



# THE VISITATION

THE PUBLICATION OF THE NATIVITY HOUSE  
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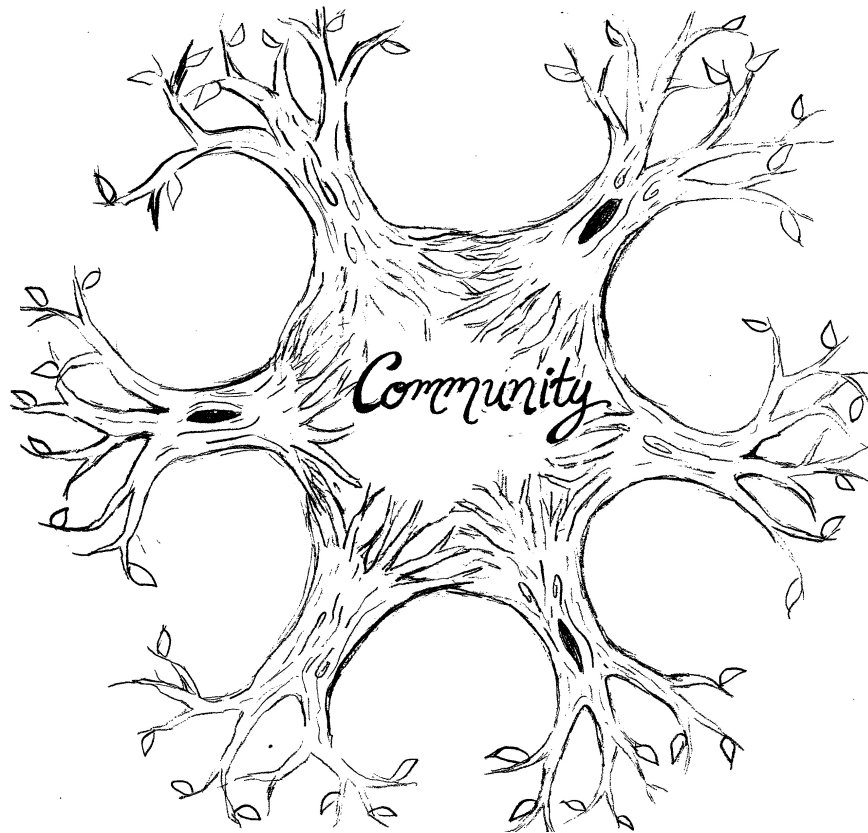
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## Living Community

By Sister Réjane Cytacki, SCL

As I write this, I am looking at a beautiful winter snow-scape filled with a community of oak trees. Bare branches laced with snow glistening in the cold winter sun. This earth community reminds me about the value of rest and silence that I came here seeking on retreat. I am reminded of a quote from artist Andrew Wyeth, "I prefer winter and fall, when you feel the bone structure of the landscape. Something waits beneath it; the whole story doesn't show." I think of the solitude of my experience here away from the community I am so used to living in.

As a Catholic religious sister, when people ask me what is the most rewarding thing about living this life, I say community. When



people ask what is the most challenging thing about living this life, I say community. Community can mean many things, for me, it means a complex web of interrelationships between living beings bound together by love. As a religious woman, I live in community with other religious women sharing the day to day joys, tasks, and hardships of life. When you live with others that truly care about you, you discover what your gifts and talents are through their eyes. You also learn what others do not appreciate about you. For instance, I've learned my ability to spread out papers and things around the room in piles, which  
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## Finding and Sharing Yourself in Community

By Annemarie Coman

Community is one of the greatest gifts we can give to each other because it is the gift of one another. It is the gift of presence during good times and bad-enjoying unbridled laughter and standing by through times of trial. Here at Nativity House we share conversation, sharing our days, our experiences, our thoughts on theology, even thoughts on how the dishwasher should be loaded! It all comes jumbled together and it is all a gift, one incredible gift that God has given us, the gift of each other.

