

**Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Facility
C'est la Vie Apartments
Newsletter ~ August 2019
A Ministry of the Marianites of Holy Cross**

Marianites of Holy Cross – 178 Years of Service:

August 4, 1841 – August 4, 2019 As the Marianites celebrate 178 years of service, we gratefully remember our founder, Blessed Basil Moreau (1799-1873). He was born in France following the French Revolution. During the Revolution, Church property was seized by the government, priests were arrested and executed, and religious communities were expelled. The departure of religious communities resulted in the closure of many schools and church parishes. As a result, many in France suffered the loss of formal education and faith formation.

Following his priestly ordination in 1821, Father Moreau began to search for ways to respond to these pressing needs of the people of France for education, religious formation, and parish resources. He organized a group of Auxiliary Priests from his brother priests in the Diocese of Le Mans. These Auxiliary Priests assisted by preaching parish missions, by instructing the youth, and by teaching in newly developed seminaries.

Father Moreau also had responsibility for the Brothers of St. Joseph who earlier had been founded by Father Jacques Dujarié for the education of young boys. For the sake of their common mission as educators in the faith, Father Moreau joined together the Brothers of St. Joseph and Auxiliary Priests on March 1, 1837 in the Fundamental Act of Union. The newly established Association of Holy Cross took its name from the Sainte-Croix neighborhood in Le Mans in which it was founded. However, Moreau's vision for Holy Cross was not yet complete. In 1838, he gave a rule of life to a group of devout laywomen. On August 4, 1841, these women became the Marianites of Holy Cross when they received their religious names and the religious habit. From their origins, the Marianites were dedicated to Mary, and in particular to Mary as Our Lady of Sorrows or Our Lady of Seven Dolors. The first woman in leadership, Léocadie Gascoin, received the religious name Mother Mary of Seven Dolors. In the beginning, the Sisters assisted the priests and brothers by doing domestic work. However, due to the pressing needs for education and health care, the Sisters were trained and then ministered as teachers and nurses.

Today, the women of Holy Cross form 3 distinct congregations: Marianites of Holy Cross, Sisters of the Holy Cross, and Sisters of Holy Cross. Together with the priests and brothers of Holy Cross, religious of Holy Cross minister in Europe, North and South America, Africa, and Asia. They are engaged in a variety of ministries fulfilling their commitment to continue the mission of Jesus Christ in the spirit of Fr. Moreau.

☪ Celebrating Birthdays in August ☪

R. Beaugh	8/14	Fr. J. Paul	8/16
F. Breaux	8/02	M. Robert	8/05
Sr. M. Cervantes	8/26	W. Sibille	8/18
M. Dupré	8/07	I. Speyrer	8/16
L. Fontenot	8/02	L. Theriot	8/03
J. Matte	8/22	I. Wohlers	8/25

When a loved one is forgetting....

Memory loss is **not** a normal part of the aging process. As we age, we may have moments of forgetting but sustained and progressive loss of memory may be a sign of Dementia. Dementia is a deterioration in cognitive function (i.e. the ability to process thoughts) beyond what might be expected with normal aging. It affects memory, thinking, orientation, comprehension, calculation, learning capacity, language, and judgment. The impairment in cognitive function is commonly accompanied by deterioration in emotional control, in social behavior, and other personality changes. However, the person's level of consciousness is not affected.

Dementia is caused by a variety of diseases and injuries that primarily or secondarily affect the brain, such as Alzheimer's disease or stroke. It is one of the major causes of disability and dependency among older people worldwide. There is often a lack of understanding of Dementia, resulting in stigmatization and barriers to diagnosis and care. Dementia affects, not only the person, but also care givers, family members and societies.

Effectively communicating with persons with Dementia is essential to their quality of life. We have to strive to enter their realm of reality and not impose our reality on them. Below are some ways to enhance our quality of communication with persons with Dementia.

COMMUNICATION TIPS FOR PERSONS WITH DEMENTIA

1. Speak slowly and clearly using short simple sentences. Do not expect a quick response.
2. Give the person time to process the information because it may take them 15-20 seconds to process.
3. If it is necessary to repeat statements, use the same words. Do not rephrase sentences.
4. The tone of your voice and facial expressions are as important as what you say. Use a **soft tone of voice** and a **calm manner**. Persons with dementia are sensitive to body language as well as tone of voice even if they can't understand what is being said.
5. Stand in front or in the direct line of vision of the person. Touch an arm or shoulder gently to get or keep attention. Sustain eye contact.
6. Present only one idea at a time. Do not try to give too much information in one sentence.
7. Use gestures and visual aids to convey your messages. Try using more than one of the senses to communicate, such as touching as well as talking. Do not use gestures that may threaten the person.
8. Avoid questions such as asking the person names of family members. Not knowing the answers embarrasses the person. Supply the names or offer the information.
9. Only offer simple choices. If he/she refuses care or activity, STOP. Give them some space & try again later. DO NOT insist if he/she is resisting you.
10. Discuss only concrete actions and objects; talk about what is happening "now."
11. Use direct statements to initiate action, such as "It's time to take a bath" or "Let's get dressed now".
12. Understand that the person with Dementia may say one word and mean another. You may have to guess at the correct meaning. Clarify your assumption with the person; you could be wrong.
13. Do not assume that the person with Dementia can understand and respond to messages, either written or verbal.
14. Communicate with the person as much as possible but do not joke with them or use names like honey or sweetheart. Call them by name in a kind and respectful way.
15. Help to orient the person by giving the time of the day, the day of the week, the month, the year, etc.

Remember: The person is not able to change; so change the environment or change

yourself.

Resources: World Health Organization and The Alzheimer's Association

For more information, contact: Sr. Mary Kay Kinberger, MSC, RN, pastoral care.

Residents Recently Deceased

Geraldine Leger 7/08/2019

Elsie Deville 7/15/2019

Verna Guillory 7/20/2019

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