sister Clare Roland. Also present were former students and many Sisters.

As a postulant, Sister Clarissa studied elocution and drama at Emerson College in Boston. She then shared her training with generations of Nazareth Academy students from September, 1911, when she was missioned, until May, 1969, when she retired to the academy's convent. Ten years later, in 1979, she moved to St. Joseph's Convent.

Throughout her 58 years of teaching, she left the academy only briefly to work at Nazareth Normal School and Nazareth College.

Among her many friends, Sister Clarissa counted the late Richard Cardinal Cushing, who headed the Archdiocese of Boston for more than a quarter of a century. His ordination and consecration, which she attended, are some of her most treasured memories.

One of three daughters of Constantine and Mary Roland Kress, Sister Clarissa is a native of Rochester. Her sister, Irene, who is 98 years old, also lives in Rochester at the Nortonian.

Sister Clarissa is described by staff and sisters at St. Joseph's Convent as a gracious lady, who is sensitive, patient and loving.

Sister Louise Weber, who was taught during her freshman year at Nazareth Academy by Sister Clarissa Kress, offers her congratulations during a special 75th jubilee celebration held at the Sisters of St. Joseph Convent on Tuesday, October 15. Sister Clarissa's birthday is being celebrated this week.



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Nazareth Open House

An open house for prospective undergraduate students and their parents is scheduled at Nazareth College, Saturday, Oct. 26, 9:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

The program is free and open to the public.

Interested persons will have an opportunity to tour the campus and meet with students, faculty, admissions and financial aid.

Correction

In last week's issue, a story on diocesan plans to gather reaction to the second draft of the economics pastoral incorrectly identified Tuesday, Nov. 6, as the date Bishops Matthew H. Clark and Dennis W. Hickey would meet with representatives of parishes and groups taking part in the process. The meeting is actually Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in St. John of Rochester Church, Fairport.

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Sanctuary Continued from Page 9

We have tremendous responsibility as Americans to do something about it."

As was the case with the other local sanctuary congregations, the Buddhist community considered the possible risks of publicly declaring support for sanctuary congregations. They decided, however, that "the legal risk was very minor compared to the spiritual risk that one would run if one didn't come out and take a stand," adds Kjolhede.

Whether the sanctuary movement will ultimately affect U.S. policies regarding El Salvador and Salvadoran refugees is difficult to predict. Yet sanctuary workers already believe it has been instrumental in educating

people of all faiths about conditions in El Salvador.

There is more to be done, according to Alison Clarke, a founder of the Rochester Sanctuary Committee — but she believes that the combination of faith and education is a strong foundation from which to begin effecting change.

"Strength is the power of the people who have a real understanding of Central

America, who believe in the necessity of sanctuary and speaking out against the policy of the United States," she concludes. "It's a strength that dollars don't buy — and once the understanding is there, it leads to faith that demands action."

Correction Notice:

In last week's issue of the Courier-Journal, the Master Report for the Parish Mission Contributions printed a total of 364,131.00 for receipts and disbursements. Please note, the correct total should be: 1,364,131.00.

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