When I first came to Nativity House, I never would have

guessed how well we, as community members, would fit together. I am often amazed at how each one of us brings something unique and necessary to the community, and it reminds me of how it is no accident that we all came to be here. At first look one may wonder how it all works, a married couple with a ten-year-old daughter, two young adult women, a young mother and an infant. We're a unique group for sure. And yet it does work, it works beautifully. Not to say that we don't have our squabbles, but there is a grace here, a gift that I think we all recognize, the blessing that it is to be together.

Community teaches us to be more truly ourselves, because we find in this paradox that our true selves shine out more brightly when we are spending time with each other. For example, there is a game we like to play called Forbidden Island. In this game each player draws a card, and that card has its own unique skills. Take, for instance, the Diver, who can swim through obstacles that other players cannot. The unique skills of each player, when played strategically, are the secret to winning the game. In this way, the game is a perfect metaphor for the way community works. Each community member, with his or

her own unique gifts and talents, is necessary to create the world God is calling us to make. We can work together to create something beautiful.

Community is a gift too, because the little sacrifices we make for each other help us to grow in holiness, to grow more and more into our true selves, the selves God calls us to be. The wisdom of community is another way community draws us deeper into our true selves. Sometimes our community members know us better than we even know ourselves.

For example, sometimes my  
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## Letter from the Directors

Dear Friends of Nativity House,

I pray that this letter finds you deep into a Lenten Season filled with new discoveries of Christ's unending love.

As, I prepared for Lent this year the word that kept bubbling up in my prayer life was community. We had not published an issue of *The Visitation* with this theme in a few years, so, it felt like time.

I am sure that it was no coincidence that it was around this same time that the theme of community was percolating that the Nativity House Community expanded by one. Charlotte Rae was born on January 15 at 10:08pm. She came into the world at 6 pounds 10 ounces and 18 inches long. Mom and baby are a rockstar of a pair. It is always so beautiful to see a new mother blossom.

It is also this time of year that we begin to dream and plan for the growing season. All seeds have been ordered and by the time you read this little sprouts of tomatoes, basil, peppers, pumpkins and much more will be being nurtured in the Lewis University greenhouse. This will be our 5th growing season for the Nativity House CSA (community supported agriculture.) Our garden community is as vibrant as the beautiful vegetables that we grow. We look forward to 2-3 new families to join us this year. If you have been wanting to diversify your fruit and veggie palette, be more green, or get outside more maybe you will be one of our new CSA members this year!

In other farm news, Ivy and Rua, our Nubian goat doelings have adjusted to the Nativity House farm community quite well. We are looking to expand our flock with kids soon! We have purchased a kid buck. He will join our goat community very soon. This means that this time next year making goat's milk soap and goat's milk cheese will be among the farm chores.

We are truly blessed to share the comings and goings of all of our members. Working, praying, living with our two interns Annemarie and Sarah has been pure gift. Both women are steadfast in prayer and service. No doubt in their time here their hearts have expanded. Annemarie has decided that after a year at Nativity House she would like to stay on another year in a part-time capacity. Sarah has let us know that after two years of service at Nativity House she will be moving on. Please hold both of these women in your prayers as they search for new opportunities. Pray also for the Nativity House community as we are now on the look-out for two new full-time interns.

Life in our little intentional community is rich. There is so much beauty to share and partake in. It is through these relationships that we encounter Christ - from farm life to newborn babies - and our hearts are overflowing with his love. We are forever thankful for your participation in our community; whether you are a garden member, prayer warrior, avid newspaper reader, or a regular house volunteer. For you we are grateful and we hold you in our prayers.

Peace of Christ to you and yours,

Venus and Justin Wozniak

## *About The Visitation*

This newspaper, *The Visitation*, is a publication on topics of social justice, spirituality, and theology. It is published four times a year by Nativity House. Submissions are accepted from readers everywhere.

