

Presentation Associate News

August 2022



We, as Presentation Associates, stand in partnership with the Sisters of the Presentation, who share in the charism of their foundress, Nano Nagle. We reach out in faith in a spirit of hospitality, compassion and simplicity to all of creation. - Presentation Associate Handbook



Spotlight on Ministry: Cathy Pickerel

I was hired at PHS-San Francisco almost 46 years ago. **I taught there, led retreats and days of prayer, organized liturgies, for 15 years.** 15 years shaped by the spirit of the Presentation Sisters that infused and informed the school, and shaped, of course, by the hundreds of students I taught and got to know.

Challenging years. Wonderful years. Years when my mind and heart were stretched in ways I never expected. Influenced and encouraged by the commitment of the Sisters to social justice led me on a journey that continues to this day. It was easy to say yes to the invitation to become an Associate (more than 20 years ago, I think).



Fast forward to 2022. I would have never imagined the wonders of computers and social media! Would have never guessed I would be reconnected with so many of my former students via Facebook! But here we are, and here I am blessed to get to know the amazing women Pres grads from my years there have become! **It was because of a couple of those grads that my current ministry came to be.**

I am still “Ms. Pic” to them - the nickname I acquired my first year at Pres. One of the things they remember (fondly) is the morning prayer I offered as Campus Minister. Early in the pandemic, a couple of them decided they needed that coming together in prayer that they experienced at Pres, and encouraged me to do a live prayer on Facebook! I gave it a try - with some hesitation - and it continues to this day.

It inspired some to make special requests for prayer that I would then post on my Facebook page. That grew to become our **“Prayer Family”**.

What humbles me is the mix of folks who connect with the morning prayer or who respond to the prayer requests. Former students from the three schools where I taught (the majority being Pres grads), former colleagues, classmates of mine from high school and even grammar school, cousins and other family members. Humbled, too, by the very strong bond among the variety of Pres grads. The family spirit of “Not words but deeds”. The unconditional willingness to support whoever asks for prayers. The trust they have in sharing their concerns. Humbled and grateful for my personal spiritual growth because of all of this. **So, so grateful I landed at Pres!**

Help Wanted!

Did you enjoy learning about Cathy’s ministry? Would you like this column to continue? The Newsletter needs someone to assist with the Spotlight on Ministry Column. The job would be to contact an Associate monthly, interview them about their ministry, and write an article for the newsletter. Estimate of time is 2 to 3 hours maximum each month. Can you help?



Proposal Confirmed: At the Associate Annual Meeting in September, the Associates will decide on a cause to support during the year as they choose.

Associates expressed their opinion through a mailout. Thank you all for working with the Team to come to a consensus on this suggestion from the Annual Gathering in September 2021. All those who returned the feedback form supported the proposal. We want to emphasize that support for the cause can take any form that you wish. If your life commitments mean that you have all you can handle already, know that everyone understands. Be ready with proposals for the 2023 cause for our Annual meeting on September 3, 2022.

Spiritual Reading Circle News

Yolanda Santillan led the discussion of *Saints and Sinners in the Cristero Way* on July 28, 2022. We learned a great deal about the history of the church in Mexico. We will finish the book for our September gathering in September 22, 2022.

Other Books to follow: Tina Panelli - *The Long Loneliness: Autobiography of Dorothy Day*.

Please consider joining us by emailing nanetteolga00@gmail.com.

Update from the Companion Network

Kay Sweeney, Olga Barerra, and Nanette Miller returned from two weeks in Guatemala. Kay met with the Guatemalan staff of the Kateri Tekakwitha Fund which she manages. Olga and Nanette had a chance to get to know Guatemala and the people and gave Kay much needed support. They all visited the convent of the Hermanas Misioneras de la Eucaristia in San Andres Sematebaj founded by Presentation Sister Tonia Orland. Presentation connections were evident and Sister Martha Yach expressed their appreciation for all the San Francisco Presentation Sisters' support over the years.

Prayers are still needed for [Betty Canton's sister](#) as she gets back on her feet.

Let's let [Ramona Michaels](#) know we are thinking of her with a call or a card. Her phone number is 408-216-0134. Address is 1675 Scott Boulevard, #301, Santa Clara, CA, 95050.

Continue to keep [Mary Anne Maloney](#) in your prayers.

Annual Plan Update

The Associate Team is continuing to work on the tasks you set at the September Annual Gathering.

- **Nanette Miller** and **Pat Diaz** have started work on a brochure to introduce the Associate Program to groups and individuals who might be interested in joining.
- The **Associate Team** is continuing their own orientation by further exploring the material from their Team Orientation with Sister Carol Quinlivan, CSJ in February 2022 and reviewing the information on the process for receiving Associate Inquirers.
- The Inquirer Orientation Committee - **Rosalie Cabrerra, Tina Panelli, Kathey Valenzuela, and Kay Sweeney** have started their work on revising the process for orientation. They will be asking those who have recently become Associates to give their feedback on the process they experienced.

On the Associate Calendar for August and September

Day of Reflection for Recommitment on **Saturday, August 13, 2022**

Spiritual Reading Circle on **August 25, 2022** and **September 22, 2022**

Associate Annual Gathering on **September 3, 2022**

Associate Team Quarterly Meeting with Leadership on **September 6, 2022**

Annual Associate Retreat 2022 from **October 1 & 2, 2022**

Mercy Center in Burlingame, CA with Facilitator, Christy Brink

Closing Prayer: *A Prayer by Howard Thurman*

Lord, Lord, Open Unto Me

Open unto me, light for my darkness

Open unto me, courage for my fear

Open unto me, hope for my despair

Open unto me, peace for my turmoil

Open unto me, joy for my sorrow

Open unto me, strength for my weakness

Open unto me, wisdom for my confusion

Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins

Open unto me, tenderness for my toughness

Open unto me, love for my hates

Open unto me, Thy Self for myself

Lord, Lord, open unto me!

Howard Thurman, who died in 1981, was a calm, wise force during the Civil Rights movement, a widely admired theologian, and a pastor to thousands. Many know his profound poem, "[The Work of Christmas](#)", which was set to music in a stunning anthem. Thurman's prayers appeal to and cross all cultures and generations - including this one.

See video version: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2248825158595769>

The Associate Team

Gerry, Kay, Kathey, Rosalie, and Sr. Anita