



STONE

A publication of the Ursulines of Brown County
St. Martin, OH 45118-9507
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CORNER



John Tafaro, President of Chatfield College, Paul Muething, Attorney for the Ursulines and Sister Phyllis Kemper, Congregational Minister sign the deed on June 20, 2017

Dear Friends,

Our community has spent many years discerning how best we may address our future. For over 172 years we have been privileged to follow in the footsteps of our foundress Julia Chatfield who rooted us here in this county whose name we bear. From here we have served persons and parishes both in the surrounding communities and far beyond in diverse ministries to which we have been called.

Currently we have 23 members from 60-95 years of age. Like many religious congregations, we realize that we are nearing completion as a religious community. However, we are counting on our sponsored ministries, Chatfield College in St. Martin/Cincinnati and Ursuline Academy in Cincinnati, as well as the many other people we have ministered to and with, to carry on our mission to further the Gospel of Jesus, value each individual person, and educate future generations.

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Cornerstone is the way we share our ministry, community life, prayer and vision with you. We rely on your donations to meet our expenses. Thank you for your support. Sister Christine Pratt, OSU, Editor

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We have been blessed to care for this land for almost 172 years. The Legacy Statement developed in 2010 concerning the care and protection of the Ursuline land reads, in part:



The Ursuline Community spent Saturday, July 24, 2017 together in a Prayer of ritual and remembrance

“First and foremost, every endeavor must reflect Gospel values and be in harmony with the nature of the land, its beauty, tranquility, and restorative potential for the human spirit. Our land is holy ground supporting efforts to experience and share the love of God in a myriad of ways. We want to ensure that there will be no impediments to deter these efforts from fullest expression.”



Sisters gathered for a luncheon on the Day of Remembrance at Brown County



Sister Lucy Schmidt signing the resolution to sell - May 20, 2017



Sister Agatha Fitzgerald signing the resolution to sell - May 20, 2017

As part of our effort to put the Legacy Statement into practice, we placed the farmland in a conservation easement and returned the waterway to its original configuration as Solomon's Run. These moves assure that both the 85.4 acres of farm land and the waterway will remain as they are in perpetuity. We felt in this process that we would leave a perpetual legacy of love and honor for the people and culture of Brown County who have nurtured us over almost two centuries.

Recently the Sisters made the unanimous decision to sell the non-farm property to Chatfield College, which the Ursulines founded in 1971, effective July 1, 2017, and to auction the farmland in the near future. Because the Sisters are older and we are well aware of the challenges and the costs when a person ages, the proceeds from these sales will be used for retirement needs of the Sisters. Our Sisters do continue to serve in a variety of ministries both compensated and volunteer where able.

This decision to divest ourselves of the property did not come lightly. The process toward making the decision took several years of prayer, discernment and consultation with professionals in the areas of real estate, finance, law and county agencies. The realities of aging helped us to understand that we wish to spend our last years ministering to people rather than caring for buildings and property. Through Chatfield College and future farmers, the legacy begun by our foundress Julia Chatfield will continue into the future. As always, we are grateful for your support and count on your continual prayers.

Phyllis Kemper, OSU

*Sr. Phyllis Kemper, OSU
Congregational Minister*

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ANGELA'S PROMISE, Sister Pat Brockman's latest book, is a simple poetic volume that takes us back to the original hope of St. Angela Merici who promised to remain more vividly with her followers after her death in 1540. Her poems move us through the sweeping changes of time that have carried the original hope of Angela throughout the past 500 years.

Sister Pat has assured us of Angela's witness in our times, the independence of women, a deepened connection with the Church, and the interweaving of men and women at work together in the world. After many years of research, her work with many Sisters and her profound love of Angela, Sister Pat was drawn to write this poem to honor the Foundress of the Ursuline Order.



Sister Pat Brockman

Purchase of **Angela's Promise** may be made through our website: ursulinesofbc.org.