To contact us, email us at:

[newspaper@nativity-house.org](mailto:newspaper@nativity-house.org)

Past issues are online at:

<http://www.nativity-house.org>

## *About Nativity House*

Nativity House serves as a shelter for first-time mothers in need of residence in the southwest Chicago suburbs. Nativity House operates an on-site community supported farm (CSA) that provides nourishment for the Nativity House and the greater community. Overall, we envision a healing environment focused on the dignity of each person, the dignity of work, and stewardship of the earth.

Nativity House is administered by a board of directors and an advisory committee of individuals with a broad range of experience. Nativity House has formed positive relationships with relevant local organizations that are extremely helpful in carrying out the mission of the house. Nativity House was recognized as a public charity in August, 2011.

To connect with us, please email Venus Wozniak at:

[venusad@nativity-house.org](mailto:venusad@nativity-house.org)

Postal mail should be addressed to:

Nativity House  
17141 W. 143rd St.  
Lockport, IL 60441

We extend the sincerest thanks to all.

## *Nativity House Wishlist:*

2 Full time interns, a Crib, Waffle iron, Trellises for our beans and squash to climb, Organic Top Soil, Compost, Work groups to help with Spring Projects, Prayers!

**On Pilgrimage**

By Dorothy Day

*The Catholic Worker*, April 1953

Summary: Reflects on Holy Week and the themes of suffering, joy, and gratitude.

This last week of Lent and the climax of Easter are the peak of the year. As a holy season it is unmitigated joy. Somehow the sufferings of daily life, the uglinesses around one are suddenly changed, lighted up, transformed. Love, suffering, joy, all go together. It is a mystery. "With desire, have I desired to eat the Pasch with my disciples," our Lord Jesus Christ said. Holy Thursday gives us the strength for Good Friday.

Many years ago, Ade Bethune made a little booklet, illustrated and illumined with texts, *The Way of the Cross*. The note of the little pamphlet which is now out of print is joy. "You shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy, and your joy, no man takes from you." From station to station, as Christ proceeds from Pilate, taking his cross, falling beneath it, meeting his mother, Simon of Cyrene, Veronica, falling again twice, encountering the women of Jerusalem, being stripped of his garments, being nailed to the Cross, dying, being buried,—through all these Stations the refrain is repeated, "My yoke is easy,—My burden light... Fear not, for I have

conquered death...In the world you shall have distress, but have confidence, I have overcome the world." And it ends, "My grace is enough."



*Join us for a  
Community Mass  
and Dinner!*

*April 5, 6:30-8pm  
at Nativity House*

*Mass at 6:30  
followed by a  
Potluck Dinner*

**Easy Essays: The Wisdom of Giving**

by Peter Maurin (1877-1949)



*To give to the poor  
is to enable the poor to  
buy.*

*To enable the poor to buy  
is to improve the market.*

*To improve the market  
is to help business.*

*To help business is to  
reduce unemployment.*

*To reduce  
unemployment is to  
reduce crime.*

*To reduce crime is to  
reduce taxation.*

*So why not give to the  
poor for business' sake,  
for humanity's sake,  
for God's sake?*

THE GOSPEL  
offers us the  
CHANCE  
to  
live life  
ON A  
HIGHER PLANE  
but with no less  
intensity

Life grows by being given away,  
and weakens in isolation and comfort.  
Indeed, those who enjoy life most  
are those who leave security on  
the shore and become excited  
by the mission of communicating  
life to others.

SAYS POPE FRANCIS  
from: *The Joy of the  
GOSPEL* #10

## Gawad Kalinga: Giving Care

By Caley Oltman

*The following reflection was written by one of the students who attended the Diocese of Joliet University Mission Trip to the Philippines led by Venus Wozniak.*

December 30th, 2017 through January 10th, 2018 will forever be cherished as some of the happiest days I've ever experienced in my life. I had the privilege of traveling overseas to the Philippines on a mission trip with an incredible team of individuals. As this was the first time I had left the country or taken part in anything of this magnitude, there were serious apprehensions about the twelve days that I would be spending in a foreign country. Our team, through the Diocese of Joliet, was partnered with the organization Gawad Kalinga, which means "giving care." This organization, based in the Philippines, provides resources to those in most need: those without homes, food, or education. The task we were presented with was "rebuild two homes and get to know the people in the village." I expected lots of manual labor and hot days, and while we definitely experienced both, that was certainly not the task that took up most of our time.

From the minute we walked into Mangrove Village on the very first day we were greeted by a swarm of children. Immediately it felt as though we were all their big sisters and brothers who had just come home for a visit after spending time away. Within five minutes of being in the village, each one of the college students on our team had one child's

small, dirty hand slip into each of our own hands. Some of us even had three or four children fighting to hold our hands. Never before had I felt such instantaneous love for someone. Never before had I seen such bright smiles coming from such grim living conditions. After being shown around the village, we returned to the chapel at the edge of their village and continued to spend time with the children. After that first day, I never went more than three minutes with an empty hand; there was always a messy-haired, grinning child ready to hold it.

The people in the Philippines are the friendliest I've ever come across. Strangers waved to us and cheered, "Happy New Year!" everywhere we went, and each day when we returned to the village, we were greeted by more and more individuals. From the five and six year olds to the 60 year old women, we were welcomed with open arms and loving hearts. Even though a majority of the adults and most of the young children were not well versed in the English language, we found ways to communicate with one another. Through music and little games like "ring around the rosie," all of us shared countless laughs and smiles with one another. The joy and excitement for life, regardless of living conditions, was inspiring, and the pure love between people in Mangrove Village was infectious. You couldn't help but smile as you carried cinder blocks and mixed cement in the heat because you'd have five kids trailing you the entire time trying to help.

The videos and pictures taken throughout our time in the



Philippines only offer a small glimpse into all that we experienced. The memories and all the stories that we hold in our hearts and share with those around us really just remind me why it's so important to give to others and be open to finding love and God's grace in new ways. Throughout the trip, our theme was "filling your love tank," so by spreading love to those around you, you're not only helping fill their love tanks, but you're filling your own simultaneously. I think the many pictures, the smiles on everyone's faces, and the pure presence of God's love demonstrates just how full our love tanks became during these twelve days together. My love tank continues to fill and overflow because of my time in the Philippines, and I pray that one day everyone can feel the same love that was felt in Mangrove.



*Caley Oltman is a sophomore Elementary and Special Education Major at Lewis University in Romeoville, IL. She works as a residence hall assistant, serves in the university student senate, Best Buddies executive board, and volunteers time in the Joliet area.*

***"...it's so important to give to others and be open to finding love and God's grace in new ways"***

## Finding and Sharing Yourself in Community

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community members recognize gifts (and vices!) in me that I do not recognize in myself, and vice-versa. In this way there is much wisdom in community, we help each other to grow for the good of all. Community in its ideal form is the wisdom of several minds coming together for one purpose, to serve God.

In our community at Nativity House we welcomed a new member on January 15th: baby Charlotte. Her presence has filled us all with such joy and excitement. We are thrilled to have the gift of watching her grow for the next 6 months and be part of this miracle of life. Looking at a newborn, it is easy to see how each life is so precious, beautiful, and so loved by God. Already we see her unique looks and personality, and we dream about what she may be good at (long fingers, maybe a pianist!) Her uniqueness reminds us of our own uniqueness; of the gifts God has given us- gifts that enrich our community, gifts that are meant to be shared with each other. For truly we are one body in Christ. St. Paul tells us, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good [...] If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it" (1 Corinthians 12: 4-27). We are all one body, and so we should rejoice and suffer together as a

community, sharing our gifts with each other for the good of all. Let us never forget our unique dignity as children of God and the most precious gift we can give each other each day, the gift of ourselves.



*Annemarie Coman is an intern at Nativity House.*

## Living Community

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I call "organized chaos," bothers many neat and orderly sisters with whom I have lived. I have since learned to relegate my organized chaos to my bedroom and make an extra effort to keep our common shared space free of my clutter.

What binds us together, especially when we do not see eye to eye, is our prayer and deep belief in a loving God.

When I started living in community 20 years ago, I thought community meant everyone must pull their own weight and share the duties equally. I have since learned that is not the reality. When I say a complex web of interrelationships, I mean at different times of our lives we support community in different ways. As a younger sister, I support my community financially and help with more of the physical day to day tasks that my older sisters physically can no longer perform. They in turn may do more of the cooking and cleaning than I because my time is filled with many late-night meetings and weekend work. My sisters also give me the gift of presence and a listening ear as I turn to them for wisdom about ministry situations.

During my time on retreat I have been reading the newly published

book by Kate Hennessy, granddaughter of Dorothy Day, *The World will be Saved by Beauty*. In this book, Dorothy recognized community's complex web of relationships. She wrote about people who came to the Catholic Worker community's door originally for soup and bread, but ended up staying. Some were physically or mentally ill, and needed a lot of care. Their only contribution to community life might have been the simple act of setting the table for the noon meal. Yet Dorothy recognized even the poorest and sickest members of our society have intrinsic value to community. Just as Wyeth's quote reminds me, like the landscape the value of community often lies beneath the surface.

Also recently having read, *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben, I am learning it is the same with trees. Wohlleben wrote that trees of the same species form a community in the forest. Their main communication is invisible to us, or beneath the surface, but occurs through their root systems. When one tree is in a sunnier location and producing more sugar, it is through the root system that the excess sugar is distributed among all the trees. While the trees in a shadier spot may not be producing as much sugar, they still receive a healthy share. The trees in the shadier location may not have access to the best sunlight but are in spots where they have access to better soil nutrients which will also be distributed to the trees that are in poorer soil. As I look up again at the oak tree community outside my window, I realize these trees form a silent complex community.

Looking closer at one oak tree, I notice there is a squirrel who keeps coming to the tree to sit in the branches and eat a nut he/she has found. It reminds me of one winter in Kansas, when I was living at our Motherhouse in Leavenworth and taking my spirituality course in Earth Literacy. One assignment was to find a nature place and go and meditate there as often as we could over the semester. We could journal, draw, sing, dance, whatever we felt like doing in our sacred space. My place was a ring of red cedar trees that formed a community around the oldest mother tree. I liked to go to that mother tree and touch her trunk and be in silence. One snowy day, I was touching her trunk when I heard a chattering above me and looked directly up, there was a squirrel, two feet above me, flattened against the trunk. He/She stopped chattering as I stood still and we just stared into each other's eyes for five minutes. In that time, I was acutely aware that I had a common connection with that squirrel. Some invisible force brought us together and united us because we were sharing the same space and physical land. That squirrel became part of my expanding view of local community. We are part of this earth community and by protecting our local place we are increasing our own health as well as the local beings that share the same land we do.

In the summer it is easier to see the interconnections of life above the surface. However, life begins and is sustained below the surface of the snow, ice, and soil.

Just as in community, living in the place where life is sustained

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**Living Community**

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is not comfortable however it is rewarding. We need to expand our sense of community beyond the human realm. Ask questions and explore: Who are the animals and plants and trees where I live? Do I recognize the same squirrels and birds at my bird feeders? What is the soil and weather like? Do I see what lies beneath the surface? Become in tune with not only the humans but the creation around us. Love weaves us together into a communal web of interrelationships in God's creation.



*Sister Réjane Cytacki is a Racine Dominican and the Director of the Eco-Justice Center in Racine, WI.*

**An Excerpt from Pope Francis' Message for Lent 2018**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again, the Pasch of the Lord draws near! In our preparation for Easter, God in his providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a "sacramental sign of our conversion." Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.

With this message, I would like again this year to help the entire Church experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth. I will take my cue from the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (24:12).

These words appear in Christ's preaching about the end of time.

They were spoken in Jerusalem, on the Mount of Olives, where the Lord's passion would begin. In reply to a question of the disciples, Jesus foretells a great tribulation and describes a situation in which the community of believers might well find itself: amid great trials,

false prophets would lead people astray and the love that is the core of the Gospel would grow cold in the hearts of many.

What are we to do?

Perhaps we see, deep within

ourselves and all about us, the signs I have just described. But the Church, our Mother and Teacher, along with the often bitter medicine of the truth, offers us in the Lenten season the soothing remedy of prayer, almsgiving and fasting.

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**JOIN US IN THE GARDEN!**

**COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE**

**Work and then take home fresh, organic produce!**

**Thursdays 6-8pm or Saturdays 9-11am**

**"All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements, and talents."**

**~Pope Francis, *Laudato Si***

**Sign up for 2018 by March 1st by emailing: [venusad@nativity-house.org](mailto:venusad@nativity-house.org)**

**\$200 for one share**

**Nativity House**  
**17141 W. 143rd St.**  
**Lockport, IL**

NATIVITY HOUSE  
OF ILLINOIS



## Why join a CSA? Community Supported Agriculture at Nativity House

- **Get fresh, local, organic produce!** Our crop will include but not be limited to these delicious fruits and vegetables (and multiple varieties of each!): Tomatoes, Peppers, Eggplant, Pole Beans, Greens, Carrots, Summer Squash, Winter Squash, Zucchini, Cucumbers, Okra, Raspberries, Strawberries, Herbs... Each member will receive an equal share of whatever produce was picked that day.
- **Save money!** Each full working membership will cost just \$200 for the entire 2018 growing season. That means months of veggies for the price of one trip to Whole Foods! Funds are used for the purchase of needed seeds, soil amendments, organic fertilizers, equipment maintenance, tool replacement and any other materials needed. Have a friend you'd like to split your share with? Half memberships are available for \$100.
- **Go green!** Eating locally grown foods means less pollution due to the transport of produce. Be part of the entire amazing process of growing and harvesting your own food, from tiny seed to delicious produce. Connect with nature in the pure joy of working the land and enjoying the fruits (and vegetables) of your labor!
- **Make new friends!** Join our community of gardeners including families and individuals. Nothing beats working in the garden for good conversation.

By devoting more time to prayer, we enable our hearts to root out our secret lies and forms of self-deception, and then to find the consolation God offers. He is our Father and he wants us to live life well.

Almsgiving sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbour as a brother or sister. What I possess is never mine alone. How I would like

almsgiving to become a genuine style of life for each of us! How I would like us, as Christians, to follow the example of the Apostles and see in the sharing of our possessions a tangible witness of the communion that is ours in the Church! For this reason, I echo Saint Paul's exhortation to the Corinthians to take up a collection for the community of Jerusalem as something from which they

themselves would benefit (cf. 2 Cor 8:10). This is all the more fitting during the Lenten season, when many groups take up collections to assist Churches and peoples in need. Yet I would also hope that, even in our daily encounters with those who beg for our assistance, we would see such requests as coming from God himself. When we give alms, we share in God's providential care for each of his children. If through

me God helps someone today, will he not tomorrow provide for my own needs? For no one is more generous than God.

Fasting weakens our tendency to violence; it disarms us and becomes an important opportunity for growth. On the one hand, it allows us to experience what the destitute and the starving have to endure. On the other hand, it expresses our own spiritual hunger and thirst for life in God. Fasting wakes us up. It makes us more attentive to God and our neighbour. It revives our desire to obey God, who alone is capable of satisfying our hunger.

Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.

One such moment of grace will be, again this year, the "24 Hours for the Lord" initiative, which invites the entire Church community to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation in the context of Eucharistic adoration. In 2018, inspired by the words of Psalm 130:4, "With you is forgiveness", this will take place from Friday, 9 March to Saturday, 10 March. In each diocese, at least one church will remain open for twenty-four consecutive hours, offering an opportunity for both Eucharistic adoration and sacramental confession. By listening to God's word and drawing nourishment from the table of the Eucharist, may our hearts be ever more ardent in faith, hope and love.



*Read the complete message on the Vatican website.*



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Nativity House  
17141 W. 143rd St.  
Lockport, IL 60441



## Sts. Felicity and Perpetua

**Feast Day: March 7th, Patrons of expectant mothers**

### Marching Orders

by Kayla Sue Jacobs

January has become the month for thousands of people to take to the streets to talk about issues concerning women. Like many, I've been encouraged and inspired by the rise of women's voices in the media and traction around actions like the #MeToo movement. This attention brings justice to decades of abuse, such as in the Larry Nassar case and countless others. Unfortunately, however, my excitement is often met with disappointment, when corresponding movements, like the Women's March, ban pro-life groups from participating. As a stringent feminist and a stringent pro-lifer I'm often at a loss. Do I want to march with my sisters for equality and dignity? Sure. Am I willing to participate in a movement that is intrinsically anti-life? Definitely not. On the other hand, do I want to attend a march whose main address is given by a speaker who bolsters policy that splits families apart and brags about sexually assaulting women? No, I really don't.

The problem isn't necessarily

not finding a home within the current feminist movement: I'm Catholic, I'm used to not having a home in politics or movements. The issue is, however, fighting the temptation not to act at all. During this dilemma I gain my encouragement from true feminists: early Christians. At a time in history when women were (more) oppressed, the Christian Church rose above and held women in high respect. As the Church grew in its early years so did the role of women.

Saints Perpetua & Felicity were two women of this time and I've been able to lean on them for inspiration. The year was 203 AD, they were both martyred in Carthage, Africa, after illegally receiving baptism. Men in their lives were pressuring them to renounce their Christian beliefs. St. Perpetua's father visited her many times in prison urging her, even violently, to obey him. Their Christian witness, no doubt, was more effective because of the elegant power of their womanhood. Spectators in

the arena were shocked to see women acting in such a way. In the written account of their passion it says that the "populace shuddered as they saw one young woman of delicate frame, and another with breasts still dripping with milk from her recent childbirth." Sts. Perpetua and Felicity embody characteristics that model feminism and here is my shortlist why (though the list could go on):

**They were confident.** On the days leading up to their martyrdom St. Perpetua's father visited her to persuade her to renounce her Christianity. She then pointed to a vessel and said, "Can it be called by any other name than what it is?" He answered, "No" and she replied, "Neither can I call myself anything else than what I am, a Christian." As our world continuously shames and harshly judges women we must remain confident and proclaim our womanhood.

**They were there for each other.** During their martyrdom Perpetua saw Felicity crushed so she "gave her her hand, and lifted her up. And both of them stood together." As our society is increasingly polarized it is increasingly important for women to lift each other up and stand together.

**They did it for their children.**

Throughout their time in prison Perpetua and Felicity's main concern was their children; Perpetua's was an infant and Felicity gave birth two days before their execution. The last thing they did before they died was make sure their children were safe and left with trustworthy family members. They knew that their faith made the world a better place and they were willing to sacrifice their lives for it. As our culture applies unrelenting pressure on women to deny motherhood we must take action for the betterment of future generations and live out our motherly intuitions, including spiritual motherhood.

So, as the season of marches commences and if you, like me, don't know where to stand, remember to look for examples like Sts. Perpetua and Felicity to guide you through the ever important movements of our times. We march with the communion of Saints.

\* Recommended follow-up reading: *The Passion of the Holy Martyrs Perpetua and Felicity*



*Kayla Sue Jacobs works as the Director for Refugee Resettlement in Richmond, Virginia.*

*follow her on twitter  
@KaylaSueJacobs*